

VOL. 15, NO. 4 • KEY WEST, FLORIDA • March 15-31, 1991

Island Finance Working Like A Dog

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A black and white photograph of a large, dark, textured object, possibly a piece of machinery or a large container, with a cylindrical component on the right side. The background is filled with a repeating pattern of the text "Dollars & Sense" and a row of dollar signs.

BUILDING ON THE BEACH

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THE UNTOLD STORY**
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GUT-BUSTERS
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Hounds and Sacred Grounds

The recent closure of Berenson's Key West Greyhound Track by state racing officials brought emotional reactions. Citizens found the inhumane treatment of animals, which often results when they are coldly viewed as commodities, appalling—especially since the facility was local.

It's a sad reality that while observers were at the track, drinking beer, eating hot-dogs and enjoying the excitement of animals in motion, that the behind-the-scenes view of the dogs' lives was dark and, sometimes, grisly.

Some of the violations at the track were atrocious: no living being should be penned for long periods, starved, fed rancid food or maltreated in other ways.

Indeed, the focus during the state hearing, and thus the stories that ran in the local press, were on the treatment of the dogs.

Track owner Louis Berenson, however, had a profoundly negative effect on the lives of many of the trainers at his track as well. These were the people who worked to provide the dog-power that generated his, and some of the state's, income.

J.D. Dooley's "Berenson's: The Untold Story," on Page 6 looks at Berenson's "company-store" program, which locked half of the local trainers into financial debt so great they ended up sleeping in the kennels with the dogs.

The three trainers who told their stories to Dooley seemed to care about the condition of their animals and to be truly interested in their dogs' well-being.

They also testified against the management at Berenson's during the hearing—a

risky action, as you will read.

More alarming news. "Building on the Beach," by John Cole on Page 3, looks at the possibility of development in an area that includes portions of the Bridle Path, Smathers Beach and the Salt Ponds.

While the Monroe County Land Authority and local environmental groups, particularly Last Stand, are scrambling to purchase the parcels of land that make up the island's most magnificent waterfront view, developers are readying for the permitting process and preparing to go to court, if necessary.

Landowner Marc Thornburgh hopes to erect condominiums on his 13-acre parcel, which overlaps wetlands, and, possibly, to move South Roosevelt Boulevard to where the Bridle Path is located now in order to create beachfront property. Such cosmetic rearranging for the benefit of developers has been done in Florida before.

The effects of such development would be permanent. It would drastically change the face of the Smathers area. And it would set precedent.

Legal professionals agree that public opinion and pending land-use regulations will probably prevent this development from happening. Thornburgh and his attorney Jim Hendrick, however, will be going before the city commission—possibly this month—with Thornburgh's development plan. All concerned need to make their opinions heard at city hall.

This case, and perhaps others in the future, is not cut-and-dried; land-use legislation is not yet rooted firmly in place. Until it is, Key West needs to keep its eyes open, if it is to preserve the openness of spaces like the Smathers Beach area.

Ann Boese

The cover photograph of the money hound with glasses was taken by Key West photographer Dick Burke.

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Building on the Beach

Developers, environmentalists and government struggle over the future of Smathers-Salt Pond area

by John Cole

In an island city of many ironies, the current goings on along a portion of South Roosevelt Drive may rank with some of Key West's most bitter. If a land owner gets his way, a sizeable section of the Bridle Path across from Smathers Beach may be paved and condominiums may be built between the new stretch of road and the ocean. It's a change that would drastically alter the face of the Smathers area.

South Roosevelt is the oceanfront stretch of four-lane road along the island's south shore. It's also the first impression of the island that most visitors get as they leave the airport and head west toward Old Town's several resort hotels and other diversions.

As first impressions go, it's a winner. The Atlantic spreads its emerald-green and azure coverlet to an horizon appealingly dotted with cruising yachts, offshore charter boats and shrimp boats, plowing east with their nets aloft like gull wings.

Along Smathers Beach, postcard sunbathers frolic, frisbees sail, volleyballs soar, Hobie Cats glide and windsurfers fly. That's along the ocean side. Inland there's the largest stretch of open space on the island: the Salt Ponds, more than 300 acres of marsh and mangroves bordered on their South Roosevelt side by a ribbon of ground known as the Bridle Path.

Few horses canter the path's length, which extends from the corner to the west, where South Roosevelt takes its right-angle turn toward Flagler, east along the beach to the airport entrance. But the existence of the open space enhances the dramatic vista on the beach side and adds to the southernmost ambience that draws tens of thousands of visitors to Smathers Beach each week.

The western end of the beach ends abruptly at 1800 Atlantic—the massive, grey condominium complex that some observers compare architecturally to a state reformatory. Across the road to the east, the white walls of La Brisa curl around the corner, protecting yet another condo complex from stray volleyballs.

But beyond La Brisa, Smathers Beach rolls free, framed only by swimsuits on the ocean side and the mangroves of the Salt Ponds on the other. For Key West it's a rare, open sweep that does not end until it meets the no-nonsense, six-story rise of the Key West By The Sea condos, which were built when almost everyone in Key West thought Smathers Beach had to be the island's prime hunk of developable real estate.

Now, environmentalists argue, the site is classified wetlands and not developable at all.

Although visitors and islanders have for years taken for granted the 13-acre span

between La Brisa and Key West By The Sea, it is owned by the Thornburgh family of California. The owners are well aware of its value. Recently they developed a plan for the path's future.

In response to a development proposal presented last spring, the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (DER) agreed to grant permits to Marc Thornburgh, et al, that would have allowed the developers to begin the long permitting process needed for their plan to construct some 13,000 square feet of residential and commercial buildings on pilings set in the mangrove wetlands on the Salt Pond side of the property. Opponents argued that the project would have destroyed 13,000 square feet of mangroves and the wetlands habitat.

The DER's intent to issue a permit was challenged by a coalition of Key West environmental groups that included Last Stand, Florida Keys Audubon and the Keys Citizen Coalition. They retained local attorney Henry Lee Morgenstern to argue their case.

It was a case that never reached court. In response to Morgenstern's petition for a hearing, the DER and Marc Thornburgh agreed to a settlement with the environmental. In effect, the Thornburghs said, "OK, we won't build so close to the Salt Ponds and we won't disturb the mangroves. We'll relocate away from the wetlands."

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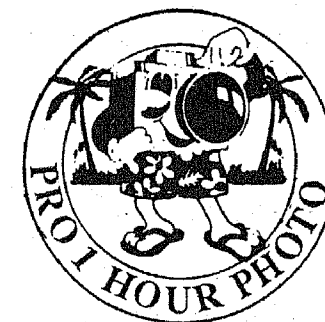
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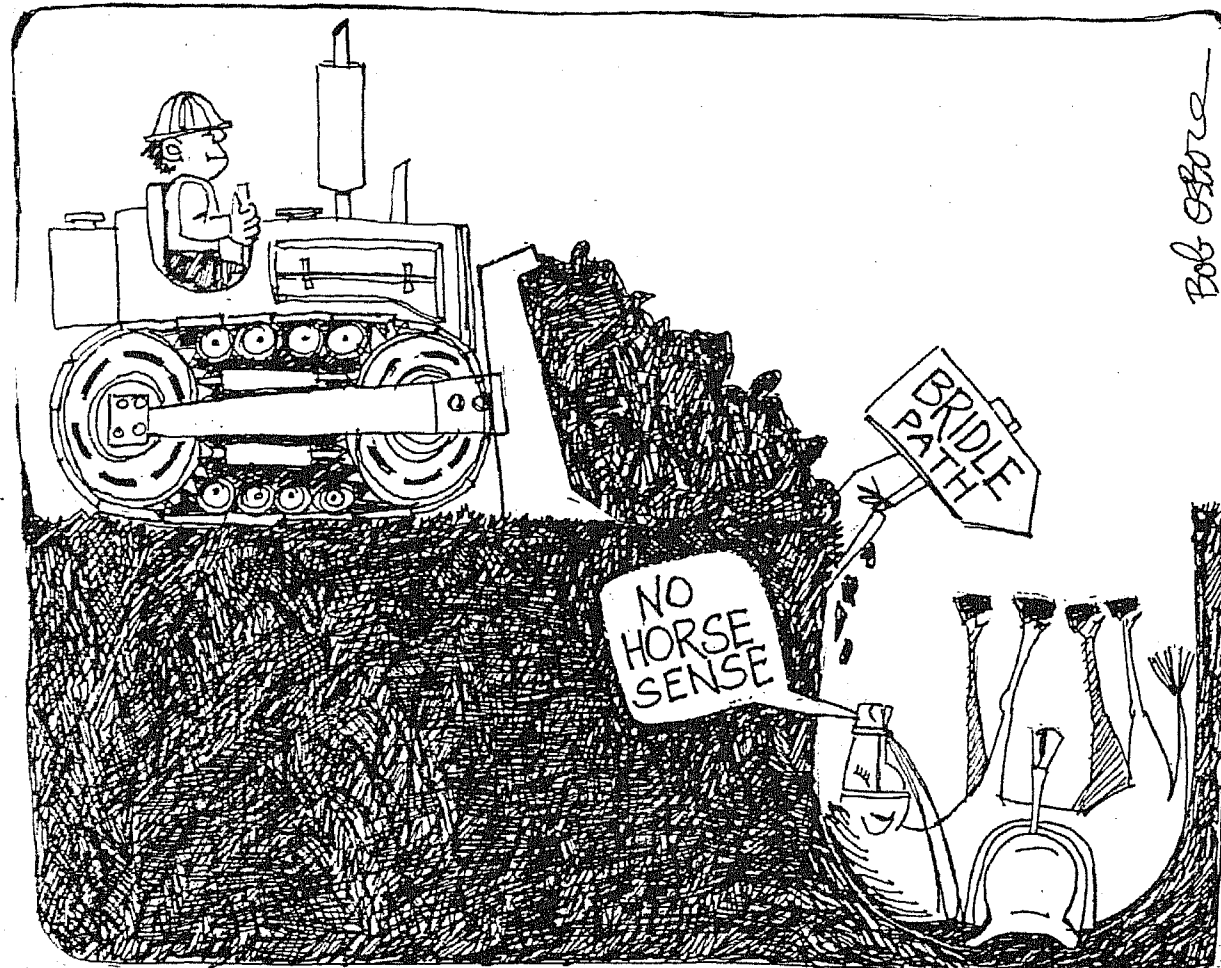
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In return, the petitioners agreed to drop their appeal of the DER permit. And the Thornburghs came up with two new development proposals, Plan A (which the Thornburghs indicated they favored) and Plan B.

Drafts of the out-of-court-settlement were finalized early in January. But while there were those in the environmental coalition who considered the agreement a victory for wetlands protection, others were disturbed by the developer's new plans. Although the original project had been prevented, the one that may take its place could drastically change the face of Smathers Beach.

"Soon", according to Key West attorney Jim Hendrick who represents the Thorn-

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burgh family, this development plan will be filed with the city Building Department. It is a plan of dramatic sweep that would require the relocation of a considerable stretch of South Roosevelt Drive.

In so many words, the Florida Department of Transportation will be asked to allow the developers to move a portion of the roadway back (northwest) from its present oceanfront location. It would be rebuilt on top of the present Bridle Path right-of-way. Along the length of the oceanfront span created by the highway's removal, the developers hope to build condos, restaurants and retail space.

In other words, after rounding the South Roosevelt curve at the 1800 Atlantic corner, eastbound travelers would see buildings rising between the road and the ocean where they now see the horizon, volleyball players and bikinis.

That's Plan A.

Plan B, somewhat lesser in scale, would eliminate one building, but still occupy much of the present Bridle Path. The agreement clearly states, however, that the environmental groups can take any and all

legal steps to halt both plans, including condemnation of the property.

Can such a bold stroke as moving an entire highway and building on top of Smathers Beach be executed?

Well, yes, says Henry Morgenstern. Technically, under current regulations, yes.

And yes, says Jim Hendrick, who expects to file for the permits this month.

And maybe, says the Key West City Commission, which convened early in February to assign purchase priorities to every parcel of land still available in the Salt Pond area.

"We're trying to save all of Smathers Beach," said Mayor Tony Tarracino after the meeting at which the commissioners rated the Thornburgh parcel second highest on their list of ten which can still be purchased and taken off the development market.

The mayor's intent was echoed by the commissioners at the February meeting.

Meanwhile, Paul Wick of the Monroe County Land Authority, has begun acquisition negotiations on behalf of the city.

"We voted to acquire as much of the Salt Ponds' 119 acres of privately owned land as we can," Commissioner Virginia Panico said. "And that's what we intend to do. If a proposal for developing one of those parcels comes up for approval before the land is owned by the city, then we'll just have to judge that plan on its merits. There isn't much we can decide before we see the plan."

Commissioner Sally Lewis had much the same response, saying it would be impossible to comment sensibly before the plan's details are known and understood.

And David Fierro, Florida's DOT Public Information Director in Miami, said the department would also have to look carefully at the plan before it gave permission to the developers to shift the South Roosevelt Drive right-of-way 50 feet or more to the north.

"We have moved highways for developers before," he said. "If we are convinced the change will result in a safer and better road for motorists, and if we can swap the property with the developer without spending public funds, then we'll do it."

"There is considerable precedent in Florida for relocating roads to make development possible," he said, "as long as the move also results in a better and safer highway."

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Wetlands Acquisition

According to Paul Wick, the Monroe County Land Authority's executive director, the first step in acquiring top-priority land still available in the Salt Ponds has been successfully taken.

"We have negotiated the purchase of the 48-acre Conley Tract [for \$327,000]," Wick reported on March 11. "That's the piece the city commission assigned its highest priority for purchase."

"Of the 10 parcels the commissioners prioritized, and we agreed to act as purchasing agents for, we have

reached either formal or informal agreements on six," he said. "Two owners have not made up their minds. And two have told us they definitely do not want to sell."

"Marc Thornburgh is one of those not interested in selling," Wick said. "He did say he would sell for a million dollars, but that's a long, long way from the top price we're able to offer. There is always condemnation as a last resort, but we want to exhaust all possibilities before we cross that bridge."

Meanwhile, Thornburgh Plan A keeps rolling along the regulatory trail that leads to building permits.

"This could be a benchmark case," says Jim McLernan, president of Last Stand, a local citizens organization. "If this development is allowed, then all of the Bridle Path and Smathers Beach may be developed."

Technically, says attorney Jim Hendrick, the current Thornburgh proposal is quite permissible according to the letter of Key West's land-use and zoning laws.

And, technically, Henry Morgenstern agrees. But, he argues, no such plan would even be considered under the pending comprehensive land-use plan already in the city's legal pipeline.

"The courts", Morgenstern explains, "have long upheld the applicability of pending land-use laws. Those laws are waiting to be enacted in Key West. They can be used as the basis for legal action to stop this development."

In Hendrick's opinion, the plan is legal under current regulations and he will proceed on behalf of his client.

Does he expect opposition?

"Yes," Hendrick replies, without hesitation. "The trend in Key West these days is against all development."

But who will do the opposing?

Jim McLernan says he is meeting frequently with Last Stand's executive committee to discuss fundraising and plans to reactivate the Keys Citizen Coalition.

"If this case does need to be argued in the courts," says McLernan, "it will require considerable financial resources. Last Stand has grown to more than 700 members, but we still don't have the money to fight a case like this single-handed. Not yet."

What about the city commission, the group that Mayor Tarracino says is trying to save the beach?

"The commission could sue, and they could win," says one legal observer, who

asked to remain anonymous. "But the record indicates the commission has always ducked these kinds of cases. They don't want to be criticized for spending the public's money on a lawsuit that could get quite costly."

If Jim Hendrick's observation that the Key West trend is definitely against development is accurate, however, the commission may decide to bite the legal bullet and defend what's left of Smathers Beach. If that happens, Ginny Stones, the newly appointed city attorney, could have the landmark case of all landmark cases to take to court.

Meanwhile, those with an interest in such things should photograph the western end of Smathers Beach. It may not be there much longer.



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Berenson's Track: The Untold Story

Trainers, as well as greyhounds, suffered at the Stock Island facility

by J.D. Dooley

Taking over a kennel of racing greyhounds was a dream come true for Al Gauthier. Having been an assistant trainer, Gauthier was thrilled when the management of Berenson's Key West race track offered him an abandoned 50-dog kennel. Gauthier had but one problem with the arrangement—Berenson's wanted him to assume the \$800 debt of the previous trainer and 50 sickly, abandoned greyhounds.

Gauthier, who was broke and anxious to get into the business of greyhound training, agreed.

"Don't worry we'll loan you the money to get the hounds back in shape," Gauthier claims the track management offered, explaining that as a new trainer he would make enough money during the season to pay off all debts to the track.

But Gauthier's dogs didn't make much money. They were sick, and malnourished, each six to eight pounds under weight and needing to be nursed back to health. Meanwhile, Berenson's kept loaning him money to meet expenses.

In order to cut back, Gauthier moved into the kennel with the dogs, sleeping on a clothes dresser, which contained all his worldly possessions.

Getting locked into Berenson's equivalent of a company-store arrangement was easy. Breaking free was not.

According to two sources inside the track—both asked to remain anonymous—all but two of the 12 kennels that were operating at the Key West track, until it closed earlier this month because of state violations, are indebted to Berenson's in the same manner as Gauthier. Their earnings

J.D. DOOLEY



JOY AND BLAZE: Indebted to Berenson's Track, trainer Joy Mayne slept on a cot in the kennel with her greyhounds.

weren't high enough to cover their ever-mounting costs.

At least six trainers, the sources say, were sleeping in the kennels.

Nothing in the state rulebook, says the chief inspector, states that trainers can't sleep with the dogs.

His rulebook looks like a pocket pamphlet. Small enough to contain operating directions for a VCR, it doesn't seem like the type of document that would govern a multi-million-dollar, state-run industry.

For the price of \$1, Joy Mayne took control of a kennel at Berenson's northern track, which is located in Belmont, New Hampshire. Like Gauthier, Mayne was instantly indebted to Berenson's.

"Nobody wants to go to Key West," Mayne explained. "It's the worst track in the country. I had to come because I was \$5000 in debt at the close of the summer season in Belmont."

After the season closed in New Hampshire, Mayne had no choice but to accompany Berenson's entourage to Key West for the winter season. The only way possible to repay her debt was to race in Key West.

On the way to the southernmost dog track, Mayne accrued another \$2500 in debt. Berenson's tallied a \$50-per-dog transportation fee onto her tab.

Now \$7500 in the hole, Mayne arrived in Key West to a track which was not available for training. Racing had not yet begun. Nonetheless, the animals needed to be fed, and expenses continued to mount.

While some trainers abandon a kennel when the financial going gets tough, others pump all their resources into the dogs in an attempt to make the dogs healthy and their businesses work.

Greyhounds living in the kennel managed by Mayne, for instance, appeared to be in good health, strong, active and high spirited.

During her stint as a professional greyhound trainer in Belmont, however, Mayne slept on a cot in the kennel with the dogs to save money. Fortunately, she has relatives in Key West and procured a rent-free bed.

"This doesn't happen anywhere else in the country," said Jay Mayne, Joy's brother and a 15-year veteran dog trainer. "Because of the continual debt these trainers couldn't go anywhere if they wanted to."

According to the track sources, Berenson's would give each indebted trainer \$300 a week out of their earnings and apply the rest to the debt. An average trainer with a kennel in Key West would have earned about \$600 a week.

An average 50-dog kennel costs a trainer

helped Gauthier with the care of the dogs, thereby helping him to avoid incurring the debt.

"Those abandoned dogs were the track's responsibility," said Ferrell. "Those dogs were malnourished and in poor condition. They put Al Gauthier in charge, let him assume the debt and responsibility of the previous trainer, and failed to notify the state of the abandoned kennel as required."

Because of the poor quality of the trainers, the racing in Key West was poor. Because of the poor quality of the racing, the track could not attract good kennel owners. Because of the lack of decent kennels, Berenson's ended up with abandoned dogs and other new trainers became indebted while taking over the kennel.

Jay Mayne places the overall blame directly on the state.

"This industry is supposed to be regulated," Jay Mayne says. "There is a state inspector on every track. It used to be that you had to take a state test to be granted a trainer license."

"As it is now," he says. "Anyone can pay a small [\$42] fee and become a licensed greyhound trainer. The state is enjoying the profits of greyhound racing without policing the business, that is how abuse occurs."

