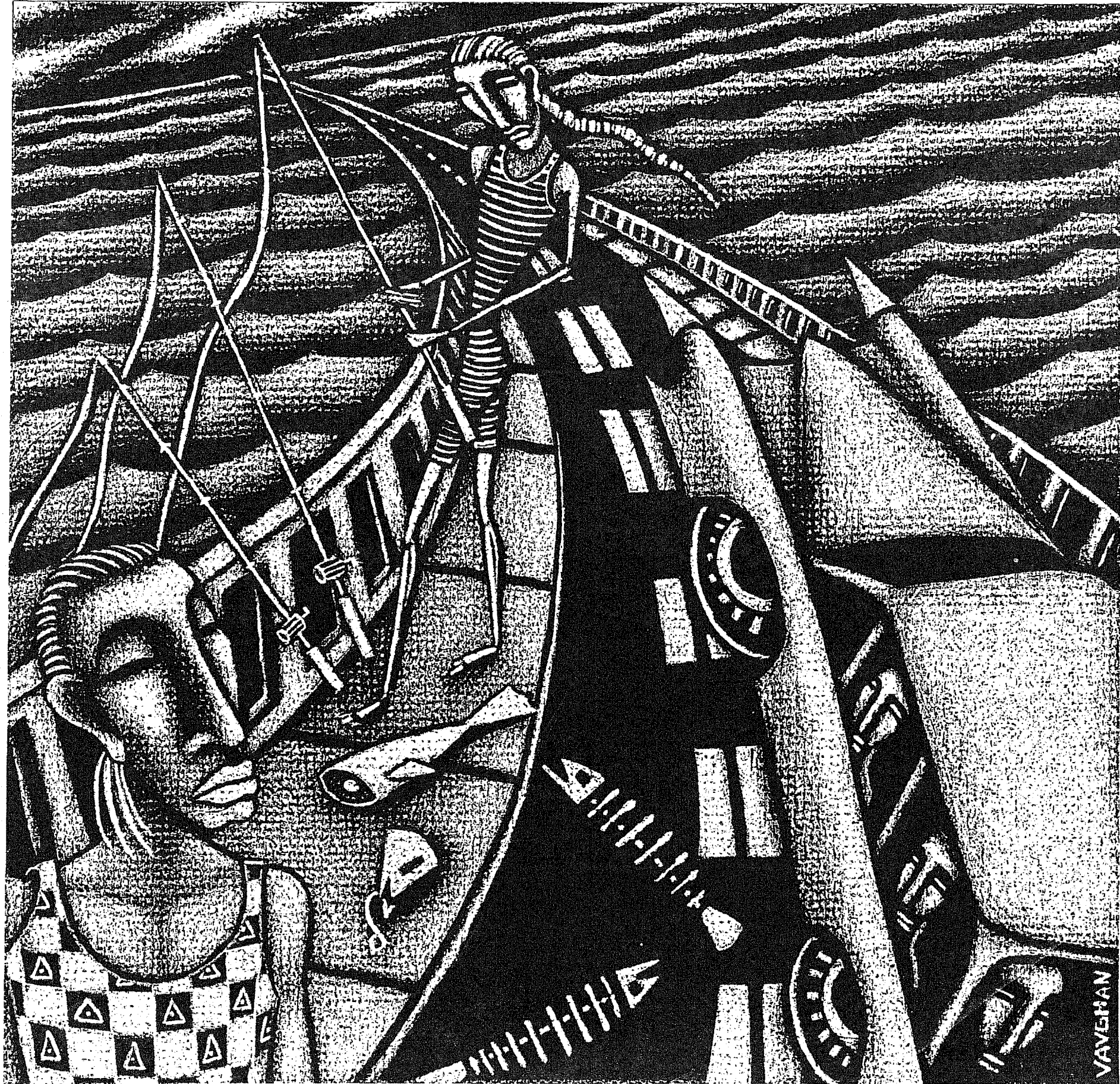


FRANK KAISER: SNOWSTORM OVER KEY WEST, PART VII, PG.22
HEMINGWAY DAYS' PRIZE-WINNING STORY BY VAUGHN GIBSON, PG. 14

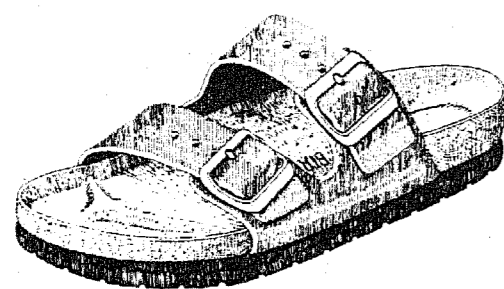
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FROM THE EDITOR

Hello.

Cheers galore to our regular columnist V.K. Gibson for winning his second Hemingway Days Short Story contest. In this issue, in addition to the prize-winning story and his regular column, he reports to our readers about the rotten situation over on Fleming St. where sewer line is being laid. There is something about Key West and pipe laying that invariably leads to "trench" warfare. In this case I think that the City Manager's office should have offered progress (or lack of progress) bulletins so that that miserably impacted neighborhood on Fleming St. could have known what was going on. As usual these were complaints about telephone messages to City Hall going unanswered. Getting back to V.K. Gibson-congratulations again.

The mail this week brought an announcement headlined **FESTIVAL OF THE CONTINENTS UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS**. The news release continued "Richard Heyman, president of the Board of Trustees of the Festival of the Continents, is pleased to announce that the 5 Salute to the Festival productions held thus far, have been great artistic and financial successes." Writing in the *Florida Keys Observer*, July 30, Parvan Bakardjiev, General Director of the Monroe County Fine Arts Council, Director of the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center and creative force behind The Festival of the Continents, noted "The programs and events of the Arts Council during the past year have proven to be artistic and financial successes and the general public has demonstrated that they want this kind of entertainment and enrichment in addition to the other existing events in the Keys."

Parvan in his dual role as Monroe County Fine Arts Council General Director and director of TWFAC has indeed some stunning successes. I loved the opera recital at St. Paul's church, thrilled to the presentation of the legendary Jacques Brel Revue in a perfect setting on the pier at the Reach and applauded the decision to tour this revue throughout the Keys, clapped with grateful abandon at the delicious production of "Die Fledermaus," and was joined by everyone in a standing ovation for the world premier of "Jerry Herman's Broadway." True, there have been some clunky productions but I personally have been very well served by Parvan Bakardjiev.

Not so for everyone, however. In fact there is a dangerous rift between Parvan & far too many members of our outstanding local arts community. Recently I spoke to a number of prominent local people very involved in the arts. The people included Florence Recher and George Guleotti of the Waterfront Playhouse; Susan Hawkens of the Red Barn Theatre; Michael Whalton, Festival Director of Hemingway Days and Fantasy Fest; Will Soto, Director of Buskerfest; Penny Mollot of the Coffee Mill Cultural Center; Susan Olesen, Executive Director of East Martello Art Gallery and Historical Museum; Matthew Jampol, classical guitarist; and Vickie Roush, actress and singer. I put the question to them "Do you think that there is a gulf between Parvan and the local arts community?" All--without exception--said yes. And almost all of them took issue with the mildness of the word "gulf" and stated the distance between them & him

Continued on page 48

Our cover artist this month is Stuart Vaughn. His work may be seen at the Gingerbread Gallery.

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Wendy Tucker

by Carol Shaughnessy



Photo by Richard Watherwax

"In those days the Pier House wasn't there. Mr. Williams -- Tennessee -- had his small house at Duncan and Leon, and I remember being enchanted by the fact that he had a very low white picket fence, and on the front gate was a double sign. In big bold letters was 'Beware of Dog.' That took somebody with a sense of humor -- it implies they've got a mastiff behind a two-foot picket fence. Underneath that,

encased in proper parentheses, were the words, 'Enter by Appointment Only.' I said, 'Aw, this is wonderful. This is a touch of taste.'"

The year was 1965, and Wendy Rogers Tucker had just begun her love affair with Key West -- an affair that has lasted over two decades and shows no signs of abating.

Her first visit to the island came at the end of a summer spent working as an intern

for the *Miami Herald*, eagerly reporting and photographing any story she was assigned to cover. Coincidentally, that summer also marked Wendy's first meeting with treasure hunter Mel Fisher, who was later to have a significant impact on her life. Wendy was temporarily assigned to cover the news in Vero Beach, where the young Mel had brought his dreams of gold east from California.

"I ended up selecting a motel called the La Posada," Wendy recalls, "which is where some people had set up a little gold and treasure exhibit. Names were Mel and Deo Fisher. There was a giant brass cannon that Mel and crew had put in the motel swimming pool, and his kids were learning to swim around the cannon. I was fascinated then and I'm still fascinated; I liked those people then and I still do."

When the interns' work was over for the summer Don Ediger, who was then the *Herald's* Key West Bureau Chief, invited a group down to the island for a little R&R. Wendy, who had recently graduated from the University of Nebraska and was bound for the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, had been interested in South Florida for a good while. She decided to take this chance to see what the Keys were all about.

Arriving in Key West, the group checked in to the Blue Marlin and proceeded to Don Ediger's Caroline Street dwelling -- which Wendy remembers chiefly for its velour drapes and the live monkey Ediger kept on the veranda.

The sights she was shown that day have

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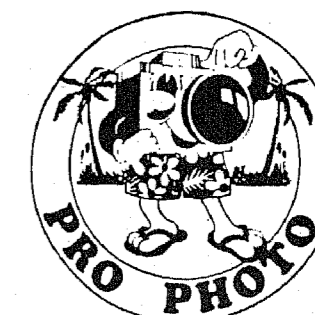
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remained vivid in Wendy's mind for over twenty years. For example, at the end of Duval, "... there were some little coastal freighters that tied up where the Pier House beach is right now. We swam in the water between the pier and the nearest freighter. The angelfish would come up and nibble on us -- it was great fun."

Always, whatever she saw, Wendy's reporter's mind was storing information, amassing memories of the unhurried, easygoing island she had just discovered. "I really saw a lot of Key West in a very short time," she admits, grinning warmly. "We packed a lot in. That's the wonderful part of being a journalist -- you get around fast."

When she finally stopped her tour long enough to draw a breath, Wendy realized somewhat to her surprise that she had already made up her mind about Key West. "As I stood observing all this," she recalls, "I said, 'So this is where I'm going to live.'"

Wendy's love for South Florida remained strong throughout her year at Columbia. After graduating with high honors, she was offered a job at the *Herald* and eagerly accepted it. She was with the paper for several years, starting in the women's section and winding up as the Boca Raton Bureau Chief.

During this time Wendy paid a number of visits to Key West. On one trip in particular, she and a girlfriend spent an evening at Capt. Tony's listening to the Junkanoos perform, and were lazing on Smathers Beach the next morning when

they heard familiar music. "We looked around and saw all the Junkanoos and their families right across from the beach. There were picnic tables out there then ... and the guys were playing just for the sheer joy of it." Wendy smiles. "For me, that sound became associated with Key West just as much as the sign on Tennessee Williams' little picket fence."

In 1969 Wendy married Navy man John Tucker, whom she had met in Pompano Beach, and in 1971 they got lucky: John was assigned to Key West.

One of her Charleston colleagues brought Wendy to the attention of Margaret Foresman, who was Managing Editor of the *Key West Citizen*. Jim McLendon of the *Citizen* staff, who had just finished his book on Hemingway, was taking his family West to live, and Wendy was accepted as his replacement. So began an association that was to last over fifteen years.

The *Citizen* at that time was enjoying what some would call its creative heyday. Wendy remembers it well. "I have been privileged to witness one of the greatest news team operations ever," she comments, "in the newsroom of the *Key West Citizen*. You had Dorothy Raymer, who was one of the town's most beloved colorful characters; you had Margaret Foresman, who had won awards for that newspaper in her layouts; you had Bud Jacobson; Don Pinder taking pictures; Willie Ward; Rayford Roberts, who went on over to Southeast Bank.

