

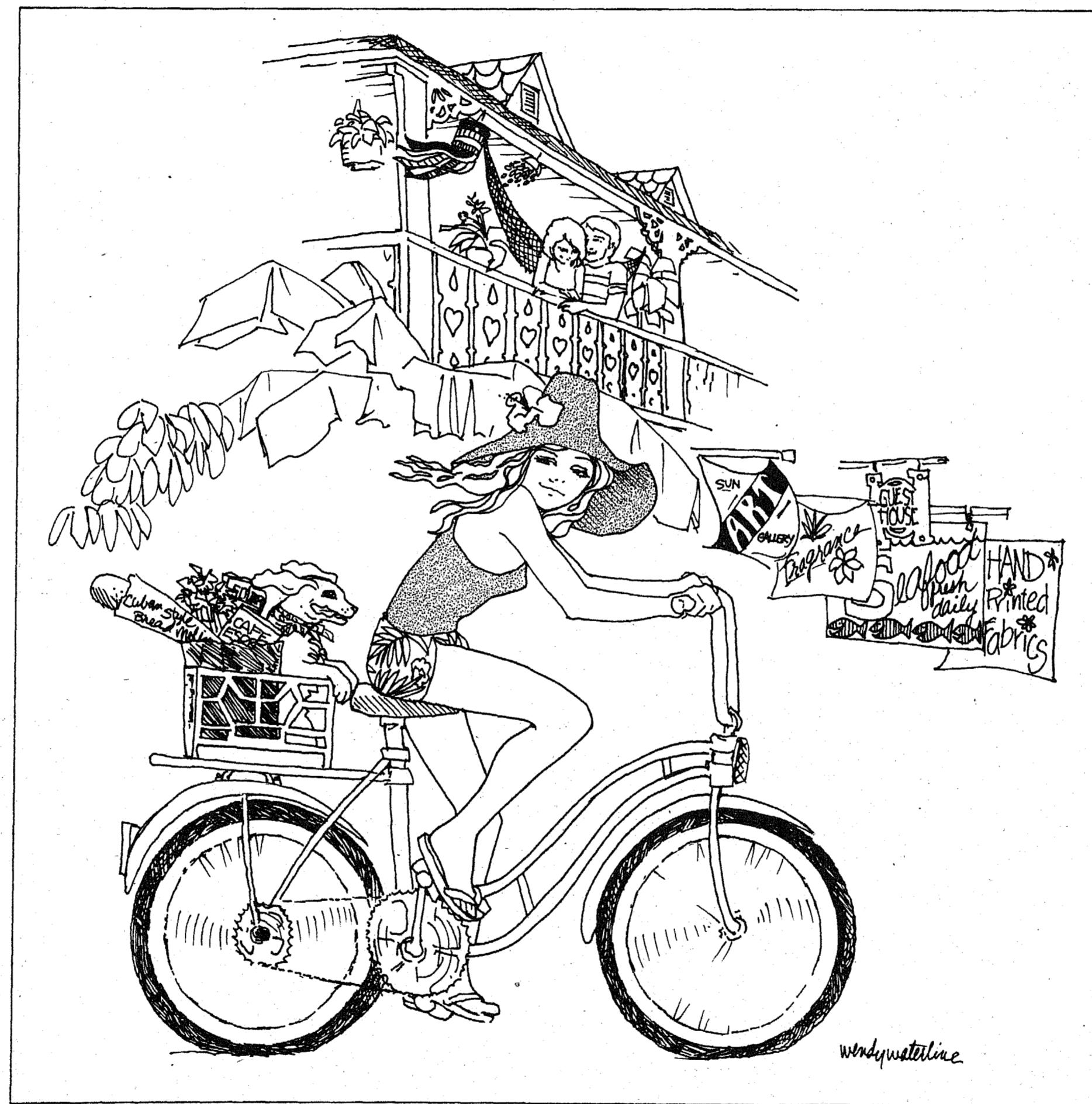
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VOL. XI, NO. 6

KEY WEST, FL

JUNE, 1983



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FROM THE EDITOR

HELLO.

MEMBERS OF THE "Save the Pier" committee wanted me to advise our readers that although funds for the restoration of the pier have gone into the Monroe County Public Works budget for next year, it does not mean that there will be money for it. Writing a budget and getting a budget approved are two separate things and, unfortunately, the County is pretty broke. For this reason public participation is very important because it raises the chances of receiving grant money. The message, therefore: keep involved because there is no guarantee that the money for this project will be forthcoming from the County.

The Children's Pages will not run while the schools are on vacation.

EVEN THOUGH I was involved in the "hippie" era as something of a participant, I never saw nor heard the famed musical "Hair." So when it came to the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Theater I went. Please let me say at the outset that it was a wonderful, inventive production, with a talented cast doing a splendid job - a big show that was very well done all around. I had one major disappointment, however. I thought that the "message" of this musical was trite and dreary. None of the characters was appealing (indeed, most of the language from them was totally self-centered), the use of four-letter words was childishly brazen and sought only to shock, the hedonistic involvement with drugs did nothing to explain why some people, rightly or wrongly, felt so strongly about them, and all of this dross, for my money, effectively hid the merit of the anti-war statements. Basically what came across to me was a selfish group of young speed freaks ducking the draft so they could stay high.

TO ME, THIS was a period of great spiritual awakening. So many of the young hippies I met were beautiful people who cared profoundly about what was happening in the world and sought

to change what they perceived as wrong - especially the war raging in Viet Nam. While many of them used drugs, they directed their energies toward anti-war work and helping one another. Believe me, it was a time when lot of beautiful things happened. But the characters in "Hair" to me were mainly stoned out and interested in free love, doing "their own thing," and shocking the squares.

NOW REALLY, I admit that I may be overreacting to this show because I had heard of it for so long and expected something so different. I really thought that the higher values of this period would be expressed. I guess that I felt that a lot of the characters in "Hair" were jerks. Mind you, this is not a criticism of the cast who did a splendid job, but it is a criticism of the characters whom they had to portray.

NOW THAT I'VE had my ramble and grumble, permit me to unabashedly praise the lovely production of the Key West Dance Theatre at the Waterfront Playhouse this past month. What splendid dancing; what splendid choreography; what splendid costuming; what splendid lighting; what splendid music provided by the group Kopavi. Penny Mollot, a member of the dance group, said that they didn't want their production to appear as a recital, but as a production of a serious, professional dance company. I think that they succeeded handsomely in doing just that.

THE SEVENTH CONCH Challenge Swim, the premier distance swimming event of the Keys, will be held on July 4th. Open to all who would hazard the 12½ miles of rain, wind, sea, tide and currents to circle Key West. The record, incidentally, is 4 hours, 49 minutes, and 4 seconds. For information: call Michael Brandt from 10 to 4 at 294-1254 or 294-8122, or write Michael at P.O. Box 681, Key West.

continued on page 30

OUR COVER ARTIST this time is Wendy Waterline. She is the creator of Conchflash and is a graphic artist working at the Solares Hill Design Group at the corner of Simonton and Eaton Streets.

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Wilhelmina Harvey

BY COLIN JAMESON

SOME ROOTS

IN THE YEAR 1830 a minor revolution took place in France. Though its principal local effect was the swapping of one king for another, there were echoes among the many German states that still maintained a varying degree of independence from the Great Powers.

IN THE TINY grand duchy of Saxe-Weimar things remained relatively serene. Until recently, the ruler had been Charles Augustus, hero of the Napoleonic wars, patron of famous writers Goethe and Schiller, defender of popular rights against the reactionary encroachments of Austria, Prussia and Russia.

IN A TIME of upheaval, nevertheless, distant pastures appear greener. Thus it came about that in 1832 a Saxe-Weimar family named Munson, mother and six young children, set forth on the tedious and sometimes hazardous voyage to the New World. According to the most widely accepted story, Mrs. Munson had relatives or friends in Mobile, Alabama, who were ready to start her in a new life. We don't know what happened to Munson, the father, but death, or perhaps desertion, must have sparked this small migration.

THE ALABAMA FRIENDS waited in vain; the Munsons never arrived. After many days at sea, their ship was transiting the Florida Straits when it piled up on one of the unmarked reefs. Wreckers from Key West raced each other to the scene. Among them—or, some say, a passenger on the wrecked vessel itself—was one George Carey, thought to have been an Englishman by birth. The Munsons arrived safely in Key West, instead of Mobile, and in Key West they stayed.

THE VESSEL THAT was wrecked is sometimes referred to as "The Ship of Brides," since not only the Munson daughters, but their mother found husbands in Key West. But matrimony was not the purpose of the trip; indeed Augusta Munson (perhaps named after the popular Grand Duke Charles Augustus), with whom we are chiefly concerned, appears to have been only four years old when rescued.

IN 1835 HANNA MUNSON, the mother, married John S. Page from Providence. Daughter Augusta was wed to her rescuer, George Carey, in 1842, when she was 14. Augusta was the great grandmother of our first woman County Commissioner, Wilhelmina Goehring Harvey, who comes to her

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Girls, since after blast-off the Boys had to be kept occupied so that the only 13-year-old who knew how to drive could pilot her craft safely.

THE KIDS WERE crazy about Wilhelmina and her talent. They considered the automotive age a big improvement over bikes and skates, particularly on marl-topped roads. So many of them would climb aboard, perhaps 15, sometimes more, that the driver's mother wondered how she could see out.



A beaming Wilhelmina greets President Harry S. Truman on his arrival in Key West

2) Her ancestry stems from one of the more enlightened small states in a reactionary period of world history.

3) Next to last, and not the least, she has devoted most of her life to an extraordinary variety of public service jobs and affiliations.

4) Last, and bottom line, she got elected.

WHAT STARTED WILHELMINA?

WILHELMINA HARVEY IS what you might call a self-starter. Her automatic starting equipment was operating long before its Detroit cousin became general issue on your run-of-the-line gas buggy. In 1925, when Wilhelmina was 13, the full-option Model-T was the only Ford that boasted such a frill. The family's "tin lizzie" did not.

TO CRANK UP her automobile in those days, it was desirable for a young lady to keep a few Boys under tow. There should also be other

BUT APPARENTLY SHE did. In the years of Model-T'ing, Wilhelmina got involved in only one small accident.

WILHELMINA DOES NOT explain why she did not teach her friends to drive, but the answer seems superfluous. It is also true that driving a car is complicated, compared to guiding a horse, or a bike, or a pair of skates. You chirruped at a horse and it started. You yanked on the reins and he stopped.

EVEN A MODEL-T was much more complex. In that early epoch it might not even have an emergency brake. After a Boy cranked it, it would inexorably creep up on him, threatening to nail him to a fence if the driver didn't handle the throttle and the spark control (both on the steering wheel) just so. To keep from getting nervous, the driver tried to forget that she was sitting on top of the gas tank, the level of which she had just measured with a ruler.

THERE WAS AN advantage over the horse: there were two ways to stop.

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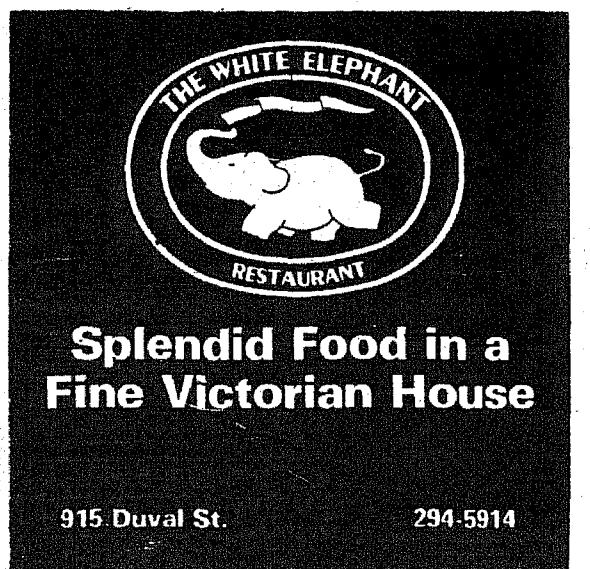
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You could use the footbrake, then, if you kept careening along, you could twist your right foot sideways and tramp down on the brake, the reverse and the low-gear pedal all at once. That would stop anything but the Florida East Coast's "Havana Special." But it would also stop the family from letting you drive the car, so Wilhelmina didn't use this method unless she was about to veer into the ocean.

WHICH, ON SOUTH BEACH'S moonlit nights, she sometimes did. The car would eventually come to rest in the shallows, after which it would all be so much fun, with perhaps a bit of necking thrown in, that the tide would sneak up. The Boys would then have to roll up their new long pants and push the tin lizzie back to dry land.

THENCE A TRIP might be made to a favorite ice cream parlor, where a delectable variety of frozen goods was available at 5¢ a serving. The only sour note was that these wild evenings on the town had to end at nine o'clock sharp.

SINCE WILHELMINA GOEHRING was the only valid and visible Model-T driver in her age group, she naturally came to the attention of the police, who had time on their hands in those days. Crime was unpopular and everybody left his house wide open. Neither Wilhelmina nor the car had a license, an expense thought by many to be a needless luxury. At intervals a motor vehicle inspector would travel the 600-some miles from Tallahassee to see if Key West had finally gotten around to obeying the laws. When this official reached the first of the two ferries on the highway through the Keys, the captain of the boat would stroll away and phone the courthouse in Key West.

THERE WAS PLENTY of time for all concerned to take measures. You could put your car up on blocks, making it look as if it hadn't been used since before the hurricane of 1919. You could drive it down to the courthouse and get it registered. You could paint last year's license with this year's colors. These end runs around the law only ceased when Florida provided a year-round inspector.

WILHELMINA, LIKE the state of California, got her start with the automobile. Both of them have traveled a long way since they learned about wheels.

EDUCATION

WILHELMINA GOEHRING was born on Wednesday, February 7, 1912 at 1400 Petronia Street. Her father was connected with Mr. Flagler's railroad, completed that year. Her mother was Annie Carey Page. She went to school at Mary Immaculate Convent, though Episcopalian herself. At the Convent she fell under the spell of much-beloved Sister Catherine Semmes. After her own mother, Wilhelmina says, Sister Catherine was the strongest influence in her early life. Sister Catherine's advice was, "Never say 'I can't.' Say 'I'll try.'" Wilhelmina has always thought that in this attitude "lies the secret of a good life."

AFTER SCHOOL, IF the Model-T was unavailable (or still in the future), a favorite pastime was swimming in Garrison Bight, which in those days was clean as the Gulf Stream. Of course if you were into music, as Wilhelmina was, there might be some practicing to be accomplished first.

BY 1934, WILHELMINA was no longer one of the kids but a full-fledged school teacher having received her degree from Florida State College for Women, carrying on in the tradition of Sister Catherine. She taught General Science and English at the Key West Junior Senior High School (now Glynn Archer Middle School on White Street) which was a touch primitive, in that electricity had not yet been installed in the class rooms.



A regal Wilhelmina poses by her portrait painted by artist Bob Birbeck.

became the co-educational Florida State and began fielding football teams, the first coach, Tom Nugent, asked Wilhelmina to recruit local high school football prospects for him. For a season or so she did this and was probably one of the first women football scouts!

IN THE SUMMER of 1935, while teaching under Horace O'Bryant as principal, Wilhelmina decided she needed a college credit in physics. She and a friend went off to Tulane University in New Orleans by train. They returned in time for the opening of school after Labor Day. But when they reached Miami, they were told that the last train for Key West had left.

WILHELMINA ASKED A railway official when the next train was scheduled to depart.

HE SAID, "YOUNG lady, you don't understand. The train has left. There will probably never be another train to Key West."

THE LETHAL 1935 Labor Day hurricane had battered the Keys.

THE FLORIDA EAST Coast Railway issued the girls complimentary tickets to get them to Tampa. From there they took a P & O liner to Key West, where they found that one of their teacher colleagues had lost her life while visiting up the Keys.

THE WAR

IT WAS DURING this period that one C.B. Harvey, a native of New Orleans and newly graduated engineer, was sent to Key West by the Coast & Geodetic Survey. Wilhelmina and C.B. started dating, and in 1936 they were married. The Harveys have one son, Brad, who inherited his mother's teaching



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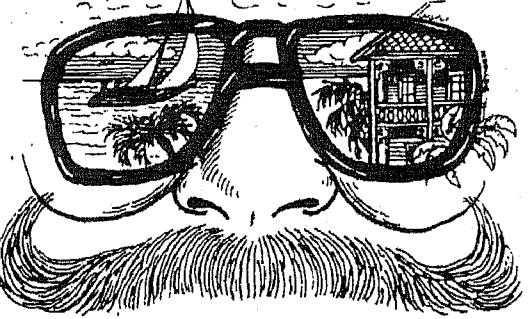
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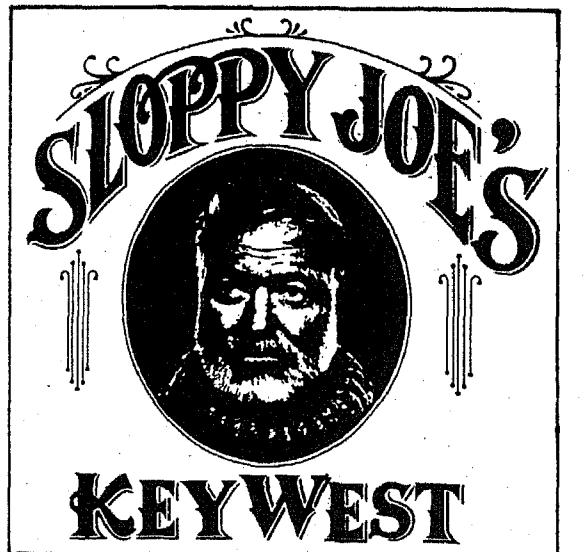
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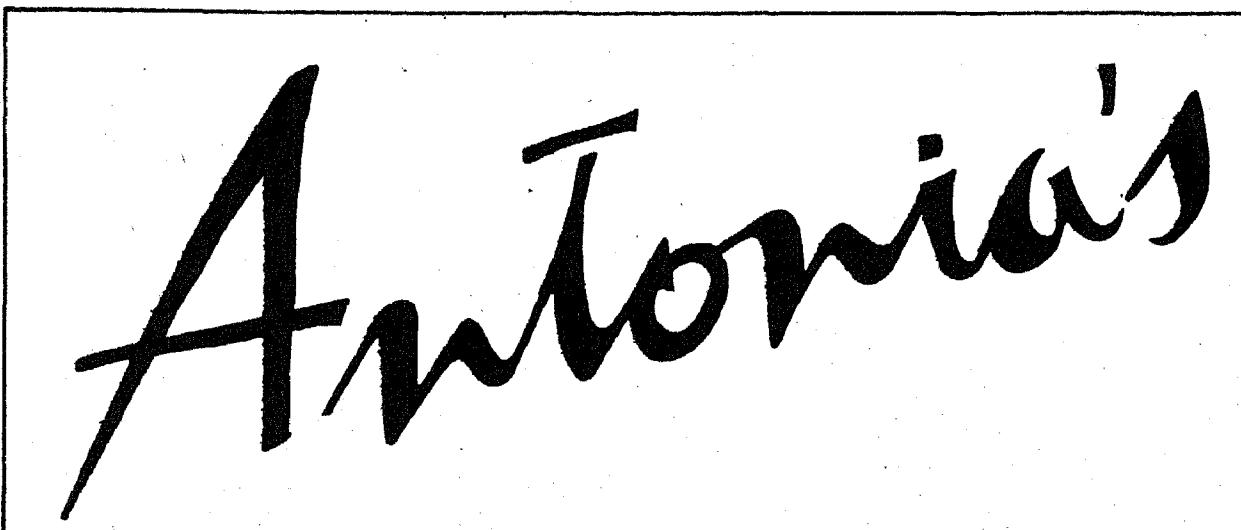
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abilities and is presently working as an educator in Coral Gables.