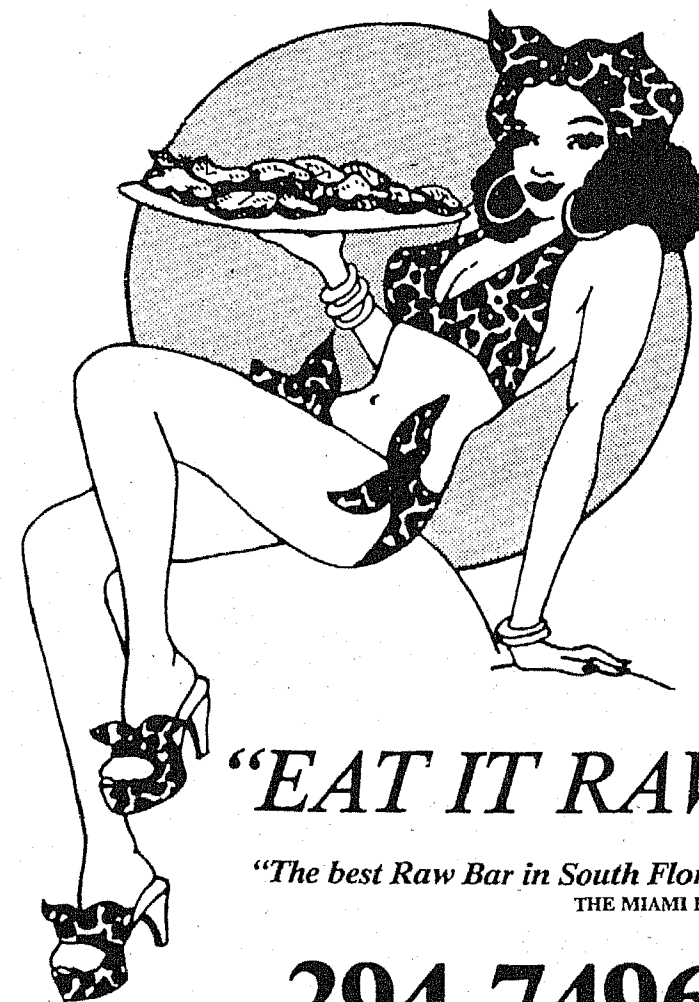
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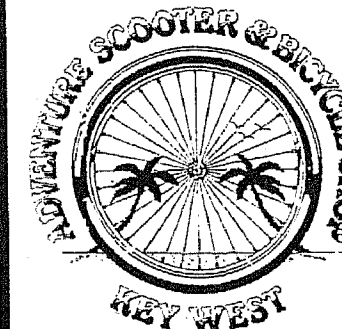
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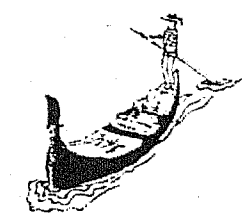
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investigator in Key West since November of last year. His office is located on the grounds of Berenson's track. He is also a former employee of Berenson's, having worked for both the track in Key West and up north in Belmont.

Brady says that because he was a rookie investigator, the people at Berenson's "slipped things by me."

What kinds of things?

According to Ferrell: 73 dogs with falsified lease and racing papers, placement of trainers without notification, failure to notify the state when a kennel was abandoned, and failure of the state to take control of an abandoned kennel.

Brady says that the problem with Berenson's was with the management, a point which was well illustrated at the hearing that led to closure of the track.

"The leadership here was non-existent," he says. "Every Sunday I would have a meeting between track, kennels and the state. The track management hardly ever showed up."

Louis Berenson, the track owner, was a rare sight at the Key West facility. In all his years at Berenson's, Jay Mayne says he never once laid eyes on the man, who also owns a jai-alai fronton in Connecticut in addition to the other track in New Hampshire. (Jai alai is a court game similar to handball on which people place bets.)

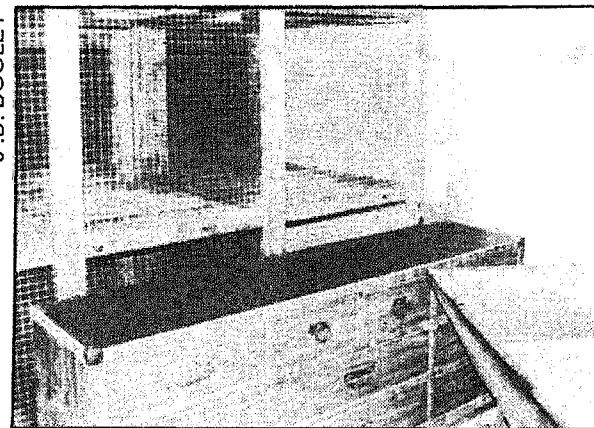
"I don't know him from Adam," Mayne said.

Although Louis Berenson appeared at the Key West hearing, he could not be reached for comment afterward. Therefore, a call was placed to Don Emory, manager of Berenson's Key West Race Track on Stock Island.

"I'm not prepared for this," Emory said, and then he hung up.

A second call to Emory elicited this response: "If you want to talk to me come here [to the track] and do it face to face." And then he hung up, again.

When *Solares Hill* visited Emory on March 7, he was overseeing the removal of race equipment, which was to be shipped to Belmont.



HOME SWEET HOME: Before the track closed, trainer Al Gauthier slept on this dresser, with all his belongings stored in the drawers.

"I have been in this business 42 years," said Emory, who was visibly shaking. "I mind my own business and I have nothing to do with what goes on. I haven't seen this thing, and that's all I'm going to say."

The abuse of greyhounds generally occurs at the breeding facilities or when a trainer abandons his dogs at the track. Abandoned animals will become malnourished and ill after just a few days alone in a kennel. Penned in a small cage without exercise, they are unable to endure abusive conditions for prolonged periods.

In the business of greyhound racing, many dogs are also killed.

When a dog becomes a liability to the owner—because it has lost the ability to win races or becomes irreparably injured or ill—either the owner or trainer will order it to be dropped from the kennel. According to state pari-mutuel rules, these dogs are to be euthanized by a veterinarian.

Tracks and trainers risk losing their licenses if they are not able to produce certificates stating that each euthanized dog was humanely put to death by a veterinarian. During the hearing, certificates could not be produced for 51 dogs, which are presumed dead.

Documents seem to disappear easily in the greyhound business. One member of the Greyhound Rescue League, a local organization dedicated to stopping the abuse and destruction of racing greyhounds and to placing them in homes, reported her car broken into the day after the hearing. The only items stolen were evidence files pertaining to the greyhound track, including pictures of dogs and kennels. Left behind was a stereo, Louis Vitton briefcase and Rescue League pamphlets.

The incident was reported to the Key West police department.

At the same time, managers at Berenson's were reportedly giving the track's remaining liquor stock to track employees.

Throughout the industry, several unsanctioned alternative methods of killing dogs have surfaced. Among the more hideous are clubbing, shooting or leaving them at the dump to die. There are no allegations of that happening here, however.

The Maynes claimed to have dropped 55 dogs in the last year. Forty were placed in homes as pets by the Greyhound Rescue League.

The rest were euthanized by a veterinarian due to severe illness or injury. The vet-

EVENTS LEADING TO TRACK CLOSURE

Earlier this month, state officials closed Berenson's Key West Greyhound Track, which is located on Stock Island. The track may be closed permanently. During the state hearing which led to the track closure, many of the findings listed below were determined to be in violation of state rules that govern greyhound tracks throughout Florida.

• **March 1990:** Florida Department of Business Regulation, Division of Pari-mutuel Wagering notified Berenson's of its intent to revoke its license due to kennel conditions, fire code violations, and the mishandling of revenue generated by kennel fines.

• **April 1990:** Non-prescribed veterinary pharmaceuticals, needle and syringe are found in kennel area. Several days worth of dog feces are found contained improperly in a truck generating "overpowering odor." Meat freezer is inoperable, allowing feed meat to thaw and rot.

• **October 1990:** Emaciated and dehydrated dogs are found in small wooden crates, trainer had not arrived in Key West. The dogs had not been cared for or fed, and the cages reeked of excrement and urine. Dog food (raw beef) had been left in kennel area and was infested with ants.

• **November 1990:** Trainers reporting dogs missing races because of bad meat. State chief inspector reports, "Heavy odor of rancid meat coming from the meat freezer."

• **January 1991:** State investigation reveals 73 dogs were transported from New Hampshire with forged lease papers. William Nelson, Berenson's Track racing secretary, resigns.

• **February 1991:** State closes the track pending final decision of the Florida Department of Business Regulation.


erinarian charges \$25 per dog to make the required trip to the dump.

To save money, Jay Mayne elected to dispose of the euthanized dogs at the dump himself—an activity which brought him a slap on the wrist from state officials during the hearing.

Linda Webster of the Greyhound Rescue League recalls Joy Mayne keeping two dogs for over a year after the order to destroy was issued. The dogs cost Mayne \$2300 to feed and care for while the Rescue League sought a Key West home for the dogs.

Paula Johnson, president of the Greyhound Rescue League has placed nearly 400 retired or abused greyhounds in the last four years. Now that Berenson's Key West Greyhound Track, which has been for sale for the last two years, has been closed by the state, the Rescue League plans to place the remaining 63 dogs.

The Rescue League is concerned about track officials vacating the Key West track on March 20. Any dogs which are not placed will be killed. If any must be des-



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And what about the Maynes?

Joy and Jay Mayne are staying in the dog business. They've got a deal going with an owner of a kennel up at a track in Orlando. Joy says she still owes Berenson a couple grand, but she's not sure how she feels about paying it. Given the circumstances, she guesses, Berenson is in no position to collect.


Al Gauthier was last seen headed for New Hampshire with \$25 in his pocket in a 1973 Dodge he bought for \$150. The state investigator heard from him when he called to inform them that his car's engine blew up while he was driving through South Florida. Somehow a small hole appeared in his oil pan.

Although he's going north, Gauthier is steering clear of the Belmont track. Since he testified against Berenson's during the hearing, he said, he's received several threats on his life.

No, Gauthier's definitely out of the business. According to him, forever.

One of the two dogs Joy Mayne kept alive, *Chosen Chase*, is a four-year-old, 80-pound male. Too old to race and too friendly to resist, *Chase* now resides in writer J.D. Dooley's home and has quickly become a member of the family. Anyone interested in adopting a greyhound or making a contribution to the Greyhound Rescue League may contact Paula Johnson at 106 Cayman Lane, Summerland Key, FL 33042 or call 1-872-2749.








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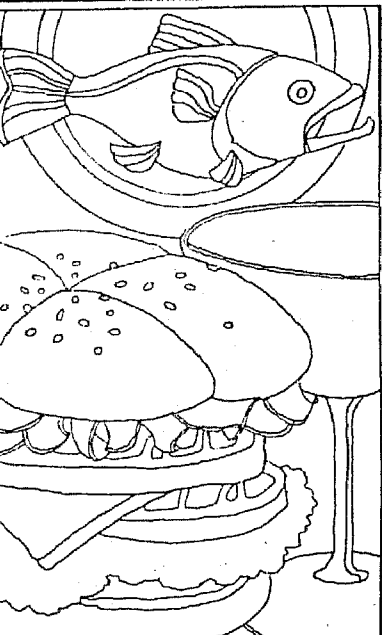
by J.D. Dooley

The Tuesday, March 5 city commission meeting opened without the honorable Mayor Tony Tarracino, who was out of town on personal business. The local chapter of AMVETS (American Veterans who served in Vietnam, Korea and other conflicts) began the session by presenting an Operation Desert Storm flag to the city commission.

The flag depicted a yellow ribbon on a field of white, emblazoned with the sentiment: "We Support Our Troops—Come Home Soon." One veteran said that after Willard Scott showed the flag on the "Today Show," 2000 were sold and 10,000 were put on back-order.

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Standing Ovation for Barrios

Amidst turmoil between the city commission and police officers over police contracts and Chief Tom Webster's contract, the two groups banded together, briefly, to decorate Officer Bernardo Barrios.

Speaking on behalf of the police department, Capt. William McNeill heralded Barrios for his bravery and exemplary service to the citizens of Key West. During his one-and-a-half year career with the police department, Barrios has interrupted several burglaries-in-progress and apprehended the burglars; he has also defused several armed confrontations without violence.

McNeill said the police department has received many letters from local citizens commending Barrios, who received a standing ovation from the nearly packed commission chamber.

Police Pay Raises

Ironing out disagreements over staffing, merit pay and pay raises, the city commission and the Police Benevolence Association, the organization representing the Key West Police Department in contract negotiations, reached an agreement on police contracts.

The city elected to retain control of the department's staffing requirements, to issue an across the board raise of \$1500 per officer, and to continue awarding merit pay in the present manner until the issue can be studied further.

Police department representatives said the department would rather control its own staffing by determining how many officers it requires. The department did not, they said, want to involve the commission in that decision.

Based on a recommendation from James Sherman, the "special master" appointed to review the contract when the police and city commission failed earlier to reach an agreement, the commission opted to control staffing.

The special master recommended increases of either \$1500 across the board or a 3.7-percent base-pay increase. The commission chose the across-the-board option, stating that it would benefit more officers.

Commissioners were surprised to learn that 71 percent, or 37 of all qualifying officers were already receiving 3.5-percent merit pay, which was being added to their base salaries. The commission voted to approve the continuation of merit pay, pro-

viding that the city conducts a formal review of what constitutes "merit."

Most police officers present seemed pleased with the outcome and glad to be finished with the process.

Obviously displeased, however, was Lieutenant Ed Grantham. During a short recess after the contract negotiation was over, Commissioner Harry Powell pointed out a person sleeping illegally beneath the city hall stairwell to the officer.

"I'm off duty, Harry," Grantham casually remarked, and strolled on.

Sick-Day Donations

City workers can now donate sick leave to another worker. If a catastrophic illness or injury were to require the total use of an employee's accrued sick leave, other employees could then donate their leave in order to keep the ill or injured employee on the payroll.

Commissioner Virginia Panico, who joined her fellow commissioners in favor of the donation policy, pointed out that it is the city's policy to pay employees for unused sick leave. This plan, she said, would not cost the taxpayers.

Struck Out?

Commissioners found themselves voting to approve an earlier approval based on a police investigation that may or may not be taking place. Sound confusing? Read on.

In November of last year, under considerable pressure from the softball-playing public, who would be losing Peary Court ball fields to the Navy, the commission voted to begin construction on the Wickers' Field Athletic Complex as soon as possible.

Declaring an emergency, the city voted to waive formal bid procedures and to retain the services of Toppino's, Inc. for the \$1.2 million project.

This is where the police come in—or don't.

Commissioner Powell says he was questioned recently about the waiver by a detective, who lead him to believe that an investigation was underway.

Police will not comment on possible ongoing investigations, nor will they confirm or deny whether an investigation is taking place.

There are over a thousand softball games played in Key West each year by over 700 softball players, 20 of whom were present at this meeting.

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Had the city gone through normal bid procedures, construction on the women's field, which is now ready for play, would not have started; the men's field, which is slated for completion in June, would not yet have made it to the drawing board.

Although Commissioners Sally Lewis and Harry Powell expressed regret at not going to formal bids, the commission voted unanimously to approve their actions of last year.

\$120,000 Wooden Box

Also on the Wickers' Field Athletic Complex, City Engineer Paul Mitchell offered a presentation concerning the final plans. Although the mood of the sports enthusiasts attending the meeting seemed favorable, spokespersons from the local sports programs which will be using the complex had at least one complaint each.

The softball players were concerned with the scorekeeper's box being located in the outfield, and the junior football league players were miffed because they have no equipment storage facility.

The big concern, however, was that concession stands were not being built. Instead the city plans to provide a concrete pad which will be fitted with water and electric hook-ups. Later, a trailer will be placed on the pad.

Mitchell explained, "Due to FEMA [Federal Emergency Management Agency] regulations, those buildings would have to be located four feet off the ground or flood proofed. In order to comply, the buildings would cost \$120,000 each, all four setting the city back nearly half-a-million dollars."

Much discussion ensued over \$120,000 concession stands.

Bonnie Powell, a records keeper with the softball league, asked if a variance to the FEMA requirements could be obtained based on the premise that a concession stand is not an inhabitable structure.

The commission then directed city staff to try to obtain a FEMA variance, as well as to check into available TDC funding.

An unidentified softball player in the gallery offered assistance in hopes of alleviating the \$120,000 burden.

"Just drop off the lumber and we'll build it for free," he said. "A lot of us are carpenters anyway."

More Jail Pressure

Wrapping up the agenda, the county asked the city to approve the master site plan and community impact assessment statement for the proposed Monroe County Detention Facility on North Stock Island.

The last time this item appeared on the city commission's agenda, the city voted not halt the project while the county proceeded with a \$30,000 study into the feasibility of rebuilding the Jackson Square site.

Present for the proposal were the county's project architect José Gonzalez and hired consultant Doug Fuller of Morrison, Knudsen and Garrits.

Both architect and consultant argued on behalf of the county's position that even as the county is studying the feasibility of rebuilding the existing jail, progress of the Stock Island site should continue.

Commissioners Lewis and Powell dis-


agreed, which was enough to defeat the request by a tied vote 2 to 2.

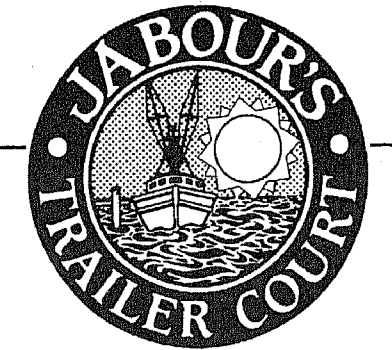
Commissioners Jimmy Weekley and Virginia Panico were prepared to proceed with construction plans for the Stock Island site pending the outcome of the study.

Lewis and Powell opted to wait until the study has been completed.

Approved

The commission approved licensing for a motorized "pedi-cab" for operation in Old Town.

It also approved the contract of newly selected city attorney Ginny Stones, with a salary base of \$69,750 of which \$8,109 is applied toward retirement. 



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Nature Notebook

Up on the Rooftop, It's *Rattus rattus*

by Capt. Gaff McKetchum

For the first ten years that we lived in our house, three massive Jamaican coconut palms bent gracefully over the roof, lending their shade and a decidedly tropical ambience to our abode.

My wife and I became accustomed to the sounds of these palms—the rustling of the fronds in a breeze, the mighty thump of a mature coconut falling onto the roof, the scrabbling noise as it rolled along the slope, and the solid thwack as it fell from the eave and hit the ground.

It became standard procedure to advise all houseguests of these sounds and to assure them that a loud crash on the roof during the night did not mean that the sky was falling: Just life in the tropics, mon. Ob la de, ob la da.

There was another sound that we often heard in the tropical night, the patter of tiny feet on the roof—lots of them, seemingly engaged in a rooftop track meet. Had this occurred only on Christmas Eve, it might have been a miniature sleigh and eight tiny reindeer, but, unfortunately, this was a more frequent event.

It didn't take long to determine the identity of our visitors. There were several clues: the occasional coconut with a hole gnawed through the husk, exposing the sweet meat inside; the almost perfectly ripe papaya with the side nearest the tree trunk eaten away; gnawed tropical almonds on the ground; bananas and mangoes with missing bite-sized pieces.

Without a doubt, this was the work of

—horror of horrors—rats!

With the image of cat-sized, big city, back-alley rats in mind, I sought help from the Monroe County Extension Service. The material they sent allayed my fears, somewhat.

These were not the large Norway rats of the city's waterfront. They were roof rats, common to the Keys, and, if not cuddly, were at least cute. (Our cat once proudly brought a still healthy specimen into the house while we had visitors. I tried telling them it was only a "cute roof rat," but they did not buy it.)

The roof rat (*Rattus rattus*)—also known as fruit, black, palm or coconut rat—is thought to be of Malaysian origin. It is found throughout the world as human commensal, i.e., an animal that lives with another for support; from the Latin meaning "one who eats at the same table."

A fairly large rat, it measures up to 20 inches including its very long tail, weighs eight to twelve ounces, and has a slender body with a pointed muzzle and large prominent ears that stand well out from the fur. Its color varies from charcoal grey to fawn brown.

The roof rat has a lifespan of only one year, reaches sexual maturity at an age of three to five months and produces up to six litters with six to eight young per litter. In the Keys, its preferred nesting place is in the top of palms, particularly coconut palms.

An excellent climber, the roof rat has been observed to climb up the inside of a vertical pipe 1 1/2 inch to 4 inches in diameter. It regularly travels along power and

telephone wires and has been known to drop to the ground from these lines without injury. It is also an excellent swimmer. (Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the water!)

Rats have a keenly developed sense of touch. They keep special hairs, which are used like sense organs, in contact with a surface at all times. This is why rats normally travel along a wall, leaving a distinctive oily mark, which is produced by special oil glands. They have a habit of urinating while running, leaving streaks. If there are rats in your attic, you will definitely smell them.

You will hear them, as well. Some rat noises come from their gnawing on the surroundings. Their teeth grow 4 1/2 to 5 inches per year, and only by gnawing can they keep them short and sharp.

Rats are active mostly at night but may be seen during the day if food is scarce or when there is an over-population of rats in the area, causing them to forage more often.

Rat population buildups are usually cyclical, with the peak in the Keys coinciding with the summer rainy season and its abundance of maturing fruit and seeds. Population control is recommended—rats carry a variety of diseases, including typhus, infectious jaundice, rat-bite fever, trichinosis and others.