In such company Wendy began reporting and photographing Key West's dramas, triumphs, scandals, and all the other things

that make up a small town's daily news -- including Sonny McCoy's famed waterskiing trips to Cuba. One of the most fascinating stories she was to cover, almost from its beginning, was Mel Fisher's search for the sunken treasure galleons *Nuestra Senora de Atocha* and *Santa Margarita*.

She developed a deep admiration for Margaret Foresman. Margaret, in her turn, soon realized Wendy's strong dedication to the field of communications, to investigating and telling a story truthfully and completely. Early on she offered Wendy the job of Assistant Managing Editor, but Wendy turned it down -- and kept turning it down each time Margaret repeated the offer. "I always preferred the action of being out doing it myself," she states. "Taking the pictures, gathering the information, doing the stories. My profession of journalism and writing and photography is my lawsuit. This is what I wanted to do."

Her reporter's curiosity led Wendy into some pretty unusual situations -- and gained her a pet who was witness to one of Key West's most talked-about murders.

It was the Frank Fontis case. The evening Frank was shot Wendy was covering a drug bust on Stock Island. She had seen Frank that day as she did most days, since he owned the Old Coffee Mill and Railroad Museum at the corner of Ann and Greene streets, diagonally across from the *Citizen* building. "He'd be outside on the grounds or nearby, wanting to know what the latest news was," Wendy remembers. The day of his death, however,

she had seen "The Pope," as Fontis was called, at the Casa Marina showing off a lavish ring he'd just added to his already large collection of jewelry.

While at the scene of the drug bust Wendy heard law enforcement radio traffic announcing a shooting on Ann Street. She continued to cover the bust, but as the night wore on she couldn't get the downtown disturbance out of her mind.

Coming back into town in the wee hours of the morning, Wendy called the police station for information about the shooting -- and was told that officers were still at the scene. She went on down to Ann Street. "I came round the bend and saw a paddy wagon in front of the Coffee Mill and Railroad Museum. It turned out Frank had been shot, assassinated with some big-caliber gun, just inside the front door of his house." The police photographer needed a strobe to complete his work; Wendy borrowed the *Citizen's* strobe for him. From her earlier sight of Frank that day, she was able to suggest some items of jewelry that might be missing. At last most of the police work was done, and only Wendy and a detective were left on the scene -- or so it seemed until Wendy noticed what she calls a mountain of Key West Handprint fabric.

"I picked it up and there was this parrot in a cage, sitting there absolutely shaking. He must have been about fifteen feet away when the gun went off." Knowing murder scenes were generally sealed off and the police had no bird-sitting facilities, Wendy offered to take the parrot home with her.

"The cage wouldn't fit in a car. By then it must have been about quarter of five in the morning and things were very slow for the police, so the parrot cage went into the paddy wagon," Wendy chuckles. "They dropped it off on Varela Street and the parrot came to live in my household."

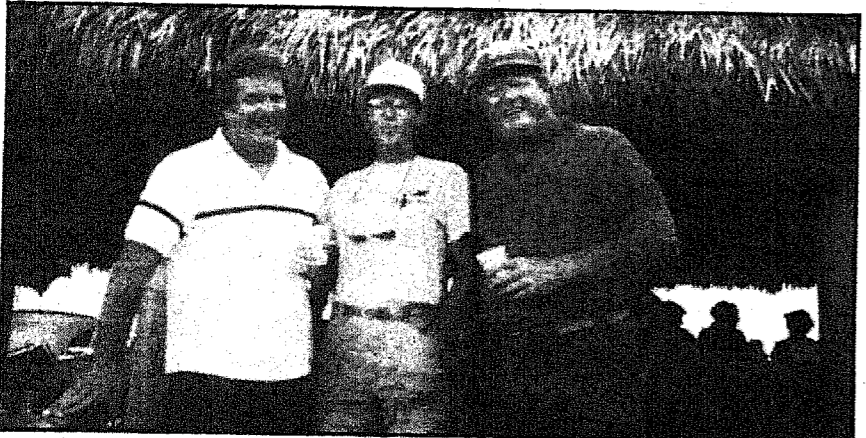
Not only did she wind up with a parrot on Varela Street, but she had an informal school as well. Many of the neighborhood children came from predominantly Spanish-speaking families, which made it hard for them to keep up in Key West's English schools. Wendy helped where she could, giving lessons in spelling, English, and arithmetic. "It was something that I was able to do in that time of my life," she

explains matter-of-factly. "It's funny, because I was also starting to drink heavily then. It was after a divorce, and I was blaming myself. It was very painful."

Although she had done her graduate thesis on Narcotics Anonymous and been exposed then to one of the twelve-step programs so helpful in overcoming addictions, Wendy did not realize that she had an alcohol problem. "I didn't see it coming. This is a disease that tells you you don't have a disease." Quietly but emphatically, she states, "The sicker you get, the more you don't think you have a disease. I see that pattern repeated over and over and over."

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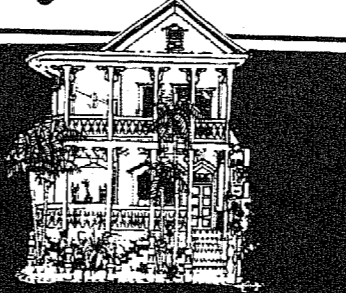


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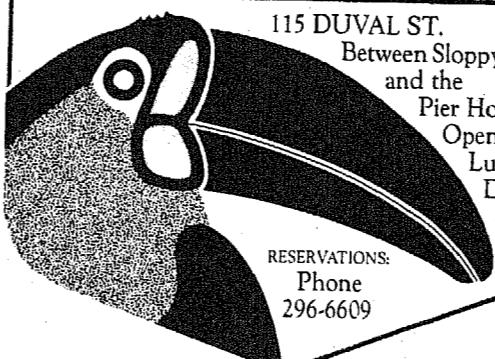
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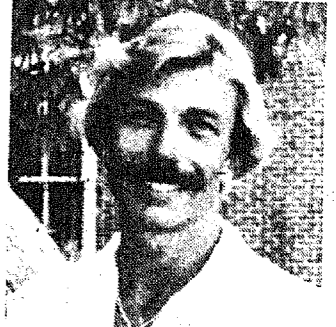
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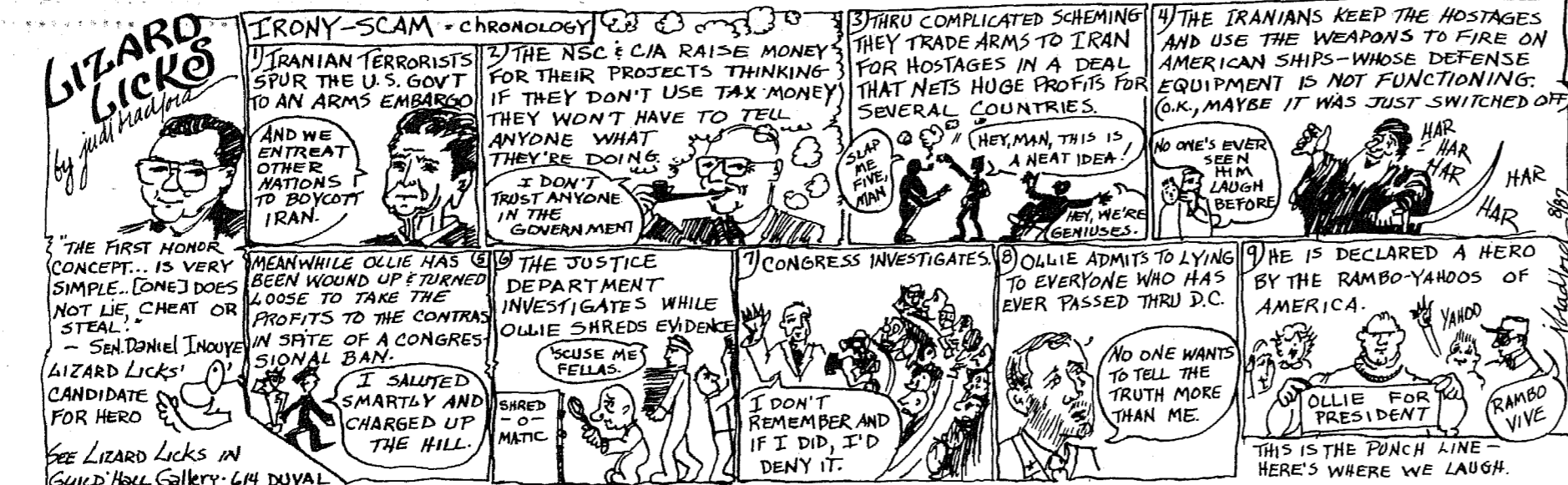
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that pattern is in her own extended family. "There are others in my family who have had problems with alcohol. I believe that there's something systemic or genetic or whatever -- but I also think that, whatever the reasons are, there comes a point at which you have to take action."

For Wendy, that point came almost six years ago, after a long period of denying her problem and making excuses not to do anything about it. When caring friends finally brought home to her the fact that she had to have help, Wendy found one of the twelve-step programs and began the long road back. She purposely does not name the program, but credits it with giving her "a lot of tools to make my life better -- in fact, to make life worth living."

"I speak of my experiences with alcohol in the hope they'll give other people hope to deal with whatever their particular problem might be. I could be angry at why I had to deal with this problem, but that is all really irrelevant because it's the past. What I do today is important. What each of us does with our little red wagon is important." Wendy is especially grateful that she was able to sober up in Key West -- the town where she originally got in trouble with alcohol, but also the town that she has regarded as home for a decade and a half. She calls Key West a place where people can bottom out ... and where they can find

the help to come back.

Today, Wendy Tucker looks much the same as she always has -- flyaway chin-length hair, irreverent gleam in her brown eyes -- but her attitude is one of acceptance. Her energy seems more centered, and the eyes hold a certain measure of peace. Not only has she come to terms with her alcohol problem, but she has recently chosen to leave the *Key West Citizen* (where she had finally accepted the post of Assistant Managing Editor) in order to do various free-lance writing, editing, and photographic projects. She explains the move with characteristic forthrightness.

"There's a growing time, and there are times for change. I feel like I have given my best to my newspaper, to my profession, and to my community for a lot of years. But it was time for a change, and fortunately right then it developed that Mel Fisher said, 'Well, I guess it's time to write the diary.'"

"Of course, that didn't just happen," says Wendy, taking a deep breath. (This is clearly going to be an involved story. Often it seems that the more involved Wendy's stories are, the more memorable they are.) "Two years ago, Mr. Jimmy Breslin, who subsequently won a Pulitzer Prize for commentary, was down here. This was a voice from my past at Columbia. I remember being in total awe of that man,

and still am. He is a great writer, an incisive reporter, a brilliant man. I used to read his stuff every day in the New York papers."

While at Columbia, Wendy had a one-week internship at *Newsweek's* Washington bureau, where Breslin also had an office. She recalls careening around a corner one day smack into the man, and taking the opportunity to tell him how much she admired him.

"Years later, I picked up the phone one day in the *Citizen's* newsroom and this unmistakable voice said that his name was Jimmy Breslin and he was a New York newspaper reporter and wanted some information. And I heard my voice just like a little kid saying, 'Is it REALLY?'" Wendy laughs comfortably at her own awe of Breslin. One of her most attractive features is her sense of humor, her ability to laugh even at herself. "I was thrilled. I invited him to drop by the newspaper and he and his wife, Ronnie, did. I got to know them and really like them."

"Min and his wife, Ronnie, did some really neat things for me. They both got on my case," Wendy says approvingly. "All my life people have been getting on my case who thought I should do more than whatever I was doing. That's usually how I've grown. I can remember Mr. Breslin saying, 'Well, you've been covering this

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story for fifteen years for the wire services, for the *Citizen* -- why don't you write Mel Fisher's autobiography?" At first, sure she couldn't do any such thing, Wendy nevertheless continued thinking about Breslin's suggestion.