C.B. DID NOT anticipate too much of a future as an engineer in Key West, so he went with the Army Engineers to New Iberia, Louisiana. When the war broke out he managed to get back to Key West where he was commissioned in the Navy, along with Capt. Frank Bowser, well-known to so many Key Westers, who was the Navy doctor who gave him his physical.

WILHELMINA TOOK A job as Civilian Personnel Officer, working for the then Labor Board. Soon she was faced with what she believes was the most important decision of her life. Her husband was transferred to Tillamook, Oregon, as Public Works Officer of a Lighter-than-Air Naval installation. To accompany him, she would have to resign one of the most important and highly paid jobs held by any woman on the island of Key West.

LOVE WON OUT and proved, in a sense, to be its own reward. On learning of the extent of Wilhelmina's experience, the commanding officer at Tillamook offered her a similar position. She became the Civilian Personnel Officer of that Naval Station.

WHEN C.B. WAS sent to Guam with the other SeaBees, Wilhelmina stayed on in Oregon. Eventually she decided to return to Key West, on the promise that she would be transferred to a top civilian post in the island city. She became the Director of Civilian Personnel at the Navy Base. In effect, a temporary wartime job ended up lasting 20 years.

POLITICS

WILHELMINA HAD NOT lost her interest in teaching. In 1937 she

had acquired her B.A. degree in Education at Florida State University (followed in 1980 by a Master of Science degree in Administration and Supervision at Nova University.) One of her many duties in connection with the Navy had been as a training specialist. Now a dicey decision in favor of education forced her to resign her Navy civil service position because of Hatch Act restrictions on the political activities of Federal employees.

SUPERINTENDANT OF INSTRUCTION Horace O'Bryant was rumored to be losing interest in re-election to his position and to be contemplating moving to the Carolinas. Wilhelmina ran against him in 1960 and lost by 500. It had been a calculated risk, so she shed no tears, though her friends did. There would be another day, she thought. And there was, when she was elected to the School Board, rising to the position of Chairwoman in 1968.

SHE HAS ALSO taught part time at Florida Keys Community College.

MEANWHILE, THE FACT that her husband, C.B., had been serving as mayor of Key West had sharpened her interest in public affairs. Also the development of the Keys, constantly accelerating since the war, had alerted her to the growing importance of demographic and environmental problems. A mere bystander, she realized, can have no more effect on the course of events than some kid on the running board of a Model-T when someone else was driving.

POLITICS WASN'T NEW to her, since she had been secretary of the Monroe County Democratic Committee and had the helpful ingrained habit of getting elected to or belonging to things. Wilhelmina likes to get involved with

organizations and the organizations tend to reciprocate. Over the years, her contributions had established the value of bringing her into a project, whether it was an ad hoc committee and died in a couple of months, or the presidency of the Key West Woman's Club, which she held for a number of years.

WILHELMINA IS OR has been a member of 15 women's organizations, eight education groups and a dozen other associations. She has been State President of the Florida Federation of Business and Professional Women and locally of American University Women, the American Legion Auxiliary and, as noted, of the Key West Woman's Club. She has been chairwoman of the Monroe County School Board and the local March of Dimes, a charter member of the Monroe County Commission on the Status of Women, Zonta International, the League of Women Voters and Beta Sigma Phi.

LAST YEAR ONE of the first four living women inducted into the Florida Women's Hall of Fame was Wilhelmina. Not the least of the credits that supported her election was the fact that Mrs. C.B. Harvey is the first woman elected (1980) to the Monroe County Commission in the 157 years of the County's history.

ANOTHER FIRST: When the laws were changed to allow women to serve on juries if they volunteered to do so, Wilhelmina volunteered, was accepted, and became one of the first woman jurors in Monroe County.

POLICIES

THE SAME MONROE County once had a state representative who had been in office so long that he had come to refer to the voters as "my people," with what verged on a note of proprietorship. And he did not seriously exaggerate, when

their decades of loyalty are considered.

WILHELMINA HARVEY HAS served the people, in one job or another, almost as long, but she refers to them as "our people." To see where she stands on a few of the matters that concern "our people," we posed questions. Some of them were direct, some were addressed to attitudes, to apparent unimportances. But the answers may give "our people" a perspective of their first lady commissioner of Monroe County.

ARE WE GOING to extend the high-rise parade all the way from Palm Beach to Key West? "My vote is an emphatic 'No!'"

WHAT'S YOUR ATTITUDE towards time-sharing? "Well, one can envisage certain benefits to retail and restaurant operations in the city, but there may be an unfortunate effect on the quality of life. Some day a number of unsalable units might be dumped on the market. Maintenance might suffer and deterioration set in. There might be a tendency to treat even the sold units like motel rooms. After all, it will be many months before each individual owner returns to town. Meanwhile, let George do it, but he very well may not. Also, under the best of circumstances, the constant turnover may strain public services and add to traffic problems."

WHAT ABOUT GOALS for Monroe County? "One of them, of course, should be the attraction of light industry of a type where transportation costs are not insuperable. Such enterprises thrive in various

parts of the country, especially California. The kind you hear about most often is electronics-related, but our fabrics and cosmetics are good local examples."

HOW ABOUT THE exodus of county residents who can't hack the record cost of living? "If a family owns an old Conch house, they may be tempted by a once-in-a-lifetime chance to sell it for a high price. Even so, they may not be able to afford a new condo around here, but upstate they can buy a cheaper home with lower living expenses and better job opportunities for younger family members. It's not easy to come up with an alternative, especially without an established land use plan. Ideally, any view of the future would include not only affordable living opportunities for the young that would reach beyond low-paying service jobs and offer some hope for advancement, but also some hope of taking advantage of America's reputation as a land of equal opportunity."

"ZONING? RIGHT NOW Key West and the Keys are one of the 'in' areas of the nation, because they are unique. There's never been a planned approach to the land-rush we've been experiencing. Zoning board members have gone on dealing with each variance as if the individual owner's right to change the rules should, if possible, be favored over the rights of the public."

"WE SHOULD NOT deny a man the right to use his property," has been the argument, even in cases where the zoning requirements were well understood when the purchase was made. This is

backwards. The rights of people, not persons, should come first. With our sudden national popularity, things will have to change or they will become unmanageable. We need emphasis on public relations. We need to convince the applicant and the zoning official that a variance must be based on benefit to the County, not just on what it does for the individual."

WHAT HAS BEEN the greatest change in Key West since your childhood? "Duval Street. Everything that counted used to be clustered along it. That's where everybody was and everything happened. Then, almost suddenly, new shopping centers brought decentralization. Duval has some specialized importance now, but the change is there."

WHAT DO YOU do you like to do in your spare time? "What spare time? I used to like to play bridge. Now, after 47 years of marriage, I sometimes find myself watching football."

CERTAINLY ONE OF her full-time pastimes is people. She loves people! Once recently when in a grocery's check out line, a lady said to Wilhelmina, "Will you speak to me? What is your name?" Wilhelmina gave her name which meant nothing to this newcomer but she asked her, "Why do you want to speak to me?" The other lady replied, "I do not know whether you realize it or not, but there are four long lines of people in here and you have greeted every person in this store." With this Wilhelmina simply said (without telling her she was a

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Wilhelmina with son Brad and C.B.

lady County Commissioner), "Oh, I am a Conch and I know a lot of people."

IN RETROSPECT, MRS. Harvey thinks that Judge Jefferson Browne was perhaps the leading citizen in the County's recorded history. As far as the future goes, when she is asked if she would ever consider running for the legislature,

she displays a smile that is a curious combination of the expressions of Mona Lisa and the Egyptian Sphinx. But one thing is clear: When future historians write about the leading citizens of this period, Wilhelmina Harvey's name will be there!

DECO

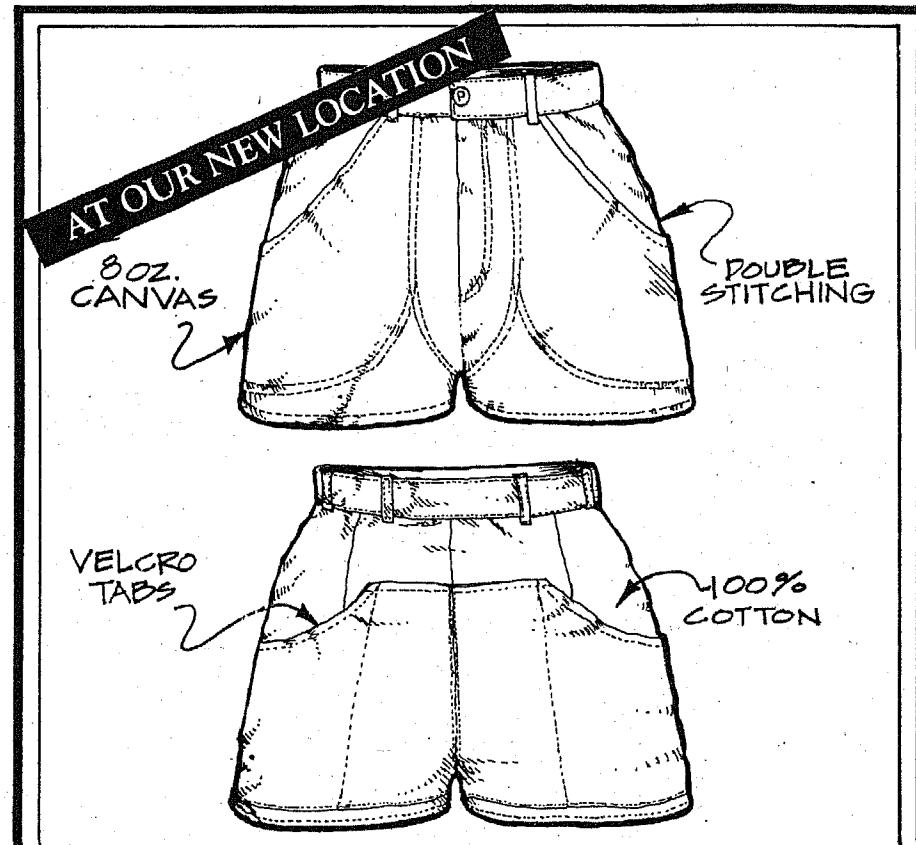
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SEEING Red

BY HELEN R. CHAPMAN

IF YOU WERE not to the manna born, you may have trouble getting from paycheck to paycheck. If you have a checking account, the day before payday can be much brighter. I am amazed at the number of people who take the risk of keeping cash around the house because they do not trust themselves with a checkbook. Nonsense. It's the easiest thing in the world.

I START MY lesson on the premise that you know how to add and subtract (If you don't, then keep a lock on your pillowcase.) You open a checking account and make a deposit. You are given checks which are numbered in sequence. You are supposed to use these checks in sequence, not jump from #42 to #55. You may if you want to, but don't ask me to help with the bank statement.

NOW THE NEXT thing to do is to amass check-cashing cards: the supermarket, the pharmacy, Sears, Byron's, Scotty's, et al. Now you can almost forget about cash. You can go from payday to payday and not suffer. It helps to know where these various emporiums do their banking. Then you know how much leeway you have between deposit and drawn check. But don't forget the computers. Transactions go through much faster now than they used to.

SO NOW YOU have X amount of dollars in your account and there's a sale you don't want to miss. But the rent is due soon and you have to hold back enough towards it. Oh, hell, you can hold back more out of next week's check. Hit that sale, sweetheart! Write them a nice check and take home the goodies.

What's this? You ran out of milk and eggs and coffee and sunflower seeds and spinach noodles and gefilte fish? Say no more. You can write a check to the market even without enough to cover because payday is tomorrow. Saved again!

AND YOU CAN take advantage of faraway special offers, too, and just think, it takes those checks longer to clear. All those lovely things advertised in the Herald and the New York Times, not to mention the New Yorker and Cuisine and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Whee!

YOU WANT ME to help you with your statement. Okay, no problem. Now let's see. Put all the checks in numerical order. Check each one off against your stubs. Okay. Hey, what's this check to Lord & Taylor for \$89.45? I don't see that entered in the stubs. Number 259. What do you mean, you forgot? You can't forget. In a hurry? How can you be in a hurry ordering from New York to Key West? Didn't anything bounce? Winn-Dixie? Where's that entered? Nowhere. Did you deduct the service charge? What do you mean, what service charge?

OKAY. LET'S PRESS on. Now you enter all your deposits in one column and all your outstanding checks in the other. Subtract the checks from the deposits and there's your balance. What's this on the floor? Check #294. You have it as outstanding. It's not outstanding - it was in-lying, under the coffee table. Well, add it on in that column and now subtract the checks from the deposits. You can't? Why not? Oh. The checks total more than the deposits. Well, that's not so bad. You've overdrawn only \$146.72. YOU DUMMY!!!

NOW, NOW, DON'T cry. You're not the only person who can't handle a checkbook. You just have to make more money!

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THIS IS ONE of those Barbara Walters sort of interviews about Guantanamo Naval Base in Cuba. But, it appears mostly to be about Winnie who paid me a visit from her home there in GITMO.

WHEREVER WINNIE IS, she makes it feel like home. Already, she is the Key West Taco Queen of Guantánamo. When she lived in Key West, she set out a sweet potato in a Mason jar, and that vine shot down her hall, scalloping

the walls of two bedrooms and looping around the T.V. in her Florida room. Living on GITMO four years where she and her husband are government employees, she has cozily settled in there with her home computer and her extra-terrestrial-looking plants.

TODAY SHE COMPLETED the Key West tour, driving past the condos built of bone carved from the marrow of little folks and old Conchs who have decamped. Past new, counterfeit Conch architecture.

THE INTERVIEW GOES forth in the cottage sitting room lined with books. Books people read. Books people do not read. And books people never will read. We are here having a real drink-up. Sugar-free pop that tastes like a rusty knife. We took dinner at El Cacique and now relax with bits of orange-colored rice and beads of picadillo sloshing

about in our tummies. Both possess auntlike figures and feel grateful that in Key West, nobody bothers to look at anybody's size.

Writer: Name some lovely features of life in GITMO.

Winnie: Hidden Beach, where I scuba; it looks like prehistoric Earth with 6-foot iguanas peeping over the boulders. They're so sweet and tame, they want to be your pets.

Writer: I am sure that 6-foot iguanas add snap and crackle to any gathering.

Winnie: Another bonus (besides the generous pay bonus) is that all GITMO women wear their hair very short because, situated on the south side of Cuba as we are, the Atlantic tradewinds from the southeast blow beautifully, rustling the coconuts, the bananas, the royal palms, the avocado trees. No air conditioners. No locks on doors. No crime. Free movies. Splendid plaitings of seagrasses and cacti, planted artistically together, are a familiar landscape decoration there.

Writer: Are there minuses as well as pluses, living away off there, right against Castro's Cuba?

Winnie: Gliding right past our shipyards in the channel are seen the big, Russian ships. A large part of the population on Cuba now is Russian, you know.

Writer: RUSSIANS! The thought clicks open like a switchblade.

Winnie: Yes, I decided to learn the Russian language. The little book that I found had been issued to some G.I. in World War II. Not much value. Sentences such as: "Take me to your grandfather's barn." "May I milk your cow?"

Writer: See many Cubans?

Winnie: The Cuban commuters enter the base daily to work. They are stripped and searched at the Cuban gate. Then, they cross "No Man's Land" and are searched at the U. S. checkpoint. This procedure happens twice daily. The Cuban "exiles" chose to take sanctuary on base when Castro took over Cuba. They gave up Cuban citizenship. Some approach 30 years service. Upon retirement, they may be processed into U.S.A.

Writer: How is life outside GITMO in Cuba; hear anything?

Winnie: Cuban workers describe it as TOUGH. Shortages of all necessities. Police break into homes in the night if anyone is suspected of disobedience to communism. Informers are everywhere. All young persons are shipped to Russia for training in medical, technological fields, and upon their return are used in Central American countries which Russia is infiltrating.

Writer: It sounds like Henry James' description of Newport, "It's worth observing if only to conclude against it."

Winnie: O, GITMO itself, is like a nice, small city. Please visit. We will need to sponsor you, and if you are ok'd by the State Department, you catch the Military Air Command plane, Mondays and Fridays, leaving from Norfolk. You will land on the leeward side of the island of Cuba and will be ferried across the bay to the Naval Air Station.

Writer: I always have delighted in changing my surroundings. But, I believe that we'll give this a miss.

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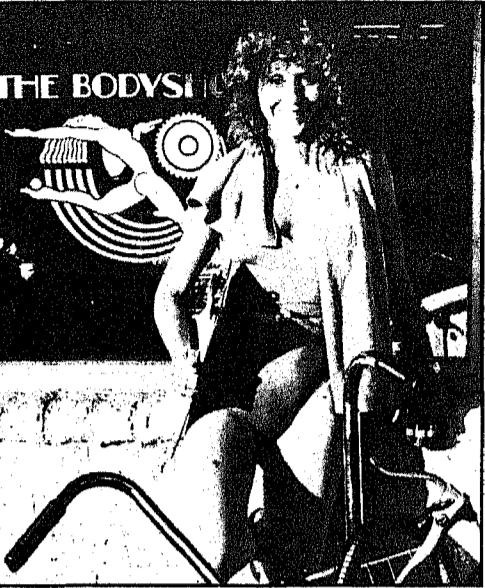
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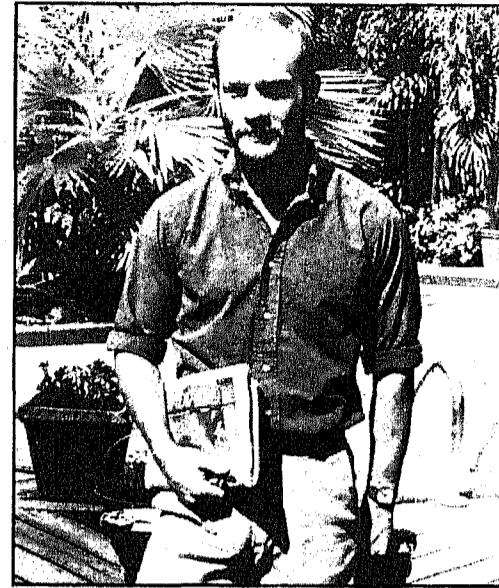
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THE ICONOCLAST

BY JIM KOGAN

OUR OWN AIRLINE (AGAIN)

SOME OF US remember Air Sunshine and the time, before de-regulation, when it was bought, reportedly for its "franchise." Since then, our access to air service has been, to a discouraging extent, in the hands of people whose loyalties are elsewhere. But it need not be so.