What's more, rats contaminate food, spoil stored paper and clothing items, and by gnawing on electrical wiring they can create fire hazards. (Jimmy Cagney was right when he hissed, "You dirty rat!" at the bad guy.)

The best form of population control is to reduce the available food supply and to eliminate potential shelter areas. When these are limited, rats are forced to forage during the day as well as at night, giving predators such as snakes, hawks and cats more chances to have a rat meal.

During times when food is scarce, rat populations are naturally reduced due to cannibalism, disease and stress. When this balance is upset by man-made influences, such additional food, shelter and the elimination of predator species, the rat population will increase to a level which can be controlled only by trapping or rodenticides.

While it is difficult for most to express fondness toward *Rattus rattus*, it should be noted that this species has adapted exceedingly well to man's influence on the environment. Indeed, it treats our structures as combination McDonalds/Holiday Inn.

The rat also plays a role in the natural order of things, fitting into the chain of predator and prey. I will long remember a broadwing hawk that swooped from his perch in the poinciana tree to snatch a foolish roof rat off the electrical wire one afternoon. I cheered. I'm sure the hawk was happy, too.

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On The Town

with Jane Phillips

Around town . . .
Local cats are not purring over all the recent publicity given to dogs (i.e., La Te Da dog show and greyhound track closure), and they have demanded equal space in local publications.

Willoughby Sunshine Watherwax, unsuccessful candidate for mayor, speaks for a large majority of the feline population in this recently issued statement:

"Although cats I've talked with wouldn't be caught dead dressing like their owners for some silly contest, we do think cats should be getting more attention from the press.

"Modesty aside, my poster 'Fat Cat Capsizing' is the number-one seller in the USA. Dogs aren't even in the top ten. And talk about ancestors—you notice MGM doesn't use a barking dog!"

Rainy days and bookstores seem to go together, so I took advantage of a grey day and stopped in to visit another one of Key West's most popular cats—"Konan the Librarian."

For those of you who don't know, Konan rules the roost at Bargain Books and Newsstand on Truman Avenue. Owner Bill Flagg explained that Konan is the perfect bookstore cat. "He doesn't get lost in the shelves when it's time to go home," Bill said. According to his owner, "Konan just appeared one day, walked in and has never left."

My neighbors **Evie and Dick Fugitt**

told me about the time they spied what they thought was their cat "Bandit" several blocks from home. They scooped up the patient feline and carried him home—only to find "Bandit" on the porch. The Fugitts hastily returned the grateful Bandit look-alike to his own neighborhood.

Incidentally, the Fugitts are about the sweetest couple in town. We assume that the word that they are planning a murder next month is only a rumor.



LITERARY CAT: "Konan the Librarian" relaxes at his home, Bargain Books and Newsstand.

Queen-for-a-day **Charles Moeller** was whisked to Miami in a limo as a finalist in the Mrs. Slocum double contest held by the folks of "Are You Being Served," a British sitcom which airs locally on PBS. Charles competed as "Mona Celeste," and although he didn't win, we are extremely proud of him. As Mrs. Slocum would say, "We are all unanimous in that."

Remember when Sunday afternoons often meant listening to great jazz? Well, it's happening again at Captain Homblower's down on Front Street. The group is called the Big 7, and is made up of **Don Ippolito, Terry Kiev, Marty Stonley, Steve Mello, Loni Jacobson** and **Harry Schroeder**. They are playing to full houses. Stay for the jam after the regular gig.

Ran into jazz singer **Rebecca Parris** at the Reach Sandbar. She was in town to

appear with **Burns and Jacobson** at The Top of La Concha. She said, "It's great down here. Back home in Boston you'd never see a man walking around wearing an earring." What doesn't she like? "The windows in the hotel don't open, and I can't even feel a breeze." Wonder where she's staying . . .

Those who watched "The Misfits" on television recently might have seen the name of a local publishing executive flash by as the producer. He's one of the most interesting people in town but insists on a low profile and won't give interviews. Maybe he's just holding out for more money.

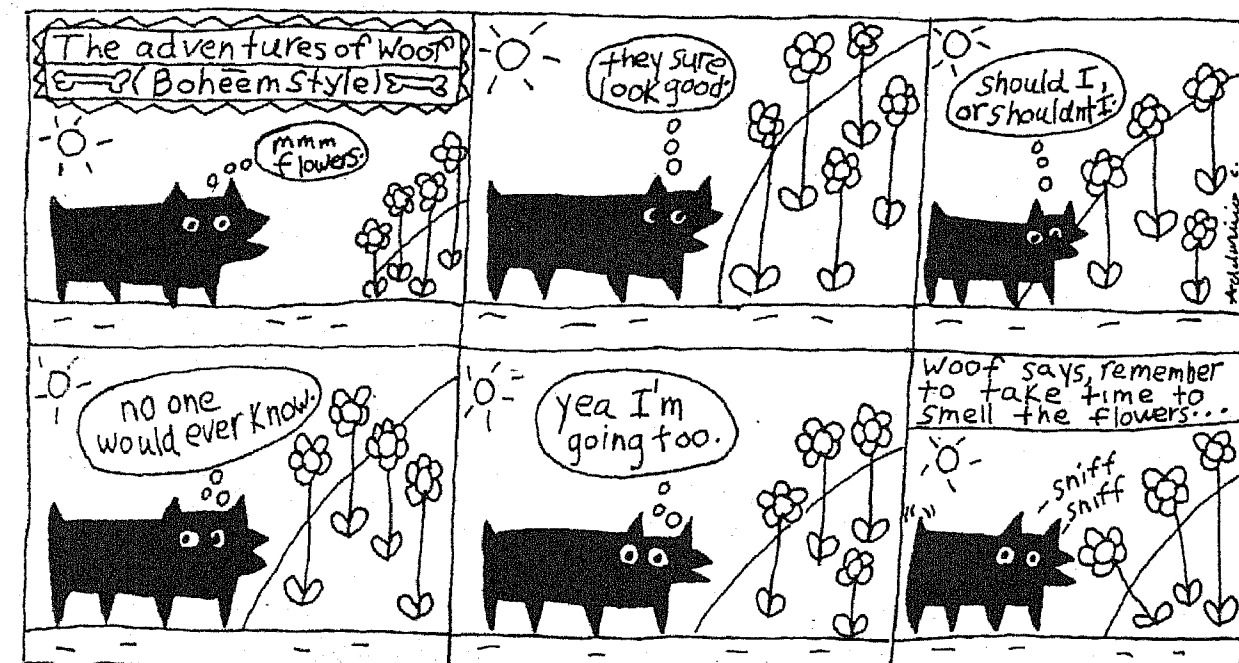
After Dark . . .

New Yorkers **Howard and Sondra Schneider** wine and dined their friends in stylish splendor at the glamorous Polynesian House, where they are staying for the winter season. Of course, they don't exactly rough it in Manhattan, either. Home is an art-filled triplex penthouse. Sondra planned everything to the last detail, including the weather—and it was perfect.

The look was "New York Glitz," and Sondra asked her guests to arrive appropriately dressed. They did, and she's still sweeping up sequins! **Joe Bryan** played footsie with anyone who would let him and guests **Maurizio and Anna Maria Manciola de Montefano** added a touch of "La Dolce Vita."

A real city person, Howard Schneider was remarking about air quality. "I don't breathe anything I can't see," he announced.

Theresa Russell tells me there will be loads of surprises at the big American Red Cross fundraiser at the Casa Marina on March 23. The event is called Rally Round America and will be a USO-type dance, with the **Paradise Band** creating sounds going all the way back to the '40s. Theresa (who is known to some as "Mother Theresa" in banking circles because she's so helpful) is the chairperson.



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SOLARES HILL'S Island Finance

A Special Section on Key West Business and Finances

Tips for Virgin Investors

by Christine Naughton

Let's be real. A good many perfectly respectable and hardworking folks have trouble covering their basic expenses. For these poor souls, managing to save even 50 bucks a month after all the pipers have been paid is a lofty goal. But, hey, it's a start. And even at that lowly level, it pays to eke out some savings—the potential for growth, however modest, is there.

Doug Morgan, broker and financial planner at Raymond James and Associates, makes an excellent point to consider right off the bat. The best first step to a financial plan, he says, is to cover your you-know-what.

In other words, make certain you have adequate life, health and property insurance for you and your family. You should also enough in savings (i.e., readily accessible funds, or "liquid assets," as they say in the biz) to see you through a three- to six-month period should your gravy train temporarily derail. Then, and only then, says Morgan, do you have any business stepping into the world of investment.

The best advice for the first-time investor may very well be to get some professional help. You'll pay some in management fees and/or commissions, but you'll save huge chunks of time researching the possibilities.

Your friendly local banker can give you some ideas. Banks offer an array of savings and investment services such as money market CDs, IRAs, stocks, corporate bonds, mutual funds, etc.

You could look through the Yellow Pages, and pick out a large brokerage firm up in Miami.

Or you might choose to investigate the only full-service brokerage in town. The folks at Raymond James are in the business of managing people's money. They offer information and assistance to those who wish to plan a financial future, from a modest investment program to an extensive portfolio.

They plot a course based on preset goals. For instance, does the investor need income from investments? Or is there money to sock away for a period of growth with returns down the line?

For the courageous soul who wants to go it alone, without professional help, shopping for a good place to stash some cash where it will grow up big and strong is



NEW MONEY: Young Elton Rivas hands Michelle Marple, a teller at First State Bank in Searstown, a small but satisfying deposit.

a mind-boggling exercise. CDs, money-market funds, municipal bonds, savings accounts, stocks, bonds, annuities, IRAs, insurance policies—it's a jungle out there!

Start with a handy book, Time Inc.'s 1987 publication, *The Money Book of Money*, by Robert Klein and his editing crew from Money Magazine. It's on the shelves of Monroe County Public Library, close to the indispensable tome, *How to Survive on \$50,000 to \$150,000 a Year*.

The Money Book of Money addresses a variety of financial issues in a familiar tone and layman's language. It explains all the savings and investment options (and their related tax implications) available at the time of its publication.

In addition, it offers helpful chapters on "fear of finance," goal-setting, budgeting, and the economics of being single (as well as being married and/or having children). Of course, there is the obligatory chapter, "How to Become Financially Independent," although the book is basically straightforward information for the first-time saver/investor.

Once you step outside the safety of the good old-fashioned savings account, which pays a set interest rate, you must keep in mind the golden rule of investment: the rate of return is directly proportionate to the degree of risk.

In a 1990 poll by Money Magazine and ABC "Consumer Comfort," 500 people

ranked 12 ways to invest \$1000. First place went to bank CDs; stocks and savings accounts tied for second. Mutual funds also ranked high on the list of choices.

Investment pros seem to concur that, with \$1000 or less, one's best choice is a top-knotch mutual fund with low requirements on initial investment. On Page 70 of Money Magazine's August 1990 issue, 25 such funds are listed.

When the little nestegg grows to \$10,000, the pros recommend diversification—an investment technique whereby the sum is divided and reinvested in various

INSIDE:	
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other funds. Now you have a "portfolio," and things begin to get interesting.

The trick is to combine funds that react differently to economic events, i.e., growth funds flourish in a rising economy, while bonds respond well to slowing growth. It's almost like planting a garden with the intention of always having something in bloom.

In the same issue of *Money* Magazine, writers Penelope Wang and Clint Willis outline their best ideas for investing, according to amount. Wang maps it out for the little guys in her two articles, "Great funds for \$1000," and "Building a portfolio with \$10,000"; while Willis speaks to the big-shots in "Managing \$50,000 or more."

This and other issues of *Money* Magazine are available for perusal in the Florida Keys Community College library. The magazine is an excellent source of financial information.

Whether you're knocking on the door of investment with \$50 or \$500,000, congratulations and good luck. Stepping out of the vicious paycheck-to-paycheck cycle—meeting basic expenses, having your savings and insurance acts together, and ending up with money to spare—earns you the right to an exciting adventure: watching your money grow.

Saving and investing with the goal of financial security can be an educational, as well as rewarding experience.

Trends in Key West Real Estate

by Geddy Sveikauskas

Although the real estate market across the nation is feeling a slump, Key West could be doing a lot worse than it is, according to the data from the Key West Board of Realtors.

The number of closed sales has declined steadily in the past four years, from 542 in 1987 to 481 in 1988, 421 in 1989 and only 302 for last year. At the same time, however, the average sale price has increased dramatically from \$133,000 in 1987 to \$157,000 in 1988, \$163,000 in 1989 and a remarkable \$192,000 last year.

"The more expensive houses are turning over," explains Mary Pitcher, executive officer for the Multiple Listing Service, which accounts for an estimated 85 percent of all real-estate activity on the island. "Prices are actually down somewhat."

How much are prices down? Pitcher says it's hard to tell. Some categories are down more than others. While the market is still flooded with listings, however, Pitcher detects a recent firming trend in prices.

The length of time listings have remained on the market soared in 1990, indicating both a slackening of demand and a dramatic increase in supply.

"A lot of properties have been coming on the market because of the building spree—such as Ocean Walk and Truman Annex," says Pitcher. "It's flooded an already flooded market."

Add the national recession, the supply of

new housing and the increase of local real estate taxes as factors in the flood.

What's more, many owners have found themselves unable to increase rents to offset the substantially higher costs they are experiencing. They've decided to sell at a time buyers are scarce.

The local real-estate industry has shaken down to its long-term, full-time members, for the most part. All of the part-time salespeople have abandoned the industry, and, according to Pitcher, the number of members in Key West's MLS has dropped from about 275 a year ago to about 200 now.

Because it's a buyer's market with some anxious sellers, Key West seems to offer some real opportunities. Qualified buyers—those with the financial capacities to invest in real estate—can pick and choose.

"If you're a buyer," says Pitcher confidently, "now's the time to buy."

The dream of every investor, of course, is to buy at the very bottom of the market. But one knows only by hindsight when it actually hits bottom.

Key West still has the highest prices in the state. Monroe County, though 14th in the per capita income in the state, has the highest real-estate price level. The dollar volume of MLS properties in Key West quadrupled in the 1980s, according to Board of Realtors' statistics.

In the long term, it is the limit on supply that will sustain Key West real estate in its highest rankings. Environmental constraints are quite real. The kind of community Key West offers, however, is not readily available anywhere else.

What price paradise? It defies calculation.

Key West Real Estate Market • 1987-1990

	1987	1988	1989	1990
Dollar volume (in millions)	\$71.148	\$71.189	\$67.681	\$55.413
Average sale price	\$132,710	\$150,743	\$162,957	\$192,442
Closed sales	542	481	421	302
Average market time (in days)	133	127	145	188

Source: Key West Board of Realtors

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Realtor Forms Homeowner's Helpline

Recent reports by CNN and others note that the real estate market is starting to make a swing for the better. With the end of the War in the Gulf, and the rise in the stock market, there's a more favorable attitude among property owners again.

In a local effort to bring dependable home-repair specialists and those needing good workers together, a real estate broker has created a Homeowner's Helpline.

Sharon Smith, a broker-associate with Olde Island Realty, is optimistic about the future, but knows it will take a while for people to real estate and construction-

related workers to get back to work. To help move the process along, she is coordinating the list of those who could be brought together in order to start a home-repair project now.

Smith says she's getting calls from homeowners who are ready to do a little face-lifting to prepare their properties for sale.

Unfortunately, she says, the list of skilled carpenters and painters who are serious about working is short.

"We're looking for dependable people," she says.

She'll be registering names of interested parties, both homeowners and helpers. There is no charge for the exchange of information.

Anyone looking for good help, and anyone interested in working should call the Homeowner's Helpline at 294-8158. Workers are asked to give their name and phone number, field of specialty, and a reference. Homeowners should be ready to give a brief description of the job to be done.

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Local Businesses Adjust to Survive Recession

by Chris Yerby

These days when we say the climate in Key West is changing, we're not talking about weather.

"Recession-resistant" Key West is experiencing its share of the poor business climate which is affecting the entire country. Many small businesses are taking note and addressing the issue now. Those interviewed agree that dusting off the books on good, basic business skills and a little ingenuity are crucial to survival during tough times.

Here a few local businesses offer tips for bringing home the bacon Key West style: Look for unnecessary spending. Be cautious, yet don't overreact out of fear of the future. And be flexible.

Florida Keys Community College Business School instructor Bill Smith says, "Anyone without a touch of fear right now is crazy. A little enlightened concern is healthy."

For many in Key West, now is the time they are choosing to become a small business owner, often the result of having been given a 'pink-slip' by a former employer.

The FKCC has been conducting seminars/workshops this spring for those interested in brushing up on their entrepreneurial skills. According to Smith, those first-time business owners need to analyze themselves to better determine their purpose and goals.

What makes them successful beyond that?

Bill Smith says, "Intelligent persistence. Sheer brilliance is no guarantee. You have to know when to change paths, when to shift gears."

He continues to say that if you have drive and you're driven in the wrong direction, it won't work. "You have to be flexible," he says. He begins a four-week session in April called "Pricing and Income for a Small Business."

Other business classes will continue throughout the year at FKCC.

The Incubator Business Service is also interested in the survival of small businesses. As its name suggests, IBS helps to nourish a small business to grow by supplying everything a small or new business needs to protect its cash flow.



"Anyone without a touch of fear right now is crazy."

—Bill Smith
 business instructor

Co-owners Victoria Madeya and Joyce Esquinaldo have announced they are making available small offices priced at \$300/month in Solana Village. These offices will share the equipment and services useful in all offices. Currently, they rent desk space and computer use at \$5.

On staff for their clients, Madeya and Esquinaldo offer services of an accountant, an attorney, financial planner and insurance agent.

An investment in a financial computer program can often save a business the cost of using an accountant as well. For the business owner with the luxury of a PC, inputting data on a daily basis also can put a financial status instantly at his fingertips.

A big help to the newly initiated and the veteran businessowner is the Mail Room. Now into its second location, Searstown and Duval Square, the Mail Room offers 101 services to businesses where equipment

and personnel is limited. Included are a fax machine, copy equipment, UPS pick-up and express mail services.

As many concerns teeter on the brink of failure, consumer spending substantially slowed, smart Key West businesses are looking for ways to plug the leaks of unnecessary expenditures, and finding creative ways to bring in new business. In doing so they may be making long-overdue changes that will help business even after the recession.

Many small business owners are taking a hard look at expenditure-excess and reviewing their long distance phone services. Although a tedious and confusing task, careful analysis of services and expenses is well worth the effort.

Companies to consider in Key West besides the "Big Three" are Biz-Tel and Telecom USA. Recently on the market is ATC's Elite Watts.

It's important for businesses to review their long-distance phone service often, since rates change and new services become available without customer knowledge.

Many small businesses are taking a close look at staff, too, and making the tough decisions of who stays and who has to go. Some offices are working on a skeleton crew until the fear of tomorrow is over. This results in more work for fewer personnel—a stressful situation for all.

According to Linn Kezer of Girl Friday, a drastic cutback of personnel may be a mistake. Rather than to do without, she suggests business owners consider using temporary help.

"It allows you the opportunity to keep your business actively in gear, without having to make a long-term commitment," she says.

When it comes to expenditure housecleaning, many think the first to go should be advertising. In fact, the opposite is generally considered true.

Ann Dickinson, partner in the Market Share Advertising Agency, advises, "This is not the time to be cutting back on adver-

tising. In previous recession times, those who cut back had a lot of catching up to do. Those that maintained, or increased their ad budget, acquired more of the market during the recession period."

Dickinson says that an advertising agency should help people to clearly identify their customers so they can better target their advertising dollars.

Bill Smith agrees. "When you best meet the needs of your customers, you have a better chance at success," he says.

Although most new businesses tend to be service businesses, Smith advises that entrepreneurs should try not to get hung-up on the identifying business label.

"Nowadays," he says, "service becomes more retail; retail becomes more service."

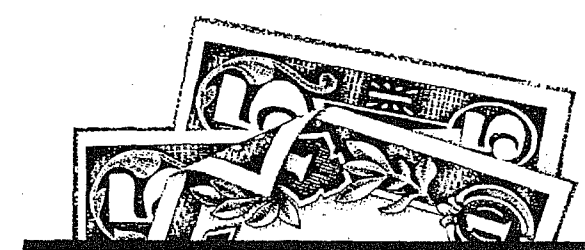
Bringing home the bacon in Key West has often come to mean first delivering the "bacon" to the home. Those taking their shows on the road to meet the needs of their customers are bicycle deliverers at La Bodega and Duval Deli.

Not to be outdone by the national names like Dominos, most local pizza outfits are staying in stride with their own delivery service. Others like BaiaMonte's and Duval Square Deli also offer delivery.

In another attempt to meet new customers, many local businesses have used "barkers," or Off Premise Canvassers, to attract customers.

Although often effective for businesses catering to tourists, just recently the Key

West City Commission agreed an ordinance was needed restricting this mode of creating business. Many visitors have voiced their annoyance with the disruptions they have been said to create.