Another time Breslin and Ronnie took her to task for having covered the story of the sunken *Atocha* for so long and yet still being a non-diver. Wendy replied that she had neither the money nor the time to get her scuba certification. Later, Ronnie Breslin very quietly took her aside and presented her with the necessary dollars to get herself certified as a diver. "That money went into a savings account, and as soon as I can do it, I'm getting certified and I'm reporting back to Ronnie and Jimmy. Those two are idols for me. I'm still young enough to be impressed." As she talks of the Breslin pair, Wendy's voice softens. Their care has obviously touched her deeply. "I think if I get to have some models, those two are as great as anybody."

She mentioned Breslin's suggestion of an autobiography to Mel and Deo Fisher, and slowly the project took shape. When Wendy left the *Citizen*, it was largely to write the Fisher book. She also began doing consulting work for the Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society.

"This is not just Mel's story," Wendy says of the autobiography, "although I'll be helping him tell his story. That's my obligation, to do my best to help him communicate it in the spirit that he wants to. But there are a million stories here. Deo has stories, the kids have stories." Actually the stories of the *Atocha* and *Margarita*, their

discovery and the knowledge obtained from the study of their artifacts, make up a considerable part of the maritime history of the new world.

Wendy is involved in another aspect of maritime history as Managing Editor of *Seafarers: The Journal of Maritime Heritage*, which is *Atocha* archaeologist Duncan Mathewson's current project. "Most of the contents," she emphasizes, speaking of the journal's first issue, "were contributed by people who believe that a quality publication of this sort can come out of Key West and beat the socks off anything anywhere."

Concerning her decisions to do the Fisher book and *Seafarers*, Wendy refers to the words of famous aviator/author Antoine de Saint Exupery. "In his *The Little Prince*, he said, 'For it is with the heart that one truly sees.' That is the essence of everything. There's a way of knowing that you're doing the right thing -- and then you just keep on trucking. In my heart, I think what I'm doing is right."

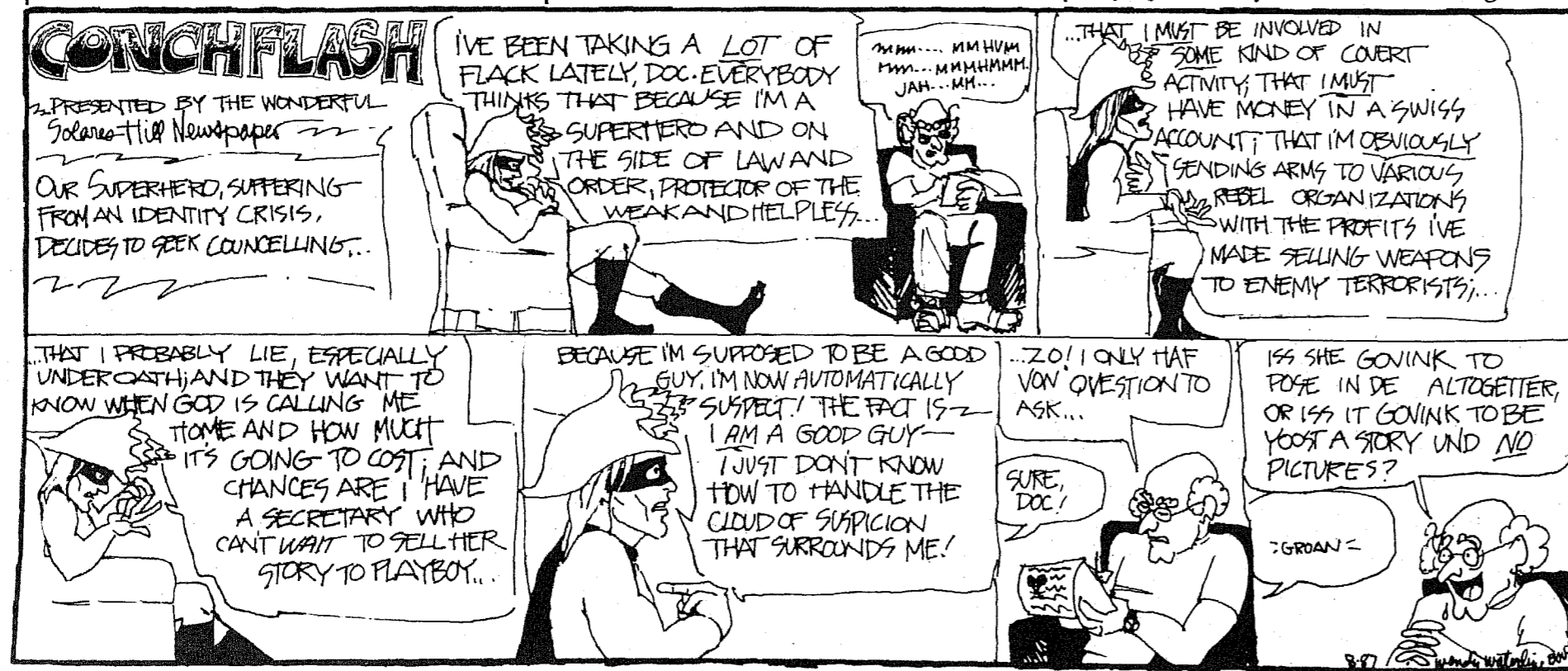
Wendy believes that not only is Key West a cradle of maritime heritage, but also of aviation history. The first international air-mail flight took off from the island: Pan Am was born here and before that Aeromarine Airways. She recalls stories of early aviation told her by Steve Whalton, who worked for Aeromarine and later for the fledgling Pan Am. She speaks with great affection and respect of Key Wester George Faraldo, who ably managed the airport here for thirty-one years.

Another who earned her respect and admiration is former Key West artist Marie

de Marsan. In fact, Wendy calls the artist her "adopted mother: and recently paid a visit to the Maryland nursing home where Marie now resides. "She is a brilliant, tough, shrewd lady of classic style and wit. She helped many people on this island for many years -- and although she no longer paints, she's a fine artist," Wendy says. "Some of her works have been at East Martello, in Key West City Hall, in the hands of collectors."

Wendy Tucker too is a fine and dedicated artist, though she paints with words instead of oils, and her works sit in newspaper morgues rather than museums.

An artist can look over a wall of past canvasses, technically assess them, and choose the favorite. What would Wendy choose from the pages of print as the greatest story she's ever covered? At the question she sits, head down, thinking over her long and varied career in journalism. Then, slowly, she raises her head; the words come slowly too. "It's the process, not the single story. It's a case of learning to see -- with the camera, with the pen, with the tape recorder. Learning to see, to perceive, to understand, to distill -- and to communicate it to others so they can share the experience. That's really what it's all about." Wendy pauses, then smiles. "There isn't a greatest story," she says with complete conviction. "It's the next story."




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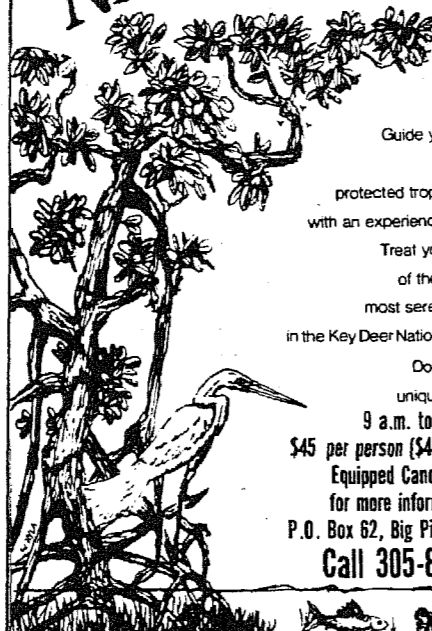
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I have only a twenty-dollar bill? After all, the clerks are frequently quite young, probably inexperienced, haven't conquered the computerized register, perhaps are nervous, or tired from being on their feet all day. I mean, anybody can make a mistake. Why is it always me?

A sympathetic friend came to my rescue and presented me with a pocket calculator. In fact, it was so small, it would get lost in most pockets. I sat home, practicing. The keys were so small, I had to use my fingernail to depress them, not the tip of my finger, which would slide onto the next key. Thus girded, I went off to do battle. Everything went beautifully until item #4 when my fingernail slipped and I couldn't remember which was item #4 so I didn't know how much to subtract. After retracing my steps, I figured it out and deducted. Okay. Back to a correct subtotal and down the next aisle in glee. I then selected four items at 59¢ each and, brimming with confidence, I decided to enter 59¢ and multiply by four. This entry gave me a total of \$60 plus. Now in a blind panic, I cleared the machine and added up everything in my cart once more, entering 59¢ four times.

During all this, I have to wear my glasses, which is very annoying since they are only reading glasses and tend to blur distant views, so they go on and off with the frequency of a traffic caution light. However, I bravely press on when click! goes my fingernail again, sending my total to astronomical heights. I turned to a person immediately behind me, a young woman with a sad aspect, and shoving the infernal machine at her, said, "You take it." She blanched, jumping back as if I had offered her a writhing asp. "I don't want it," she protested, but I was adamant. I forced it on the poor unwilling soul and sprinted for the checkout area, looking over my shoulder in case she was coming after me wielding a frozen leg of lamb. I escaped unscathed and minus a calculator. Such freedom!

It was a marvelous little machine, capable of all sorts of mathematical equations. But, alas, I now will never learn the square root of a pound of bacon.

Pythagoras, Meet Winn-Dixie

by Helen R. Chapman

Well, here we are, folks, back in the supermarket again. It grows no less

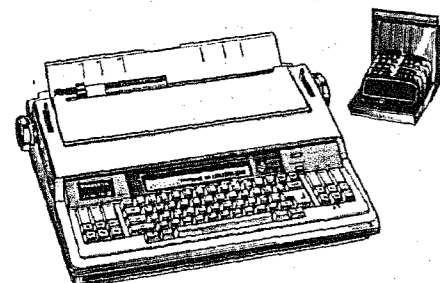
depressing as time goes by (and Sam, please don't play it again.) I enter the store feigning gaiety and perhaps succeeding in cheering up the other long faces I see around me. Have you ever noticed how many people go up and down the aisles mumbling to themselves? It's frightening.