LOOK AT HOW our own airline could be organized--to serve us. For one thing--contrary to some opinions, Miami is not all of South Florida. There are activities beyond--at least in the next two counties whose airports are Lauderdale and West Palm. Even for connections onward, some of us think MIA is not entirely a garden spot. Some of the connecting air lines think so, too. So a wider choice of connections "can't hurt" as the saying has it and, also, access to a wider area than just Miami would seem advantageous to us in the Keys.

FOR THIS SHORT distance, we need a frequent, regular ("symmetrical," they call it) schedule but the aircraft need not be elaborate or even very fast. Try this. Run every hour, starting 0700 and ending the last trip by 2300 daily. Stations KW, Marathon, and Largo alternating trips, Miami, Lauderdale, West Palm. That takes three airplanes flying and one spare. Departures KW and both ways from MIA on the hour. West Palm on the half hour. Three-hour cycle; one hour round (r.t.), N. of MIA; two hours r.t. S. of MIA; one intermediate each way on each.

AGREED. A LOCALLY owned and locally managed air line just might find itself with so much business it has to buy more or bigger planes. That's bad? And it might find that the

TWO AIRCRAFT OVERNIGHT at Miami, one at KW every night, with maintenance by contract from an operator at MIA--a big line or fixed base operator. This involves five-plus round trips per plane--it would take three hours to run a cycle and it is 16 hours from 0700 to 2300. 2,000-2,100 miles per day per plane, total flying time 336 unit hours per week (three planes, 16 hours, 7 days).

THAT CREATES JOBS for probably ten pilots, perhaps 12, working reasonable hours--little or no overtime. Of course the people at the other end of the county can get service at Largo only if and when they get their act together about that air strip. Let's be optimistic. The job does not need jets.

THE MAIN FUNCTION of the line is to carry people. With three planes and six stations, the attendant can collect the money; no station counters, agents and such are needed. At one attendant per pilot, that is ten or 12 more jobs.

ACCESSORY BUSINESS LIKE checking baggage, mail, express, seat reservations and such like should all be self-supporting. If the money from these "extra" services is not enough to support them, then why provide them? There is no reason to overcharge the passenger who uses it as a flying bus line just to support some service whose customers do not want it badly enough to support it. About the only "overhead" it needs is a supervisor some place with voice radio communications.

AND, AS NOTED, it is probably no accident that some of the onward connections are not available at Miami, either. Why should it be just an appendage with only one effective gateway? No, the Tampa bit is no substitute--onward fares and services via Tampa are simply not competitive and who would go there, anyway?

accessory businesses would, in fact, add to the famous "bottom line." Fine. But do not start out demanding that the fares pay for anything but transportation for the one who pays the fare.

INTERLINE TICKETING? IF the connections--at all three gateways, not just at MIA--want to take part in through ticketing, so be it but let them pay any costs involved. Even now, fares to/from KW are "Miami-plus" so the "interlining" does nothing for us as it is.

PROBABLY THE MOST successful operation in the business--Eastern's Air Shuttle--runs with minimal ground services and attendants serve as "conductors"--why not steal ideas that work?

YES, THERE IS controversy about the "growth" up the Keys and hence service at Key Largo would be "controversial" but that is not really our concern. This plan is suggested to offer people in our county--mostly in our town--a better access to continental air line services. As well as access to the rest of the mainland South Florida strip--not just Miami which seems to be less attractive every trip.

Any local entrepreneurs still around? (Mr. Kogan's opinions are his own, and are not necessarily those of Solares Hill.)

INCORPORATE BIG PINE KEY? PART IV

BY GIL RYDER

THE NEXT STEP in gathering information concerning the possibility of incorporating Big Pine Key will be the mailing of a survey sheet to the registered voters of Big Pine Key in order to establish whether or not the voters want to have the area incorporated.

THE SURVEY SHEET will include all the information on the subject that the committee established for that purpose has been able to obtain.

NOTHING FURTHER WILL be done concerning incorporation until after the results of the survey have been evaluated by the committee and reported to the Big Pine Key Civic Association.

THE RESIDENT VOTERS should consider factors which may not appear on the survey sheet. They should keep in mind that the one very good thing to come from incorporation will be that they will, through their elected city officials, have control of zoning on Big Pine Key and thus, if they so desire, prevent the island from becoming another Miami Beach.

THEY SHOULD ALSO keep in mind that incorporation will not bring them

instant paved streets, nor will it relieve the flood conditions that exist in so many areas after a heavy rain. Big Pine residents will still find it difficult to get on and off U. S. 1 during the height of the tourist season.

THIS IS NOT intended to discourage those who want incorporation - just a reminder of what not to expect. Most residents accept these and other problems as the price they are willing to pay for the privilege of living in a serene, bucolic community.

INCORPORATION WILL NOT prevent the power outages, neither will it prevent the occasional escape of a convict from the State prison. Power outages are an accepted inconvenience and, while the escape of a prisoner may make a few residents a bit nervous, most recognize the prison as a good and acceptable neighbor.

THE PRISONERS ARE often seen working on the roads and participating in car washes, and are not seen as being in any way a danger to the community.

IN THE SPECIFIC case of Big Pine Key, the prison, like a proposed

Crematorium, is a quiet and peaceful neighbor. Many people accept the need for, and the fact of, these establishments, even though they prefer not to let their thoughts dwell in those areas.

PRISONS AND CREMATORIUMS are as much a part of the environment as the flora and fauna, whether we like it or not, and everyone's an environmentalist in these days. The only point of difference is the type of environment the various factions prefer.

THE ENVIRONMENT, LIKE politics, makes strange bedfellows. Back in the early 'seventies, some group wanted to build two fifteen- and one seventeen-story high-rise buildings next to Howard Johnson's on Roosevelt Boulevard in Key West. The thought of such buildings horrified a lot of people in the area and they organized to battle against such construction.

After many ups and downs, and a fairly large cost in money, the outraged citizens prevailed, and the buildings never went up.

THIS BATTLE SEEMED to trigger environmental sensitivity in the Keys, and probably also triggered the various actions leading to the Keys eventually being declared an "Area of Critical State Concern."

BACK IN EARLY 1973, a number of

citizen groups got together and formed the Florida Keys Citizens Coalition, each group appointing a member to the Coalition Board of Directors. The Coalition was needed for the exchange of information among the various citizen associations scattered over a hundred miles of islands and would eventually enable these scattered groups to co-ordinate their efforts and, when needed, present a united front.

ANYONE WHO LIVED on the Keys back in those memorable days will have no trouble recalling the "No Hi-Rise on the Keys" battle. Some of the old bumper stickers are still discernible, worn and tattered like old battle flags of forgotten wars.

AT THE TIME of the No Hi-Rise battle, a number of people involved were aware that there was a great nationwide surge of public interest and involvement in environmental matters - a concerted effort to preserve and protect the native flora and fauna, to keep the air and water clean and, in general, to preserve and protect what was deemed to be the basic natural heritage of all Americans.

Knowledge of the creatures and plants being protected was an essential weapon, making biologists the front line soldiers in the fray.

NOW WE COME to the part of the "Strange Bedfellows": The big develop-

ers saw the handwriting on the wall and hired their own biologists to fight back. Now, and for the past few years, when public hearings are held concerning the good or evil of a particular development, you are quite likely to see a battle between opposing biologists. It kind of makes you think of the newspaper coverage of some murder trials; the defendant says he was crazy at the time and he has a psychiatrist to prove it. The prosecution says the defendant was sane and has a psychiatrist to prove that - all leaving the jury in a bit of a quandary.

THIS BIOLOGIST AGAINST biologist act seems to be giving some environmentally minded people second thoughts on their value, realizing that the environment is not just the wild life but, perhaps more importantly, the people themselves in any given area, and the buildings, roads and all other things that surround them.

USING THAT DEFINITION of the term some believe that the biologist should not be considered an expert on all environmental matters, and that local government should give greater value to the needs and desires of area residents concerning what may or may not be constructed in their community.

THAT IS THE basic kind of thinking that brings Big Pine Key residents to accept visions of incorporation as a last ditch stand in a battle of

Armageddon.

HOWEVER, ANOTHER VOICE is rising, soft and muted, but gaining strength and clarity, and that voice is saying, "Take whatever action is necessary to have our County Commissioners elected by the voters within their own districts."

INCORPORATION OR SINGLE district voting are simply new facets emerging in the old battle of people against developers.

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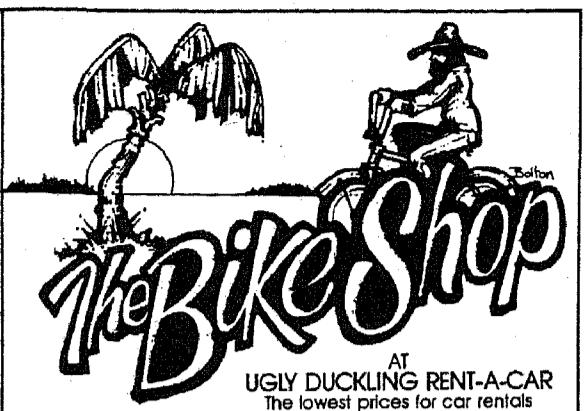
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A Dolphin Love Story

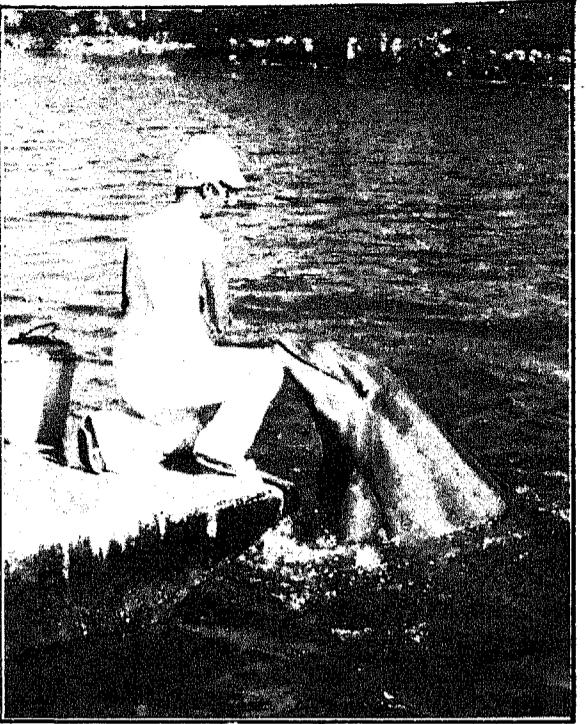
BY JOHN LESLIE

FOR TWENTY YEARS Betty Brothers Rein of Little Torch Key has devoted a good portion of her daily life to twin love affairs. The affairs, perhaps unusual because of their duration, are even more unique in that the objects of her devotion are two dolphins—Dal and Suwa. In her book 'Dolphins Love Our Florida Keys Home!' published privately in November 1982, Betty chronicles her life with Dal, the female, who was purchased first in 1962 and the male, Suwa, bought two years later to rescue Dal from loneliness.

MUCH HAS BEEN written about dolphins in the past twenty years and research into their habits along with their relationship to humans is well known. Still, there is much to be learned; it is to that purpose that Betty has written her book. It is a short book with many photos, but it should be of interest to anyone who has an interest in dolphins—and who, living in the Florida Keys, hasn't?

THE BOOK TRACES the development of Betty's relationship with Dal and Suwa from the time of her purchase of Dal to the death of Dal and Suwa's first offspring eleven years later. From the first moment when she has to get into the water with Dal and hand feed her, (watching anxiously as "the six foot dolphin streaked in towards me, raising waves that struck the shore, two feet higher than normal. Her twelve inch mouth grasped the fish from my outstretched hand. Turning, she sped away, so skillful in her swimming that neither flippers nor flukes had even brushed me!"), to a time two months later when Dal could be fed from a platform and eventually learned to respond to Betty's

directional spoken commands, there is a rapport established between these two that strengthens as the book develops.



Betty Brothers and friend

BETTY WAS NOT the only one conducting research. Dal began to test Betty's hearing range through her ability to hear and return the dolphin's signals when they were both in the water together. When Dal reached a high pitch that Betty could not reproduce, Dal worked her way back down the scale and started over again, performing this experiment three times like any competent scientist.

YEARS LATER DAL and Suwa found their way back to the ocean after Betty decided to give them their choice of freedom by taking down the fence between their lagoon home on Little Torch Key and the open sea. It was six

months though, before they ventured out, returning at meal times to be fed. One day when they did not return Betty became concerned over the hazards that they faced in the sea after so many years in captivity. She went out after them. After several days Dal and Suwa were spotted in the water half a mile away—swimming away from her boat. Quickly, Betty donned mask and snorkel and jumped into the water where she produced the sounds by which she, Dal and Suwa communicated. "I knew that with their superior hearing and the great sound conductivity of the water, they would get my message." Three times she repeated it and waited—but not for long. Suwa came at her with torpedo-like aim. "He opened his great jaws and came straight at me! I rolled and looked for the boat. It was about 1,000 feet away...I do not know whether I closed my eyes or lost consciousness. But I came to with a start! My hand was buried in Suwa's throat! He had engulfed my arm almost past the elbow, and my hand was surrounded with the warm, velvet soft tissues of Suwa's innermost being!

"BEFORE I COULD tense with shock, Suwa dropped my arm, and threw his dorsal fin hard against my hand, so that I, involuntarily, was holding him! Away we went in a ride so violent that I was afraid I would lose my mask to the surging sea! Then he led me back to Dal who, although courteous and friendly, lacked the wild welcoming powers of Suwa!"

THE DOLPHINS RETURNED to the lagoon where they survived Hurricane Betsy in 1965 and an illness that nearly killed Suwa. Throughout it all Betty Brothers Rein reaffirms her love for these two mammals without turning it into a circus act. Dal and Suwa's own great love makes for informative as well as entertaining reading. Read it!

Key West Singles

BY PHOEBE COAN

THERE IS LIFE after marriage! It's all what you want to make of it, say the Key West Singles, a group designed to meet the needs of people who are single or who have lost mates through divorce or widowhood.

THE GROUP WAS formed two years ago by Carolyn Hatton. Its newsletter reaches some 40 members in the 40-60 age group, and coaxes them into sociability. This is accomplished through at least two happy hours a week: Tuesdays at the Hukilau and Fridays at the Casa Marina Sun Sun Hut patio.



photo by Jerry Thomas

Singles Robert Salazar and Olga de Poo

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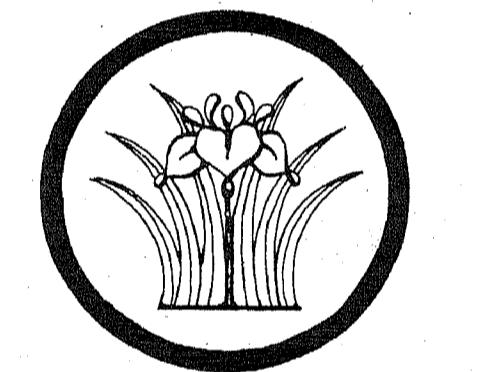
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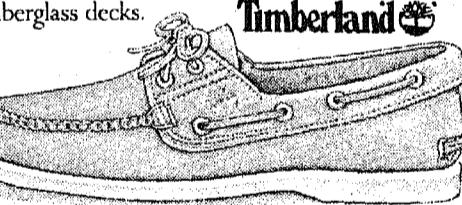
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JULY 20-JULY 24, 1983

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- 1 Subject matter is completely up to the author's discretion.
- 1 The "Hemingway Style" is not a criterion.
- 1 Stories must be original, previously unpublished works.
- 1 All entries must be received no later than 6 pm, July 22, 1983.
- 1 A \$5.00 entry fee must accompany each story.
- 1 Authors may submit as many stories as they wish.
- 1 A self-addressed stamped envelope must be submitted with each story.
- 1 Judging will be done by the Journalism Department of Florida Keys Community College.

Winners will be announced on Sunday evening, July 24 at Sloppy Joe's Bar

— ENTRY FORM —

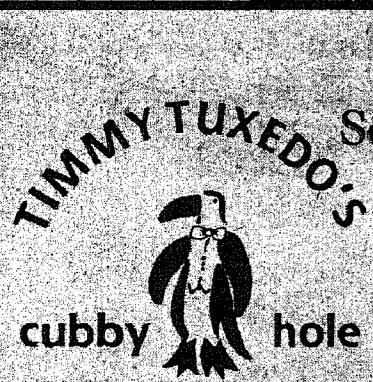
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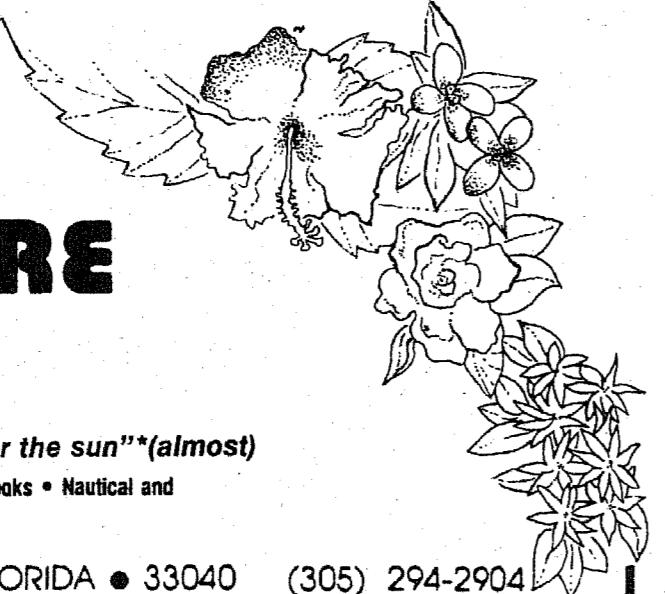
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BY AND LARGE, however, this is not a collection of bitter, depressed persons, or sex-starved matrons. Judy Hobbs, former president, states there is a great stigma attached to singles groups, but in reality, this group's aims and objectives are to be a kind of "support system" to those under stress.