Service becomes more retail; retail becomes more service.

The OPCs, however, point to the First Amendment as protection.

Michelle Neumann, owner of Tropical Window Treatments, likes to meet her customers with the same discount advantages her manufacturers offer to attract her business.

"Everyone likes to get a good deal," she says. Although she says their business has been good, she notices that her customers are noticeably holding back on their spending, often doing just one room at a time.

How are they bringing home the bacon? According to Neumann, they continue to advertise extensively, and, simply, "We work hard!"

When things are going well, it's easy to settle back and doze off a bit. It's nice to relax and enjoy a well-earned break now and then.

As business owners, however, it's important not to get so comfortably relaxed, that you forget about making a few changes as dark clouds start forming.

Time to stretch and get the blood flowing, again. And remember, change is not bad... it's just different!

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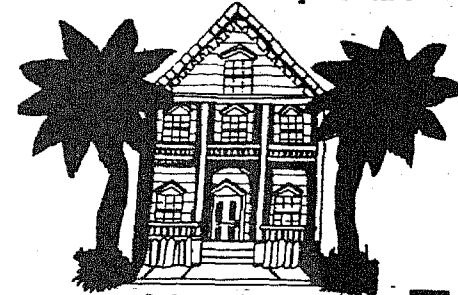
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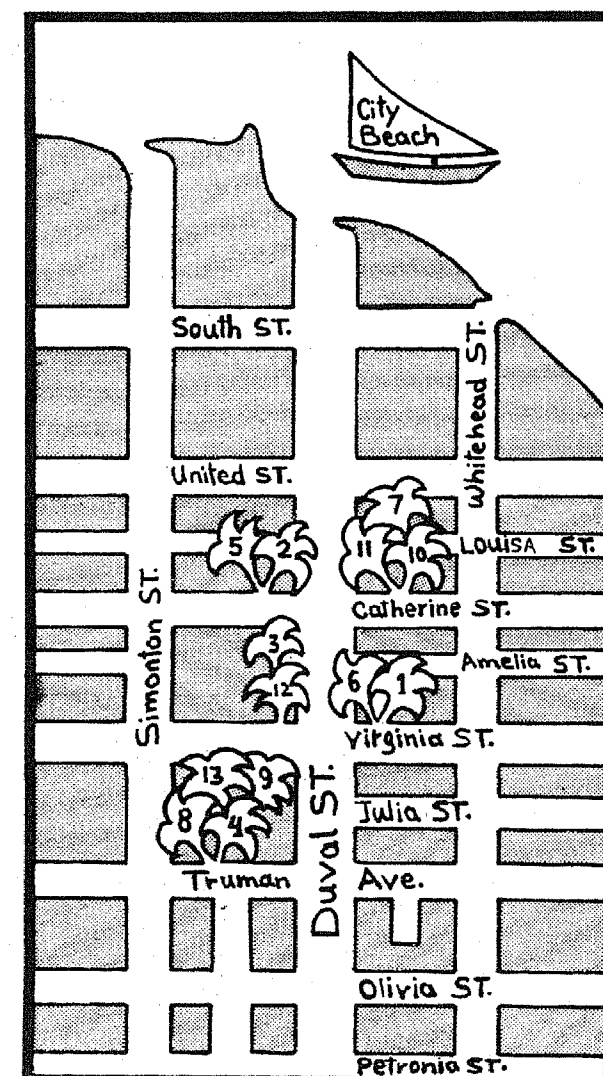
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While Uptown Duval continues to develop, merchants take particular pride in preserving the laid-back atmosphere they say characterizes their charming area.

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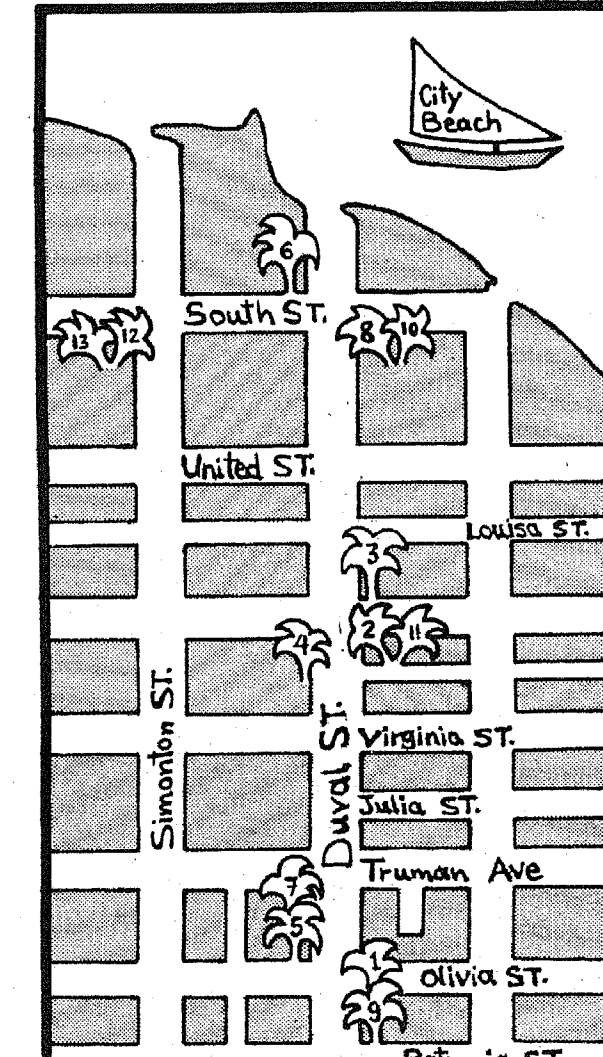
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There's a trade-off between being on the most heavily-peopled downtown section of Duval and being further Uptown. A few of the advantages include easier parking, less traffic, fewer T-shirt shops, and a sense of Key West past. Uptowners are not shy about detecting an emerging upscale quality to the shops in their area.

Exploring Uptown Duval Street can be an adventure. Sip a genuine Cuban café con leche at a sidewalk café, then stroll along the street for exclusive shopping adventures. In your travels, glance south and catch the sparkle of the ocean. Uptown makes you remember why you came to Key West—an island paradise.

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City's Financial Planning Committee Delivers Report

by Wade Wasserman

"I have never seen such broad recommendations, but then I have never seen a city so neglected," said City Manager Felix Cooper about the Long-Range Financial Planning Committee's final report recommendations during a recent Hotel/Motel Association meeting.

The association was being briefed by committee members Joe Beck and Peter Rosasco on a select few of the 25 recommendations the Long-Range Financial Planning Committee developed "for use by the city commission in planning for future financial needs."

The committee held 21 regular meetings between June of 1990, when it was estab-

lished, and January of this year. Based on the outcome of the meetings and input from community organizations, individuals, and government officials, the recommendations (see sidebar) were drafted and recently presented to the city commission.

The city commission passed a resolution to adopt the recommendations.

Twenty-five pages of analysis and explanation accompanies the recommendations, and brings up several concerns of the committee. Among these are a need to set priorities for the City of Key West, the turnover in the city's top administration, and the extremely high cost of living on the island.

As stated in the last recommendation, the city manager is to report on the progress being made on all recommendations to the city commission on April 1.

Forty percent of the the recommendations fall under the responsibility of City Manager Felix Cooper. The city commission will take on 50 percent, and the rest require the involvement with non-city entities or must be voted on as referendums.

So far three steps have been taken to implement the recommendations.

- The city manager and city finance director have established a financial monitoring system to measure and analyze 36 factors that affect the community's financial condition.

- Committee chairman Michael Dively says this system will enable the city to identify problems before they reach serious proportions.

- The city commission recently established a Tourism and Economic Development Committee, which will develop a plan to help forge a partnership between the private and public sectors.

The partnership, says Dively, will help ensure a cooperative approach to tourism and economic development in Key West.

- The Key West Chamber of Commerce agreed to implement a training program for future community leaders.

Looking to the future, Dively says this program will help ensure that the island will suffer no shortage of young people trained to assume leadership roles.

The remaining recommendations await further planning, and committee and voter approval to become realities.

Throughout its report, the committee cites that the citizens of Key West should be informed and their opinions be heard no less than nine times on all of the issues.

Dively and other committee members have addressed many groups—the Chamber of Commerce, Last Stand, The NAACP, Lions Club, and the Hotel/Motel Association—in hopes that these groups would disseminate the report's information.

Yet it seems that most people either don't know about or haven't read the report. Even Dively, who is anxious to share infor-

Committee Recommendations

Government Operations

1. Financial support for an economic impact analysis of the city's new comprehensive plan.
2. That the city manager implement the financial trend monitoring system (FTMS) developed by the International City Managers' Association.
3. Establishment of a solid waste authority for Monroe County.
4. That the city commission establish a policy that all city physical resources be utilized in a manner to maximize the benefit for our citizens.
5. That the city manager provide the commission with staff evaluation of how to maximize all the city's properties for the benefit of the citizens.
6. That the city commission review all contracts involving city owned resources to ensure, where legally possible, the city's interests are being accurately reflected.
7. That the city manager organize informal joint planning meetings between the city and county, and perhaps other appropriate government agencies, to discuss issues of mutual concern.
8. That the city and county jointly request the Joint Center For Environmental and Urban Studies at Florida Atlantic University conduct an analysis of the various services we provide and how we might eliminate duplication, cut costs to the taxpayers, and maintain services.
9. That the grant program for the city become proactive.
10. Establishment of closer working relationships with our elected public officials and their staffs in both Tallahassee and Washington.
11. Periodic visits coordinated by the city manager's office, to Tallahassee and to Washington by elected local officials and members of local organizations.
12. Over the next several years, salary and benefits for all employees should not exceed CPI unless there is a specific case of inequity.
13. That the city manager cost out the financial impact of the specific proposals from the Community Coalition to ensure the costs of any single recommendation are not out of proportion to the overall community benefit.

14. That the city manager review ways administratively or by charter revision, if necessary, to streamline the Civil Service Commission.

15. That the city manager develop a comprehensive plan for ongoing maintenance of all city-owned buildings and equipment.

16. A City Charter Amendment be submitted to the voters at the next election to allow limited flexibility in financial borrowing to the extent permitted under Florida State Law.

17. That the commission adopt an ordinance which would require adoption annually of a balanced budget, which would include a 60-day working capital reserve (unappropriated fund balance) phased in over several years, along with phasing out of the bad practice of budgeting prior year carryovers.

18. That the city manager continue his comprehensive study of downtown parking.

19. That the Study Committee develop a cohesive plan which can allow Mallory Square to become the focal point of Key West in the 1990s.

20. That the city commission establish a Tourism and Economic Development Committee which would have broad responsibility for all tourism.

21. That the Tourism and Economic Development Committee, in conjunction with the Florida Keys Community College, undertake the development of quarterly CPI.

Communication & Human Resources

22. That the future community leaders program be implemented by the Chamber of Commerce or other local group soon.

23. That the board members of the Monroe County Fine Arts Council, Key West Cultural Commission, and Key West Art and Historical Society initially meet together to see how a cooperative spirit could be generated.

24. That the commission actively communicate these proposals to the public and encourage a dialogue about these ideas at a public meeting.

25. That the commission designate the city manager to monitor the implementation of our recommendations and report back to the commission initially by April 1 and with a final report on or before July 1, 1991.

mation with the citizens of Key West, admits the long-range financial word is not spreading to his satisfaction.

He agrees that the town has been apathetic toward his committee's report, and he points out that the local press has not been receptive to publishing the recommendations or any discussion of them.

"I haven't seen or heard of this report," says Toni Chanese, a downtown employee.

Downtown business owner Gordon Smith says he has heard of it, but isn't sure what the report contains.

According to the city clerk's office only two or three people have come in to see copies of the report.

"They're all just common sense things

that should have been done without a committee to recommend them," says Piper Smith, marketing director for Old Town Trolley Tours. Smith attended the Hotel/Motel Association meeting.

Perhaps one of the most common sensible recommendations, number 23, will prove to be one of the most difficult to realize.

Twenty-three states: We recommend the board members of the Monroe County Fine Arts Council, Key West Cultural Commission, and Key West Art and Historical Society initially meet together to see how a cooperative spirit could be generated.

It seems the Monroe County Fine Arts Council and the Key West Art and Histor-

ical Society have not been communicating since the TDC appointed the latter as the organization to distribute certain funds.

Among its concerns about the effects the lack of communication has on the local arts community, the committee report says, "It is sad to see these human resources being wasted with events like three plays having their opening nights the same night in Key West."

"There is not a cooperation spirit . . . and there has been no contact between us," agrees Susan Olsen of the Historic Society. "But that doesn't rule out us of talking—if they call." ☐

Mortgage Brokers Do the Shopping

by Jonatan Zahav

If you are thinking of buying or refinancing a home in the near future, you will probably find yourself in the market for a mortgage loan. And when that happens, you will discover that the comfortable world of one-size-fits-all mortgages is gone. Today's borrower has to absorb a lot of information in order to understand the relative advantage of the various programs available.

What a Mortgage Broker Does

A mortgage broker acts as a local representative for regional and national lenders. Instead of your spending days phoning or visiting lenders to compare programs, rates, and terms, a mortgage broker will do it for you.

A mortgage broker will typically represent 50 or more lenders—mortgage bankers, pension trusts, insurance companies, private investors, and savings and loans, as well as conventional savings banks. As a financial professional, a mortgage broker has a clear understanding of the underwriting guidelines and programs that each lender offers.

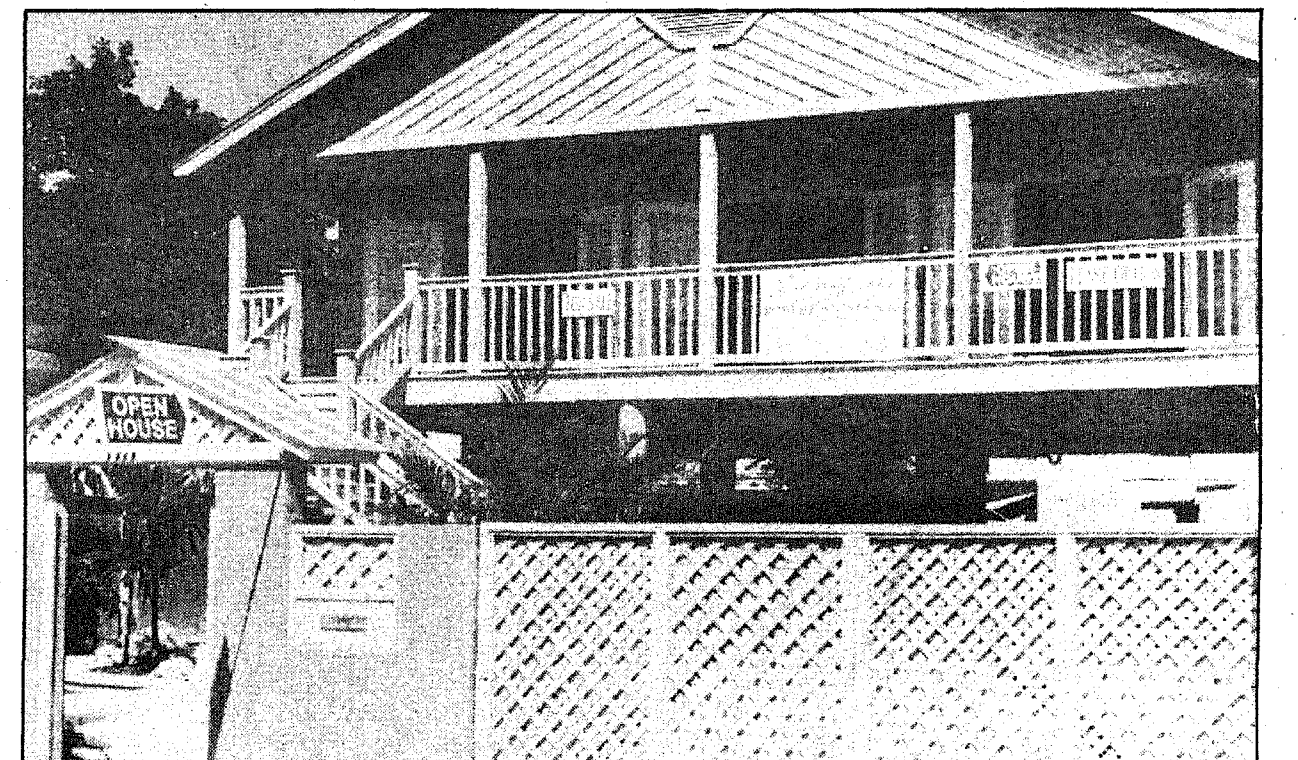
And, because the mortgage broker represents lenders over a wide geographic area, he can typically arrange home loans which might not be available locally, or which might only be available at a much higher cost.

Since a broker delivers loans to all types of lenders, he should, after taking an application, be able to decide whose program and underwriting best suits your requirements. He will describe the options which are available to you, allowing you to make an informed decision on your financing.

A broker can also help you find lawyer, appraiser, and title insurer with competitive fees.

How to Select a Mortgage Broker

Ask how many lenders the broker represents. A small number means the broker may not be able to find the best loan for you. Also, be wary of a broker who asks for substantial up-front money except for actual expenses such as the appraisal and



SIGNS GALORE: Robert Murdock posts no less than five signs to attract attention to this single-family home he recently placed on the market. Now is a buyer's market, reports the Key West Board of Realtors.

credit report costs.

Some states do not require licensing for mortgage brokers. However, to practice in Florida, mortgage brokers must pass a rigid qualifying examination and be state licensed.

Members of the Florida Association of Mortgage Brokers are pledged to a strict code of ethics and professional practices to protect their clients. Also, FAMB members regularly attend mortgage seminars to keep current on mortgage market conditions.

What About Cost?

It is a common misconception that dealing with mortgage broker will drive up the cost of a loan. Actually, the broker is most typically paid by the lender. In return for bringing the borrower and the lender together, the broker receives a portion of the lending origination fee. The origination fee would have to be paid whether you use a mortgage broker or not.

Far from being expensive, using a mort-

gage broker can actually save you a great deal of money. A mortgage broker will shop extensively to find the program that best suits your needs and to get you the most favorable rates and terms. And, thanks to local mortgage brokers, virtually any lender can now make loans anywhere in the country.

Jonatan Zahav is President of Southernmost Credit Consultants Inc., a Key West-based registered mortgage brokerage business. He is a member of the Florida Association of Mortgage Brokers and the Key West Association of Realtors. ☐

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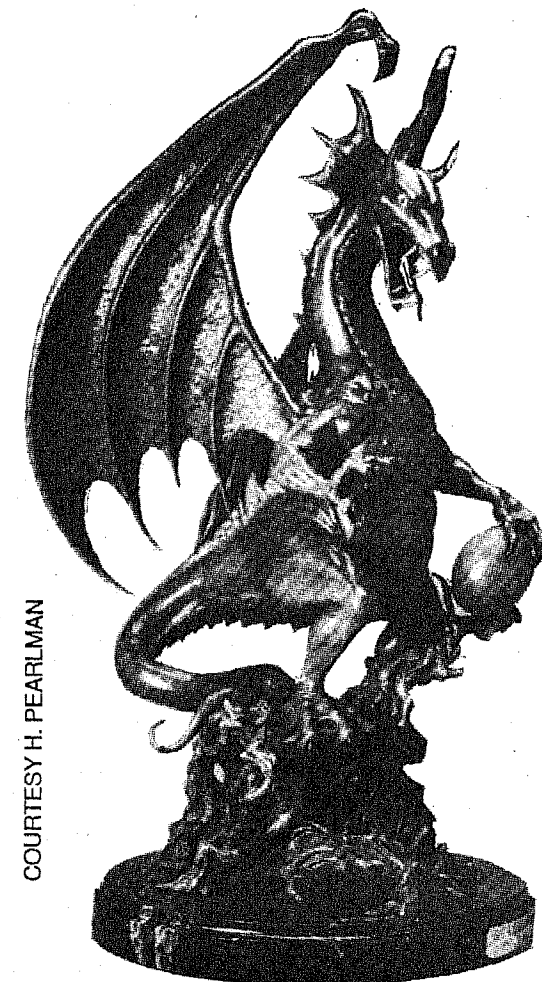
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Business Tides

Recently opened at 706 A. Duval Street, **Bohem** features handpainted and hand-screened T-shirts, handpainted furniture and other one-of-a-kind artworks. Owners **Lenny Addorisio** and **Jeff Beal** create on the premises daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. to insure that visitors are always treated to something new.



COURTESY H. PEARLMAN

MOMMA DRAGON: Sculpture by Harry Pearlman of Salamander.