Among my many other food-buying problems is my seeming inability to add. I have X amount of dollars to spend. No matter how hard I try, on numerous occasions I exceed X and wind up embarrassed, extracting items to be rejected (always the most wanted and most



expensive, like coffee, Dundee marmalade, brie, wine). Usually the checkout person is very nice about it and I realize I am not alone in possessing this quirk of character. However, I have miscalculated enough times to develop suspicions. How come my total is \$18.79 and their total is \$23.18, and

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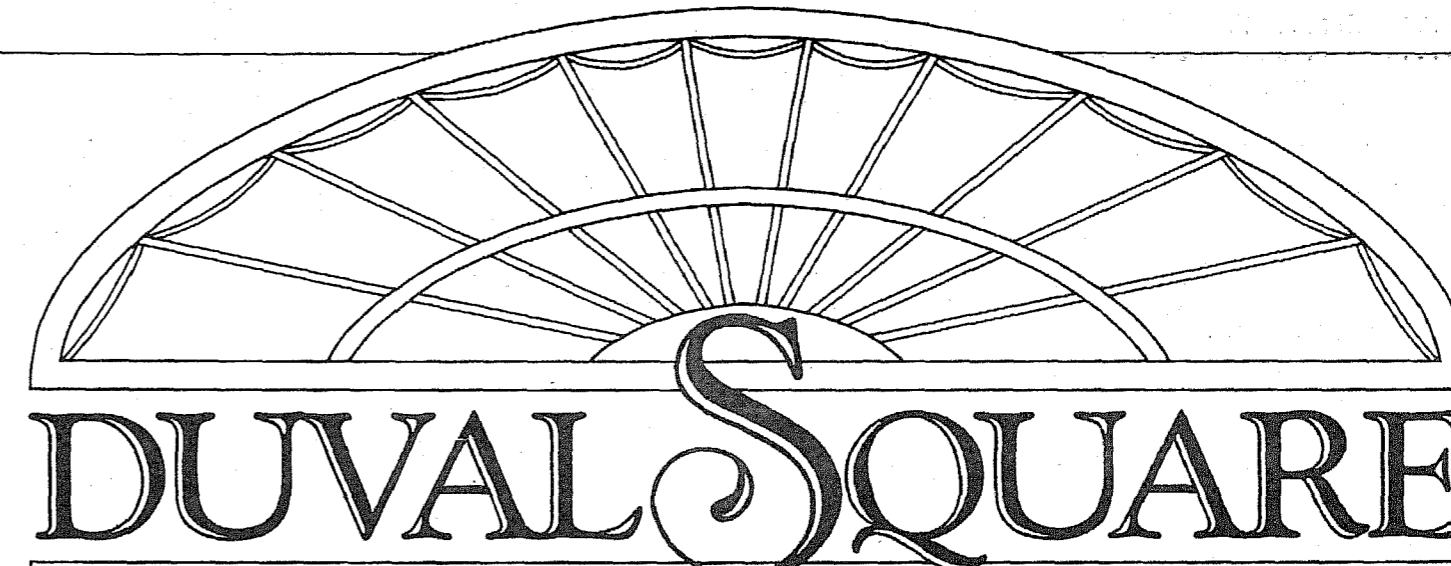
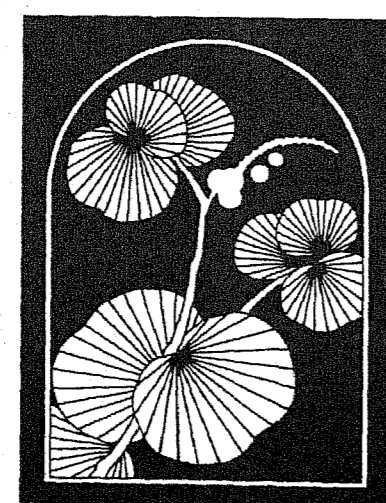
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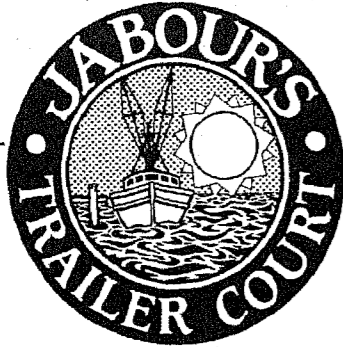
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Nature's Way:
August Auguries by Alice Terry

This is August, a month in which to plan and prepare for fall planting. Remember, though, the old adage about "mad dogs and Englishmen," and be cautious about expending energy in the heat and humidity of summertime in Key West. If the spirit moves you, prune the allamandas and the exoras. Divide your amaryllis, hemerocallis and crinum. You may plant gladioli now and expect flowers within three months. Cut back your poinsettias before August 20. Schedule plantings of Easter lily, gloriosa and watsonia bulbs.

Perhaps you read the rapid exchange of letters in the Readers Column of the *Key West Citizen*, concerning the trees in the Indigenous Park on White Street in Key West. Trees and plants that were present when the Europeans arrived are officially considered indigenous. Local residents of Latin heritage were offended that many of the tropical fruit trees which they consider "native" are presently excluded from the park. Plans for the future include a special area which will feature many of the memory-invoking fruit trees. Perhaps the Latin Chamber of Commerce will concentrate their gifts in this specific area.

Are you aware that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service recently removed the American alligator from its list of endangered species? It's true. Today, after twenty years of protection under the Endangered Species Act, the American alligator is biologically secure throughout its range. This fact demonstrates success for carefully practised conservation measures. As of this writing, there is a total of 449 plant and animal species in the United States that receive protection by our Federal Government.

My local fount of bird information assures me that as recently as eight years ago, Roseate Spoonbills could be seen in August in the marshy area between the Atlantic Ocean and Bertha and White Streets. The Key West Beach Club is located there now and as the adjacent acreage is gradually developed by builders, the birds depart. How sad! An echo of that scenario may be found in the formerly prime bird-watcher's haunt, at mile marker 9 1/2, alongside US-1. Man marches on.

This is post-breeding migration time for the birds. Look for the Bahama Mockingbird and the Bahama Swallow, both natives of the Bahamas. Purple Martins and other swallows may be spotted, too. Patient watching might even reveal an occasional Cuban Emerald Hummingbird. A steady progression of birds is heading south now, to Central and South America.

Many of our feathered residents who may be considered more or less permanent

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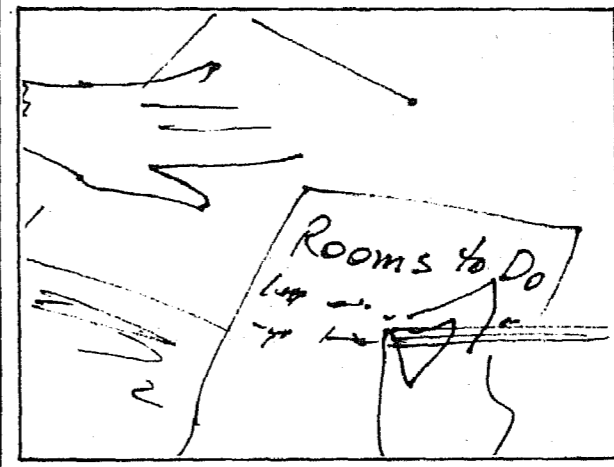
are the Common Moorhen, the Belted Kingfisher (handsomely blue and grey, with a band across its chest,) and the Common Ibis. Surely you have all seen the Ibis. It is usually seen "hanging out" with a flock of its friends. It will be either brown, if it is immature, or white with black wing-tips, quite fashionable, if it is an adult. Loud, persistent pecking sounds might inform you that the Red-billed Woodpecker is your neighbor. You will see these birds sitting on wires that are strung on high near the water.

In my monthly quest for material for this column, I continue to reach out to those in our community who have specific expertise regarding various aspects of the environment. Some are experts in ornithology. Others specialize in shells, turtles, or, perhaps, native plants. All continue to be generous in sharing information, observations, and ideas.

What is becoming increasingly clear to me is the apparent lack of a center for information, in both written and visual forms. There is no one place for the study of nature in its myriad forms. As a parent, trained teacher, and concerned citizen, I deplore the lack of available exhibits, demonstrations and other visual aids. The wonderful storehouse of public information in the form of photographs, recordings, and movies does not seem readily accessible here. Where can residents and tourists learn about our unique environment? There seems to be a real need and interest in appreciating as well as protecting our natural

resources ... those on land and in the air as well as those under and in the water. A nature museum/center would serve all of the community.

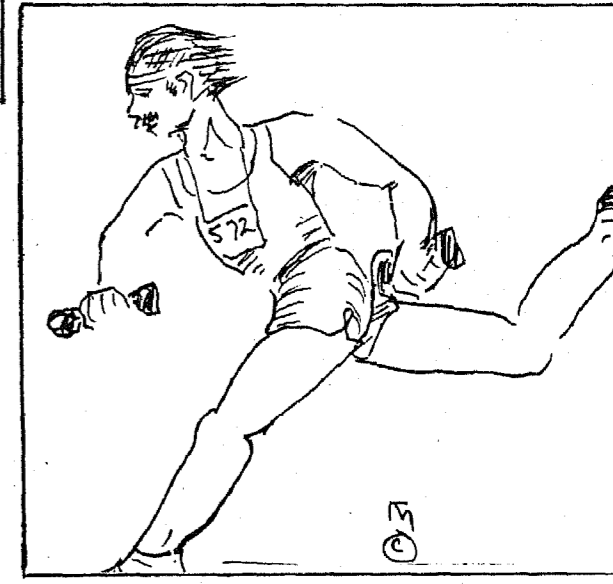
The chief questions that come to mind when thinking about such a proposed center are "where," and "how." I have pointed out some of the answers to "why?" and the answer to "when?" should be "as soon as possible." An exploratory meeting of interested persons could initiate the process. There are government and private dollars available for a nature center/museum. The interest is there. Right now there needs to be a beginning. All of us, young and old, should be able to recognize by sight and sound our birds and wild life. We should all be able to identify our trees and plant life. I welcome your input. Please let me hear from you, readers.



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My friends can be counted on a fork. This is just another thumb in the eye from life. I can only know friends serially -- know a bunch of them only winters in the Florida Keys and then know a bunch of them only summers in a North Carolina mountain village. Great character flaw: I seem to want to be where I'm not. Person

on a Piedmont plane: "You are lucky to live two places." Me: Honey, this took a life of arranging and disarranging events (horrors and blessings) -- a life of trembling and struggling like a tomato worm sprinkled



with salt. And, remember, I said, chewing gum for my ears, remember that you have to be able to lose once in awhile. Why, one

time I was stuck for a few years in the West Texas Dust Bowl. Once, a dust devil came in, still in its shape, through the window, burst into all the room corners, banged out through the screen door, charged down the white alkali path wiggling through the barbed wire gate.

Come Mays of the years and this is when I, as it were, toss my bonnet over the windmill in Key West and set out for the mountains. There is an omen that day I left. A large granddaddy spider who is taking a walk across the ceiling loses his grip and falls on me. Has a leg or so missing and understandably is very angry. I also spy other omens sprouting from every palm tree. When I go to this Key West gathering the last morning, a woman holding a glass of kiwi punch is bragging about how she lives eating only carrots and soda water. Sainthood by skinniness. Yet, I can see bits of breakfast Danish on her front teeth. "O, ask your grandmother!" I rudely snap. Walk around the table where a gracious host is serving the salad luncheon on small plates shaped like hibiscus blossoms. Person to my right does not want to talk about anyone who is not herself. Lady, you have found your audience. If there is one talent I have it is to listen. And listen and listen. Glance around the rooms where revolving fans beat the hot, tropical air thick as jello. Three are standing close together like birds and it is certain that no one ever taught them that really all this sad old world requires is a little kindness. I can smell put-on like a cat can sniff out mice in the closet. The one standing by the Van Gogh painting of that famous, boring chair is wearing nine baguette diamond rings and one white emerald on her fingers like knuckle dusters. The three make a devastating comment about the gay community. I move away as I have no convictions on this subject.

I indisputably have let Key West slightly pall on me. And, everyone heartily returns the favor. Now, when I return six months later, they will greet me ecstatically and treat me like a little queen -- for the allotted time.

Of course I am leaving my keen interest and love behind in Key West. A daughter who goes along avenues and lanes with a suitcase-looking purse. What is in that purse? An insurance policy on an old gummy ginger cat? A broccoli and peanut butter sandwich? A petrified baby's hand?

Up here, there's no question that the eyes of mountain dwellers have a different look from those of the plains dwellers. Perhaps their prayers do not have so far to rise. You read the obits. Had a peaceful closing age 89, 94, 103. A bit of aging is like a pinch of seasoning on the mountain.

Here are a few small highlights you will find, climb 5,000 feet, have a rock to put behind your rear tire if you run hot: There is this restaurant where hangs a "country ham." Aficionados will drive hundreds of miles for it. Looks like hanging there a sunburnt human thigh. Salty as the lakes in Utah. Up here, making light biscuits and rolls is regarded as a female secondary sex characteristic. Rolls and biscuits comforting as the Twenty-Third Psalm. Pass along the roads, now you enjoy the sight of "living fences" (wild roses).