Say the singles: "There's no need to feel isolated and blue. Why sit at home when you can have companionship?"

The group's philosophy does seem to have a gratifying effect on its members.

JUDY CALLS HERSELF a "professional single." She has had sensitivity training elsewhere, and has done some crisis intervention work as well.

"Some 50% of the group will end up living together," she tells me.

But this is not its sole aim. "We simply want to offer an alternative to meeting people in bars, or being by yourself."

MANY SINGLES WILL enter into what the group has labeled an "Instant Couple." One such couple met through the group and were wed in a matter of months. They thanked members at the time most heartily. But, when the marriage founered a few months later, they blamed them.

THE SINGLE LADIES, by and large, adjust to their new lifestyle. They do not necessarily wish to take care of anyone else. However, they wish to share good times with someone intelligent and cultured. Many love to go dancing. They do not like to go alone!

"Many people have little opportunity to learn the strengths of living

singly," Judy says. "They go from their parents' home into a marriage, and are incapable afterwards of taking care of themselves--much less entertaining themselves!"

The "Post Divorce Syndrome" singles observe seems to send many lost souls their way. This is a time many liken to experiencing the grief of a death.

"You drink too much and sleep with too many different people to prove yourself desirable."

STATISTICS HAVE RECENTLY indicated that singles live shorter life spans without the protected confines of a marriage. There is more alcoholism. The group can help ease this loneliness difficulty.

"If there is any activity you'd like to have company in sharing," says Gay Dalton, a nucleus member, "You can find a willing companion here."

"Really, we're ALL single," commented Roy Verb, another member.

"MARRIAGE WITHOUT KNOWING someone is dumb," Judy Hobbs commented at the informal supper held at Gay Dalton's charming conch cottage one Sunday recently. "Some go from divorce to marriage again without ever being able to be single. It's better to take your time and find out about yourself."

For information call 6-9878 or 745-1690.

KEY WEST IS THE PLACE FOR ME

There is a little island surrounded by an emerald sea
An Island city called Key West, that's the place for me
Miami is a busy town, too crowded, fast and wild!
Pahokee is alright I guess, but has no spice -- too mild
Now Key West is in between it's quiet and it's crazy
You're free to walk around a lot or just sit down - be lazy
No coconuts grow in Jacksonville, it's way up north and cold!
St. Augustine's historical, but it's really too darn old
This island is a blend of things, it's colorful and quaint
It has it's own personality, half devil and half saint
Everyplace has its problems and who doesn't have these days
But we're trying hard and doing our best to mend our wicked ways
Tallahassee is the capital and the Governor lives there too
But I in no mood for politics, it's as confusing as Mulligan's stew
My island never gets things done, outsiders express their fear
But sooner or later, it just takes time in this tropical atmosphere
Tampa has the Buccaneers, Gasparilla and Ybor City
But from what I've seen of that place - it's not all that pretty
This isle had its pirates and its old Conch Town's unique
Red sunsets, swaying palms and Key Lime Pie's a treat!
Ft. Pierce and Ft. Myers have no forts at all
And one time in Ft. Lauderdale I got lost in the shopping mall
The Martello's overlook the sea with lots more to explore
An old lighthouse, Hemingway's home and plenty of island lore
I've been to Sebring, to Delray and even to Pompano
I'd like to mention something but I guess I just don't know
Tall sailing ships, turtle kraals and Spanish treasure too
I think I'm running out of breath, wait a minute - Whew!
We got jumbo shrimp, yellow rice and lobsters in the pot
Look out man! Don't stop me now, I'm just getting hot!
Starry nights, poinciana trees and birds by Audubon
narrow streets, wide boulevards, I could go on and on
Now Orlando claims she's best of all
'Cause Walt Disney picked her out
But if you take that little mouse away
There's nothing left to holler about
They grow sugarcane in Clewiston, I guess that's all they got!
Can't swim in the lakes of Lakeland, they sure do smell a lot!
Now I had an old friend who went away, wasn't sure where he wanted to go
The other day, got word he died, ever hear of Bartow?
Key West is the place to be, it seems to have it all
And what can anyone ask for from an island that's too darn small
Put all those places together and I guess it's kind of nice
But by themselves they don't stack up, they just don't cut no ice
There is a place, one on one, that's better than the rest
The little island in an emerald sea, the island city called Key West
It's way down south in Florida beneath those clear blue skies
This little island in the sun is a bit of paradise
Come on down, it's not too late, it's a place you've got to see
Key West is a great place, and that's the place for me!

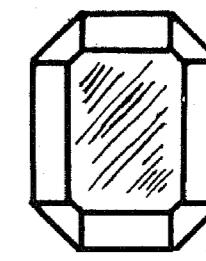
By Gerald Semler

Amys

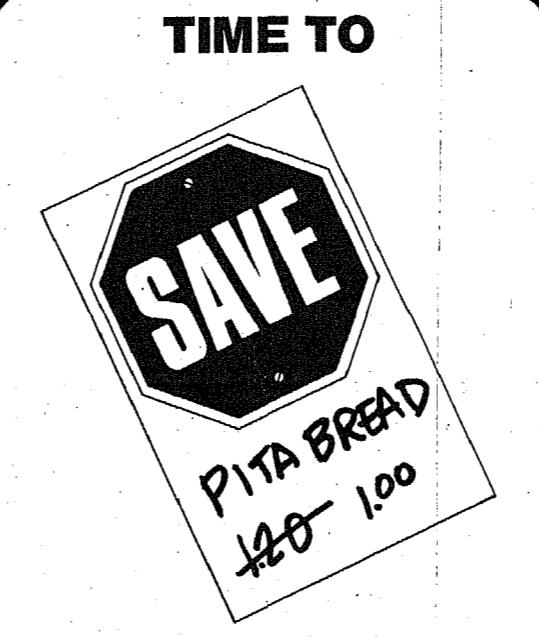
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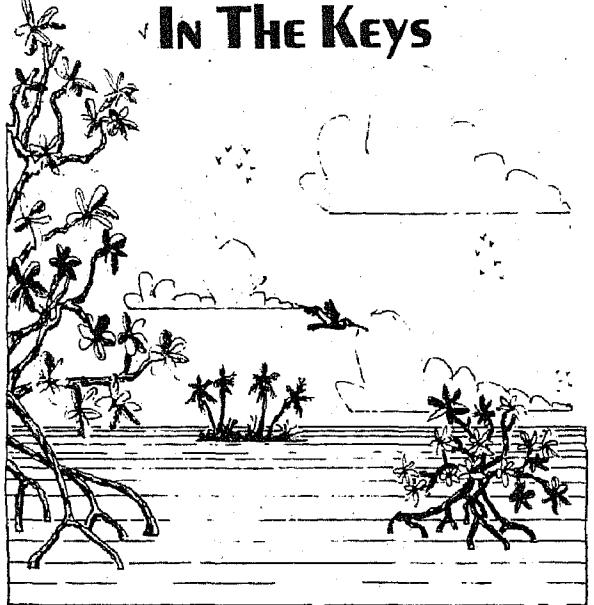
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IN THE Keys



... AN ORDINARY DAY suddenly becomes an enchanted one when a raucous sound outside a window turns out to be a gorgeous parrot perched in a palm.

... A ten-inch rain gauge fills to overflowing only a few months after a prolonged drought.

... In early March, the first greening of mahogany branches appears, to form perfect little five-pointed stars.

... CERTAIN DAYS BRING cloud formations which hover directly over the shore line, especially when a northern visitor wants a tan.

... One pale pink lizard, thought to be a rare albino, when first seen outside several years ago, now has relatives numbering in the hundreds.

... The softly-cooing mourning doves become so tame that they drink unafraid from the dog's water bowl.

... AN ANCIENT-LOOKING HORSESHOE crab gracefully eludes a dip net and disappears into the depths.

... A gray moth, at least three inches long, clings to the side of a house for several weeks. (Imagine the size caterpillar it will become.)

... Bonefish Towers provides a type of Stonehenge for much of Marathon, as the sun rises directly behind it on both the fall and the spring equinoxes.

... MORE FRINGES OF silky, green algae cover the coral rocks as fewer angel and parrot fish are seen.

... If lethal yellowing destroys a favorite palm, saw it off two feet above the ground and place a fine potted plant on the leveled bole.

... If any outdoor light fixtures are unpitted or show no rust, it is obvious that they are made of plastic.

... AT CHRISTMAS, A green vine snake climbed up a decorated Norfolk Island pine and zeroed in on a warmly-lit light bulb.

... At extra low tide, the flats resemble misguided tire tracks. They are the marks of many out-of-channel skags.

... An almost forgotten bromeliad brings a rish of pleasure upon a brilliant, flaming flower.

... INDOOR STANDING WATER, in a sink or toilet, moves gently back and forth during a high wind -- a reminder of the affinity with the sea.

... Occasionally, a bent palm frond will begin to vibrate in an almost non-existent breeze and beat out monotonous rhythms.

... There are unnumberable black cats which have reverted to the wild except in the spring they proudly parade their playful kittens for all to see.

... THERE ARE CONSTANT vistas of uninhabited mangrove islands which look much the way that the Keys have looked for hundreds of years.

... Dogs never tire of almost, but not quite, catching the mercurial Cuban anoles which pop out of the tropical trees and bushes.

... Houses with columns deeply embedded in the underlying cap rock reverberate noticeably at a detonation of dynamite blasting at building sites as far away as fifty miles.

... SEEING EAT ALBERT tethered on the ground instead of soaring protectively above the Lower Keys produces a momentary sense of disquietude.

... The closing of Woolco still provides a void while on a shopping spree.

... THE SEASONS of the year might be determined by the direction and the intensity of the wind. In the winter it often comes out of the north; in the spring it blows steadily out of the southeast; in the summer it is negligible; while in the fall it can box the compass.

... Perhaps some of these random glimpses might be found elsewhere, but not many, for they are unique and happen only in the Keys.



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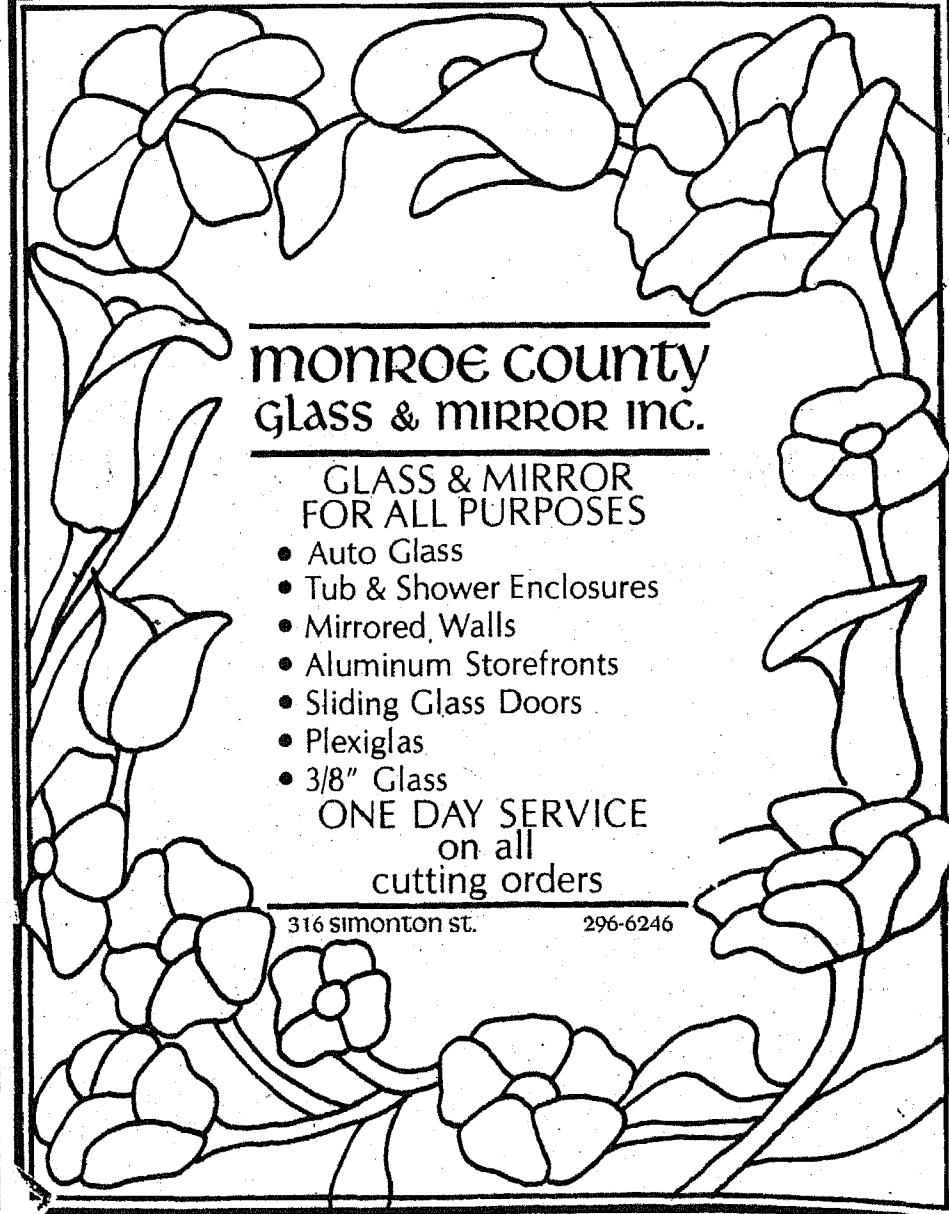
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of
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NO PURCHASE NECESSARY U.S. residents 18 and older are eligible. Sweepstakes from April 15-September 15, 1980. Look for entry forms at your participating Carrera Porsche Design Sunglass Center. You may also obtain an entry form by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to P.O. Box 9755, Westbury, N.Y. 11592. Washington State residents need not supply postage. Odds of being an instant winner are 1:5000.



SUNSET VENDORS

BY VAUGHN K. GIBSON

THE RECENT FLAP over vending at Mallory Square Dock has stirred the passions of that most colorful of Key West minorities, the "alternate" lifestyle" folks who gather on the Dock, at sunset, to perform or to sell various crafts and wares.

THEY'RE MAKING A great deal of noise these days -- though the vendors hasten to point fingers at "Frondlady Shari," as the so-called instigator of the flap. Frondlady Shari, once one of their number, has "gone legit" and now operates a shop on Duval Street. The sale of her palm frond creations, she asserts, is undermined by the vending at Mallory Dock.

THERE'S A LOT of confusion about this issue, but things can be sorted out. At this point, perhaps it's better to avoid cataloguing the emotional claims which are now circulating and stick with the bare facts.

FIRST, FRONDLADY SHARI is completely within her rights to request that the law be enforced. If there is illegal vending at Mallory Dock, Chief Rodriguez is duty-bound to enforce the law. Regardless of his private sentiments, he has no choice.

"WHAT KIND OF law is this?" ask the vendors, on the Dock itself, and in the latest meeting of the Mallory Square Advisory Board (which, according to the Board itself, barely has enough authority to sneeze, and only upon advice of the City Attorney).

IT MUST BE understood that Chief Rodriguez does not attempt to interpret the law. This is done for him by the City Attorney, and Mr. Allen

says that the City has the right to exclude anyone from its property: Smathers Beach, City Hall -- even Mallory Dock. It makes no difference, says Allen, that you may have a vendor's license. If the City says no -- you go. Period.

WHAT RE COURSE HAVE the vendors?

ONE: UPON LEGAL advice, they can challenge the legality of the City's actions;

OR, TWO: THEY can "persuade" the City to change the "law," which is no more than a long-standing memo which asserts the City's right to prohibit vending at Mallory Dock.

HOWEVER, WITH PEOPLE like Commissioner Balbontin calling the vendors "scavengers," we can't expect an instant turnaround by the City Commission. But there is some support of the vendors. Commissioner Heyman: "I have no problem with licensed vendors at Mallory Dock, but only at sunset time. I feel it adds color and interest."

WHETHER THE VENDORS can sway the rest of the Commission remains to be seen. Their success at attracting state, national, and even international media attention for their cause has startled the town. But the media is a fickle suitor, and as the hot summer comes on its interest may cool.

NEVERTHELESS, IF LOCAL politicians begin to sense that the community favors having vendor participation during the sunset experience at the Dock, you can be sure that the law will be changed, or at least that a new memo will be issued. (The image of having Mr. Balbontin, with political savvy, strolling arm-in-arm with the Conch

Salad Man and the Cookie Lady, makes this writer claw himself with pleasure.)

ASSUMING THAT THE law can be changed -- should it? What's best for Key West? First, let's decide which Key West we're talking about.

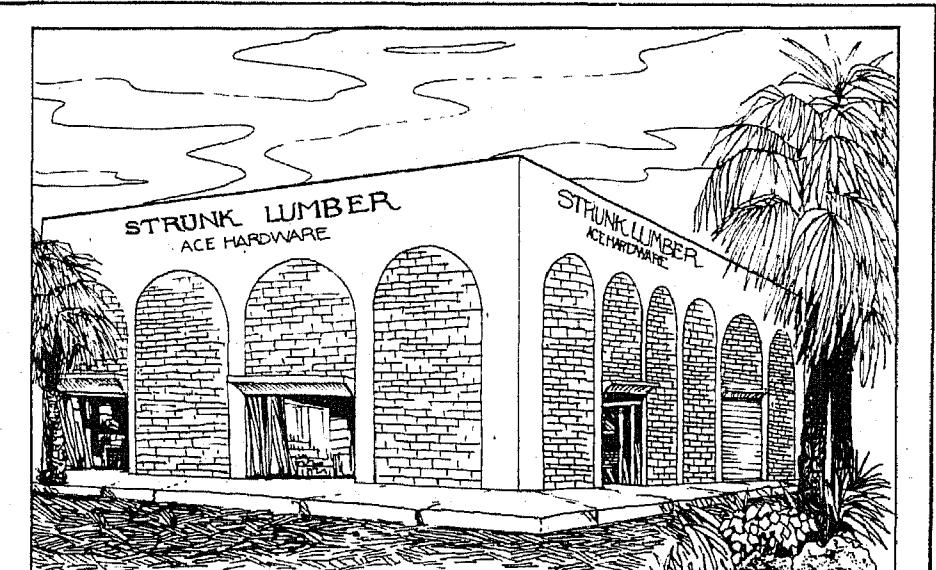
THE ECONOMIC TRADITION of boom and bust for this island has, over the years, insured an unassuming character for the town. There has long existed a tolerance for eccentric and nonconformists.