Harry and Karen Pearlman's magical world of **Salamander** at 1210 Duval Street features original works in sterling silver and 14k gold by American artists celebrating the spirit in nature. Harry's hand-wrought bronze sculptures and jewelry are a rare find. Salamander is open daily

from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Thursdays and Fridays 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

On-air radio and television personality **Stewart Shaw** has left his mid-day deejay position at **WEOW FM** to join the newest addition to keys radio stations, **WOZN, 98.7 FM** in Key West. Shaw is now handling the morning show at **WOZN**, which has been on-the-air since January. He can also be seen co-hosting "Project Earthbound" with **Lucy Mularz** on **TCI Channel 5**, Wednesdays at 8 pm. and Fridays at 6:30 p.m.

Adventure Scooter & Bicycle Rental opened two new locations earlier this month, making a total of three locations in Key West. Boasting 160 scooters and 400 bicycles, **Adventure Scooters** now offers the largest two-wheel rental fleet in Key West. Hourly, daily, weekly and group rates are available on **Adventure's Honda scooters**. Its "Park and Play" plan offers free parking with a bicycle or scooter rental. Call 293-9911 for the location nearest you.

The **Caribbean Spa at the Pier House Resort** is celebrating its first anniversary. On March 16 from noon to 5 p.m. the spa will be offering 50 percent off its membership fee. Additionally, spa services such as massages, facials, and hair and nail care will also be 50 percent off. All appointments made on March 16 are good through March 31. Call 296-4600, ext. 1000.

Rainbow Unlimited, Inc. announces that the **Island Discount Coupon Book** is now available and offers over \$2100 in savings on everything from snorkeling to dry cleaning. Many of the coupons are worth more than the \$10 that the book costs. Booklets can be purchased at businesses throughout the lower keys, or call 294-2233.

The **Lower Florida Keys Health System** announces the addition of **Lawrence Schindler** as vice-president of

finance. Formerly the administrator of a 600-bed acute-care hospital in New York, **Schindler** holds a BA in public accounting and a master's in health-care administration. As the chief financial officer, **Schindler** will manage the accounting, medical records, purchasing and data processing departments for the health system.



COURTESY K. CHESBRO

DOCTOR OF THE YEAR: Kevin R. Chesebro is one of several named in South Florida.

Dr. Kevin R. Chesebro, has been selected as one of South Florida's Doctors of the Year. **Chesebro** was commended for his involvement in the merger of **Florida Keys Memorial** and **dePoo** hospitals. He actively serves on both the **Hospital District Board** and the **Lower Florida Keys Health System's Board of Directors**. He was also recently elected as a **Fellow of the American College of Surgeons** after passing a rigorous evaluation.

WKRY, KEY 93.5 FM welcomes **Carol Dochow** to its staff as an account executive and part-time board operator. **Dochow** has a BA in communications from **Arizona State**. "Carol is very excited to begin her career in radio at **WKRY** and loves living in Key West," says **Kim Combs**, general manager of **WKRY**. **Dochow** is also a freelance writer for **Solares Hill**.



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Community Notes

Health Fair on March 16

The University of Miami in conjunction with several local physicians and sponsors will be conducting the 21st Annual **Florida Keys Health Fair** on March 16. Held at **Key West High School** and **Big Pine Key Methodist and Baptist Churches**, the fair will offer several free services, including vision and hearing screening and gynecological exams, among others. Physicals and immunizations are available to individuals 18 years and under. Additionally, blood tests and mammograms will be done at a nominal charge. It is necessary to fast for 12 hours before having a blood test. A bilingual staff is available to assist Spanish-speaking individuals. For more information, call **Sue McFarlane** at 305-852-2866.

Attention All Artists!

The **Key West Preschool Cooperative** invites artists to participate in its third annual **Arts & Crafts Fair** at **Bayview Park** on March 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The fair will feature a variety of handmade arts and crafts. There will also be food, music, a raffle, and an Easter egg hunt. The rain date is March 30. For more information, call **Brenda Freeman** at 296-4097.

Last Stand's "Call to Arms"

Last Stand, an organization dedicated to the preservation of the local natural environment and quality of life, announces its 1991 "Call to Arms," on March 25. The annual meeting and guest speaker forum will be held at the **Peace Covenant Presbyterian Fellowship Hall** at **Flagler Avenue** and **Venetian Drive** at 6:30 p.m. Speakers will feature **pollster Louis Harris** on "The Ascendancy of Environmental Issues in a Post-War World." Other speakers include attorney **Hank Morgenstern**; **Clean-Water Action's Joyce Newman** and **Tom Weiss**; **Frank Butler** of **Post, Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan**; **Paul Wick** of the **Monroe County Land Authority**; **Paul Johnson** of the **Greyhound Rescue League**; and **Commissioners Sally Lewis** and **Harry Powell** and **Mayor Tony Tarracino**. Members and non-members are invited. For information, call 296-3335.

More Arts and Crafts

Some of the nation's finest artists and craftsmen are gathering March 16 and 17 to sell and display their work at **Islamorada's 12th Annual Rain Barrel Arts Festival** at **Mile Marker 86.7** on **Plantation Key**. Continuous live music and food booths featuring native **Keys cuisine** will enhance the tropical festivities. Visitors are invited to participate in a nature walk through the **Rain Barrel's hardwood tropical forest**. For more information, call 1-800-FAB-KEYS.

Easter Seal Lily Ball

The **Easter Seal Society** of the **Florida Keys** will be holding a fundraising event on March 16 at the **Holiday Inn Beachside**.

This year features dinner, dancing to live music, an auction, and door prizes. The **Easter Seal's Center of Hope** in **Key West** has provided physical therapy, speech therapy, hearing services and the loan of convalescent equipment to disabled individuals for over 40 years. The annual **Lily Ball** fortifies the funds that make these services possible. Tickets are \$45 per person. For more information, call 294-1089.



CRIME WATCH: Al Griffin (left) receives a certificate of appreciation for his three years of **Crime Watch** service from **Sheriff Rick Roth**.

Crime Watch Chairman Recognized

Al Griffin, chairman of the **Sugarloaf Shores Crime Watch**, recently received a certificate of appreciation for his three years of outstanding service to his organization. There are 111 crime watches now serving **Monroe County** and assisting the sheriff's office. **Sheriff Rick Roth** said that the crime watches are an effective example of his department's high priority partnership with the community's citizens.

March Events at FKCC

The folks at **Florida Keys Community College** have lined up the institution's events for March. The **Foreign Film Club** begins its series of films March 15 at 7 p.m. with **Ingmar Bergman's "Shame"**. On March 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Library Director Larry Berk** will conduct **Research Techniques for Business and Industry**, a course on research facilities in the library and how to use them. Put down the books on March 23 for a water safari to the beautiful **Marquesas**, complete with shipwreck and reef snorkeling, and fishing aboard the air-conditioned "Yankee Freedom." Room is still available for the March 29 weekend excursion to the **Dry Tortugas** for snorkeling and scientific experimentation. For more details, call 296-9081, ext.283.

Preservation Award Deadline:

March 16

March 16 is the deadline for the **Historic Florida Keys Preservation Board's** annual awards in excellence in preservation, restoration, rehabilitation, and new construction of residential and commercial historic structures. Application forms for nomi-

nating a preservation project are available at the office of the **HKFPB** in the **Old City Hall**, 510 **Greene Street**. A review fee of \$50 must accompany each nomination. Final judging will take place March 23. For more information, call **Sharon Wells** at 292-6718.

Sunset Hall of Fame

Get ready for a hilarious gathering of **Key West's** finest for the **Sixth Annual Sunset Hall of Fame Awards Show** on March 25 from 7:30 to 10 p.m. at the **Oldest House**, which is located at 322 **Duval Street**. The evening will feature a buffet provided by over 20 **Key West** restaurants, followed by live entertainment and music. For more information, call 296-4334.

Reef Rescue Days

Dedicated to reef conservation, **Reef Rescue Days** will be held from April 4 through 7 at **Miami's Urge 2 Submerge Dive Center**. Events will include a dive-gear auction, dive-travel raffle, reef-cleanup dives, a dockside barbecue, seminars on conservation and equipment, and door prizes. Last year's event raised \$2600 to benefit **Project Reefkeeper**, the affiliate of the **American Littoral Society** which is dedicated to the protection of coral reefs. For more information, call (305) 388-0008.

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Now You See It . . .

Auto theft is a serious problem in Key West, says the Monroe County Sheriff's Office. The office has released the following tips for preventing auto theft and burglary: 1) put packages in the trunk of the car so they are not readily visible, 2) take keys out of car and always lock up, 3) park as close as possible to a destination, 4) park in a well-lit area surrounded by other cars. Additionally, auto-parts shops have special locks and bars that discourage break-ins and can prevent theft.

Seebol Named to State Council

Edward A. Seebol, executive director of AIDS Help, Inc. of Monroe County, has been appointed to Florida's newly formed statewide Human Immunodeficiency Virus Services Planning Council. The Council will advise the state government on the use of HIV-care grant funds coming to Florida from the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act, which was passed by Congress last year. The 28 council members were chosen for their experience in providing services and care to people

with HIV diseases and educating the public about the disease. Seebol, a 21-year resident of Key West was instrumental in establishing the AIDS Education Project, which led to the creation of AIDS Help, Inc., the non-profit organization providing services to Monroe County's HIV population.

Fran Ingram Is UGLY

At the end of Week 3 of the Keys UGLY Bartender Challenge to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, the top three bartenders, in alphabetical order, are: Fran Ingram from Anglers' Paradise, Holiday Inn Beachside in Key West; Paulette Capozzi from the Cabana Club in Key Colony Beach; and Alisa Bodker from Jo-Jo's in Grassy Key. The challenge has been extended an extra week, so bartenders have until March 18 to submit votes. For information, call Michelle McGlinn at (305) 599-0299.

Improve Your Self-Esteem

The Mental Health Care Center is offering a self-esteem workshop beginning Tuesday, March 26 and continuing Tuesday evenings for four weeks. Sessions will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Call Pam Soucy at 292-6843 for more information. Additionally, the center has formed a group for those suffering from depression or manic-depression. For more information, call Dr. Elizabeth Saenger at 292-6843.

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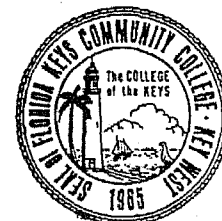
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For more information, call FKCC, 296-9081, ext. 281.



Sarabeth arrives for a visit, looking more than ever like an exotic molting bird on her conch cruiser bicycle.

Sarabeth is tall with a queenly hauteur and an inscrutable face, the skin of which is an exquisite yellow, the color of a good, dark vanilla pudding. Her grandfather brought her, a little baby on a pillow, from a tiny island off Spanish Wells in the Bahamas. She says the other islands wouldn't mix with her island because "we have a touch of tar brush."

Her grandfather "passed" in Key West because this wise island is color blind.

He would tell her that there was salt in the air the day she was born, bequesting her strength of spirit and adventurous fortunes, and that the little shack they came from was "the kind of house like three or four of us had been crying, having nightmares or sick on the floor."

Also, he grieved for Creeping Jesus, his donkey, "as old for a donkey as I am old for a man."

Sarabeth had nursed me back to walking, though with a limp, following a catastrophic car accident. My roommate offers to spring for an expensive and good meal in a fashionable restaurant. Sarabeth ardently wants this, and she is going to push me in a trusty wheelchair.

Disabled parking is thin throughout downtown Key West and around these Simonton Street restaurants. I have pointed out this dearth of disabled parking spots to city authorities, but it was like spitting in the water.

With me in the w.c., we push up to the restaurant door. A fellow stands on the street there requesting a hand-out. Sarabeth says, "Dig down and give him some. In Atlanta I witnessed God changing a very kind panhandler's fleas into gold."

Now, I already know that w.c.'s on an outing will put you in a different galaxy. And Sarabeth is not your run-of-the-mill

diner-out. I suppose we are a sight. She is wearing her "tragic" hat and an emerald-colored microskirt. She gives a yank to her purple miniscule vest that hardly covers her hard, yellow, narrow midriff.

"I am going to be buried in this top," she says to the doorman. She has made red dots all around her eyes.

She vaults the w.c. over the threshold, wheels spinning in the air, and we volley through a quickly-cleared passage to a table she means for us to occupy.

"Please, Dear Gentleman, move your foot." We have trundled over three other feet. "Please, Dear Lady, excuse."

Silence falls upon the packed room. Forks cease toying with artichokes, knives are suspended over Florida lobster tails. She might have been dragging a body bag through the room. Even the chef looks through a window in the kitchen door.

When she clangs me into her chosen station, she cries, "Throw on the brake! Throw on the brake!"

The quiet is rather like a funeral just before they bring in the coffin.

I am thinking, All right. Good. Let's give everyone here a true enthusiasm for living. That's how we are.

Sarabeth sits out the meal very much in command, plucking now and then at a wart on her thumb. She possesses one of these voices that penetrates a whole area.

Before menus come, she relates a riveting tale of the tragic excesses of her teen times: for instance, when she is dancing on the sidewalk in front of Kress on Duval Street and an undertaker, who made a delivery from North Carolina, keeps tapping her on the left breast as if testing a canteloupe.

The room has now settled down some, though a man nearby awaiting his stuffed flounder seems absorbed in our conversation.

The waiter comes by, three plates of

blackened yellow tail on his left arm, a split of chardonnay on the other. Waiters believe persons in w.c.'s to be totally deaf and dumb.

"Does she want house dressing on her salad?" he asks.

I know that the hearts of palm in vinaigrette that she orders is verboten. Sarabeth is a committed, on-the-spot thrower-upper, but when she scurries back after a period of time from the Ladies, she is none the worse for wear, as it were.

Through the long and delicious repast, Sarabeth speaks. People come and go but she never loses her audience. Her unreliable health is all-engrossing for her. She names in alphabetical order her ailments of the week: arthritis of the tonsils, bulemia, liver polyps, rheumy eyes, sexual aspirations never successful now in total eclipse.

She believes that a table of six are dwindling over their strawberry cointreau to enrich their educations, as delivered by her, and she gives her wart a good pluck.

She says, "Genetically, women come with much calmer fundaments than men do. Men, poor souls, yearn to be like snakes. Snakes have two penises, sometimes three."

Our wine is exhausted, our party over as she sails out one more nugget from her experiences.

"Goats," she says, "are the only animals to eat arsenic without ill effects."

Now her arms are flapping happily, the black fleece of her armpits glistening brightly.

She finishes off the bit of wine in each of our two glasses.

We creak out, replete.

"I've got a good feeling now, like a dog with two tails," she says.

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Readers Write

Shock the Monroe Monkey

Dear Editor:

Can it be that Monroe County is learning the wrong lesson from its experiment in jail privatization? Worse, could we be on the verge of repeating the error?

Is the lesson that privatization doesn't work? Or rather is there a two-fold lesson: 1) listen to the committees you charge with investigation; and, 2) when dealing with the private sector, behave in a business-like manner.

Almost forgotten now is the fact that the privatization effort was not the result of any administrative whim. Rather, a committee of over 30 citizens, balanced between criminal justice professionals and lay citizens, studied the problem of the Monroe County Jail for over two years.

The Jail Advisory Committee concluded that the private sector could do the job better and cheaper. The committee also overwhelmingly recommended one company for this privatization effort—CCA, who, in turn, was the low bidder.

In opting for privatization, the committee

recognized the general proposition that private enterprise can do most things more efficiently than government. Most arguments against privatized jails concede this point but question whether this function is one of those core functions so central to government as to not be the proper subject of privatization.

In fairness, this is a debatable point and one upon which the jury of public opinion is still out. Monroe County opted to be a laboratory for this innovative concept.

From then on we blew it. First, the Board of County Commissioners exercised its political prerogative to select a bidder other than that recommended by the Jail Advisory Committee. Further, that bidder was not the low bidder.

In fairness to the successful bidder, Wackenhut operated the jail in a manner superior to that of local government historically, at least according to jail inspectors, prisoners and even prisoner rights lawyers. Procedures were standardized and upgraded.

In a situation that can only be described as a powder keg, no major incidents occurred, which in itself is no small feat. And all of this was accomplished for some 16

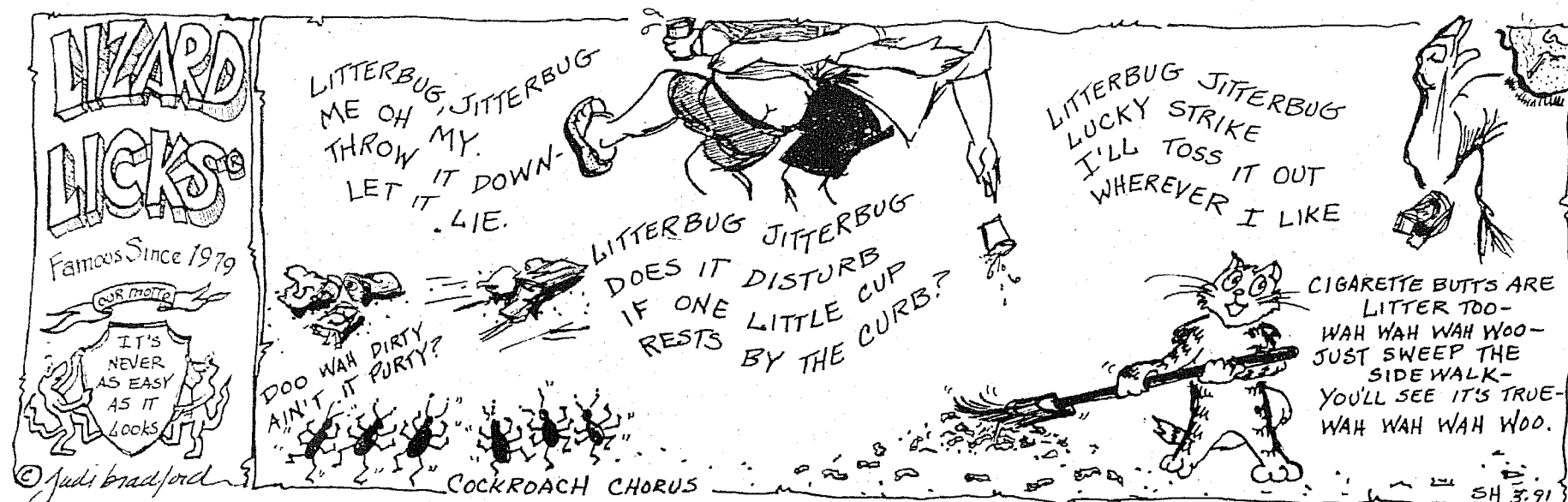
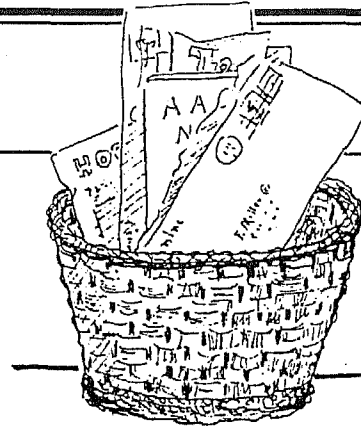
percent below what government would have cost for the same effort.

Clearly, the lesson so far is not that privatization does not work.

At the end of the year, Wackenhut decided that the cost of the Monroe County operation was not feasible for their business. At this point, if Monroe County had acted in a business-like manner, with just plain common sense, it would have found that it had many options.

It could have tried to enforce the contract under the principle of *caveat emptor*. It could have compromised the claim, presumably still trying to save money over its own costs of operation. Finally, it could have terminated the contract and gone to the other bidder, CCA, who was arguably the low bidder to begin with.

Incredibly, Monroe County did none of



the above. Rather, it took back the jail, with Doug Jones, the very commissioner whose political decision was to override the Jail Advisory Committee's choice, now pronouncing that privatization does not work.

In doing so, the county continues its search for a free lunch.

Worse, having, in effect, overridden both the substance and preference of its Jail Advisory Committee, the Board of County Commissioners now stands poised to gut the remainder of the committee's work by tinkering with jail design concepts, which are designed to save money in the long haul. Jones even suggests completely scrapping the committee's work and to return to the downtown site—the heart of the county's jail problem.

Isn't the real lesson here that when over 30 good and honest citizens, half experts and half pillars of our community, are asked by government to study a problem for over two years, that they might, just might, reach the best alternatives?

And when the politicians don't listen, isn't failure and needless expense almost preordained?