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2560C	Intermediate Water Color Painting	6-10pm R
2701C	Sculpture (portrait-bust)	6-10pm M
9000	Intermediate Jewelry Making	6-10pm W
1245C	Underwater Photography (Begins 10/21 and ends 11/30. Prerequisite 1136C or Certified Scuba Diver.)	8:30-9:45pm W
1401C	Basic Creative Photography	6-10pm T
1410C	Intermediate Creative Photography	6-10pm W
2110C	Color Photography Techniques	6-10pm M

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Day Classes		
6391	Introduction to Computer Science	10-12 TR
6385	Microcomputer Software - Appletworks	1-3 TR
6392	Desktop Publishing	9-4 S
6394	MS DOS	9-4 S
Evening		
6390	Introduction to Computer Science	6-9:45 W or R
6385	Microcomputer Software - Appletworks	6-9:45 W
6387	Dbase 111	6-9:45 R
6388	Systems Analysis and Design*	6-9:45 W
6389	Introductory Programming in Basic*	6-9:45 T
6384	Cobol 1*	6-9:45 T

ENGLISH, LITERATURE, JOURNALISM		
Day Classes		
6516	College Prep Communication Skills	1-3pm M
6517/6	English Composition 1	12:30-2pm WF or 2:30-4 TR
Evening Classes		
6537	Hemingway Seminar	7-9:45pm R
6513	Creative Writing	7-9:45pm R
6524	College Prep Communications Skills	5:45-6:45 MW
6511/5	English Composition 1	7-9:45 W or T
6512	English Composition 2	5:30-6:45 TR
6626	Introduction to Short Fiction	7-9:45 T

DIVING AND RECREATION		
Day Classes		
1121	Beginning Golf	4-6pm W
1241	Tennis	9-11 am R or 12-2 R
1136	Scuba Lab	12-2 M or 10-12 R or 10-2 S
Evening Classes		
1136	Scuba Diving (Two sections)	6:30-8:30 M

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Leave-taking

by Kirby Congdon

*The signal lights flicker in tatoos,
erratic as a goodbye heart
beating on the rib's cage.
My own gestures, random,
find no ritual to follow.
My very bones flutter
between the fingers of my abstract hands.
My empty arms reach out as in a wave of deep water.*

*Distance makes us invisible
but the far lights of departure
are still sharp, even eternal,
and, like the stars, never stop.
I -- so steadfast! -- standing my ground,
remain in place, left behind,
but hurtle, like you,
among the wandering constellations,
into the far ends of the shifting sky.
Now, even the ship, in silhouette,
like a wisp, is out of sight.
Are you thinking of me?*

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Dark Side of the Moon

By V.K. Gibson

Tonight the moon's so bright it almost hurts my eyes. It's two a.m. and the boy and girl down the lane have started again. Surely they must levitate in love. They log many hours in the air, they are tireless, they will straddle the night once more. I've gotten out of bed and, a creature of habit, have gone to my desk. I want every thought in my brain to spew out like a ticker tape in a stock market crash. Up from my roiling thoughts surfaces the image of human beings, young men in couples and groups, walking together downtown. Key West is a variety of towns, according to the time of day, and right now it is a village of thieves. The boys will be doing what they fondly call "making the rounds," trying to steal that magical, extra hour which lies hidden between midnight and dawn. They want to take it home with them, take it to bed, wrap their clean limbs about it. This extra hour is a charmed fare, a flight to some mythical, half suspected, final stop called Paradise. Alas, I cannot join them anymore. I have, as they say, missed the plane. The only thing in my life that now makes the rounds is the Hunter ceiling fan over my head. It whirls as I write this, making me feel slightly chilly, although the temperature on this sub-tropical island is in the eighties of Fahrenheit. I'm dressed in the white silk ladies' pajamas which someone got for me at Fastback Freddie's. My attire does not represent some queer sense of irony, or camp. These days I dress for comfort. My body speaks for itself and what it says is not pleasant, or campy. Body... body... Oh! The other night I dreamed that a mighty whisper blew the tin roof off my house. In the dream someone -- my Father? -- told me that I could determine the date of my liberation by counting the spots on my body. Perhaps the wind from my dream is rustling the banyan trees outside my window even now. The Banyans know everything. These house-size plants spend their lives dripping feelers which turn into ropes, arms, legs. No death hangs between those sinuous thighs which root themselves to the earth. In this way they walk about the Island, five feet in twenty years. I can scarcely imagine their roots, which burrow into the coral bedrock so industriously that the underground portion of the trees are broader than the visible parts. One of them is fifty feet high and eighty feet in circumference, upheld by dozens of great and small trunks. Its root system must encompass an entire block, penetrating and choking sewers and tapping the lore of our bowels. The trees know my secrets better than any lover. But trees are safer than boys these days. Except, of course, for the paper playmates.

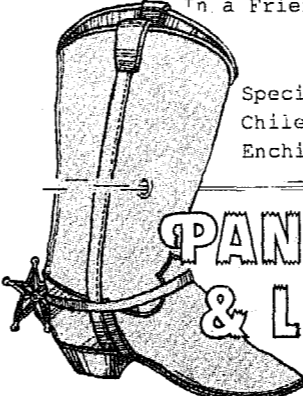
On the desk, next to my notebook, is the pornographic magazine which I asked my brother, Brad, to get for me. I had thought to run off a batch by hand, gazing at the slick photographs of handsome fantasies: boys next door, surfers, midtown whores,

pizza boys and soda jerks, cowboys and kid brothers... There's a vast industry for people like me; those who, for various reasons, cannot or will not reach out and touch someone. My apologies to the phone company for borrowing their slogan, but plagiarism is the least of my indiscretions. Brother Brad, who sees salvation lurking behind every signpost of convention, would carefully delete that borrowed phrase, divide this rambling narrative into paragraphs, would be mindful of its beginning, middle, and end, would put in and take out words until his head hurt. But I know my real guideline: to relieve myself. We are all borrowed phrases. I've never been overly concerned with beginnings or middles, and it is only recently, the past year, that I'm bothered by endings: I am dying. (I've just lifted up my pajama top to look at the spots on my stomach and chest. In this light they resemble patches of tar on creamy alabaster. Should I obey my Father and count them?) My attention shifts to the torso reproduced on the cover of the porn mag.: a stud about to lower his Calvin Klein shorts: naughty hints of things between the covers. He seems vaguely familiar and I try to place him among all the young men I've known. So many boys, so many rest stops, so many ways. Their names have dropped from my mental diary like loose postage stamps from the album I owned in my childhood. There were stamps from scores of nations: Algeria, Egypt, Morocco... I see that I have North Africa on my mind, memorable because of all the brown, accommodating youths I encountered during my first Grand Tour, taken ten years ago, when I was twenty-two. There's nothing left of those early adventures but the faintest remembrance of musk, the curves of upturned buttocks which might also be the crowns of hills in the Holy Land in the cool hours of an evening. Floodlights go on and off in my head and with each illumination I see a different... I want to say "person," but there is merely a succession of human shards arranged upon piles of Moorish rugs, or atop immense antique beds, or spread urgently across sex-stained and torn mattresses in otherwise empty rooms: here a pair of splendid legs, there an exemplary back, and now a wonderful manchild's face whose eyes are glazed with the submissive power of the sexual victim. Enough body parts for hamlet of bitter-sweet nothings. I shake my head and they withdraw like props in a skinflick, pulled out of camera range by hidden hands. I stare at my own bed, its rumpled sheets. Someone will make it up tomorrow. My friends have become my hateful and loving domestics. Yes, they turn like barbecued chickens in the heat of tenderness and loathing. They come each day to check on me, to restock my larder, to tidy up the house, to transport me to the doctor if I have an appointment, to make sure that I take my medication. My medicine is very good for them. Whenever I take it

they feel much better. They do their best to cheer me up. In the past I've "known" most of them, and now they're afraid for themselves. Yet they come, they perform their kindnesses. (Why? Would I do the same? I'll never know. But now, of course, I would like to think so.) Even my brother has come to Key West to stand by me. This is obviously a temporary dislocation. We have never been close, and I realize that his motivation is a horror of that ultimate gap, that blankness and separation which far exceeds the distance that has characterized our relationship. We have always found it convenient to not worry excessively about "family." We both have suffered the same denial of the promised land, and remind one another of our years of wandering in the wilderness.

Our life stories share the same prologue, and communication between us is a buckled, twisted, bloodied belt with only one side, a loop without end. The story? Our Father Which art in Texas disowned me when I told Him the truth about myself, when I was twenty and in the throes of what I took to be love, the sort of undying love the young are brutally taught to expect: True Love. I believed that my infatuation was worth any demonstration of sincerity, any risk. I wanted to shed what I felt was a three piece suit of lies, to give myself totally to the wide horizons of devotion. I remember floating in that first boy's arms, flying with him, giving and taking for the first time those physical liberties which seemed so wicked and so pure both at the same time. His smooth skin against mine, his sweet breath in my ear -- those things were heroic then! After my silly confession to Father, and His rejection, I traveled with my beloved across the continent, to California. Within three months we had lost sight of one another amid the golden hoards of gods on the beach at Malibu. I like to think that he still graces those pagan sands in glory, ageless and half divine. Had what we shared really been love? Again, now, I would like to think so. Brad, who is infinitely more sentimental than I, categorizes his first experience as "unadulterated lust," a passive/aggressive grappling, with himself under the high school athletic coach in the locker room after classes. Brad will never forget this encounter. His journal details every moment of that surrender of innocence. The very hairs on his first trick's head are numbered by the pathetic calculus of misplaced nostalgia. I think Brad is still searching for True Love in that event, hounded by a suspicion that it was lost in the folds of those moments when passion had smothered reason. He had shut his eyes, you see, and love slipped past him and ran away! It calls to him even today, always remaining just out of reach, haunting... Oh! My house is haunted! It was built by a sea captain over a century ago. The rooms are tall and everything is made of Dade County

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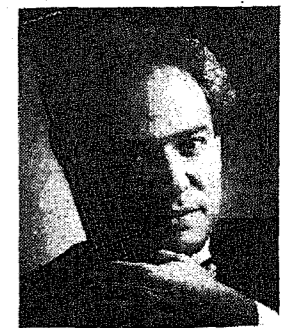
Pine, a very hard wood containing much resin. The termites do not like it. They prefer oak floors, good books, furniture. Dade County Pine was much in demand in times past but is now virtually extinct. That's the problem with being hard. There's something to be said for tenderness. I almost wish that my own little termites, those viruses which now lazily riddle my body, would eat me down to the last mortal crumb -- but quickly! -- like greedy children at a birthday cake. But they have sailed the world in cakes. My life has been a pastry cart. And, which sweet thing killed me? Brad's flings are as rare as moon landings. I have known a thousand. Oh, freedom, what have you done to me! I mourn that glittering, doomed decade of the seventies, when we applauded ourselves like the jaded crowds at resplendent La Scala! The noise still swells, but is now the sound of hands slapping faces, the fluttering wings of dying swans. Brad confesses that he's known only five men intimately. He writes to them regularly -- carries their photos in his wallet. Lucky Brad, safe in the arms of alienation, doubts, and the sort of romantic ideals which can never be realized. It's been a year since the first spot of tar appeared on my perfect body. But tender Brad would go in a month, considerably saving everyone all this trouble. He'd make a fine spook for this

house. Sometimes I think I see them, those earlier residents of this, my last home. I fancy there's a nice old lady sitting in a rocking chair, over there in the corner. And a group of working men at a card table, playing rummy, drinking beer, their faint tableau intermingled with the atoms of my bed. Sometimes they pause, they listen. I've realized that ghosts are haunted by the living. I think I'll enjoy being a ghost. I picture myself popping from my shattered body like a baby from a womb, into the gossamer arms of a poltergeist midwife, to begin a new, clean existence which will last as long as this island dangles below America. A pure voyeur, I'll take my pleasures in second-hand thrills. First thing, I'll glide down the lane to peek through the window of the little garage apartment where the boy and girl live. My aviators of amour! They're very young, so young I have to wonder if their arrangement is legal. There's no sign that they attend school. The boy works at his uncle's garage and the girl makes sea-shell souvenirs for tourists. Their home, not much larger than a horse stall, is too small for company and visitors sit outside in old aluminum chairs, or sprawl on blankets: brothers and sisters, cousins and uncles and aunts, mothers and fathers. Life in a Key West lane. Their situation, which would be perceived as a

tragedy in many other towns, attracting social workers and even the police, seems idyllic here. How I adore this place for permitting such a thing! Brad would say the kids are in love. It's nice to think so. I suppose one day they'll make a baby. I can hear one of them now, as I write. Her (or his?) rhythmic animal cries are leisurely rising in a crescendo: "Oh... Oh... Oh-h-h!" They have seized the fabled extra hour of the day. I'm addicted to their routines, which please me as much as the naive conceits of my own first love. I've dissected them with all my doubts, yet there's no hint that they will ever fall from grace and suffer the decay of rapture into disillusionment. The prognosis is forever. Almost, I am seduced into abandoning my cynicism before it becomes eternal. It's as if their nocturnal frenzies and daytime domesticities have flown through the ceiling of mortal life and onward to... whatever unspoiled thing there is above the common, fragile understandings which frame our hopes, to some lost and legendary touchstone beyond the sky where we can believe that life is worth -- everything! Thinking this, I am mysteriously uplifted. I am tired, I am sick, I am dying, yet I get up from my desk and stand by the window. The old woman in the rocking chair smiles like a personified cloud, the men at the card table lift their