IS IT REALLY in our interest to deprive these folks of their marginal existence, to shatter their benign interplay with those who visit the Dock at sunset, to abuse the source of their pride and to undermine one of the great tourist attractions of Key West?

AN EARLIER KEY West looked upon such elements as a quaint subculture that could live without trouble on the same island with other, more conventional groups.

THAT SORT OF "quaintness" is now threatened, in part, by our growing population of upper-middle-class residents, as well as a home-grown core of diehards who tend to frown at anything which does not fit into their narrow band of acceptabilities. The trend is to have every underarm deodorized, every departure from the norm gingerbreaded and candy-coated.

IF THIS TREND continues, in the end we will have a teflon-coated isle, prettified to the nth degree, with a populace which will be pickled in self-appreciation and boring as hell -- and here's a vote for the vendors.



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The Building of Key West: Paradise Lost?

BY GARRY BOULARD

TEN YEARS AGO author Stan Windhorn noted in his well-researched *Yesterday's Key West* the lack of the kind of commercialism and development hype in Key West that has undone so many other distinctive cities across the country.

"No Chamber of Commerce board of directors has yet had the temerity to place at the city's limits a neon-flash billboard proclaiming 'Watch Us Grow!'" Windhorn wrote. "In all probability none ever will. Again there is that element that makes old Key West different from all other cities. There is growth, there will be growth, but only a growth that is relevant to -- and will enhance -- Key West's past."

MANY THINGS CAN happen in the span of a decade. Few better examples of changing mindsets and displaced priorities can be found than in Key West, the island Hemingway once called the "St. Tropez of the poor."

Since 1973, Key West has gone from being an exceptional example of how a community can be ecologically aware and environmentally sound, to something quite a bit different -- and very disappointing.

AT THE FOOT of Duval Street exists all the stark differences between Key West ten years ago and Key West today that one is likely to find. At sunset, as regularly as a factory work whistle, the down-and-out and the magical still appear on the Mallory docks to pay homage to the end of daylight and the beginning of the island's deep, breezy evenings.

But just several feet away is the ominous beginning of what some shamelessly hope will be the Key West of tomorrow.

A LARGE WOODEN sign is posted in front of a lot where workmen are daily applying their skills. Baking under the unrelenting sun, the men seem almost oblivious to their place in Key West's history. The sign announces the construction of a thing called "Reflections on Key West. A Private Yacht Club."

THE FORMER MAYOR, "Sonny" McCoy, is the chief architect of the new building. A colorful rendition of Reflections is shown on another sign, the shoreline of Key West in this drawing resembling that of Honolulu or Miami, rather than the once-clear and natural seaside indigenous to the city at the end of the rainbow. The address, in an almost poetic statement suggesting that nothing should ever have been built on the property in the first place, is "zero" Duval Street.

The developers of the land call themselves the "Zero Duval Association."

NEXT TO THE construction workers, the hardest laborers in town might well be the salespeople of Reflections. Mini-skirted women hand out little cards teasing prospective customers with a free dinner (which actually ends up being a free entrée, but only if you buy another one first) at several local restaurants. Once inside, a saleswoman, wearing large sunglasses, asks, "Look, you want to have a nice place to come to when you visit Key West, don't you? That's what this place is all about. Do you want to commit yourself to something that will represent an entire change in your life, or do you want to settle for something less?"

THE SALESMAN MAKES it clear he is not selling just a piece of property. At Reflections it's called a "lifestyle." As the sales pitch winds down, the prospective buyer is escorted into a small room on a dock facing the Gulf of Mexico. Inside the room, a projector is set up

to show, over and over, a film called *The Endless Vacation*. During the movie, actor George Kennedy is seen in a variety of settings: in front of a large fireplace, by the sea, on a golf course. One might wonder how this Kennedy guy gets

"THE WHOLE THING IS A MESS," SAID CITY PLANNER ART MOSLEY. "THERE WERE NO PREDICTIONS MADE ON WHAT THESE DEVELOPMENTS WOULD DO, NO STUDIES MADE... NOTHING."

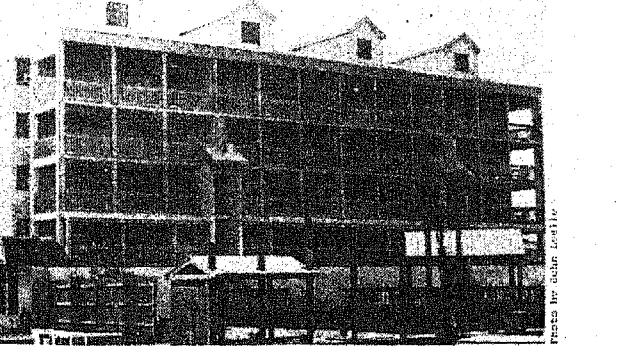
around so much. The answer is simple: he's an owner of a time-share. And he seems to be a popular guy, too. Scene after scene shows him with happy, well-fed, dancing white people, all having a good time, all on an endless vacation, too. How did Kennedy come to know them? Answer: they, too, own time-shares.

AFTER THE FILM, the sunglassed man asks for a little cooperation on the part of the client. "Visualization," he calls it.

Pelican Landing Revisited

WHILE KEY WEST's skyline and landscape have been ominously changing in a general sort of way for many years, it has been a single construction which has most aroused the natives. The building in this case is known as Pelican Landing, a large, five-story development located on Garrison Bight. Perhaps it's the obvious height of the building which has caused most of the concern from nearby residents. Or the fact that Pelican Landing can be easily seen, strangely out of place among its tropical surroundings, from a distance of almost a mile to the east, and at least half of that to the west.

WHATEVER the reason, Pelican Landing, which its developers have labeled "a private fishing club," has become a polarizing symbol between big-time developers who want to see a more lenient enforcement of building and zoning codes, and those civic leaders and area residents who are convinced that the same codes aren't tough enough.



AT ISSUE HAS been a surprise fifth floor on the top of the development, which originally was planned as a deck. City height restrictions limit any building within city limits to 40 feet or less. The same ordinance that governs building height also stipulates that no development in any area may go beyond four habitable floors.

Yet, in spite of such regulations, a fifth floor does exist on the top of Pelican Landing, and those involved with the preliminary planning of the floor just don't want to talk about it.

"NO LAWS WERE broken," said Antonio deSota, Jr., the architect and vice-president of Pelican Landing. "All of the proper permits and licenses were approved. Nothing was illegal about the

Cooperating with this "visualization," one is supposed to see large concrete floors come right out of the earth. Five of them in all. The first for protected parking. On each floor, the man explains with little gestures, will be

"IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE ON THE SIDE OF THE ENVIRONMENT, WELL, YOU CAN ALWAYS COME BACK AGAIN AND TRY TOMORROW," SAID ONE ENVIRONMENTALIST... "BUT IF YOU MAKE THAT MISTAKE ON THE SIDE OF DEVELOPMENT, THEN THAT'S IT... YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO USE THAT LAND AGAIN."

tically half their value. Now we have to go higher."

If you act now, though, he'll forget the closing cost. Why, he'll take care of it himself. The same goes for the first year's dues to the time-share membership organization.

THE PRICES, HE announces, are more expensive the higher the unit is located. "Our penthouse units are going very fast," he says in a low voice. "See? I

says, for example, 'I want to think it over,' you must have at least five closing techniques in your selling arsenal if you hope to get the order."

AT REFLECTIONS IF someone wants to think it over, the salesmen quickly takes away the promised closing costs he was going to absorb earlier. "You know I gave you that because I wanted to, don't you? Not because I had to?"

In case anyone's slip is showing, the manager adds, "I suppose you think

don't have to sell this stuff. It sells itself."

AS HE'S ABOUT to offer attractive low rates for a second-floor unit, another salesman, introduced as a sales manager, interrupts and says that the local bank has just announced that it can't fund those low, low prices anymore. The sunglassed salesman sadly shakes his head. "I knew it was too good to be true," he says. "We were selling them at prac-

THE SUCCINCT HANDBOOK continues: "Of course this has no relevance to time-share because like the land share and condominium industries we only really get one opportunity. If your prospect

"IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE ON THE SIDE OF THE ENVIRONMENT, WELL, YOU CAN ALWAYS COME BACK AGAIN AND TRY TOMORROW," SAID ONE ENVIRONMENTALIST... "BUT IF YOU MAKE THAT MISTAKE ON THE SIDE OF DEVELOPMENT, THEN THAT'S IT... YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO USE THAT LAND AGAIN."

tically half their value. Now we have to go higher."

If you act now, though, he'll forget the closing cost. Why, he'll take care of it himself. The same goes for the first year's dues to the time-share membership organization.

THE PACKAGE LOOKS attractive. And it's supposed to. Perhaps the salesman has been reading up on his craft. One book widely circulated in the industry is called *Making Time Share Work* -- A

says, for example, 'I want to think it over,' you must have at least five closing techniques in your selling arsenal if you hope to get the order."

AT REFLECTIONS IF someone wants to think it over, the salesmen quickly takes away the promised closing costs he was going to absorb earlier. "You know I gave you that because I wanted to, don't you? Not because I had to?"

In case anyone's slip is showing, the manager adds, "I suppose you think

we're pressuring you. This isn't pressure. This is a soft-sell. We don't have to push these things. They'll sell themselves."

WHAT THAT MEANS is the Reflections salespeople have no intention of being one of those jokers that the Federal Trade Commission receives complaints about with mounting frequency each month. The biggest grudges listed, according to *Changing Times*, are high-pressure selling, deceptive advertising, and failure to deliver on promises.

"Everything you're going to get, I've told you about," the salesman promises. "There won't be any surprises."

THERE MAY, IN fact, be some surprises.

Potential time-sharers are told they're coming to a city that has plenty of water for them, safe streets, a fine and healthy way of life. Lifestyle. But the salesmen don't mention that Key West may be one of the locations that just might not be able to support those vows.

UNLIKE SIMILAR DEVELOPMENTS throughout the state (Florida is, in fact, the most popular state in the country when it comes to time-share trades, according to the National Time Share Council), the Key West time-shares have the distinct disadvantage of being located in areas where such things as the lack of water pressure, inadequate parking, clotted traffic, and human congestion might just prove to be abundant, if not overwhelming.

SOMETIMES WITHIN THE next year the developers of both Reflections and another time-share, "Galleon Properties" (located just down the street at 631 Front Street; "Sonny" McCoy, architect), hope to complete construction on the two developments that have almost two hundred units cumulatively. For such relatively large buildings in the Old Town area, very little official consideration has been given to how they might fit in with the general scheme of things downtown.

THE REASON FOR this somewhat perplexing state of events is simple. Key West does not have an ordinance governing the relatively young time-share industry. The Community Impact Assessment Ordinance, which was passed in 1976, during what might have been the heyday of the city's urban ecology movement, is supposed to address such questions as safe traffic circulation, pedestrian movement, environmental impact, and feasibility of utilities -- but time-shares appear to have conveniently dodged the jurisdiction of the ordinance.

A FAIR QUESTION might be "Why?" A good answer might be because the time-shares defy categorization. Are they residential? Well, yes, but no one lives in them on a full-time basis. Then are they more like hotels? Well, no, because people OWN their own rooms. Then what are they? Condos? Apartments? What?

Whatever they are, time-share interval ownership as well as hotel and motel units are residential units the same as any in other residential developments, have the same impact on public service needs, and should already be under the scope of the Community Impact Assessment Ordinance.

PELICAN LANDING on Garrison Bight, which has skirted a number of provisions that would come under the Community Impact Assessment Ordinance, has become almost artistic in evading any categorization. They call themselves "a private fishing club." Does that mean that private bowling clubs, private miniature golf clubs, and private water volleyball clubs may be just around the corner? All without the supervision of a reasonably-demanding city environmental ordinance?

LOWED that floor. I don't think it's fair, I think they purposely took advantage of the situation, but they worked it so that they were able to sneak it in, and make it legal."

HOWANITZ, WHO LATER criticized Pelican Landing as a "commercial building, when they are supposed to be what they call a 'private club,'" said he sees the real problem as one of ambiguous building and zoning laws under the Land Use plan.

"There was enough gray area there with how you measure a building, that they were able to put that top floor in -- although some people still think it's questionable," he said.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN such a major development as Pelican Landing boasts of a questionable construction like the fifth floor, usually depends on the selective outrage of the area residents who are subjected to the towering building in the first place.

"IT'S NOT UNHEARD of for something like this Pelican Landing to have to remove the part that offends, if it has been put up illegally," said Florida assistant attorney general John Rimes, who closely coordinates many of his activities with the state board of architecture.

"Either that, or it's possible that the state can take away their certificate of occupancy," Rimes said. "One way or another, when a building has been put up in clear violation of the city ordinances, the architect and the engineer are clearly responsible for knowing what the city rules are. If they are not aware of the laws -- or if they violate the laws -- the architect and the engineer can have their licenses revoked."

RIMES NOTED THAT most of the developments that have been forced to change their basic structure have done so because of issues relating to the shoreline. But he added that city ordinances must always be observed -- no matter what they pertain to.

"YOU CAN USE the powers of injunction, or you can get a court order for the whole building to come down, or just the part that is in violation of the codes," Rimes said. "It has happened before, and when it does the effect on the community is usually one of great surprise, and then a sudden interest in obeying all the building ordinances. Which is what you wanted in the first place."

HALPERN SCOFFS AT such thinking. "There is absolutely no way that anything will be touched on that building," he said. "Once a building is permitted by the City of Key West, it becomes a legal structure. Nothing may be taken down from that building, unless we want to ourselves."

BUT IF HALPERN is wrong, besides the obvious danger to the building, the very license by which deSota and the buildings of Pelican Landing operate could be in danger if it is determined that a willful neglect of city laws occurred.

"MANY TIMES IF there's been an encroachment on property lines, we've seen a change in the structure of a building," said Milt Ruben, administrative assistant to the state construction industry licensing board. "The same applies for any local ordinances that have been violated. If the architect or the builder knew they were violating an ordinance, if it's a deliberate disregard of the local building codes, then we will suspend licenses."

RUBEN SAID ALL he would need to set the investigative wheels turning is a letter of complaint from anyone upset over the height of Pelican Landing.

"We would immediately look into the ordinances, to see what is allowed and what isn't, and then if something was in violation, we'd hold the proper people responsible."

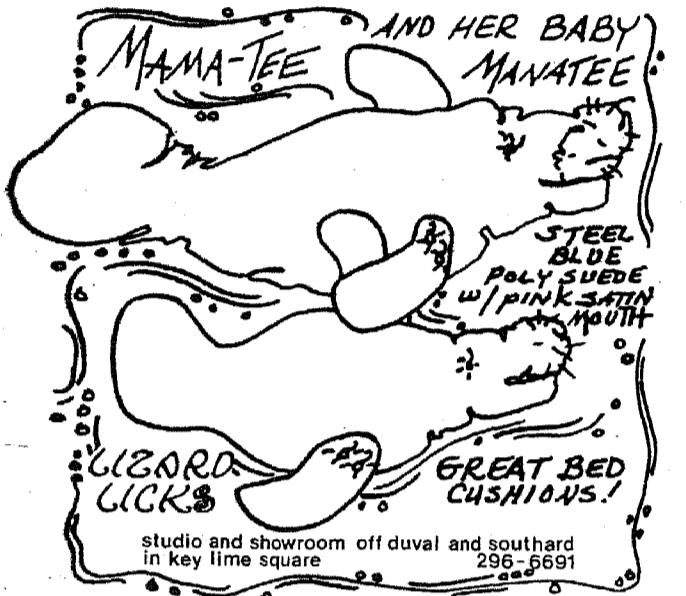
RUBEN SAID ANY complaints or queries can be sent to the Florida Construction Industry Licensing Board, P.O. Box 2, Jacksonville, FL 32201.

"It has happened before," said Ruben. "Every now and then you'll find someone who thinks he can pull it over on the locals. All we can do is wait until we get a complaint from someone. Then we can take action."

WHETHER ANY SERIOUS complaints will ever reach the state level seems at this point to depend on the degree of commitment by those most upset over Pelican Landing's looming presence. Halpern is confident nothing will happen. "Who are these people complaining? No one ever wants to go on the record saying what's wrong with Pelican Landing. I haven't seen any documentation. All I've heard is a bunch of rumors. That's probably where the whole thing will end. I don't think anything will come of all this. Pelican Landing is here to stay."



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FORMER CITY BUILDING official Jerry Pfahning recalls: "Originally I had denied them Pelican Landing, a building permit because it was my interpretation that it was not a private club; it lacked space for club facilities. However, City Attorney Joe Allen ruled that in his opinion it was a private club and could be allowed under the zoning ordinances. Ultimately the building permit was signed by the Public Works Director."

"THE WHOLE THING is a mess," said city planner Art Mosley. "There were no predictions made of what these developments would do, no studies made ... nothing."

Mosley, a one-time real estate developer, caused quite a stir last winter when he attended a public meeting and called the Reflections and Galleon developments "atrocities."

"I CAME ON a little strong," Mosley later said. "But I meant what I said. There's nothing wrong with the buildings themselves. They just shouldn't be where they are."

Mosley's biggest concern is with the Old Town area. "Look at how congested it is down there right now. This is before the addition of about two hundred extra units. It's obvious we already have

problems with traffic and parking and the number of people who are jammed into this little area. Anyone can see that; all you have to do is look around."

BUT THE LACK of studies -- adequate studies -- that both developers and concerned community activists can look at and dissect and eventually come to some sort of an agreement over, just seems to be another side effect of our recessionary times.

"DO YOU HAVE any idea how much a good study might cost?" asked Mosley. "Thousands. And who wants to pay for something like that? We have no data that says one hundred more units will cause this, or that one hundred units

will require that. If we only had something on paper that could document some of these concerns, the battle would be much easier."

Mosley continued: "And these studies are just what we need. We need to show, reliably, that there could be great trouble if this overuse of what we have left continues, not to mention what might happen with the services."

A LACK OF proper studies has hampered the Key West Police Department, too. When it comes to any mention of the present traffic control problem in the area and what it might be like with the addition of possibly two hundred more cars a day -- not to mention the usual glut of winter tourist traffic -- one officer who regularly patrols the area simply rolled his eyes toward heaven and sighed, "It'll be a lot of fun, I can tell you that."

NOT ONLY WILL the additional cars further cramp narrow streets that already are overcrowded, there's a real chance for outright disaster in the event of a fire or traffic accident that might occur, say, in the late afternoon in January or February.