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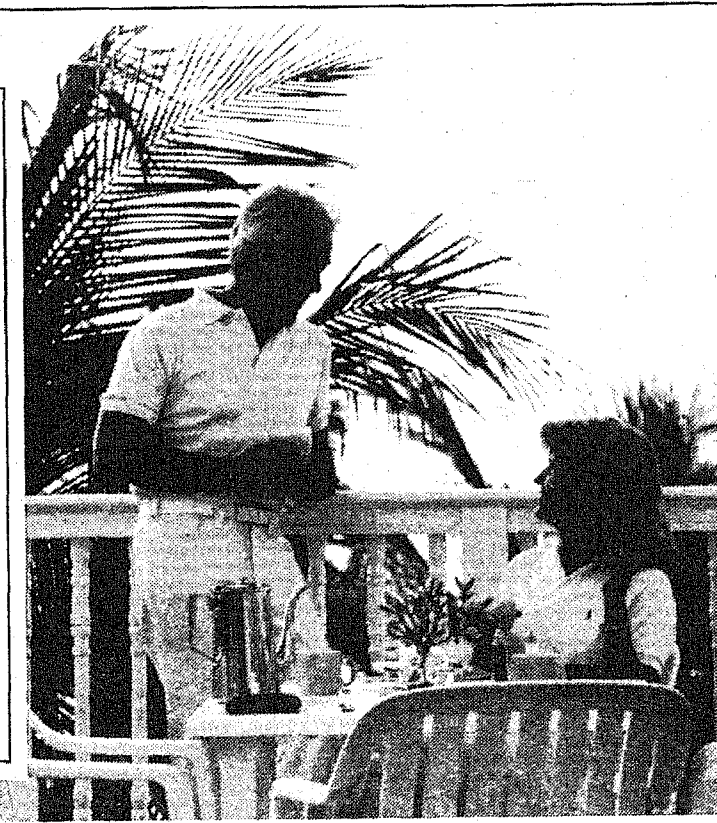
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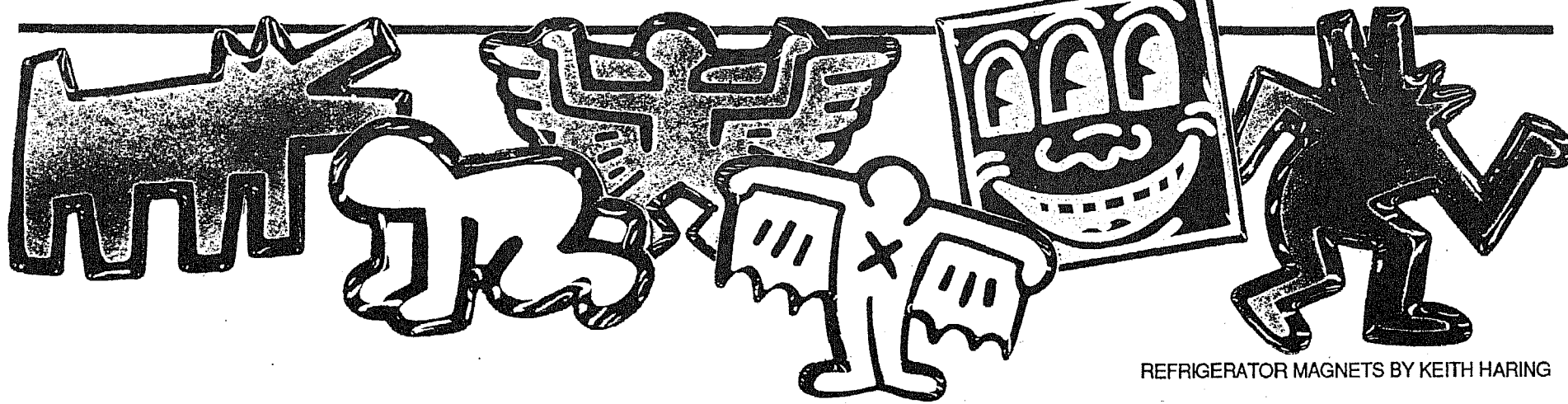
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Art Circle

Paradise Playful: Key West Painted Wares



REFRIGERATOR MAGNETS BY KEITH HARING

by Judi Bradford

The name Keith Haring may not ring any bells, but nearly everybody recognizes the bold, modified stick-figure drawings created by this artistic wizard of mass-marketing.

Originally, the brightly colored forms projected political sentiments from the dingy walls of New York City's subways. Then Madison Avenue caught on to Keith Haring, and his generic-like forms became the graphic themes of several national advertising campaigns, including one for Absolut vodka. They also promoted the safe-sex message for non-profit AIDS organizations on hundreds of thousands of T-shirts.

Soon Haring's work was everywhere. Although he died recently, Haring's ingenuity and childlike freedom created a new tradition, which appears to have influenced several Key West artists.



CRAFTY CONTAINER: Danny Gore holds a lidded jar.

Carrie Disrude, Bruce Tolman, Valerie Hoh and Danny Gore are artists in tune with the times, influenced by popular music, cartoons, mass communication and advertising. Similar to the symbolism found in tribal crafts, the artistic elements these artists apply to common mass-produced items sends a strong message. As a group, their work could be called Tropical Bizarre or, perhaps, Paradise Playful.

Carrie Disrude's furniture and household items are covered with images from her "Primitive Hip" style. Her work features figures reminiscent of Picasso, surrounded by patterns that echo Keith Haring's up-town rhythms.

"It's really a list of characters," Disrude says of her vocabulary of odd symbols, "or an alphabet."

Her creations go beyond being simply decorative. Other-world creatures spout philosophical slogans, which are strangely metaphysical. Suspicious dark-rimmed eyes stare amid playful colors and lively visual textures. A figure painted on a chair wears three hearts on its sleeve. "Question us" and "Know" it enigmatically commands.

"They all mean something to me," Disrude explains. "They all say something. It's a way of being political without being overt. It's the artists of the world that make a difference in times like this. They really say it where sometimes other people don't."

Bruce Tolman has been "toying" (it's the word his style brings to mind) with fanciful designs on functional items for a long time. He turns his spirited imagination toward whatever is at hand, transforming it with bright color and engaging charm.

His shop, Island Arts, is an example of his talents. He selects cheerful contemporary sculptures and accessories to follow the Paradise Playful theme. It is his skill at display, however, that turns a bunch of great stuff into a wonderland.

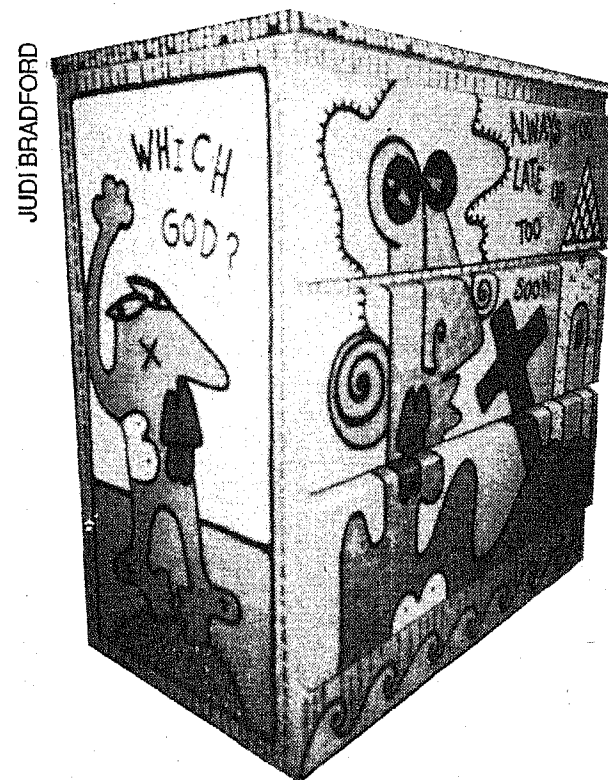
In his own work, Tolman combines function and art, designing surface patterns on furniture, pottery, chalkboards, boxes, even ladders. One of the most delightful objects he embellishes is a big sun umbrella for patio or beach.

Valerie Hoh and her partner Danny Gore cannot seem to stop decorating. Sit them down anywhere and in a few minutes they are redoing things. Walls this color, floors that. Stylized flowers painted over a fifties

moderne chair, drifting fish on a trivet. Clothes, tiles, furniture, surroundings of any sort are their canvases.

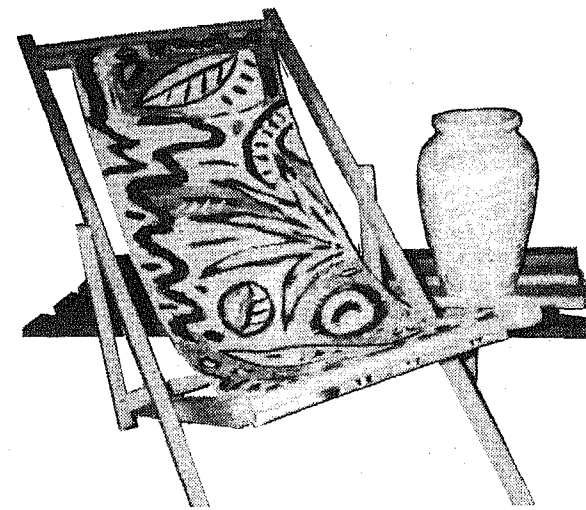
"If anyone stands still long enough, we'll paint them—that's what they fear," Hoh says with her characteristic laugh. "I've been known to paint my own shoes to go with my outfit."

She first designed textiles for industry, then went into business for herself, setting up a studio shop full of her tiles and ceramics. Expansion was inevitable. Ceramics and tiles were not a large enough category. Clothing—especially New Wave fashions—fell under her brush and became tropical deco art pieces.



TALKING DRAWERS: Carrie Disrude's furniture asks some heavy questions.

The shop prospered. Assistants prepared or finished pieces while Hoh designed more in a continuous whirlwind of creativity. The studio overtook her house as production soared, and eventually she lived in a tiny corner. Still entertaining with lavish Chinese dinners, she scavenged old lockers and castoff shelves to keep the studio functioning efficiently.



PAINTED AND PRACTICAL: Sling chair and urn decorated by Bruce Tolman.

JUDI BRADFORD

Her sister, Eleanor, worked as her partner for a while and helped in the organizational stage. Then a store in California was opened for Hoh and Gore's work, and the West Coast had its influence.

Now they the pair is back in Key West, producing decorated items for their shop, Pandemonium on Duval. Tables in a wild confusion of bright colors and unusual tile pieces are their most popular items this season.

Work by Carrie Disrude and Bruce Tolman as well as many others working similarly can be seen at Island Arts, 1128 Duval Street. Valerie Hoh and Danny Gore show their work at Pandemonium, 704 Duval Street.

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Highs & Lows: The Fluctuating Popularity of Crafts

There is a tidal pattern of popularity in crafts. During the mid-1800s the International Arts and Crafts Movement began in Europe as a counter-response to mid-Victorian manufactured products. The movement crested toward the end of the century and subsided in the 1920s as a new wave of commerce produced nationally standardized wares for the masses.

Ironically, these items were often the creations of artist-craftsmen who, spawned in the arts and crafts movement, adapted their designs for industry and mass production.

After the Great Depression everyone wanted store-bought goods—anything else was an indication of rural poverty in a time when urban prosperity was the status symbol.

Then in the middle of this century came the back-to-nature movement, a rebellion against the modern industrial styles. Home-made items were rediscovered; their irregularities were cherished. Now even uptown, upscale apartments display hand-shaped, individually produced items with pride.

First it was ceramics and weavings in the purist fashion. Those craftsmen who dug their own clay and carded the wool from their own sheep were honored as the gurus of the genre.

But the movement spread and became a

rallying point of the Baby Boom generation. While those kids evolved into adults who functioned within businesses and families and school systems, the crafts movement was molded into a more efficient machine. Shadowing previous times, craftsmen began to create crafts for the mass market, in many cases building their own manufacturing staff and conquering the wholesale market.

Although the handmade process was still valued and precision execution appreciated, the purist element was tempered. The concept of recycling was applied to furniture and accessories from previous generations.

Those familiar objects that charmed us in our childhoods were updated with contemporary images and placed in our homes. As mass-production items, their intrinsic value was not high.

Their modern styling with flat planes and little detailing made them perfect for overlaid surface treatment. As the production items were personalized by artists, a new union was forged between manufactured goods and crafts.

The same thing is happening in clothing—off-the-rack garments are being painted with current patterns. These pieces are distinguished from items created by the artist and then painted. Those would be classified "sculpture."

J

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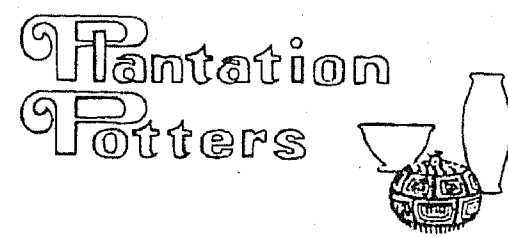
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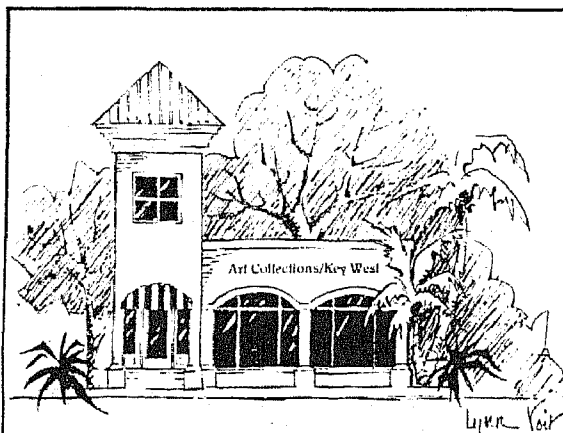
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MARCH ART CALENDAR

Art Collections Key West • National and local artists in a variety of styles and themes. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. 600 Front St. in the Bottling Court. 296-5956.

Audubon House • "The Doves and Pigeons of John James Audubon," through April 30. \$5 admission, children under six free, AAA discount. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. 205 Whitehead St. 294-2116.

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

East Bank Gallery • Paintings by local artists, limited edition prints, pottery, custom framing and art furniture. Daily except Sunday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 706 White St. 296-2679.

East Martello Museum & Gallery • Tuesday, March 19, "Sleeping Island," a show of photos of Key West from the 1950s by Don Pinder. March 27, Southern Bell P.A.C.E. keyboard concert, 7 p.m., free admission. Plus our regular group artists. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$3 admission for non-members. 3501 S. Roosevelt Blvd. 296-3913.

Farrington Gallery 711 • New works by Greg Biolchini. Southwest art by Reina. "Kids of California" overstuffed children's furniture by Michael Perry. Daily, except Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and by appointment. 711 Duval St. 294-6911.

Florida Keys Community College Library Gallery • Show of works by FKCC Fine Arts students. Junior College Rd., Stock Island, 296-9081, ext. 202.

Galerie Moderne • Abstract expressionist works by Gilbert Sweeney. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 516 Amelia St. off Duval St. 296-3156.

Gingerbread Square Gallery • Carol Sadowski oils on a Hemingway theme. March 23, John Kiraly—new works, "Memories of the Amalfi Coast." Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 901 Duval St. 296-8900.

Grand Collection • Paintings, Asian antiques, ancient artifacts, tribal arts, jewelry. Daily, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. 810 Duval St. 292-1331.

Great Southern Gallery • Florida Artists in all media. New classes in watercolor, acrylic and drawing, starting this month. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 910 Duval St. 294-6660.

Guild Hall Gallery • Drawings, paintings, prints, soft sculpture, cartoons, printed and handpainted cards, ceramics, T-shirts, leather bags, photography, stained glass and ironwork by 16 Key West artists. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Even-

ings sometimes. 614 Duval St. 296-6076.

Haitian Art Company • Special prices on selected collectibles. Paintings, wood sculpture, metal cut-outs, papier mache by Haitian artists. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 600 Frances St. 296-8932.

Harrison Gallery • March 16 through 31, gouache paintings by Susan Thayer. Daily, noon to 5:30 p.m. except Sunday and Monday. 825 White St. 294-0609.

Is It Art? • Handpainted art wear, prints and wall-hangings. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., week-ends 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. 913 Duval St. 294-0411.

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

Island Wellness • Paintings by Jim Lemkuhl until March 23. Opening March 24, box constructions and mixed media assemblage by Saffra Milano. Daily, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and by appointment. 530 Simonton St. 296-7353.

Kennedy Gallery • March 2 through 31, wood carvings by Tampa artist Leroy Jackson, Sr. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., maybe later. 294-5997.

Kennedy Studios • New watercolor graphics by Robert Kennedy. Daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. 133 Duval St. 294-5850; 511 Duval St. 294-8564.

Key West Art Center • Members' works. March 14, Jean Dobi watercolor class on video. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. 301 Front St. 294-1241.

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

Kudu Gallery of Tribal Arts • Celebrating our new location. Oriental rugs, kilims, collectors textiles, international folk art, ethnic musical instruments, tapestries, toys and African art. Call about our March showing of African clothing and textiles and African-inspired contemporary fashions. Daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1208 Duval St. 294-3771.

Lane Gallery • Group show for new artists: Frank Monaco, vinyl paint on canvas and paper; Lawrence Anthony, whimsical clay and bronze sculptured figures; Eddie Mitchell, impressionist canvases. March 18 through 27, Tony Chimento super-realism drapery paintings. Call for info on lecture early in March by Terry Gindele, local artist and Hort competition winner. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1000 Duval St. 294-0067.

Lee Dodez Showroom • Handbuilt clay pieces by Lee Dodez and raku work by Jay Gogin. Classes in handbuilding

slab work. Also ceramic supplies: clay, glazes, equipment and tools for the potter. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. 901 Duval St., rear. 296-5901.

Lucky Street Gallery • Gary Spinosa porcelain "stones" and goddess sculptures. Tom Colbert paintings. National show "Discovery photographs of Marilyn Monroe." Daily, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday, Saturday 'til 9 p.m. 919 Duval St. 294-3973.

Miller Gallery • Canvases and mixed media works by Helen Colley in expressionist style of the 1940s and 50s. By appointment, please call 294-7687. 517 Duval St., Suite #200.

Mosquito Coast Island Outfitters • New paintings from South America. Back country paintings and prints by Michael Shannon. Bird prints by Marianna Bauerlein. Daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. 1107 Duval St. 296-6124.

Pandemonium • See our unique art furniture and tile tables. Daily, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Friday & Saturday 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 704 Duval St. 294-0351.

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

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

Studio 227 • Locklear multi-media, Karen Clemens paintings, plus other local and out-of-town artists. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 227 Petronia St. 294-7141.

Tar Heel Trading Co. • World class waterfowl carvings by Evelyn McDowell. Functional and decorative work from many of America's best-known craftsmen. Porcelain and silk jewelry, heirloom toys and puppets, in-laid wood boxes, pottery, fused glass and porcelain figurines. Daily, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. 802 Duval St. 294-8589.

Tennessee Williams Fine Art Center • March 28 to April 12, "Portraits, Homes and Studies," a one-man exhibit of oil paintings by Cricket Judd.

Whitehead Street Pottery • Stoneware, porcelain, Raku vessels. White functional stoneware by guest artist Janet Albert. Daily, except Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1011 Whitehead St. 294-5067.



Music Review

Bluegrass & Gut-Busters: Dan Mulberry

by Christine Naughton

One foot up on the wooden railing that surrounds the Bull's tiny stage, cigarette stuck between strings and headstock, a shot and a beer at his elbow, Dan Mulberry grinned over his guitar at the three tourists seated at the table directly in front of him.

"I think about things all the time, but there are some things I'll never figure out," he drawled. "Like, why do they call them apartments? They're already built. It doesn't make any sense to me. People drive on parkways and park on driveways."

The baby-blue fishing cap wagged as he shook his head, its visor all but hiding his baby-blue eyes.

"But then, I'm just a country boy. What do I know?" he shrugged, strumming a chord or two. "I come from so far back in Kentucky, the zip code is E-I-E-I-O."

The truth is, in the absence of his guitar, Mulberry's comedic sense alone could have sustained his performance. His lines were delivered in a guttural, gravelly rasp, reminiscent of the actor Neville Brand. He seemed to thoroughly enjoy himself while onstage, whether singing and playing, or engaging in his characteristic free interplay with the audience between tunes.

During this set, which lasted two-and-a-half hours because everybody was having so much fun, Mulberry converted his laid-back afternoon crowd into a room full of true appreciators. With fellow picker Terry Cassidy joining him for much of the set, he played dazzling bluegrass guitar, crooned a few in his singing voice (half gravel, half fuzzy falsetto, often in the same line), freely swilled those shots and beers to no visible effect, and drew applause and hearty laughter, seemingly at will.

Mulberry's only afternoon slot of the week's entertainment schedule at the Bull is on Fridays from 2 to 6. He also works varying evenings and nights. (Check the blackboard outside the bar for specifics.) The musician said he tones down his act for the daytime crowd, reserving the raunchy and racy stuff for night shows.

Mulberry strummed and flat-picked a full bodied, gutsy sound with his steel string guitar. He paid tribute to another local entertainer, Michael McCloud, by singing his

composition, "Conch Republic Song," which never fails to get a roar of approval with its straightforward lyrics: "Key West is my home / I know I'll never roam / the women are pretty and drinkin's considered a sport / and I'd rather be here / drinkin' a beer / than freezin' my ass in the north."

PAUL KELLY



FUNNY AND TALENTED: Dan Mulberry.