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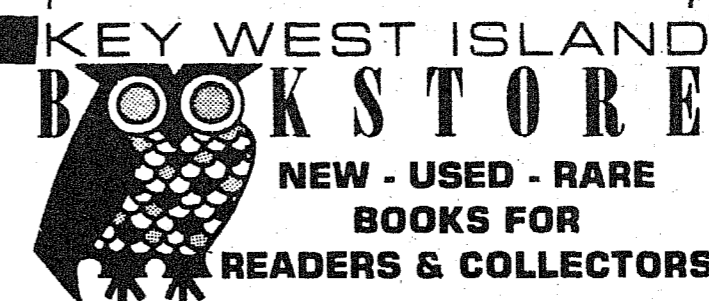
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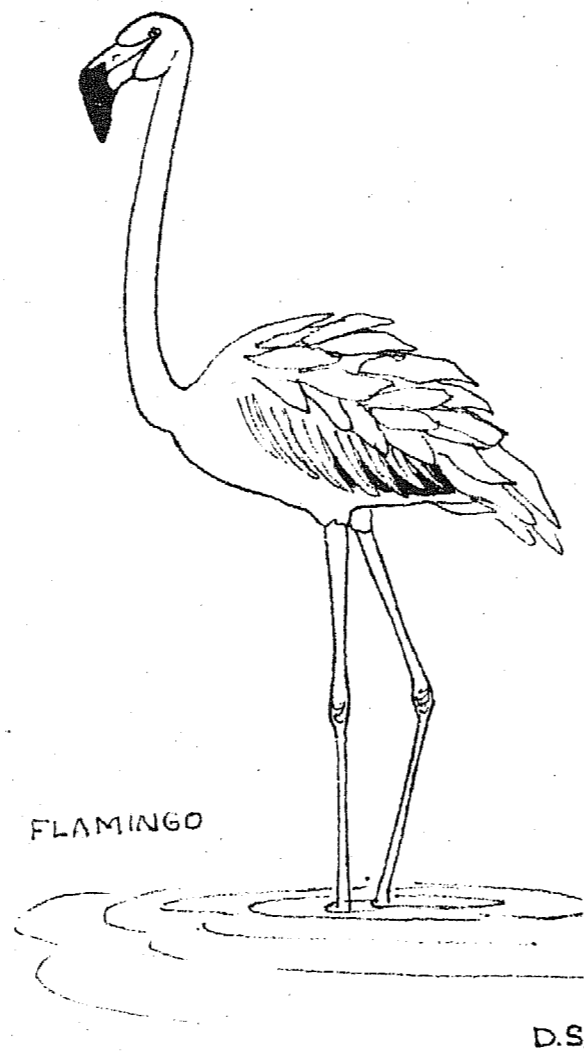
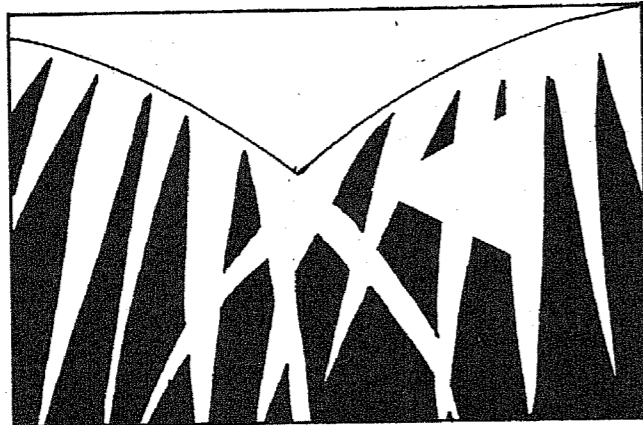
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misty eyebrows benignly and toast me with their beers. I slowly take off my silk pajamas and stand nude in the ivory light which floods the room. Mr. Moon glows yellow beneath the black parasol of the night. He winks at me -- and suddenly I realize where True Love has hidden all these years! I must tell Brad! Love is being held captive on the dark side of the moon. All we have to do... is to spread our wings, like the children down the lane. To soar above the stone-hearted cities and their human cocoons, their deserts of souls, their lakes and rivers of people, above the seven seas and the pirates who sail them, leaving behind all those bitter histories which inscribe the maps of betrayal and innocence lost. Sweet hope! I run my hands over my body and dare to think that I am beautiful again. I am happy, I am drunk with moonshine, and for a while I can fear no evil. Yes! Yes! It's time to count my spots!



FLAMINGO

D.S.

**Want To Be A Bail Bondsman?
It's Tough Work and Long Hours**

by Bud Jacobson

There was a time when being a bail bondsman in Key West meant a high-profile life in city and county politics, when you'd be seen around the popular nighttime spots and every now and then you might get invited to a cocktail party. Not anymore.

"Being a bail bondsman today is more grief and gray hairs than it ever was in the past, you better believe me," mutters Manuel (Currito) Ortega who's had his license for 19 years and is considered the veteran pro in the game.

"Hey, it wasn't always like this. When I first got into this business, it was fun mixed with hard work."

At the time Currito moved into the bail bonding scene in town, the area was blanketed by guys like Terry Lee Garcia, Jack Gray and Bill Ryan Sr., all of them more experienced and older. But Currito had something going for him, too: he was a well known local boy with good family connections going back a number of generations.

His father owned a stretch of downtown property along Petronia Street, off Duval, where he ran a favorite watering place called "El Curro," featured prominently in one of Mario Sanchez' early wood carved paintings. The word "curro," explained

Currito, refers to those people from Spain whose families centered around Granada.

In that neighborhood of Duval and Petronia, Currito's relatives had several holdings and, in the 40s and 50s, it was "very active with lots of people around." The reason for that was it was a political hotbed. Across the street, the old Cave Inn bar on the corner had, in its backroom, a

polling place for a major black precinct in town. Down the street, toward Simonton, was the Red House, for years the hangout for bolita bankers where the money was usually counted on Saturdays.

On election days, it was not uncommon to see big fancy cars roll up and a lot of dollar bills would change hands. One year, the Jaycees mounted a cleanup drive against vote-buying and stationed a member near the precinct with a camera, but that only slowed down the number of voters who went in that day. The grand jury was out to lunch.

"I got an early education in politics right there," Currito recalls.

Guys like bondsmen Terry Lee and Jack

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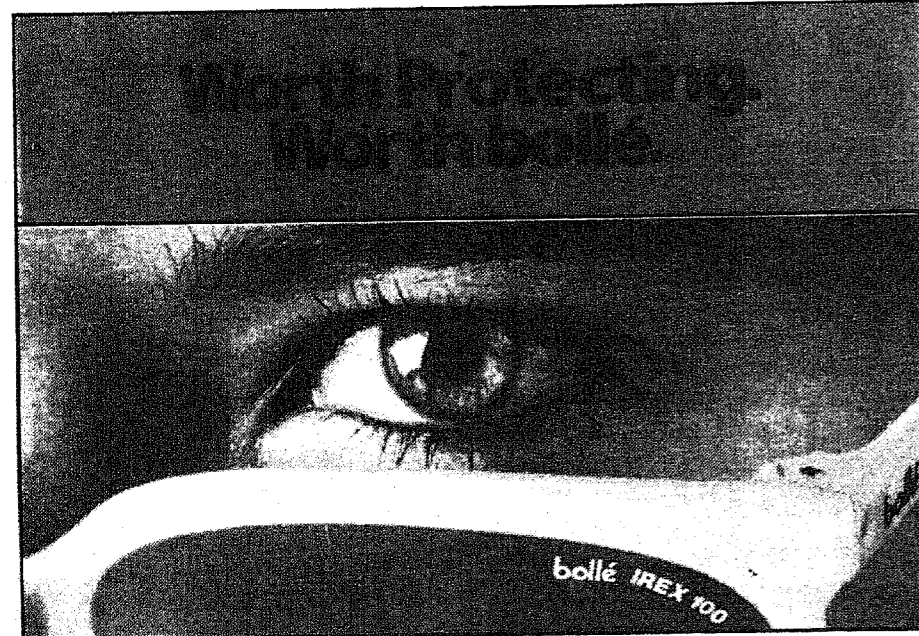
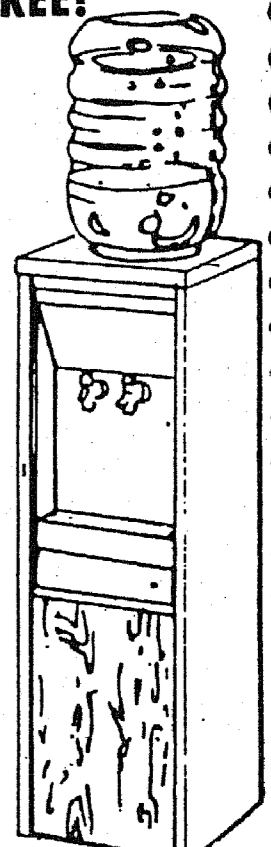
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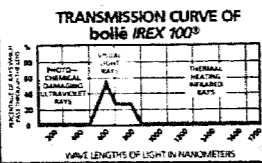
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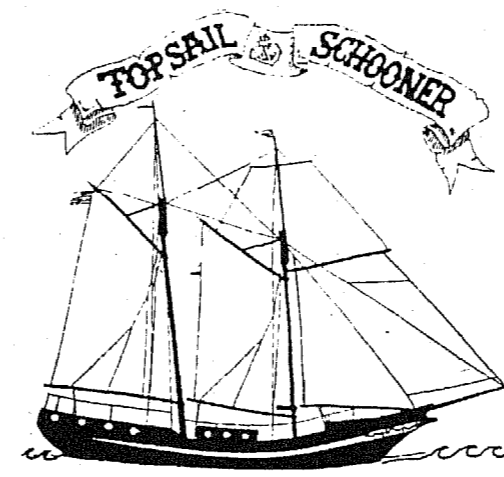
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Gray had most of the business and Currito was the low man on the pole for a few years.

Terry was from Tampa and well-liked for a crazy sense of humor. He knew everyone in town, had been a prize fighter here in the Key West Athletic Club and was married into a well-placed Conch family, and parlayed all his bets in an election to the city commission for one term, remembered as one of the wildest in city hall in years.

Gray was another cup of tea. A lean thin type from the hills of Tennessee, a hawk face and a twangy mountain accent. A tough political insider, he ran the Downtowner Bar, at Front and Duval, and was a heavy backer when he got a hot candidate for office.

The bar he ran was a late night hangout for tired businessmen looking for action (Jack hired some gorgeous talent behind the bar), gamblers, newspaper types nosing around for a story, politicians and their ilk. On weekends you might catch a few of the town's "400" sightseeing in the racier part of Duval Street.