TO GET AN idea of the monstrous traffic tie-up potential of these two projects, standards developed by the Florida Department of Community Affairs and the Florida Department of Transportation are very helpful. They have worked out a formula for frequency of cars leaving condominium projects. Simply put, each unit will average 6.8 car trips per day, in or out. With 200 units this translates into an additional 1,360 car trips daily into the already congested downtown area. This is a bad situation heading to an impossible one. (See also Bill WEstray's editorial this month on traffic.)

JUST ABOUT THE only area where the two time-shares may not prove to be concrete disasters is with the water

pressure, but all is far from rosy. Since last November, water pressure has ceased to be an emotional issue among Key West residents because a new line installed by the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority has transported almost all of the water needed for normal usage.

"RIGHT NOW OUR system is capable of handling what we have coming down the pipe," said B.L. Schattner, the director of engineering at FKAA. "But if there is any undue demand on the system ... well, that would be a different story."

Schattner said it is his belief that the two time-shares will not put that kind of a demand on FKAA's system. But he draws the line on further large developments. "There is a quantifiable limit. We cannot go over what we have, it's that simple."

WHAT WE HAVE is a preordained county-wide allotment of 13.5 million gallons a day. Since the installation of the new line, demand has been surprisingly low -- even with last winter's tourist onslaught.

"At the most we ran up as much as 10.5 million gallons last winter," Schattner noted.

BUT WHAT SCHATTNER didn't mention is that of the 10.5 million gallons per day withdrawn from Florida City well-fields, only 7 million gallons reached potential customers. ALMOST ONE THIRD OF THE WATER PUMPED IS LOST BY LEAKAGE DURING DISTRIBUTION.

THE IMPROVEMENT TO the distribution system is a planned 10-year project. Therefore to say that we can call upon our 13.5-million-gallons-of-water-per-day allotment now is very misleading when you consider that of the 13.5 million, customers would be receiving only about 9 million, leaving a short-fall of about 4 million gallons per day!

SO THE NEW line only tells half the story. The flip-side of the coin is the distribution system, and it's that network of pipes and valves that go back to the Great Depression days.

"For some places in the Old Town area, we've had the pressure as high as we dare to put it on the antiquated distribution system," says Schattner.

A SPRAWLING MAP in the office of Kathy Ovid, FKAA's executive office coordinator, colorfully spells out the problem. "Most of the distribution system was put in about forty years ago," said Ovid. "Now that's not to say just because it's old, it's going to fall apart. Some of the oldest lines are very reliable. And some of the new lines are completely corroded."

Near Ovid's desk sits such a specimen, an L-shape pipe with so many mineral deposits inside it only a trickle of water would be able to get through. "That pipe is from the 1950s," she said.

FOR THE DISTRIBUTION system that will be servicing the time-shares in Old Town and the one already servicing Pelican Landing, the map shows some of the oldest pipes in the city.

Unlike what was common practice in the old days, today the developers of the time-shares must absorb the cost of upgrading their system up to their property line. After that, FKAA either repairs or replaces what they must, or they simply leave it alone. "We do not pass it along to the consumer," says Ovid, "although that used to be the practice, and it used to get many people very upset."

BUT AS FOR just how many time-share developments on the order of Reflections and The Galleon the old distribution system can handle, the FKAA folks aren't sure. "We're going to start a process whereby we model our pipeline by computer," said Schattner. "This way we'll know what we need in the way of demand. As for now, we come along and tell the

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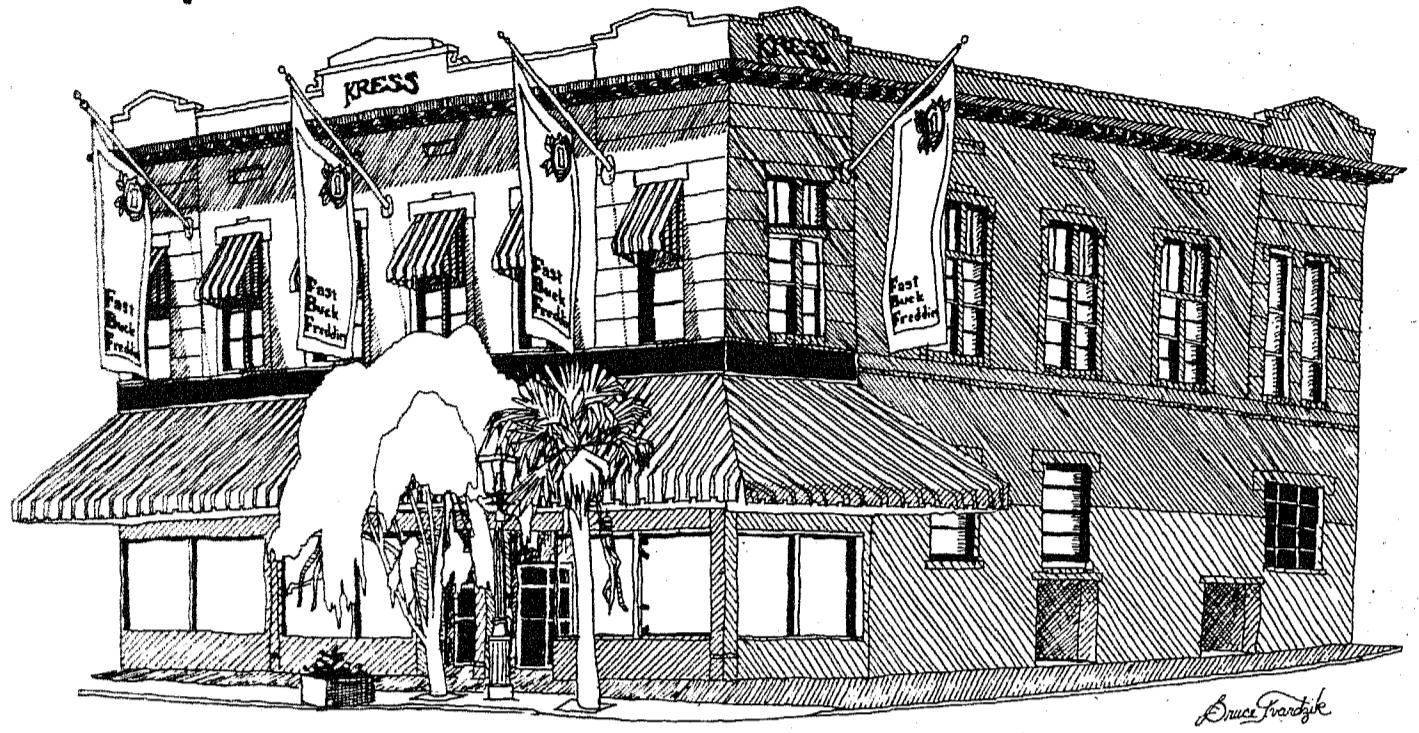
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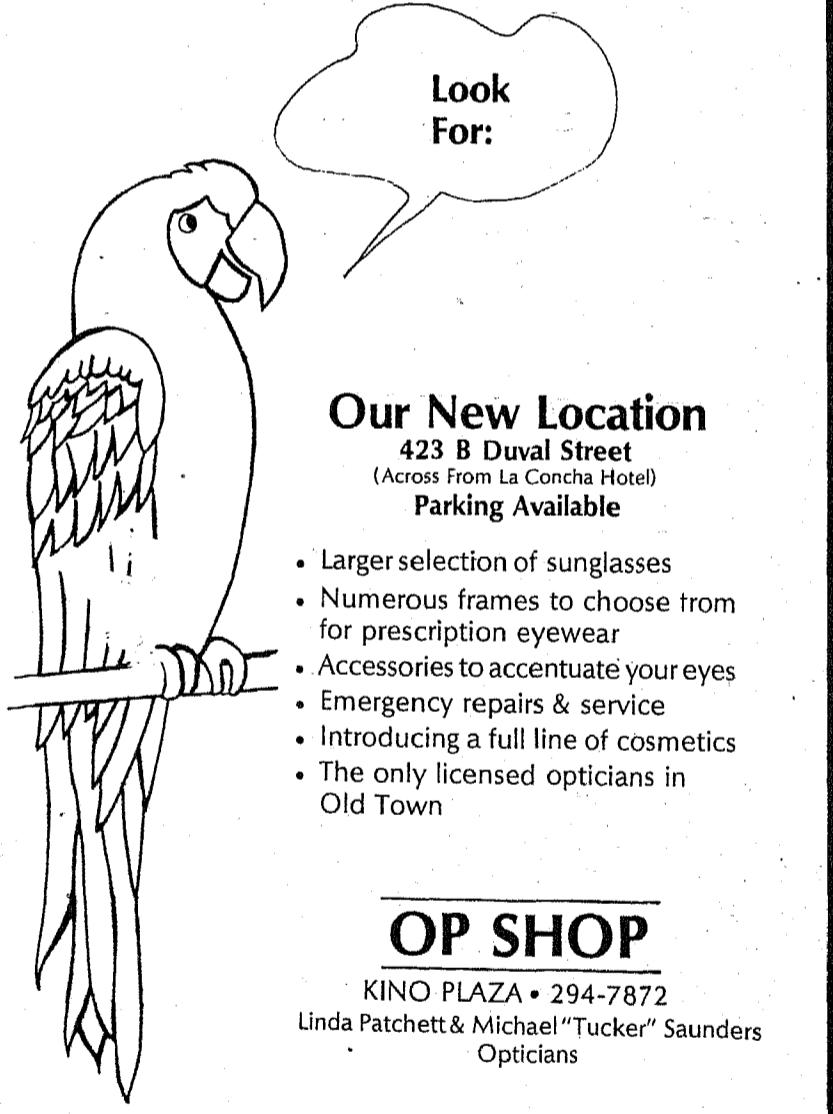
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condo or time-share developer what our system can handle. With Reflections and The Galleon we are not in any trouble. If another development comes up, we'll have to look at that as a separate situation. If it's more than the system can handle, we'll tell them."

WHAT MIGHT SEEM like the biggest problem -- an overloading of the system via the dishwashers, toilets, and sinks of the almost two hundred new units -- is for Schattner and Ovid almost a theoretical problem.

"WE'RE NOT HERE to control growth," said Ovid. "That was an issue that several years ago people accused us of. Instead, we want to help where we can help. If a new development comes in, there's only so much we can do. We have to tell them what shape their system is in. If it's too bad, if it looks like it might be unreliable, then it has to be replaced."

IN ALMOST ANY city that finds itself short of much-needed land for residential and commercial growth, there is usually a time to sit down and draw up a list of the things that should really matter in the constant building and rebuilding process of the metropolis. Among those things that top the list are the necessity of conservation of energy and resources, environmental protection, and historic preservation.

ON THAT LATTER point, Clay McDaniel, the chairman of the Old Island Restoration Committee, feels that preservationists in Key West have learned not to be too stringent: "We have to make compromises. There is going to be a certain amount of growth, that's true. So we try to make sure that a building fits in with its surroundings."

Unfortunately, McDaniel, who is also the salesman for some of the biggest real estate transactions on the island, finds

no fault with the two time-shares about to dominate the scenery in Old Town. "Actually, considering it's a time-share, they are rather small buildings for that type of thing."

BUT McDANIEL DOES have a problem with the Pelican Landing resort, which has a fifth floor, in an almost arrogant violation of the city's four-story building code. "Pelican Landing got out of hand, there's no question about that. They said four floors originally, and then they popped up a fifth floor -- what they call a deck -- on the top. The deck was not approved by the building department, and now it's been expanded to a fifth floor. There's no doubt about that, that is a fifth floor."

IN POINT OF fact, it appears that a manager's living unit has been built on the ground floor thus making it a six-story building!

THE BIGGEST PROBLEM, perhaps, with Key West's growing pains, may not be in the architectural diversions, but in the roles played by those who are supposed to scrupulously watch over ordinances and jealously guard their enforcement. Sonny McCoy, the former mayor, regularly was aware of clients who used to come up before the city commission for an approval on something--while at the same time McCoy was being paid as the architect for the project in question.

WRITER TOM NUGENT in an article for *Tropic* magazine, March 1975, once noted that McCoy used to wear his many hats in broad view of the public and accused the mayor of having a rather relaxed nature over ethical questions. "Sonny doesn't deny that he occasionally

represents -- as a practicing architect -- the same clients who must appear before him for approval of building plans at City Hall. 'The voters knew I was an architect when they elected me,' says McCoy, who goes on to point out that he always disqualifies himself in these situations, and then walks around to the other side of the table to argue for his client for a building permit or a zoning change." Such seeming indifference to the appearance of impropriety can and does have a real effect on the attitudes of those involved in the building process.

IF SUCH WERE the dynamics contributing to the rise of Pelican Landing, the reaction has been anything but "business as usual," however. A great deal of negative comment has been recorded concerning Pelican Landing's obvious violation of the "No High Rise" ordinance, and at the forefront of the attack has been city commissioner Richard Heyman.

"What happened surprised a great many people," said Heyman, who added that he is going to do everything in his power to make sure something like the surprise fifth floor at Pelican Landing is not repeated anywhere in the city limits again.

"IF GARRISON BIGHT were ringed with a bunch of Pelican Landings, I think it would be greatly wrong," Heyman continued. "There are plans for the construction of other buildings just like Pelican Landing in the area. But I've been assured that the zoning requirements for it won't be violated. It's supposed to be more of a hotel-type operation, and not a full-time residential place for anyone. Of course, those things tend to change once we go down the road a little, and that might be what happens in this case."

HEYMAN AGREED THAT Pelican Landing was in violation of the four-story or-

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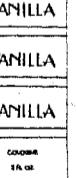
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change." HP-3 would be businesses that don't generate much traffic, e.g. doctors' offices, real estate offices, etc. Whether there is enough momentum within the confines of Key West officialdom to also respond in an equally responsible manner to the city's very real problems concerning development and the abuse of building laws, remains to be seen.

HEYMAN WAS ALSO critical of the way the city planner's office has functioned in the past and charged that the planning and restoration committee has not done its job.

"But I think we have a good city planner now [Mosley], and he's assured me that he's going through all of the ordinances governing such matters to see what we need to update," Heyman said.

AS A WAY out of the time-share chaos, Heyman believes all pertinent city ordinances should be modernized to reflect the concerns of building, planning, and zoning problems today, and that some steps should be taken to change certain zoning classifications within the city.

ONE OF HEYMAN'S ideas is a HP-3 designation, which could act as a buffer between HP-1 (residential) and HP-2 (business). "We've been approaching this thing on a piecemeal basis," he said. "And that's one of the things we must

do." HP-3 would be businesses that don't generate much traffic, e.g. doctors' offices, real estate offices, etc. Whether there is enough momentum within the confines of Key West officialdom to also respond in an equally responsible manner to the city's very real problems concerning development and the abuse of building laws, remains to be seen.

McDANIEL HAS SAID that his committee is not interested in making Key West look like a 19th century village. "We have an interest in preserving the historic district, that's true," he said. "But I don't see any problem with new developments near the historic district, such as the two time-shares. There are cities like Charleston, South Carolina, that have developments right on the edge of their historic districts. And look at New Orleans ... they've built new hotels right in the middle of their historic district."

WHAT McDANIEL APPEARS to overlook is that Key West, at the end of a single two-lane road, is not New Orleans and it is not Charleston, and it has far less area to work with. Empty space is rapidly disappearing, and the only thing that it appears to be replaced by is congestion, ill-planning, and building blemishes.

IN SUPPORTING THE Moratorium declared on major development projects by

the Monroe County planning department, *The Miami Herald* said, "Growth causes concern throughout Florida, but nowhere is the concern greater than in the Keys. The environment of that unique chain of islands is too fragile to absorb excessive growth without suffering irreparable damage."

A WRITER ONCE noted that "Key West plain just doesn't care," when it comes to being ruled by the social etiquette and priorities of all those other folks on the mainland. That indifference is one of the reasons such a wide variety of people are attracted to the island. But it might prove to be poetic cruelty if that same charmed abandon also applied to the booming development business.

"IF YOU MAKE a mistake on the side of the environment, well, you can always come back again and try tomorrow," said one environmentalist who was a former director of the National Wildlife Federation. "But if you make that mistake on the side of development, then that's it ... you'll never be able to use that land again."

pricked with raindrops, to resemble a sheet of black plastic stretched over a colony of ants.

IN AN HOUR the storm-driven waves were leaping onto the deserted square and spreading sheets of water inland. Brown coconuts came bouncing down the roads, and the rain fell upon the roofs like layers of grey blankets. For twelve hours the force of the hurricane passed over the town, ripping loose boards, felling power lines, uprooting huge Spanish limes, and floating Volkswagens off beaches into the pounding surf. In Garrison Bight the moored craft knocked together like castanets until many were holed and slid beneath the jiggling ocean. It was said that the seawater sloshed around the harbor with such violence that the sandy seabed was often exposed.

ON THE DOCKS a discarded Time Magazine flipped its lazy pages as if invisible fingers were turning them. Faster and faster the pages turned as if in an urgent search for a special article. The paper shook and rattled, and the whole magazine scooted across the dock into the shrub. The limp flags lifted themselves from their posts, uncurled, stretched and spread out in vigorous glory. The tall palms of the seashore creaked and stirred, and shook their fronds as if waking from a year of sleep. And then the calm sea was

BY MORNING THE angry voice of nature was reduced to a muted whisper. Dogs crept from under houses and cats crawled out of flower pots. People stood in groups assessing the eerie transmutation of the landscape; the branchless palms like sore fingers pointing to the sky; the pitted back yards, now levelled with brown sediment; the unexpected views down streets where major trees had gone, leaving muddy pools.

HOWIE BAKUPP STOOD barefoot and in jeans looking at the broken mooring

ropes. The Coast Guard confirmed that they had seen a blue and white craft blowing before the storm toward Horseshoe Key. He clung to the possibility that it had beached itself, and that twenty pounds of Hawaiian marijuana, safely wrapped in dry-cleaner's plastic bags, would be safe. He asked around the skippers of surviving craft and offered wily old Buzz Fundy two hundred dollars to come look for his boat.

TOGETHER THEY CROSSED seven miles of turbid, wind-strewn ocean where floated trees and Pier House Beach Club tables. Around them the chain of islands had been chopped and ravaged to be unrecognizable. Whole islands had washed away and others had appeared like glistening mounds of white marl. They scanned the unfamiliar horizon and navigated by compass to Horseshoe Key whose outspread arms collected the flotsam and jetsam of the hurricane. The old Navy blockhouses on the island had succumbed to the tidal waves and lay in ruins. The whole beach area was strewn like a war zone with packing cases, smashed furniture and the superstructure torn off sunken pleasure-craft.