Of course, Mulberry's singular singing voice is perfect for a novelty tune like this, but he is capable of a broader range of emotion. On John Henderson's poignant ballad, "1959," he caused at least two misty eyes with his amazingly tender delivery of the lyrics. So what if his intonation isn't always right on the money and his voice sounds as though it's coming from two individuals? This guy sings from his heart, and it sounds just fine.

Mulberry and Cassidy raced through several bluegrass tunes, including "Black Mountain Rag," "John Hardy," "Columbus, Georgia," and "Dueling Banjos."

The latter is probably the most recognizable to those unfamiliar with bluegrass music as the popular theme from the movie *Deliverance*. The two pickers "chased" each other, throwing lightning-fast lead lines back and forth, creating a free exchange of ideas and energy. Their facile flat-picking caused passersby in the street to stop and stare through the open windows, mouths agape in amazement.

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Mulberry's bluegrass is played in a strong style, precise and assured. He has a selective ear for the best lines to weave through a tune, and a sure sense of time for playing rhythm. His good nature shines through this music—there's nothing like foot-stompin' bluegrass for having fun. Yahoo! Pass the corn pone.

Cassidy's guitar and five-string banjo playing were excellent. He also sang beautifully, in a clear Irish tenor. (No, that doesn't mean he sang "I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen"; it means he sang in the gorgeous tenor range to which his last name would seemingly make him heir.) Cassidy has been a long-term favorite at Rick's Bar, up Duval a piece, but he and Mulberry get together often to play.

Matter of fact, many local musicians talk about what a gas it is to play with Mulberry. He's a great musician and a nice guy, too.

"Thanks for staying with us, folks," he said at the end of the epic set. "If you treat every entertainer like you've treated us today, you'll never see a bad show."

Go see Dan Mulberry at the Bull, which is located at the corner of Caroline and Duval Streets. He won't let you leave without having a good time. ☐

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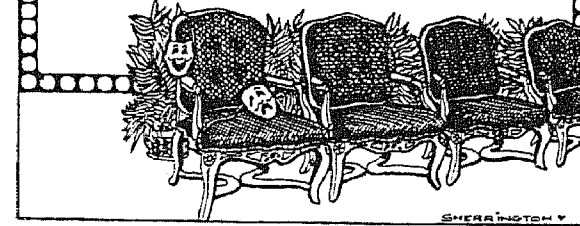
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AISLE SEAT

by Jane Phillips



"There's no business like show business... and no people like show people." Irving Berlin's words were never truer than at the recent AIDS Help fundraiser, "Gordon Ross and Friends." Held at the Copa, it was clearly a love affair between audience and performer from the very first moment as some of Key West's top talents shared their gifts for charity.

The production was directed by Gordon Ross with assistance from John Evans, who said, "This event has become so popular that everyone wants to participate, but we only invite the best."

And it was most definitely the best of Key West on stage that night.

The evening began with Bobby Nesbitt accompanying Perri Halevy Lopinto and Gordon Ross to Cole Porter's "Anything Goes." Nesbitt kidded about trying to get out of this appearance (he missed last year's show because of eye surgery), but there is no one more generous with his time and talent than this ace entertainer.

For his next number, Nesbitt delighted the audience with the Noel Coward musical number "Patricia, The Stripper." ("Patricia calls herself a sinner / God made her

just to keep fat men thinner.")

The night was on a roll. One after another, faces any local theatergoer would instantly recognize, appeared on stage.

Danny Weathers stepped up to the mike and introduced himself since, as he put it, "no one else will." He sang two terrific numbers, "Love Changes Everything" and "Everybody's Had You But Me."

Vicki Roush and Perri LoPinto belted out "What You Don't Know About Women." A tiny LoPinto looked up at statuesque Roush and said, "You know we've been mistaken for twins—I guess that makes me Danny DeVito."



RODRIGUEZ AND ROUSH: Local divas chum it up at "Gordon Ross and Friends—A Theatrical Event."

Carmen Rodriguez singing "It Had To Be You" was a special moment for everyone.

A real live Conch, Gene Nelson was just back from the big city. He told the audience about his show biz days in the chorus of *The Wiz*, and then sang "Believe In Yourself."

Dana Manchester, aka John Goodwin, brought a cheering audience to their feet when he lip-synched "The Star Spangled Banner."

Joy Hawkins and David Spangler got together with a number from Spangler's musical "Children of the Sun."

The Off-Key Westers, a group of well-known locals who are not usually seen on stage, gathered to sing "Friendship."

The cast from *Smoke on the Mountain* opened the second act with a foot-stomping "No Tears In Heaven," followed by Kathy Grier (whose last gig was in Paris) singing "Fallen Lovers, Fallen Friends." It was a touching tribute to AIDS victims.

Whew! Time for a breath. For a zany change of pace, the original Fantasy Fest Queen, Gerri Louis Gates, did an hilarious comedy routine about the restaurant business that was right on target.

"Good help is really hard to find in Key West," said Gates. "The typical job applicant has no shoes, no phone, no address and no teeth." This brought howls of laughter from the audience.

Gates said that she tries to have patience with the "typical polyester cruise ship custo-

mer." The reason is her father, who gave her this advice: the cash register has no prejudice.

Everyone had fun with her description of the way tourists pronounce "conch" and with her definition of the word: "It's hard, it's pink and it's chewy."

Majorie Paul-Shook and Sally Richardson O'Boyle, both of whom we'd like to see more, sang. The popular M.C.C. Choir under the direction of Tom Carlisle gave their rendition of "That's What Friends Are For."

The Fabulous Spectrelles appeared in their gold spandex splendor and were, of course, fabulous.

Vicki Roush's "The Song," which features lyrics such as "Everybody's f-----g but me, I just can't get laid," brought down the house. If you're getting the idea that it was a wild time, you're right!

Gerry Tinlin helped out as M.C., and backup musicians included Stuart Parker, Richard Tazewell and Skipper Kripitz.

José Limón Dance Company a Hit

The Tennessee Williams Fine Art Center presented the José Limón Dance Company, featuring the choreography of Doris Humphrey, Phyllis Lambut and Carlos Orta.

Mexican-born Limón, who died in 1972, was the founder of this major modern dance company. He came to the United States when he was seven years old and studied in California and New York. His rich cultural heritage has become part of the dance company today.

Members of the multi-cultural/racial ensemble include Bambi Anderson, Michael Blake, Paul Anthony Dennis, Roxanne D'Orleans Juste, Stuart Gold, Pamela Jones, Jonathan Leinbach, Gary Masters, Carla Maxwell, Carlos Orta, Emilie Plauch, Nina Watt and Gordon White.

The program consisted of three dances; "Cleave," a folk dance inspired by the dismantling of the Berlin Wall, choreographed by Phyllis Lambut; "Ritmo Jondo," based on songs and dances of Spanish gypsies, choreographed by Doris Humphrey; and "Retablo," a dance exploration of the lives of Federico Garcia Lorca and Salvador Dali, with music from Spanish folk themes and excerpts from Bizet's *Carmen*.

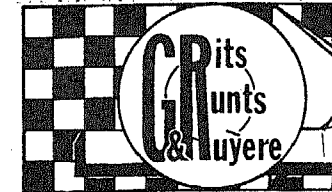
The works, which reflect Limón's emphasis on "probing the human entity, are not on an ethereal plane. Instead, they reflect passion and emotion. Moments of tension culminated in energetic bursts of freedom with beautiful gestures.

At times the dancers' rhythmic motion formed a moving tableau, particularly in the Berlin Wall dance—dramatic visually as well as in movement.

Breathtaking at times, the final dance was punctuated by various sounds, such as laughter and barking dogs.

The Limón Dance company, under the direction of Carla Maxwell, continues to be a vital part of the International dance scene, performing in the United States and at major dance festivals worldwide, including a tour of the Soviet Union. Several times the company has graced the White House.

It was an exciting dance event for an appreciative Key West audience.



A LIGHT EASTER FEAST

by Jeanne McCLOW

Ever since the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox was designated as the day on which Christians would commemorate the resurrection of Christ, Easter Sunday has been in the process of becoming a day of secular importance.

Easter was also a time for all peoples to celebrate the arrival of spring. In fact, many of the symbols and rituals associated with Easter pre-date Christ by thousands of years and have more to do with fertility and the regenerative quality of nature than with the religious event itself.

Since nourishment is the most basic of human needs, it is appropriate that this most primeval of occurrences be celebrated with a feast, one consisting of the foods that do the announcing of the long-awaited season—the young, leafy greens, tender asparagus, artichokes, and leeks; the zingy scallions and onions and crunchy radishes still cold from the winter ground; the baby beets and thumb-sized carrots and tiny green peas to be mixed with cream-colored morels; the sweet, wild strawberries to be baked with tart stalks of rhubarb.

The primary symbol of the season, however, has always been the egg—the smooth, rounded body from which all animal life springs. Even 5000 years ago, man was dyeing eggs red to signify blood and the life force. In early times, these were exchanged with friends as glad tidings; in Greece and Rome, they were used as fertility symbols in their ritualistic festivals.

Even the Easter bunny, itself a fertility symbol, hops about with a basket of eggs. Today, we decorate them, "roll" them as a sport across expansive lawns, imitate their shape in everything from porcelain to chocolate, and consume them in every delicious manner. (Interestingly, the Easter bunny has proved such a charming character that few Americans could today be persuaded to dine on rabbit meat.)

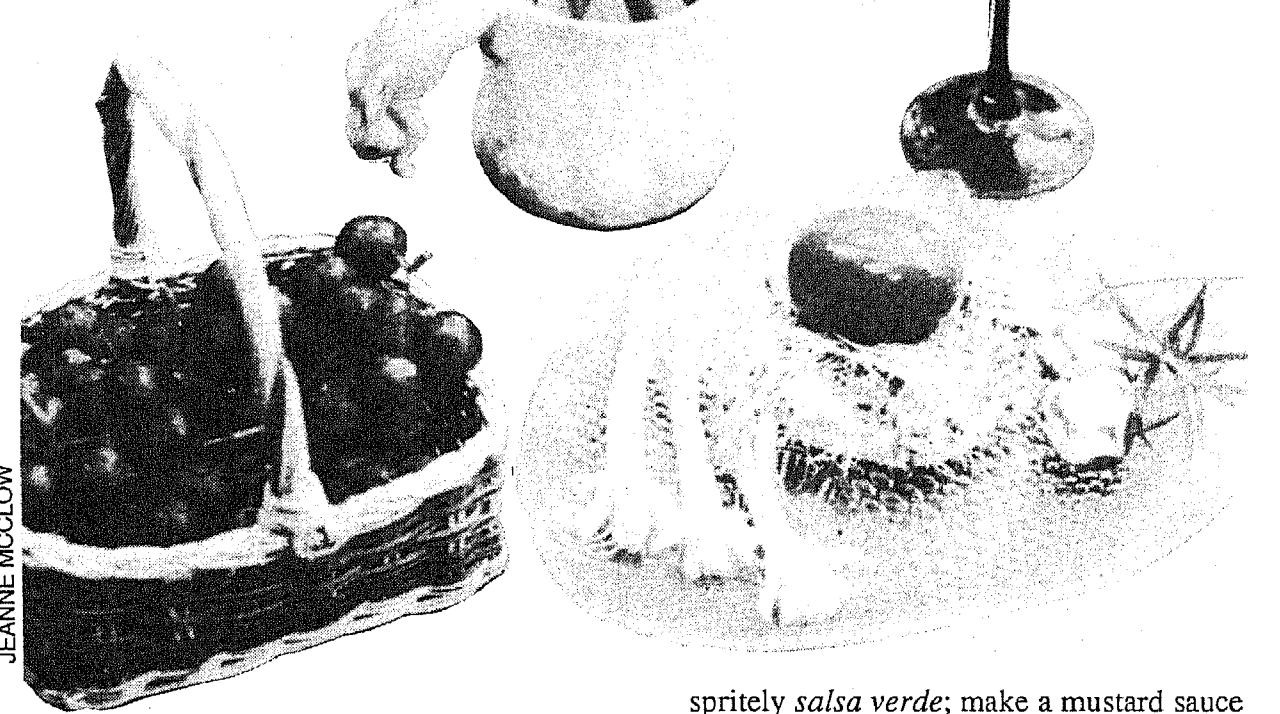
Perhaps it is the very delicate nature of the egg and other spring foods that lends them so nicely to brunch—generally today's choice for the feast.

One reason brunch is popular is that it is held during a time of day that allows for attending church services yet still promises many hours of daylight for leisurely afternoon activities. And, at least the subtropics, the surroundings—and, therefore, often the brunchers, too—are at their best early in the day.

Although one can go to nearly any restaurant in town for a special Easter to-do, there are always many who prefer to have their own get-together, one that can be as informal as desired, proceed at its own pace, and offer more—and, often, fresher—choices than a restaurant. Doing it yourself also means that you are in control of the menu and can do your own shopping, which, in this time of heightened health-awareness, is certainly a consideration.

SPRING FARE:

Traditional eggs dyed pink in beet juice, nesting in alfalfa sprouts atop toasted English muffin halves, which are spread with chive cream cheese and garnished with radish roses and spring onion "brushes."



JEANNE MCLOW

Here, then, is an easy, healthful, make-ahead menu for six to eight, which is designed to reveal the lovely flavors, textures, and hues natural to the season. Carry through with the latter by lading your table with spring flowers and garnishing the foods with edible greenery.

Use Easter baskets as containers and intersperse them with platters of toasted English muffin halves spread with chive cream cheese. Top each muffin with a nest of alfalfa sprouts containing a peeled, hard-boiled egg dyed pink with beet juice. For a beverage, make a citrus or fresh cider champagne punch or serve margarita spritzers.

Set out a platter of natural cheeses and another of melon wedges wrapped in prosciutto or salami. Arrange red, purple, and green grapes in a crystal bowl, and heap another with plums, peaches, and nectarines accented with limes. Add bowls of imported olives, nuts, and sunflower seeds. Make an arrangement of *crudités* and accompany it with rosy pimiento and spinach dips.

Mix the Lemon-Parsley Daisy Biscuits with sweet and savory muffins and rolls in a basket, and set out loaves of fresh dill-caraway rye and marbled pumpkin. Accompany with whipped butter and fruit butters.

For other salads, mix cooked, chopped shrimp with dill, a lemony vinaigrette, and a dollop of yogurt; serve cold in cooked artichoke cups. Arrange oysters-on-the-half-shell on ice and accompany with a

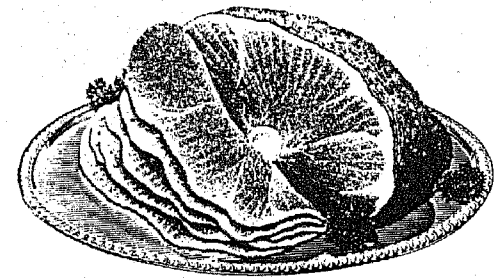
sprightly *salsa verde*; make a mustard sauce to dress cold, steamed asparagus. Put together a *mesclun* of bite-sized greens with snipped chives and basil, mint, and parsley leaves; toss with a honey-dashed vinaigrette. (*Mesclun*, which comes from the South of France and means "mixed," is a welcome new addition to American menus.)

For additional entrées, roast a leg of lamb tucked with rosemary or serve the traditional ham, which you might buy already prepared. For dessert, make the strawberry-rhubarb rum cake or just have strawberry shortcake piled with whipped cream.

Fished-Shaped Fresh Salmon Mousse with Avocado-Lime Sauce Serves 6 to 8

The beautiful salmon is associated with spring because it is then that it makes its spectacular, post-spawning run to the sea. Having a firm, pink flesh that cave paintings indicate was prized even 25,000 years ago, the esteemed fish lends itself to a great variety of preparations, the classic of which involves poaching it whole, decorating it assiduously, and bejeweling the result with aspic, all of which takes much more time and patience than this foolproof but eye-catching blender mousse molded into the shape of an arching fish. It can even be made the day before to be garnished later with a black-olive ring for an "eye" and thin, overlapping slices of lime for scales. There are, of course, even simpler ways to put salmon on your menu—just grill some steaks or set out a platter of gravlax. Incidentally, look for such meaty, cold-water fishes as salmon to become increasingly popular as alternatives to animal products.

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1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
1 envelope (1 tablespoon) unflavored gelatin
2 cups (about 1 pound) poached, flaked, picked-over salmon
2 stalks celery, cut up
1/2 small onion, cut up
2 tablespoons capers
1/2 cup mayonnaise, preferably homemade or "light," if desired
Salt and cayenne to taste
1/2 cup heavy cream, whipped
Avocado-Lime Sauce
Greens, black olive, and thin lime slices for garnish
Place lemon juice with 2 tablespoons cold water into container of blender or food processor; sprinkle with gelatin and let stand 1 minute. Stir in 2/3 cup boiling water and process until gelatin is dissolved. Add remaining ingredients except whipped cream and process till smooth. Gently fold in whipped cream; spoon into 5-cup fish or other mold, and chill until firm. Unmold on a platter, surround with greens, add the eye, and define the scales with the lime slices. Serve with Avocado-Lime Sauce: Mix 2 cups (2 medium) ripe, mashed avocado with 2 tablespoons each of chopped scallion and parsley, olive oil, and fresh lime juice; add cayenne and salt to taste. Chill.

Molded Cucumber Salad with Radish Roses Serves 6 to 8

4 1/2 teaspoons (1 1/2 envelopes) unflavored gelatin, divided
3 tablespoons sugar, divided
Salt
4 tablespoons lemon juice, divided
1/2 medium cucumber with peel, sliced paper-thin and evenly
1 package (8 ounces) light cream cheese, softened
2 cups peeled, seeded, grated cucumber, squeezed dry in cheesecloth or a tea towel (about 5)
1 cup mayonnaise, preferably homemade or "light," if desired

1/4 cup finely chopped scallions with some of green portions
1 teaspoon grated white horseradish
1/2 cup minced parsley
Radish roses and dill springs for garnish
Place 1 1/2 teaspoons of the gelatin, 1 tablespoon of the sugar, a pinch of salt, 2 tablespoons lemon juice, and 1/4 cup cold water in a small bowl and add 1/2 cup boiling water; let stand until gelatin dissolves. Pour into 6 1/2-cup ring mold and chill to the consistency of egg white. Then press the cucumber slices through the gelatin around the bottom of the mold, overlapping the rounds evenly—when unmolded, these will decorate the top. Chill until almost firm. In the meantime, mix remaining gelatin, sugar, another pinch of salt, lemon juice, a 1/3 cup cold water in a bowl and add 1/3 cup boiling water; let stand until gelatin is dissolved. Immediately beat hot mixture into cream cheese and then stir in remaining ingredients. Add to mold, and chill until firm. *Meanwhile make radish roses:* Cut off root ends but leave any leaves on stem ends. Then cut five thin "petals" around each radish, leaving some red between. Chill in ice water until petals open. To serve salad, unmold on plate and garnish.

Lemon-Parsley Daisy Biscuits with Poppy Seed Centers Makes about 1 1/2 dozen, 3-inch biscuits or 4 dozen, 1 inch

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
4 teaspoons baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
7 tablespoons chilled, unsalted butter, cut in thin slices
1 teaspoon packed, grated lemon rind
3/4 cup loosely packed, finely chopped parsley
2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
1/2 cup plain yogurt
1 egg, lightly beaten
Poppy seeds

Preheat oven to 425 degree F. Combine flour, baking powder, and salt in large bowl and cut in butter. When mixture resembles coarse meal, stir in lemon rind and parsley. Then quickly stir in lemon juice and yogurt and gather into a soft ball. On a lightly floured surface, pat dough to a 3/4-inch thickness; turn over to flour other side, and, with a sharp knife, cut from it 5-petaled daisy shapes 3 inches in diameter or 1 inch for cocktail biscuits. Transfer to oiled baking sheet, smooth edges, brush tops with beaten egg, and define centers with poppy seeds. Bake in center of oven until puffed and golden, 10 to 15 minutes.

Upside-Down Strawberry-Rhubarb Rum Cake Serves 6 to 8

The old-fashioned rhubarb plant, also known as pie plant, has a tartness about it that offsets the sweetness of strawberries well. Consequently, the two harbingers of spring are often prepared together.

1 cup light brown sugar
3/4 cup unsalted butter, softened
1/2 pound rhubarb stalks, sliced 1 inch thick (2 cups)
1 pint (2 cups) strawberries, hulled and halved
1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons baking powder
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg
2 eggs, lightly beaten
2 tablespoons dark rum
Unhulled strawberries and mint springs for garnish
Preheat oven to 350 degree F. Cream butter and sugar, spread half over bottom of oiled, 9-inch cake pan, and arrange rhubarb and strawberries sunburst-fashion over the top. In a separate bowl, sift flour with baking powder and nutmeg; sprinkle 1 tablespoon over remaining sugar mixture, and gradually add eggs and rum. Fold in remaining flour and slowly pour into pan. Bake about 45 minutes, cool slightly, turn onto platter, garnish and serve with ice cream or whipped cream.