On the second floor, Gray kept a friendly card game going and some dominoes. The customary smoke-filled room because all the windows had been boarded up years before.

"We were up there at a game one day," Currito said, "when Jack got a phone call from the jail to bond some guy out. Said he'd be back in a few minutes, so we waited. An hour went by and we got pissed off so we figured we'll stir a little action."

"One of the guys, I think it was Mr. Grass, went outside and told a bunch of sailors that drinks were 5¢.

"That started a panic. They poured in. The shrimpers came around from Two Friends and the joint was wild. Harold Bevis was tending bar. He couldn't give it away fast enough. That's when Jack came back.

"We thought it was a fun joke but he took another view."

Ryan, the fourth bondsman in town, was an ex-Marine who'd married a local girl from a big Conch family and he had gotten well known in the years he managed the

Casa Marina Hotel, sometimes acting as bartender in the Birdcage Lounge. Like the other guys in the business, Ryan took an ardent interest in local politics and wasn't shy about putting his money where his mouth was in the elections.

Today the three bondsmen in town -- Currito, Billy Ryan Jr. and Bubba Sweeting -- are too busy traipsing back and forth to the courts, filling out forms, keeping track of papers and their clients, to devote much of their time to politicking.

Sweeting, a large man with a long Conch family heritage, is the new man on the block. He recently got his license and for all practical purposes is still supervised by a bondsman and company in Miami. He keeps his weight in line, he says, by "running all over the place with papers."

"This ain't a bed of roses, let me tell you," Bubba groans as he squeezes his bulk behind the wheel of an old car on a steamy hot afternoon. "Sometimes you don't even make the minimum wage."

Currito got into the game early, when it

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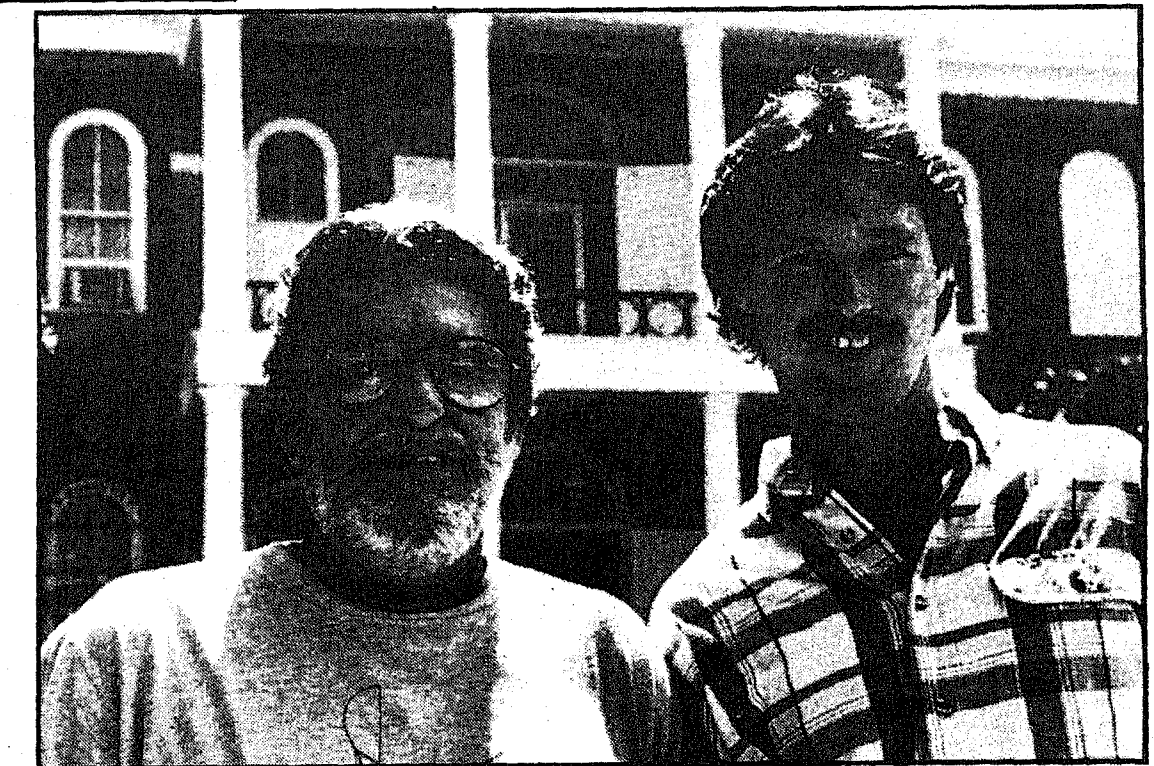
wasn't that rough. He is established now and is working to train his son, Manuel Patrick Ortega Jr., in the whys and wherefores of bail bonding. The younger Ortega could then work with his father and naturally evolve as a bondsman with an insurance company already set to back him.

That method of getting into the business with sure-footed support was similar to the way Billy Ryan Jr. inherited his Dad's practice.

Sweeting, on the other hand, did not have that advantage.

The major sweat for the bondsman today, the three men agree, is the ever-present risk of getting hung for a big bond when the client skips. For that reason, unless the bondsman knows you, knows the family, and has sufficient cash and property up front, he won't bond you out.

"There are a lot of guys, like many of them are out-of-town guys and lots of Cubans and refugees who stay in jail for weeks and months even because they can't make bond," Currito explained.



Manuel "Currito" Ortega & Billy Ryan, Jr.

Photo by Richard Watterwey

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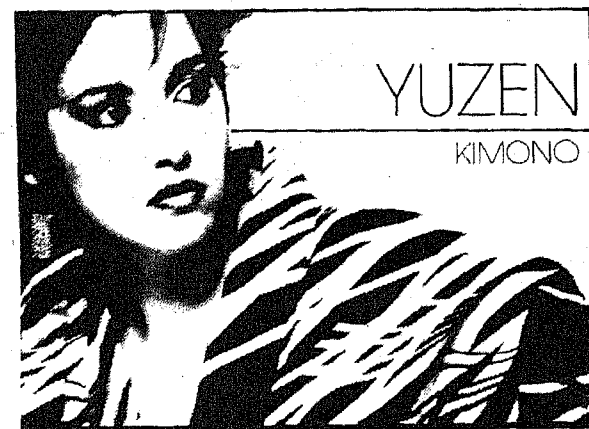
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Sheriff W.A. Freeman Jr. confirms that his jail in Key West is "loaded to the walls" with as many as 200 inmates and they're (the county commission) planning to open up the top floor of the jail building for additional cells. If the men cannot bond out before their trial, he confirms, then they sit in the cells.

"Not the world's greatest way to spend your time," Freeman says, "but the bondsman has himself to look out for, too."

While that risk-taking end of the bail bonding business is the toughest part, the rest of it has become tangled in a whole set of new laws in the last 10-12 years which stringently require bondsmen to follow certain rules of procedure.

"There's where a lot of the paperwork comes in," Billy Ryan says, "we got forms

on top of forms. Listen, when my Pop got his license, it wasn't all this stuff," and he points to his desk in his office on Whitehead Street, up to the brim with files, papers, notes, forms, books and pads.

Bondsmen take 10 percent of the total amount of the bond as their fee. Then they turn around and give back part of that to the company which places the money in an escrow account for each bondsman. It's from that account that the court gets its forfeit money if the client takes a powder.

The company he works for keeps Currito advised of the amount in his escrow account and it is not in the nickel-and-dime category.

"I'm glad to have that cushion," Currito says, "the money is mine but even then, I'm not about to take a chance with some runaway who'll maybe pay me a fat fee and then take off for the hills. All I got then is more wrinkles and more gray hair. I don't need it."

His advice to guys who look at the bail bond business as a wonderful way to be in business for themselves, name your own hours and get political, is:

Watch out. Be ready for long hours, thankless work, be willing to take longshot risks, in some cases, and keep a large economy size aspirin bottle handy.

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Letter to the Editor

Re: Gordon Lacy's disparagement of the East Martello Children's Exhibit in his June column.

We all know Gordon Lacy's heart is in the right place but sometimes we wonder where the rest of him is lurking. Key West is not New York (one of the reasons why we're here) and East Martello is not the Whitney or MOMA or the Met, nor would we want it to be. One of East Martello's charms is the broad range of (often) Key West-influenced talent its exhibits display. Who knows what budding Sanchez or Papio (who evoke their own childlike visions) was encouraged by having her/his art class work displayed in the Martello kids' show? (We're admittedly prejudiced; our Jackson wore his blue ribbon for weeks, finding renewed interest in his poster paints as a result of the experience.) What's more, the children's exhibit functions as an important community service, drawing many first time visitors to East Martello, who come to see their children's work and return again for other exhibits. Gordon, take a longer and less

judgmental view next year. Jackson's vision of "Snow" -- a subject which he's never seen -- was its own reward.

David A. Kaufelt

Well, it seems everyone is getting everything. The whole of East Martello, with the Gallery excepted, will transform itself into a students' exhibition with a heavy slant towards history. The Kaufelts and the Lacy's settled out of court G.L.

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Snowstorm over Key West - Part Eight

KEY WEST'S COCAINE PROBLEM: A LAST LOOK

By Frank Kaiser

Remember Pearle Trailer Park? Last fall I wrote about the dozens of crack cocaine dealers and coke whores who nightly turned the decrepit Stock Island trailer park into a drive-through convenience market where drugs, girls and life itself were easy and cheap. In Key West's "War on Drugs," Pearle was the front line. People were indeed getting killed out there.

Much has changed. Last Sunday I got a call from Pearle-resident Mike Grodzinski. Mike, you'll remember, took it on himself to rid the trailer park of its junkies, drug dealers and prostitutes, and while he was at it, to eliminate Pearle's ratty open sewage and abandoned trailers. (See *Solares Hill*, March 1987.)

He called to tell me that, yes indeed, there is a God - as if Mike ever doubted it. Saturday evening a dope dealer nicknamed "Miami" came by Mike's trailer to apologize for making trouble.

Unusual enough. Several weeks before, this same doper threatened to kill Grodzinski when Mike helped to get Miami locked up in the county slammer for trespassing.

Now he tells Mike that he had stopped dealing cocaine, stopped using and was back with his wife. It was a new beginning and he thanked Grodzinski for his trouble.

Mike was both amazed and amused. He said to me, "It's good to see that at least a small percentage can make it out of here on their two feet instead of on their backs."

This last article in this series is about change.

NAIVE RIGHTEOUSNESS

Last fall, when the series began, frightening news of cocaine was all the rage. And with elections drawing near, the more hysterical the story, the more patriotic the storyteller.

Hyperactive hucksterism saw Paula Hawkins and Bob Graham spend millions on tv to convince us that he or she hated drugs more than the other, trivializing the electoral process. Congress voted yet another \$1.7 billion to stop the flow of cocaine into this country, this on top of \$1.5 billion already appropriated. The President peed in a bottle while his wife took to the air daily urging kids to "just say no." *Time*, *Newsweek*, and *U.S. News and World Report* vied with the tv networks for the most soul-wrenching cocaine story of them all.

Hype and hysteria ruled. Geraldo Rivera probed the depths of cocaine addiction right here in Key West

when he joined us mortals on drug raids of The Bull, Durty Harry's, Simonton Street Station and Big Daddy's.

Daily *The Key West Citizen* carried news of local arrests for the sale and possession of the illegal drug.

Today still, hardly an issue of the *Citizen* gets delivered without news of cocaine arrests. But hundreds of drug stories have numbed us; the news is humdrum to the point of invisible.

National hoopla has jumped to AIDS. Now, in quiet, Reagan wants to cut almost a billion dollars out of the "War on Drugs" budget, most earmarked for drug prevention and treatment programs.

Today more cocaine of better quality than ever is reaching our shores and our city while the Coast Guard, Customs, and the DEA squabble over who's to do what.