BUZZ FUNDY LAUGHED callously and suggested they turn back but Howie could almost taste the cool two thousand dollars of street value placed on his lost bales, and insisted

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It's An Ill Wind

BY GEORGE RUMENS

AFTER A WEEK of looming and dissipating tropical storms which left the Disaster Preparedness Agency with red faces, the alarming approach of Hurricane Dobbins came as a novelty to the folk of Key West, who gathered at Mallory Square to watch the purple cloud boil in the Southern sky. The frigate-birds hung high in the swept sky, facing the danger like a line of sentinels, while below them the flat ocean simmered like vegetable soup on a stove. The weary palm-fronds hung down to touch the lawns and the tired flies fell out of the humid air to crawl across the sidewalk.

ON THE DOCKS a discarded Time Magazine flipped its lazy pages as if invisible fingers were turning them. Faster and faster the pages turned as if in an urgent search for a special article. The paper shook and rattled, and the whole magazine scooted across the dock into the shrub. The limp flags lifted themselves from their posts, uncurled, stretched and spread out in vigorous glory. The tall palms of the seashore creaked and stirred, and shook their fronds as if waking from a year of sleep. And then the calm sea was

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on going ashore. He waded up the newly formed shingle bank just below the old Navy gun turrets, holding his handgun above his head to keep it dry. And he set off around the great horseshoe curve of the abandoned key in the hopes that his own vessel might lay in this graveyard of boats.

THE MIDDLE OF the island had been scoured out, dividing the island by a channel of clear seawater. Wading this canal his toes stubbed something sharp and he looked down into five feet of water and sediment where a barnacled rock glinted with a familiar yellow. Gold! Without thinking he called out to Buzz who came splashing ashore at the mention of treasure.

SKEPTICAL OLD BUZZ who had lost a decade of his life somewhere down the line in pursuing futile treasure hunts in the Keys, reached down beneath the warm water and felt the thick shape of coins, scores of them, embedded in a rock the size of a trashcan. Howie looked about to see if they were alone, placed his handgun on the shore, and dove repeatedly to explore the cluster of gold coins with his fingers. Together they ducked under and tore at the cluster with their bleeding hands but the rock was like concrete, and remained embedded. By any estimate it must weigh five hundred pounds, and at four hundred dollars an ounce there must be more money down there than you'd ever make bringing bales ashore at night!

THEY SAT EXHAUSTED on the shore, their blue denim streaked with white marin and considered a plan to recover the treasure. The air between them seemed to crackle with distrust, whenever they slapped each other in mutual congratulation, and joked on how they could spend the money in Key West saloons. But first the sobering problem of how to raise the hoard.

IF EITHER HAD suspected the other

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: 296-5260



fishing and diving in the Keys. His thin white hair and sun crinkled face spoke of exploitation and redundancy. On his way back from Winn-Dixie he stopped by the Terminex Warehouse and came away with two pounds of green arsenic crystals. Back at the boat he mixed a punch of Kool-Aid and arsenic, adding a measure of rum to hide the bitterness. And in early evening he swept out to sea once more with the glitter of gold lighting up his his remorseless imagination.

BUZZ PLUNGED INTO the water dragging a wire cable, and walked around the rock wrapping the cable tight. The gorgeous sunset flared up behind him, filling the sky with a glowing orange powder. The indigo seas slapped and chopped his face as he came up for air once more, lifting the cable end to be attached to the winch. Howie leaned over the side of the boat and took the cable. In the exchange of glances, they both knew the score. Howie's hand came back holding his gun. Buzz, his dripping hair hanging down his forehead like grey string, had barely time to open his mouth in dissent before a slug from the thirty-eight entered his temple and mashed his brain. His body quivered, sank, and then floated unexpectedly beside the boat where Howie crouched with ashen face, hardly daring to look.

HOWIE CAME ASHORE in search for rocks with which to weight the body. He took a long drink from the jug of punch, and attributed the deep ache in his guts and the throb in his temples to the anxiety of the moment. Near the sight of the Navy guns he found brass and phosphor bronze washers lying in heaps. He threaded a few dozen heavy washers on a rope and dragged them down to the shore, where he lashed them around the smiling corpse which colored the crystal clear water with pink clouds. The corpse settled in the sediment.

Photography by
Joan Strunk

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of deep water and was gone.

HOWIE TRIED TO cure the binding cramps in his belly by snacking on a stale MacDonald's hamburger washed down with punch; but he vomited the mess into the hold of his boat. The brightness fell from the sky, and the waters seemed black and thick like oil. For twenty minutes Howie sat in his boat drenched in sweat, enduring a terrible thirst and a desperate pounding in his head. He drank again, and with his remaining energy he winched the cluster of treasure above the waves.

IN THE DYING light, the yellow discs stood out in tantalizing detail. They were phosphor-bronze washers, thousands of them, threaded onto a tangle of black cable, and crusted with barnacles! The huge ball of scrap metal hung a second or two before Howie's foot slipped on his own vomit, and the winch unwound and lowered it back into the water. With each shrug of a wave, Howie's barely conscious head knocked against the boards of the deck. By morning his stiff corpse had escaped the excruciating agony of the poison, and smiled with glazed eyes at the dawn frigate-birds riding out the contrary winds of the sky.

continued from page 2

REMEMBER THAT AWFUL phrase that came out of the Viet Nam war - "We had to destroy the hamlet to save it!" I sadly predict that if we continue to permit large-scale buildings like the two new time-shares at the foot of Duval Street and the planned building on the Navy Base, we will have to destroy the character of Key West to accommodate them. Our streets are going to have to be widened, trees cut down, yards narrowed, etc., so that this enormous new flow of traffic can pass smoothly. In a recent series in the Miami Herald a paragraph jumped out at me. It read: "An impending traffic crisis could cost Brickell Avenue its tree-lined median and spacious sidewalks. One of the few solutions to the traffic problem calls for sacrificing the median to add new lanes." Hey, this sort of final solution will come to Key West unless we get a moratorium on these projects now underway. Please read the excellent writeup on Time-Share in the centerfold of this issue. It will make you think about how dreary our future will be if this sort of construction continues unabatedly.

THE SECOND ANNUAL Run for the Republic will be held on July 4th. The 10 kilometer run starts at 7:30 A.M. and the 2 mile run starts at 8:45 A.M. For information: 296-5260.

A LOVELY LADY passed away recently - Florence Rabon, a strong-minded, hard-working, civic-minded lady who never stopped being involved productively in her beloved Key West. We will miss her.

ARTIST BILL HOFFMAN, well-known artist in the period of the Federal Economic Recovery Act in the 1930s, will be honored for his work in Key West during this period. His murals in the Glynn Archer Middle School depict the history of Key West. A plaque will be presented to him at a ceremony at this school at 1:00 on Tuesday, May 31st. The public is invited and following the presentation, a reception will further honor him at the residence of Maggie Bartel Kivel.

See you in August (July is our vacation time.)

WT

Profile: Amy de Poo

BY VAUGHN K. GIBSON

IT HELPS TO see this dark-haired young woman (early thirties) in the proper setting. The scene is her mother's house, a relaxed home stuffed with many kinds of art and human reliques -- paintings, glazed tiles, rugs, photographs. Ms. Susie de Poo's legendary menagerie of animals is out of sight, but you nevertheless feel they're looking over your shoulder. This is an environment well-suited to the organic growth of creativity and individuality.

Enter Amy de Poo.

"NOW DON'T CALL me a Conch! I was born in New York City, and was dragged here against my will by my parents when I was six months old."

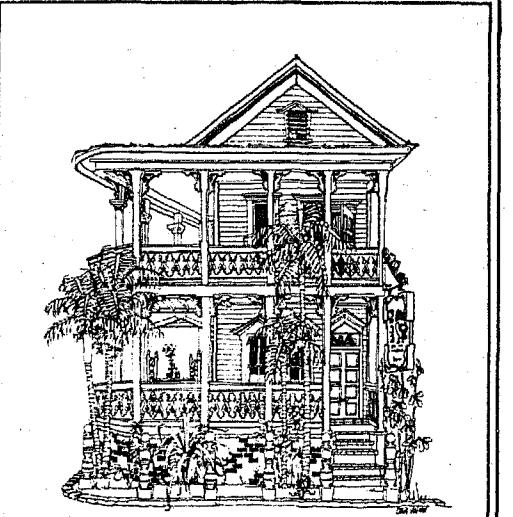
HER FATHER, A merchant marine (and the adopted son of Julio de Poo, founder of the de Poo Hospital), decided that New York was no place to raise children.

"ALTOGETHER, I'VE LIVED in Key West twenty-eight years," says Amy. "But I lived in other places, too. I left the first time when I was twenty-one, and saw snow."

IT'S CLEAR THAT she's the restless type, but it's also apparent that she can never dismiss her Island experience.

GIVEN HER PERSONALITY -- a happy crackle of uninhibited self-expression -- she's always been "known" about town. She became an even greater presence when Solares Hill ran her self-illustrated childhood stories in recent years.

SHE DESCRIBES THOSE stories as



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"humorous." They had punch lines, and each stood alone.

"EACH TIME FRAME was different. And they were outrageous," she says with relish. "I spared no one! Of course, I saw myself as a perfect personality -- and still do. According to some, this is far from the case."

DID HER FRANKNESS cause problems? Well, her sister Martha threatened to sue in case Amy revealed certain things.

"AND BILL HUCKEL deleted some things. When I said such-and-such spent lots of time looking at the sky and picking his nose, he said: 'Oh, no, no, Amy!'"

But she got away with pretty much what she wanted.

SHE FELT SHE had a unique experience to relate. The Key West that Amy de Poo grew up in was profoundly different from the Island of today. The Navy had just pulled out, and the town had yet to be discovered by style-setters.

"OPEN THERE WASN'T a soul on the street. Way back in '54, when a car came down the road everybody ran to see who it was."

HER ANATHEMA FOR what some call "progress" comes from that childhood experience. The contrast between what was, and what will be, is far too great for her to live comfortably with.

"MEANWHILE, AMY DE POO does not let a moment pass, it seems, without attaching a passionate conviction to it. Her letters in the People's Forum in the Citizen have articulately shed light on abuses ranging from City Electric smokestacks to hanky-panky at the Redevelopment Agency.

She speaks in outrage of the scandalous way in which sewage is "handled," locally and nationally. Her message to the town seems to carry more than one meaning, though, given her intimate view of Key West:

Restaurant, as well as Palma Christie's Gallery, owned by Betty de Boer, located on Ice House Alley off Simonton Street. She is especially proud of her oil-based enamel works of animals, insects, and amphibious creatures exhibited there.

MS. DE POO has recently gathered her Key West Stories into a book, along with her illustrations, and has placed it with a New York agent for marketing.

This lady has many interests and causes.

"I'VE TAKEN A great interest in Hitler, lately," she says. Er... fine. (Schools, she says, should stress the Nazi experience in their history lessons. People are starting to forget.)

SHE IS ALSO contemplating the conquest of Africa, and may travel there with a young man, an Australian, so that they can become involved in conservation work.

MEANWHILE, AMY DE POO does not let a moment pass, it seems, without attaching a passionate conviction to it. Her letters in the People's Forum in the Citizen have articulately shed light on abuses ranging from City Electric smokestacks to hanky-panky at the Redevelopment Agency. She speaks in outrage of the scandalous way in which sewage is "handled," locally and nationally. Her message to the town seems to carry more than one meaning, though, given her intimate view of Key West:

"Keep your eye on the garbage!"

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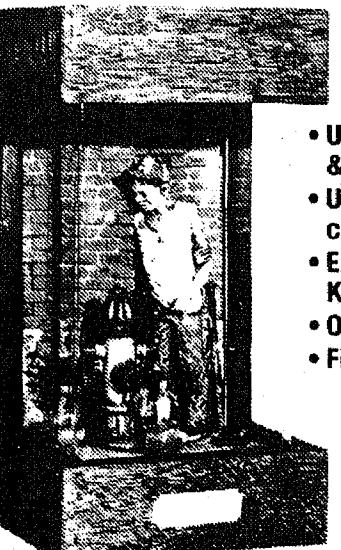


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NOTARY PUBLIC

'Touch Tank'

BY BILL LORRAINE

RECENTLY I ASKED marine biologist Flynn Smith to show me around the Turtle Kraals "Touch Tank," one of the most popular new additions at the recently renovated Turtle Kraals attraction.

"THE WHOLE IDEA of the touch tank," Smith explained, "is to give people an up-close, one-to-one, personal relationship with some of the animals found in the waters around Key West, and also to overcome some of the fears that people have about marine life. For example, these sea urchins here. Most people think if you touch them you're going to get stuck and it will be very painful, but we have sea urchins in the touch tank that will not hurt you as long as you hold it gently in your hand. In fact, all the creatures we have in the tank are harmless and very common in local waters."

SMITH PROCEEDED TO give me a close-up tour of the Touch Tank. "Here's the Horseshoe Crab," he said. "It's one of the oldest animals known, and not really a true crab, but closely related to spiders. Scientists are trying to find a cure for cancer with the blood of this animal. They are known as 'the backscratcher' because of the way the legs move in a tickling motion, and the old Conchs used to call them 'bucket bailers' because of the helmet-shaped shells which were used to bail water out of their boats and keep them afloat."

THEN SMITH PICKED up a Horse Conch, the Florida State shell.

"These are meat-eaters and they love the Queen conchs. They have to constantly live down the mythology



Photo by Jerry Thomas

that they will bite off your fingers and toes -- they won't," Smith reassured me.

NEXT WAS THE bright orange starfish and other animals with the five-pointed star pattern like the sea biscuits, the sea cucumber and the sea urchin. Smith picked each of these out of the Touch Tank and we examined them together.

"SOON WE WILL have a puffer fish in here," said Smith. "He blows himself up as a defense mechanism so he will be hard to swallow, and some of them have spines on their back, but you can pick it up if you handle it carefully.

"AND THEN LOOK at this," Smith continued, "where is he now?" Smith took off his shoes and climbed into the Touch Tank and turned over a large coral rock. "Here he is -- the shameface crab. They say these have a social disease," Smith joked. The crab had radiant purple spots all over the back of its shell and seemed to hold its claws over its face in shyness. "And watch this," said Smith. He held the shameface crab on top of the water, and from the small hole in the middle of its shell the crab sent out a tiny geyser of water much like a water fountain does -- therefore the nickname "water fountain crab."

FOR VISITORS TO the Turtle Kraals the job of showing and explaining the Touch Tank is in the hands of Mark Nease. "The tank is especially great for kids," said Nease, "even the very little ones that usually have short attention spans will really get involved in the Touch Tank -- they will get the names right and remember everything."

"BUT ADULTS LIKE it just as much as children," added Smith. "The main thing is that it gets them started. Some people are deathly afraid of anything in the ocean, something they learned from movies like 'Jaws.' But once they get started looking at the animals and holding them, no matter if they are three years old or a hundred years old, they just get fascinated."

AIDS PREVENTION

BY ALLAN O'HARA

CAN AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) be prevented even though we don't know what causes it? Yes, it can -- it MUST be prevented. If you don't know of someone who has died from AIDS, you may soon. It continues to claim victims at a rate that doubles every six months. AIDS has killed virtually everyone who has had the disease longer than three years, and it continues to make life miserable for those who have recently contracted it. We all must do everything we can to prevent this disease.

WHAT CAN WE DO? Since not one physician or health care worker has contracted AIDS from their patients, their precautions seem effective in prevention. We can use these same precautions as well as others to safeguard ourselves. AIDS, like hepatitis, is generally believed to be caused by a virus. The precautions that health care workers are using with AIDS patients are similar to those used in dealing with hepatitis patients. We assume the virus can be transmitted in saliva, semen, urine and feces; however, these are lower risk than blood-to-blood contact.

ANAL INTERCOURSE SEEMS to be the most risky practice due to the possibility of blood-to-blood contact (direct blood mix). Since even microscopic abrasions can be enough to transmit a virus, this practice with many different strangers is probably the highest risk factor. The use of condoms may help reduce this risk.

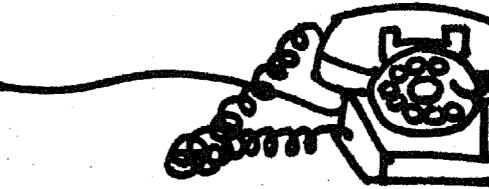
GETTING TO KNOW your partner will help you determine if he (or she) is in a high-risk group (active sexually especially with anal sex, has symptoms of AIDS, or is an I.V. drug user). However, you can never be sure since the incubation period is from two months to two years.

IT IS RECOMMENDED that patients with active hepatitis avoid using swimming pools (and hot tubs) that are used by others since the virus can be spread in this way. AIDS patients and suspected AIDS patients should do the same. The fewer sexual partners you have, and the less sexually active they are, the less your probability of infection.

BE AWARE OF the signs of AIDS (swollen glands, unexplained weight loss, fever, persistent diarrhea, red or purplish bumps or spots on the skin, persistent flu-like symptoms). Seek prompt informed medical attention if you have one or more of these signs. Remember, this is not a disease that is highly contagious through normal social contact. It may take more than one sexual exposure to acquire it, so don't panic if you have had sex with someone who has later developed AIDS.

EVEN THOUGH YOU may have symptoms and your immune system is depressed, that does not mean necessarily that you have AIDS. A partially suppressed immune system can return to normal. It is the near total shutdown (AIDS) that can not be cured (yet). It is difficult, if not impossible, in the early stages to determine if an immune system that is partially suppressed is going to shut down completely or if it is only temporarily suppressed. Therefore avoid jumping to conclusions if you or a friend have symptoms. Should you, in fact, find that you have AIDS, you are at risk of contracting a life-threatening disease from a basically healthy individual that you have sex with, as well as putting him (or her) at risk of getting AIDS from you.

THERE ARE PERIODIC screenings here in Key West (call 294-5359, 296-3048 or 296-HELP) to help in early diagnosis of those in a high-risk group so that they can be aware, take appropriate precautions, and monitor their health. A support group for AIDS patients is also forming (call 294-5359 or 296-3048). Now you know what you can do to reduce the risk to yourself and to others. You can be safer, healthier; the decision and the choice are yours.



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HEMINGWAY Days

BY COLLEEN HARDIMAN

KEY WEST IN the middle of July -- it's hot, it's slow, it's boring. But wait -- shake off those doleful drums! There is something happening in Key West this July. Sloppy Joe's Bar is sponsoring the Third Annual Hemingway Days Festival.

THIS YEAR THE celebration is scheduled for July 20-24 and will offer many diverse activities, including such competitions as the "Papa" Hemingway Look-Alike Contest, an arm-wrestling competition and a Miller Beer Drinking Contest.