RESTAURANT DIRECTORY

Alexander's, 509 Southard. Hot and cold deli specialties, featuring triple deckers, beer, wine, café con leche, espresso, fresh salads, homemade soups and a large selection of freshly made muffins and pastries. Open daily at 8 a.m., 9 a.m. on Sunday. Informal dining with take-out and delivery. 294-5777.

Answer Café, corner of Duval and Virginia Streets in Duval Square. Pleasant outdoor café serving fresh salads, Burgers, Quiche, and sandwiches. Wine and beer. Daily blackboard specials. Breakfast and lunch every day. Dinner Thursday through Sunday, 296-3371.

Antonia's Restaurant, 615 Duval Street. Excellent Northern Italian cuisine in friendly, elegant atmosphere. Dinner served from 6 to 11 p.m., nightly. Visa, Mastercard. 294-6565.

Conch Café, 1211 Duval Street. Charming sidewalk café serving home-cooked meals, desserts, beer, wine, sundries, eat in or take out. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner from 8 a.m. 8 p.m., Sunday brunch served from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday open 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Closed Monday. 294-7227.

Croissants de France, 816 Duval Street. A typical french bakery and restaurant serving the best croissants, crepes, and galettes. Also homemade

daily soup, salads, quiches, melts. To go or to enjoy in a very pleasant tropical outdoor atmosphere. Great cappuccino and café au lait and of course delectable desserts. The bakery is open every day but Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; the restaurant is open 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Duval Square Yogurt, located in the center of Duval Square. Offers the ultimate in "sinless indulgence," featuring no-fat, no-cholesterol yogurt. Daily special flavors, including non-dairy fruit twist. Also serving health drinks and salads. Open 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Saturday; noon to 10 p.m. Sunday. 296-2900.

The Eatery, 1405 Duval Street on the beach. Open 7 days a week, serving bountiful buffets. Breakfast 8 to 11 a.m., lunch 12 to 4 p.m., and dinner 5 to 9 p.m. Visa and Mastercard accepted. 294-2727.

Emma's Seafare, The Reach, Simonton at the Ocean. A flavorable mix of Europe, Asia, and the Caribbean combine to create savory regional American favorites—hearty stews, snappy salads, local seafood, prime steaks, yummy desserts and the quintessential Sunday brunch beachside. Open seven days. The Sand Bar, overlooking the beach and the Atlantic serves conch chowder, oysters, grilled

fish, chicken and sausage sandwiches, cocktails and frozen yogurt daily from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 296-5000.

Flamingo Crossing, 1105 Duval Street. The local's favorite dessert spot features fresh-made-daily ice creams, sorbets, honey yogurts, sundaes, shakes and all-fruit *vitari*. Also enjoy Florida Keys finest Key Lime pie, all in a tropical garden setting. Open daily from noon to 11 p.m., and midnight, Friday and Saturday. 296-6124.

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

Gloria's Garden, 618 Duval at the rear of Duval Market, serves French cuisine with an Island Flair in a lovely Tropical Garden. Inside seating also available. Breakfast and lunch from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., dinner 6 p.m. til 10:30 p.m. Closed Wednesday. 296-8313.

Half Shell Raw Bar, Land's End Village, foot of Margaret Street, serving lunch and dinner til? Freshest shrimp, fish and lobster direct from their own fish market at the shrimp docks. Cash only 294-7496.

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

Holiday Inn Beachside, 1111 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. The Hemingway Café offers a relaxing view of poolside gardens. Daily lunch and dinner special of native seafood cuisine. Breakfast from 7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., dinner from 5 to 10 p.m. Angler's Paradise Lounge features frozen drinks and bar menu. The Lazy Conch, a beach bar, is located on the private beach. 294-2571.

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

Jimmy's Hickory House Restaurant, 5948 Maloney Avenue, Stock Island. Serving since 1957, this family-owned business serves steak,

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Sunday, March 31st

Bring the family to our Easter Brunch Buffet, then join us for an Easter Egg Hunt, all to benefit the Wesley House.

From 10am 'til 3pm, our brunch will be served in the Hemingway Café, \$14.95 for adults, \$7.95 for kids under 12, and at 11am the poolside hunt will begin!! Prizes for both kids and adults, our own 'Hoppy Holiday' Bunny to take your picture with, and **92.5 WLOV KEY WEST** to provide the music for this Easter Sunday Gala Event!

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Page 38 • March 15-31, 1991 • Solares Hill

ribs, and fresh seafood. One of only four Key West restaurants recommended in *Hidden Florida's Travel Guide*. Dine indoors or out. Open daily for lunch and dinner. 294-1788.

La Ta Da, 1125 Duval Street. Superb food, sophisticated but relaxed atmosphere. Breakfast, lunch, dinner. Poolside. Crystal Café late night. 294-8435.

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

Larry's Ice Cream & Yogurt, 1075 Duval Street within Duval

Square. Open seven days: Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight. Truly gourmet ice cream in scrumptious flavors and fresh fruit frozen yogurt. Experience a variety of treats inside or out including ice cream cake and pies 294-2301.

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

Pier House Restaurant, One Du-

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

RoofTop Café, 310 Front Street, in the heart of old town offers rooftop and indoor seating. Breakfast 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., lunch 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., daily. Dinner until 11 p.m. Live entertainment weekends. 294-2042.

Savannah, 915 Duval Street. Fine southern home cooking featuring dixe delectables like mouth-watering fried chicken, cornbread, collard greens, fresh fish, and unbeatable mash potatoes. Dine in a grand old conch house

or outside in a tropical garden setting. Open for dinner daily at 6:30 p.m. Closed Wednesday. 296-6700.

Tootsie's Deli and Bar, 925 Duval Street. Serving overstuffed deli sandwiches, bagels, salads and desserts. Also serving beer and wine. Open 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., everyday. Delivery, catering, and take out. 292-1433.

Yo Sake, 722 Duval Street. Neo-Japanese inside or torchlit garden dining; traditional Japanese and original island creations. Full sushi bar. Lunch, Monday through Saturday, noon to 2:30 p.m. Dinner nightly, 6 to 11:30 p.m. 294-2288.

☐

CALENDAR • MARCH 14-28

Cultural Events

3/15-3/17 • **The Enchanted World of Orchids** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the West Martello Gallery, White Street and Atlantic Blvd. Call 294-3210.

3/15-3/17 • **Smoke on the Mountain** by Constance Ray runs Wednesday through Sunday nights at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval Street. Call 296-9911.

3/15-4/30 • **The Doves and Pigeons of John James Audubon** 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at the Audubon House and Gardens, 205 Whitehead Street. Call 294-2116.

3/15-4/30 • **Don Pinder's "Sleeping Island"** photographic exhibit 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at the East Martello Gallery and Museum. Call 296-3913.

3/16 • **Unity Fundraiser Cake Sale** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Searstown in front of Conn's. Call 294-5968.

3/16-2/17 • **Islamorada's 12th Annual Rain Barrel Arts Festival** at mile marker 86.7 on Plantation Key. Call 1-800-FAB-KEYS.

3/20 • **Shakespeare's Theatre** and "Macbeth" 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the library, 700 Fleming Street. Presented by Friends of the Library. Call 292-3595.

3/20-3/24, 3/27-3/31 • **Eastern Standard** by Richard Greenberg, 8 p.m. nightly at The Waterfront Playhouse, Mallory Square. Call 294-5015.

3/21-3/23, 3/29-3/30 • **Deathtrap** by Ira Levin 8 p.m. at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. Call 296-9081, ext. 203.

3/22 • **The Alexander Trio** 8 p.m. at Old Stone Methodist Church. Call 294-5105.

3/23 • **Arts and Crafts Fair** held by the Key West Preschool Cooperative from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Bayview Park. Call Brenda at 296-4097.

3/27 • **"Aspects of the Commedia Dell'Arte"** 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at the library, 700 Fleming Street. Presented by Friends of the Library. Call 292-3595.

3/27-4/14 • **Sunshine** by William Mastrosimone at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval Street. Call 296-9911.

Meetings

3/19 • **City Commission Meeting** 3:30 at Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

3/20 • **District 1 Meeting** 3 p.m. at the Holiday in Beachside. Call 296-2228.

3/25 • **District 4 Meeting** noon at the Islamorada Lovelei Restaurant. Call 296-2228.

3/25 • **Last Stand's "Call to Arms"**

Annual Meeting 6:30 p.m. at the Peace Covenant Presbyterian Fellowship Hall, Flagler and Venetian Drive. Call 296-3335.

3/26 • **Public Hearing/Senator Plummer** 7:30 p.m. at Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

3/28 • **Monroe County Planning Commission** 10 a.m. at the Key Largo Library. Call 292-4417.

Well-Being

3/16 • **Florida Keys Health Fair** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Key West High School, 2100 Flagler Avenue. Includes free screenings and physicals for children, inexpensive blood tests and mammograms. Call Sue at (305) 852-2866.

3/17 • **Improving Vision Seminar** with Marlyse Divemolis from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Island Wellness. Call 296-7353.

3/22-4/1 • **Lynn Blackwelder and Larry White Oak at Island Wellness** teaching modern and native American techniques for balancing spiritual, emotional, and physical bodies. Seminars, workshops, and private consultations available. Call 296-7353

Ongoing

Adult Children of Alcoholics meets Mondays at 7 p.m., Tuesdays 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays 8:30 p.m. at Holy Innocents Church, 901 Flagler Avenue. Call 294-8912.

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

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

AIDS HELP Seminars on the HIV disease 7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Activities Center, 2700 Flagler. Call 286-6196.

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

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

Bahama Village Straw Market is held the first Saturday of every month. Located on Petronia Street between Whitehead and Thomas in Bahama Village from noon to sunset. Food, street performers and handmade crafts.

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

COURTESY WATERFRONT



CRUISING: Mira Negron and Scott Gilmore in rehearsal for *Eastern Standard*, which will begin at the Waterfront Playhouse on March 20.

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

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

Community Learning Center at Harris School offers Adult Basic Education, Job Preparation and Placement, English as a Second Language, GED Preparation, Vocational Evaluation and Counseling, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Free to eligible applicants. Call 292-6762.

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

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

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

Island Wellness, at 530 Simonton Street, offers a variety of regularly scheduled courses and activities. Mondays: Integral Yoga at 10:30 a.m.; Group Rebirth at 1 p.m.; Tai Chi Chuan at 6:30 p.m.; Personal Growth at 7 p.m.; Audio/Visual Night at 8 p.m. Tuesdays: Tai Chi Chuan at 10:30 a.m.; Group Rebirth at 5:30 p.m.; Centering Workshop at 7 p.m.; Let's Talk Metaphysics at 7 p.m. Tuesdays: Integral Yoga at 10:30 a.m.; Group Rebirth at 1 p.m.; Integral Yoga at 5:30 p.m.; Healing Circle at 7 p.m. Thursdays: Tai Chi Chuan at 10:30

a.m.; Living From Freedom at 6:30 p.m. Fridays: Integral Yoga at 10:30 a.m.; Meditation Class at 7:30 p.m. Saturdays: Children's Playshop at 10 a.m. Saturdays and Sundays: Special workshops and presentations including massage therapy, reflexology, rebirthing hypnosis, psychic awareness. Call 296-7353 for details.

Island Wellness Teenage Wellness Party is held Thursday evenings at 7:30 for teens 13 through 19. There will be a one-hour discussion on elements of self-care, followed by a dance. For more information, call Gary Young at 296-7353.

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

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

Key West Quaker Worship Group meets every Sunday at 11:30 a.m. in the garden in the rear of 618 Grinnell Street. Call 296-2787.

La Leche League of Big Pine Key meets at Big Pine Methodist Church 9:30 Monday mornings. Call 872-2148.

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

Literacy Volunteers of Monroe County is seeking volunteers to help in working with the media and in teaching others to read. Call Bill Clift at 294-4352.

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

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

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

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

OverEaters Anonymous meets in the chapel at Depoo Hospital Tues. and Thur. at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8 p.m. Use Emer-

gency room Entrance. Call Sharon 296-8802 or Patti 745-2033.

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

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

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

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

Rational Recovery an alternative to Alcoholics Anonymous meets 1 p.m. Sundays and 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the United Way Building, 724 Truman Avenue.

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

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

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

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

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

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

T'ai Chi Chuan Exercise Class, instructed by Will Jones, is a "soft" form of physical conditioning. Classes are at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 6:30 p.m. Monday nights at Island Wellness.

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

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

Entertainment

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

Arthur's Garden • 525 Duval Street, Tues. and Thurs., *Two Guys Having Fun*; Wed., Sat. and Sun., *Acoustic Fare*; Fri., *Chris Case*. Call 294-8564.

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

The Bull & Whistle Bar • Corner of Duval and Caroline Streets. *Rick Steffan, Bert Lee, Dan Mulberry, Ben Harrison, Clark Whitt, W.W. Oz, and Pat McCuen*, alternating schedules daily from 2 p.m. Happy Hour at The Whistle, 5 to 9 p.m. daily.

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

Captain Tony's Saloon • 428 Greene Street. Sun. and Mon., 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. and Wed. and Thurs., 5 to 10 p.m., G.T. Weckerly; Tues. and Wed., 8 p.m. to 12 a.m.

LISA GRIGGS



FLORAL FANTASY: The Enchanted World of Orchids exhibit at West Martello Gallery will run March 15 through 17.

and Thurs., 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. *Tumbleweed Ted*. Both will alternate on Fri. and Sat. Call 294-1838.

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

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

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

Flagler's at The Casa Marina • 1500 Reynolds Street. Sun. brunch and Sun. night piano with Bill Lorraine. Mon. and Fri. Happy Hour, 5 to 7 p.m. Michael McCloud or guitar. Tues. nights at 9 p.m. The Tony Bishop Trio. Wed. to Sat., 9 to 1 a.m. contemporary jazz featuring Toni Bishop. Call 296-3535.

Full Moon Saloon • 1202 Simonton Street. Feb. 2 and 16, *Bill Blue and the Nervous Guys*. Call 294-9090.

Gloria's Garden • 618 Duval Street-rear. Call 296-8313.

Green Parrot • 601 Whitehead. Call 296-6133.

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

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

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

Hukilau • 1990 N. Roosevelt Blvd Friday and Saturday nights, *Coffee Butler* on piano. Call 294-2188.

Islander Restaurant • 528 Front Street. Weekends *Tinker* from 7 to 11 p.m. Call 292-7659.

La Te Da and The Crystal Café • 1125 Duval Street. *Bob Bruce Kirle* on piano. Call 294-8435.

Margaritaville Café • 500 Duval Street. March 4 *The Trouble Boys* March 5 to 10 *Freddy Monday*; March 11 *The Survivor's*; March 12 to 24 *The Rockertellers*; March 25 *Action Theory*; March 26 to 31 *Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Zydeco Band*. Call 292-1435.

Martha's • S. Roosevelt Blvd (A1A) Mon. and Tues., *Joe Lowe*. Wed. to Sun. *Barbara Redfern*. Call 294-3466.

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

Nightfall • The Reach at Simonton and the Beach. Tues. through Sat. 5 to 7 p.m. *Mickey and Squirrel*. Call 296-5000.

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

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

Poinciana Lounge • 3432 Duck Avenue. Tues., Fri. and Sat. 9:30 - ?, *The Other Brothers*; Sun. 9 p.m. - ?, *The Mandis Latin Combo*; Wed. and Thurs. nights, *The Holt Brothers*. Call 294-6800.

The Quay • 12 Duval Street. Tues. to Thurs., 7 to 11 p.m. *Sally Foresterr*. Fri. and Sat., 9 and 1 a.m. *Robin Fear*. Sun. and Mon., 8 a.m. to 12 a.m., Fri. and Sat., 5 to 9 p.m. *Will Hoppey*. Call 294-4446.

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

RoofTop Café • 310 Front Street. Sunsets Mon. and Tues. *Suzi Michaels*; Sunsets Wed. through Sun. *Leanna Collins*. Call 294-2042.

Sam's Place • 320 Grinnell Street. Call 296-1399.

Schooner Wharf • 202 William Street. *Charles Kaczynski* on jazz violin and *Ken Thompson* with guitar and vocals every Sat. from 6 to 10 p.m. Call 292-9520.

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

Square One Restaurant • Duval Square. *Jeff Little* on piano 7:30 pm. Thurs., Fri., and Sat. Call 296-4300.

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

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

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

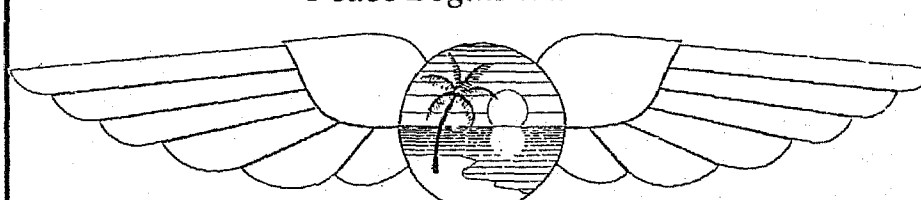
Turtle Kraals at Lands End Marina • 1 Lands End Village. Weekends, comedian *Clark Whitt*. Call 294-2640.

Two Friends Patio Restaurant • 512 Front Street. Tues. through Sun. nights *Just A Mellow Craw*. Call 296-9212.

Viva Zapata • 903 Duval Street. Thurs. through Sat., 7 to 10 p.m. *Matthew Jampol* on classical guitar. Call 296-3138.

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

"Peace Begins With Me"

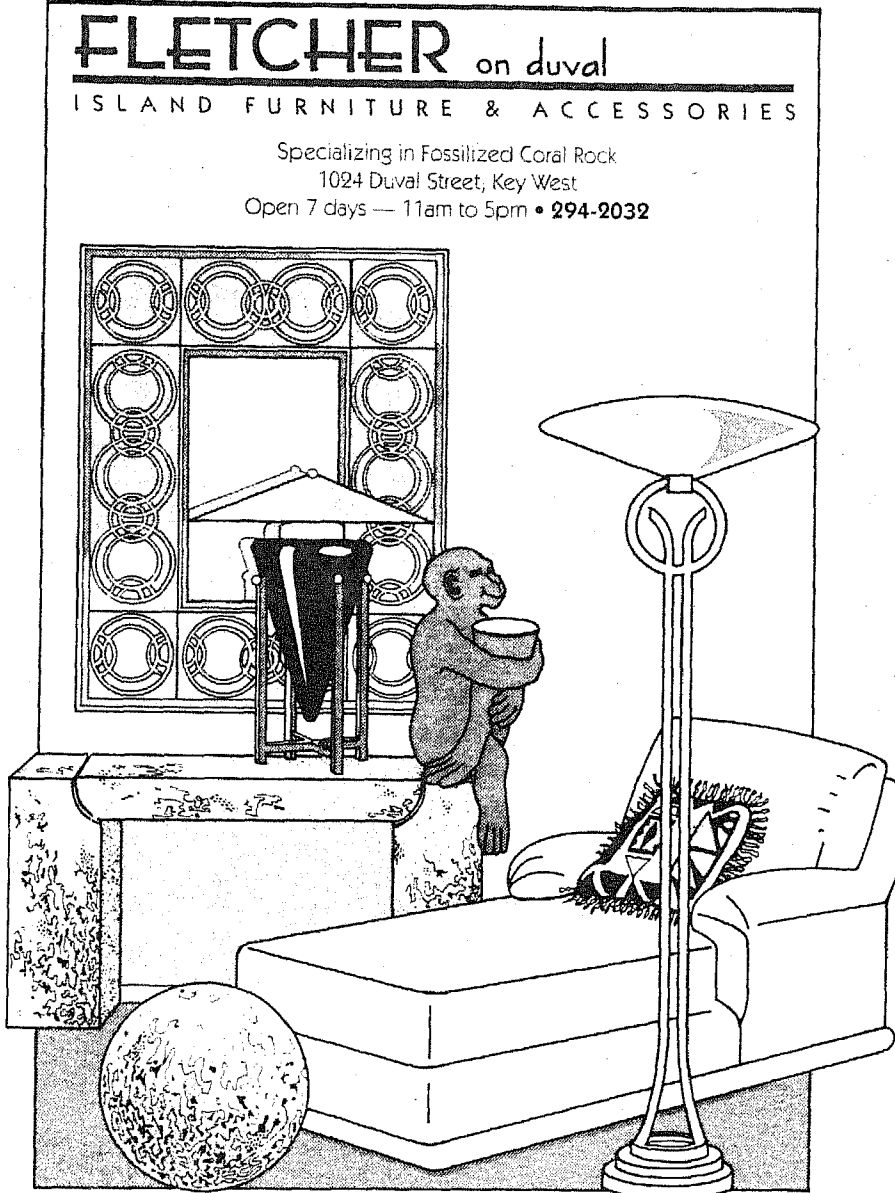


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