KICKING OFF THE festival will be a new event -- a Street Fair fund-raiser. Between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m., Wednesday, the one and two hundred blocks of Duval Street will be closed to traffic. Local merchants will be encouraged to vend their wares on the sidewalk.

THE CONCH REPUBLIC'S own Cayo Hueso Comparsa Dancers are scheduled to perform during the fair and there will be keen competition between the Island's restaurants in a Key Lime Pie Contest.

THE SUNSET EVENT at the Street Fair will be a two kilometer and a ten kilometer foot race aptly named "The Running of the Bulls" after the Spanish tradition in which real bulls run.

FEATURED WITH THE race will be a judging of bull costumes created by the children of the Wesley House Child Care Center. The Wesley House Child Care Center will be beneficiary of this fundraiser. All proceeds, after

expenses, from entry fees for the races, from the vendors' fees, from sales of the key lime pies, etc., will go directly to this worthy cause.

FOR THE ANGLERS who aren't



1981 look-alike winner Tom Feeney poses with 1982 winner Richard "Papa" Parrish on his right

interested in Street Fairs or any such landlubbers' doings there will be the Hemingway Billfish Tournament. Registration and an opening party will start at 5 p.m. Wednesday at Sloppy Joe's.

FISHING DAYS FOR the tournament will be Thursday through Sunday. An awards banquet for the billfishermen will be held Sunday evening.

A NEW AWARD honoring Ernest's brother, Les Hemingway, will be presented. The "Les Hemingway Sportsmanship Award" is a tribute to Les, who started the tradition of the Billfish Tournament.

FRIDAY, JULY 22, is the deadline for entries for the Hemingway Short Story Contest. The entries will be judged by the journalism department of Florida Keys Community College.

A GRAND PRIZE of \$1,000 is offered, as well as possible publication of the winning story in Esquire magazine. The winning stories of the past two years were published in Solares Hill.

Rules of the contest and entry forms are available at Sloppy Joe's Bar.

ERNEST HEMINGWAY OFTEN frequented Sloppy Joe's; it is for this reason that the bar sponsors this week of celebration in recognition of his patronage and the many creative years he spent in Key West.

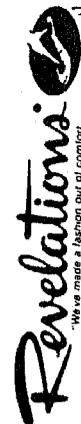
PLANNED FOR THE last two weeks of July is a Hemingway family reunion. Lorian Hemingway, Ernest's son Gregory's daughter, and Hilary Hemingway, Les' daughter, are organizing the reunion and hope to hold it here in Key West. If all goes well, the family will be in town to enjoy the festivities honoring "Papa" Hemingway.

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BRING THIS COUPON

KEY WEST'S HOROSCOPE

BY EMMERI CRITZ

Sun in Gemini, after 21 in Cancer.
Venus in Cancer, after 5 in Leo.
Mercury in Taurus, after 13 in Gemini.
Saturn in Libra, retrograde.
Jupiter in Sagittarius, retrograde.

Mars in Gemini.
Uranus in Sagittarius, retrograde.
Neptune in Sagittarius, retrograde.
Pluto in Libra, retrograde.
North Node in 25 degrees of Libra.

THERE ARE FIVE (5) planets in retrograde motion during June. Retrograde planets indicate delays, and re-experiencing situations. Deja vu!

THE NEW MOON on June 11 in Gemini conjoins the ascendant or rising sign of the Key West horoscope. There will also be a total eclipse of the Sun on this date. Mars is also in orb of a conjunction. This may be an explosive time - not necessarily negative, but strong activity in the area of personal affairs is indicated for our city.

THE FULL MOON on June 25 in Capricorn is also the date of a partial eclipse of the Moon. This aspect relates to the eighth (8) house of the chart. Financial matters will be spotlighted. This is indeed an important month for Key West.

OUR RULER SATURN has retrograded into the sign of Libra in the fifth (5) house of speculative endeavors. Not a good time for that department. Summer business will hold its own. Key West should have a good summer.

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KITES IN KEY WEST

By Vic Dahn Jr.

KEY WEST, WITH its boundless beauty, its semi-tropical climate, its emerald, gin-clear waters and its lush tropical foliage, also receives the added artist's touch of color from the rainbow hues of the Hobie Cats and sailboards gliding over the waters. The skies are not ignored either, for at the beaches and everywhere there is a breeze, the air is filled with the color and movement of kites. Largely responsible for filling these skies with such a diversity of sizes and shapes, is Greg Lavelle, the Kite Man of Key West. Greg has devoted the last eight years exclusively to building, selling and instructing all ages and sizes of people to the flying of all manner and sizes of kites and banners. Heavenly Body Kites of Key West, located at 409 Greene St., is home to a veritable treasure trove of kites and banners.

A FEW WEEKS back, while sunning at the White St. beach, I looked up and couldn't believe my eyes. In the skies in the distance were five black jets

performing amazing, intricate maneuvers. In perfect precision they performed figure 8's, rolls, loops and fast horizontal dashes low over the water. I was enchanted and elated that here were the Navy's Blue Angels giving us all a thrill by their exacting skills, trailing their jet streams behind as if in a signature to their performance.

BUT LO!, AFTER many inspired minutes watching this fantastic display, it dawned on me that there was no tremendous, thundering jet noise coming from these jets. Moving closer, what I had imagined to be the Blue Angels turned out to be five equally-spaced kites with 100 foot long yellow tails that gave the illusion of real jets.

AMAZED, I BIKE'D to the end of the White St. pier and there met Mike Grodzinski (Ski) and his 7-year-old son (watching in awe), of Stock Island. Ski was the controller who put these kites through their paces. Using two large grips (one in each hand), Ski could make them dive, loop, run back and forth level with the water, all in unison and at speeds approaching 40 to 50 mph.

KITEMAKING AND KITEFLYING have been going on for many years in Key West. The first settlers from the Bahamas

and Cuba brought with them this art, and it was passed along to each succeeding generation. The tissue paper used in construction came in many colors which were used in many bright combinations. White pine and cedar strips were the predominant materials for the frames, which also were shaped in multitude of forms. Other types were used by the builders, but these were the favorites.

MR. DEWIE RIGGS was shown the art of kitemaking by his uncle, William (Blood) Sands. He built kites from 1907 to 1910. The Parra family, the Machin family and many others were kite-makers for many years. The history of kite making is very colorful, makes interesting reading. Books may be found at our coral-pink library located on Fleming St. Kites let your dreams soar high in the heavens, limited only by your imagination and an ever-present tropical breeze.

GREG HAS HELD an annual Kite Festival at the White St. beach for the past seven years. The latest and most colorful was held on Saturday, April 16th. This 7th Annual Key West Kite Festival was sponsored by Heavenly Body Kites and the Latin-American Chamber of Commerce. The spectacular event was open

to all and there were hundreds of contestants and viewers assembled at the beach on a beautiful, sunny and nicely breezy day.

PRIZES WERE AN important part of the Festival. Heavenly Body Kites gave away, free, 80 kites to the first 80 children to arrive. Within minutes, the sky was filled with color and movement. Bill Baker of Peter Powell Stunt Kites flew in for the event and he put on a great air show, flying up to 1100-foot kites at the same time. With so many people, young and old, big and little kids, and the skies filled with "flying objects," it was all too soon when the time came to award the prizes.

WINNERS OF THE 7TH ANNUAL KEY WEST KITE FESTIVAL

Youngest Kite Flyer: Sara Jane Thompson, 14 months old, Key West; Oldest Kite Flyer: Clyde Hadley, 75 years young, Leucadia, California; Longest Time In Air: Mike Dotey and Vaughn Walker, Key West; Best Handmade Kite: J.J. Issoka, Rockland Key;

Person From Farthest Point From Key West: Dave McEllison, Ontario, Canada;

Most Beautiful Kite: Marc Piscotty, Buffalo, New York;

Best Kite Performance: Mike Grodzinski, Stock Island.

EACH WON A \$50 gift certificate from Heavenly Body Kites. A \$100 cash prize for the best color slide went to Chris Robinson.

ON SATURDAY, JUNE 11, the Latin-American Chamber of Commerce and Heavenly Body Kites will hold a Kite Exposition at Mallory Square. The history of kites and kitemaking will be demonstrated. Two hundred FREE handmade Cuban or Key West Kites will be given away to children in our community. Arturo Espinola, Greg Lavelle and friends will be building beautiful handmade kites to be given away to children for the "Week of Joy."

ON SUNDAY, JUNE 12, at the White St. Pier, the Latin-American Chamber of Commerce and Heavenly Body Kites will hold a Kite Festival. This event is free and open to the public. COME ONE, COME ALL.

Editorial

BY BILL WESTRAY

ADT (AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC) is a standard term and measure used by traffic planners to describe the capacities of various types of streets and highways, the existing measured traffic volume, and the predicted increases in traffic volume caused by new developments of all sorts. It represents the number of vehicles passing a given point for a 24-hour period. A car going out and then returning past a given point counts as two trips.

WHILE INDIVIDUAL USAGE may vary, the traffic planners at state, regional and local levels have determined from actual traffic counts that residential developments (single and multi-family, time-share, hotels, motels, etc.), produce an average of 6.8 trips (ADT) per living unit.* Even tourists without cars create this impact by use of taxis, airport limousines, visits by friends, etc. Thus a 100-unit development would create an additional impact of 680 ADT.

CONGESTION, OR LEVEL of service, for a street or highway is denoted by letter codes with "A" being the least congested and "D" being the worst. Class "C" level of service is considered to be the lowest quality that is acceptable for any community and is defined as, "...stable traffic flow at moderately low speed, with speed and maneuverability restricted by high volumes." (FDOT definition.)

ADT'S OF 7300 (two-way) would appear to be the class "C" capacities of Duval, Front, Simonton, Eaton and Truman Streets. Roosevelt Boulevard (4-lane) would have a Class "C" capacity of about 11,400. There have been little or no traffic counts with the City since 1976, but the count at the Stock Island (Cow Key Channel) Bridge last year gave an ADT of 25,705 and a peak in January of 28,400, versus a class "C" capacity of 21,600.

LACKING SPECIFIC DATA, only estimates of the existing traffic congestion at Duval, Front and Simonton can be made, but observations during the immediate past tourist season indicate that it is already worse than class "C." When the two new resorts are completed, along with the expansion of the existing resort hotel, an increase of 1300 to 1500 daily trips could be expected to paralyze the area.

*An ADT of 6.8 per living unit is used by the Florida Department of Community Affairs in reporting to the Florida Cabinet (memo of July 23, 1982) on

the impacts of Major Development Projects on the Florida Keys. Standard was developed by Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

AMUSEMENTS

BY TOM SCHMITT AND GEORGE GUGLEOTTI

SUMMER IS HERE and with it comes the heat, the closeness of no breeze and perspiration with every move you think about making. Key West had an incredibly beautiful and long spring this year; perhaps that is why the royal poincianas and frangipani are literally bursting with blooms. Who knows?

WE ALSO HAD a pretty wonderful theatre season this past '82-'83, but, alas, it has come to an end and gone into summer hibernation. The last production of the season was the Red Barn's tribute to Tennessee Williams, "A Souvenir." This joyous event was followed by the Barn's second Annual Show Biz Ball. (The Show Biz Ball is still a week away, as of writing this column, but it promises to be a lot of fun. We hope you didn't miss it.)

PLANS FOR NEXT season are underway at all three theatres and the '83-'84 season will bring many changes, not the least of which will be a new director at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. But more about that later.

THE WATERFRONT PLAYHOUSE will be closed for most of this summer, due to an electrical face-lift, of sorts, but the Key West Players are not taking a vacation. Tentative plans for their next season have been set and these include the debut of five new directors. The Players will open their season in October with the musical "Grease," directed by Jody Ray Geckler; following this will be the comedy "Lovers and Other Strangers," to be directed by Susie Newman. The Christmas offering will be the Agatha Christie murder thriller "Ten Little Indians," directed by George Gugleotti. In January will see Neil Simon's "Prisoner of Second Avenue," helmed by Jerry Carr; following this will be Preston Jones' "Lu Ann Hampton Laverty Oberlander," directed by the veteran June Hunzinger. This play is the last of Preston Jones' Texas trilogy. The Players' season will close with a musical directed by choreographer Charles Karp. This musical hasn't been decided upon yet.

SO WHILE THERE is little activity this month, with all the theaters being dark, this is merely the proverbial calm before the storm.

UNTIL NEXT MONTH...Sayonara!!

When you think of interiors, think of...

Interiors By Wanda

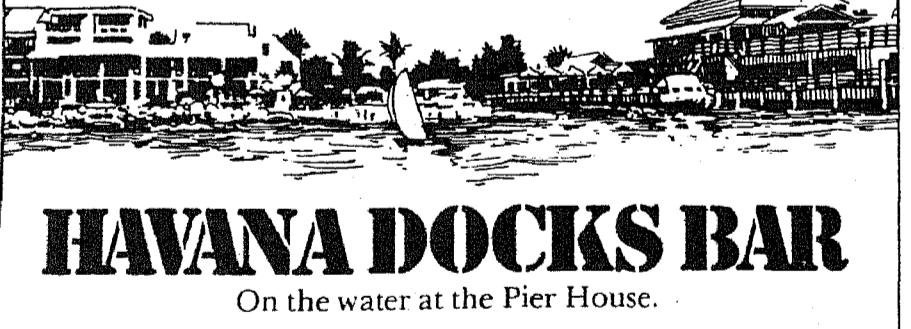
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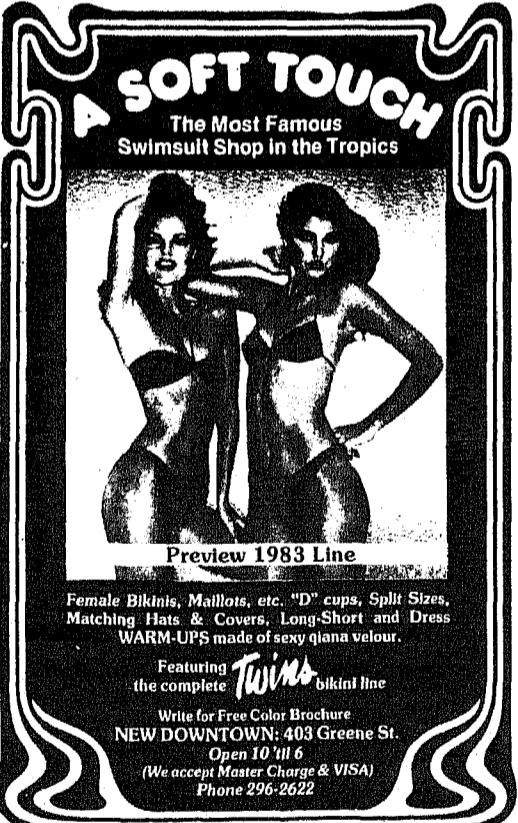
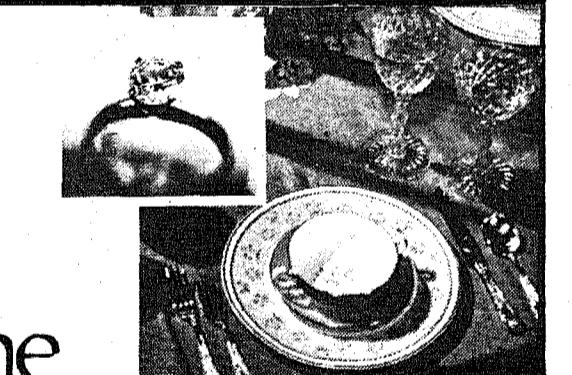
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EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENTS

Seventh Conch Challenge Swim: July 4, information: 294-1254 or 294-8122.

Second Run For The Republic: July 4, information: 296-5260.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

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

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

East Martello Gallery & Museum, 3500 S. Roosevelt Blvd., 296-3913. A "fort-museum" with some of the most interesting facts of Key West history and lore. June 15 to August 31 All Member's Summer Show

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

Gingerbread Square Gallery, 901 Duval St., Information 296-8900. Appointments 294-2165. Thurs.- Mon. 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 P.M. Group show till May 4. During summer months: no shows; regular stable of artists on display.

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

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

Key West Art Center, 301 Front St., 294-1241. Open 10 to 5 daily; Sundays 11-4. June 4-11, Ginny Street; June 18-25, Jan Lawless; June 25-July 2, Carolyn Bowman

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

Moira, the art gallery at 11 Key Lime Sq., 294-1254. Original art and framing. Open 10 to 5 p.m.

Perkins Chandelier, 218 Whitehead St., 294-7635. Showing the following artists: Rollin Barker, A.S.M.A.; Commander J. A. Cryer.

SOME NEW EVENTS

AL-ANON, Mondays, 7:00 p.m., St. Ann's Hall, St. Mary, Star of the Sea; Tuesday and Friday, 8:30 p.m., Sigsbee YMCA.

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

Narcotics Anonymous, meets Fridays 7 p.m. at the Mental Health Clinic Lobby on Truman Annex. Problem with drugs? Narcotics Anonymous has a solution.

Bingo, starting 7:15 p.m. Thursday nights at Sugarloaf firehouse at mile marker 17. Proceeds to the fire and rescue squad.

Get smart at evening classes at Florida Keys Community College. Mime, dancing, Spanish, metal casting, signning, astrology, boat maintenance, ocean cruising, native plants. Call Registrar's office for information, 296-9081.

REGULAR EVENTS

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

Big Coppitt Key Firehouse, bingo, Fri. nights, 8:00 p.m.

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority: No meetings in the Keys this month.

VFW AUXILIARY #6021, 2nd & 4th Sundays, Post Hall, 803 Emma St., 8:00 p.m.

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

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

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

Cosmic Lightbearers, Minister: Jeanette Bottoms. Sun. worship - W. Martello, outside - at 2 p.m. - bring mat.

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

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

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

Monroe County Commission: June 10, Marathon Sub-Courthouse, 10:00 a.m.; June 24, Key West Courtroom B, 10:00 a.m.

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

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

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

Key West Singles: every Tuesday, Happy Hour, 5-7, Hukilau. Fridays, Calabash Lounge, Casa Marina, 5-8 P.M. Weekend socials in private homes. For information: 296-9878.

SELF HELP

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

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

Conscious Pregnancy Classes, 296-6259.

Mail-a-Book Program, costs you only 29 cents, for mailing. Library, 294-8488.

Workshops in Life-Drawing & Painting, Tuesday Eves. and Friday afternoons. \$2-3 model fee. For times and locations contact Malcolm Ross at 294-8301.

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

The Key West Swim Club, at the high school pool: under 18 yrs. Mon. through Fri. at 4:30 p.m., Sat. 9:00 a.m. Adults: Tues. & Thurs. at 6:30 p.m., Sat. 10:30 a.m.

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