"Cocaine's the fad now," Jay Rigdon of the special JAIL drug investigative team told me when I started this series. "Next year cocaine will be all but forgotten as we move on to something else." A wise man. In the meantime we still have addicts in the streets stealing from us to support their habits, we still have strung out junkies who can't get into treatment because they have no insurance and hadn't the foresight to save \$9,000, and we still have an overcrowded

county jail with as many as eighty percent behind bars there directly or indirectly because of drug addiction.

However, the situation has changed since 1986. This last article looks at these changes and brings us up to date with some of the people we've met down through the series. We'll even look into the future.

PEARLE, R.I.P.?

As in any war, front lines move and jump. Last fall no one but Mike Grodzinski could believe that Pearle Trailer Park would ever, could ever be free of drugs and prostitutes. Buyers from all over the county pulled in one of Pearle's six entrances, parked their cars in the shadowed and dingy interior and bought crack cocaine from any one of a dozen dealers.

Competition was keen. Some of the old and abandoned trailers had been converted to kitchens for converting powdered cocaine to crack;

others were used for smoking the stuff if you were in a particular hurry to use.

Today cement slabs mark where abandoned trailers once sagged. Fully one third of the 60 trailers at Pearle have been removed. Under threat of further fines for contempt of court, owner Michael Padron and his Cayo Investments have cleaned up the raw sewage and now provide weekly septic service.

I drove through Pearle last Saturday night. The quiet was deep.

You'll recall that the undercover Joint Agency Investigative and Legal Unit, JAIL, was created by State Attorney Kirk Zuelch to help local and county law enforcement cope with the illegal cocaine problem here. For several months the JAIL unit - which had representation from both the Key West Police and the Sheriff's Department - was all that stood between the illegal drug laws and crack-cocaine anarchy on Stock Island.

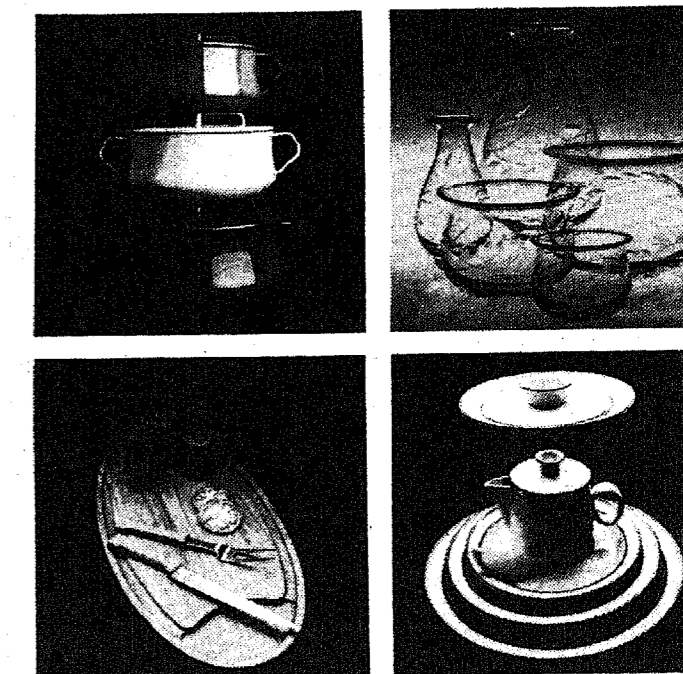
Nightly arrests at Pearle Trailer Park netted dozens of dealers, yet hardly made a

dent in the problem. Our judicial system is such that, within days, first offenders are back out again selling crack. Towards the end of 1986 the JAIL unit began concentrating on long-term conspiracy investigations and the Sheriff's men moved into the vacuum, often arresting drug dealers now on probation. The effort added up and last December more than 20 Pearle cocaine dealers spent Christmas behind bars on Whitehead Street, many on their way to state prison.

Between 40 major arrests made by the JAIL unit last year and some 106 arrests by the Sheriff's Department last winter, many of Pearle's cocaine dealers are now behind bars. Candy Mense, the dealer/user we wrote about here last February is in prison, serving 30 months at Lowell for breaking probation. She couldn't stay away from Pearle, a condition of her freedom.

Once the county put in bright lights and made parking illegal on the MacDonald Street side of the park, once the abandoned

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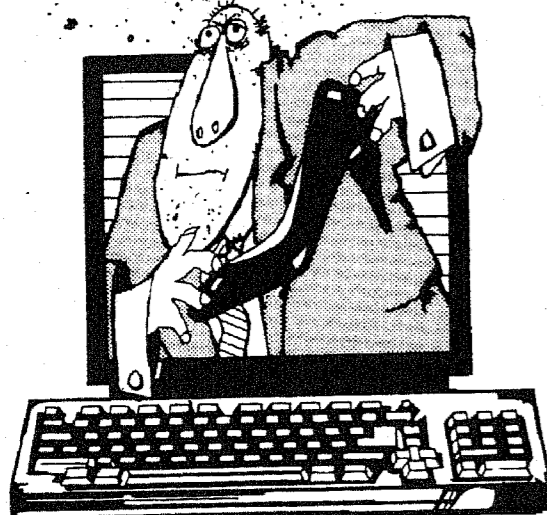


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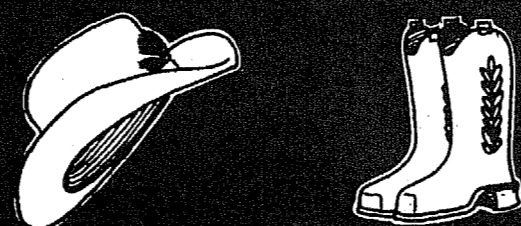
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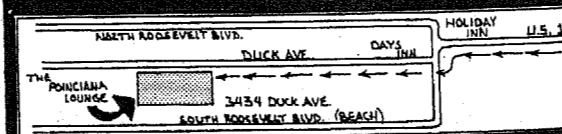
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trailers were removed, most remaining dealers moved back to Miami or down the street to other parks. But it was Mike Grodzinski who really won the war of Pearle. Besides nagging to get the lights in and abandoned trailers removed, while acting as park manager, he closed off four of the six entrances and would stay up until 5 a.m. on Saturday nights chasing out buyers and sellers alike.

Perhaps "won the war" is both melodramatic and impossible.

There are still three dealers working Pearle. Take a look along 5th Street across from Island Liquors. You'll see them. Grodzinski says that his dream of a drug- and prostitute-free park has been shattered. "I see now that you can't have a dope-free

Pearle Trailer Park without redoing the whole place."

That may happen.

According to Grodzinski, Cayo Investments is in trouble. The park owners are seven months behind in mortgage payments, \$463,000 in debt. Grodzinski's Homeowner's Association has a lawsuit pending against Cayo for "conditions injurious to the public health and morals."

Cayo Investments can't even declare bankruptcy as former owner and mortgage-holder Charlie Capp has a lien against the corporate owners' homes.

Capp doesn't want the park back. Padron and the other owners can't walk away. And the court insists that Cayo keep the park up or pay daily fines. A fine mess.

But the park is worth \$800,000 and, cleaned up with an addition of a \$100,000 sewage treatment plant, it would make a suitable site for much-needed affordable housing. That's Grodzinski's hope, anyway.

CHANGING HABITS

So with Pearle taken out, where are all the crack cocaine users buying these days?

According to Jay Rigdon of the JAIL unit, some of those users are getting smart and dropping crack altogether. "Marijuana is more popular now, at least among the smugglers and dealers," says Rigdon. "Publicity about sudden deaths caused by crack cocaine has convinced some addicts that coke is not something they should play around with. In fact, crack cocaine may become the heroin of the 80s."

Still, cocaine is Key West's illegal drug of choice these days. Especially among the poor and the undereducated. In Key West, many of those people live in Bahama Village. But while the Stock Island drug markets were under attack from the JAIL unit and Sheriff's Police, the Key West Police Force was still reeling from a scandal which resulted in the arrest of several detectives involved in a large marijuana smuggling operation. During 1985 and the first half of 1986, barely a half dozen arrests were made by KWPD for active drug sales.

The corner of Thomas and Petronia in Key West's Bahama Village mimicked Pearle's drug market. And except for an occasional stakeout and arrest by JAIL, this market on the western edge of Key West ran wide open.

TROLLING FOR DOPE

Many tourists would be surprised to learn that one of nine Key Westers is black. They are quite invisible to outsiders. Some three thousand blacks live here, most in the three-by-four-block section west of Whitehead Street called Bahama Village. The poorest area of our island, Bahama Village is the only major part of Old Town which has not been restored, a fact not lost on developers and planners who see Pritam Singh's Truman Annex development directly to the north forcing the gentrification of the area and the exit of much of its indigenous population.

Captain Lazarus "George" Lastres and I are driving through Bahama Village on Wednesday, July 29. Since February, George has been Chief of Detectives here in Key West. According to Jay Rigdon, everything started to change for the better when Captain Lastres took over the detective division.

We're at the corner of Whitehead and Petronia. Lastres nods his head towards the intersection and says, "Often, people riding bicycles by here get beat up and robbed. They get jumped for their money, money needed to buy crack cocaine."

Key West's 1986 overall crime rate increased 22.4 percent over 1985 while the rest of the county's rate fell 4.7 percent. Although police officials are quick to blame additional tourism for any increase in crime,

continued on page 62



AMY dePOO for Key West Mayor

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Key West is our paradise. As Mayor, I would like to see the White Street Pier become the White Street Reef. I support low-impact construction. We also need concerted efforts to clean up the abandoned trash around the city.

I would like to promote conservation techniques for our precious freshwater supplies. There should be diminished use of disposed plastics, reducing their threat to marine life. There should be city-wide recycling efforts to improve our quality of life, being an example to the world that visits us. Finally, I would like to obtain air-scrubbing collars for the nightly pollution discharges by City Electric's smokestacks.

I chose to stand up and fight, in this election, because the interests of the average citizen are more important than the vested interests of high-stakes real estate developers. For Key West, the battle cry "Think Globally and Act Locally" has never been more appropriate than it is today.

**"TRENCH WARFARE
ON FLEMING ST."**

By V.K. Gibson

Pedestrians and motorists have noticed in recent weeks an excavation which stretches along Fleming St. from Grinnell and White. This ten-foot-deep, flooded, vermin-infested trench reminds many of the "glory days" of the Hycon sewer renovations of last summer.

I found residents of the neighborhood highly vocal. Arthur Miller's "on the record" comments are limited to the relatively mild:

"This is the most frustrating and irresponsible situation I've seen since coming to Key West!"

Eden House manager Steve Ferraro voiced a businessman's complaint:

"In the summer we rely heavily upon walk in customers in both the hotel and the restaurant. Now, cars can't reach us. There's no parking on several blocks, and neighbors are using our parking lot."

People on foot have to stroll past the trench containing greenish-yellow water. Public urination into the pit has been observed, and children frolic in the polluted water. Derelicts use the port-o-johns left at the work site and "hang out" in the area, according to observers.

In addition to restricted customer flow, the very foundations of the Eden House are being eroded.

"Our front porch could fall into the

hole if it goes on much longer," said Mr. Ferraro.

"The left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing in this project," said Walt Marlowe, owner of Alexander's, a guest house. "The city didn't check on the qualifications of the sub-contractors. These people started the job without the proper equipment and personnel. I saw them backfilling one shovel at a time, and they told me the compactor couldn't handle any more than that. Well, I've worked with heavy equipment, and it isn't true. They're just disorganized."

Mr. Marlowe said that people have taken to removing the barricades at night, and traffic has been flowing on the paved side of the work area, breaking off and widening the edge of the trench. He complains that there is "no monitoring" by the city.

"I think the residents of the neighborhood have been very patient," said Mr. Marlowe. "According to a notice sent to residents, work began on June 8th.

Jim Stokes, owner of Island House, summons up a bit of humor.

"It's not a trench. They're building a canal to the Gulf! There will be gondolas up and down Fleming St."

Mr. Stokes is not completely amused, however. He relates how sewer pipes

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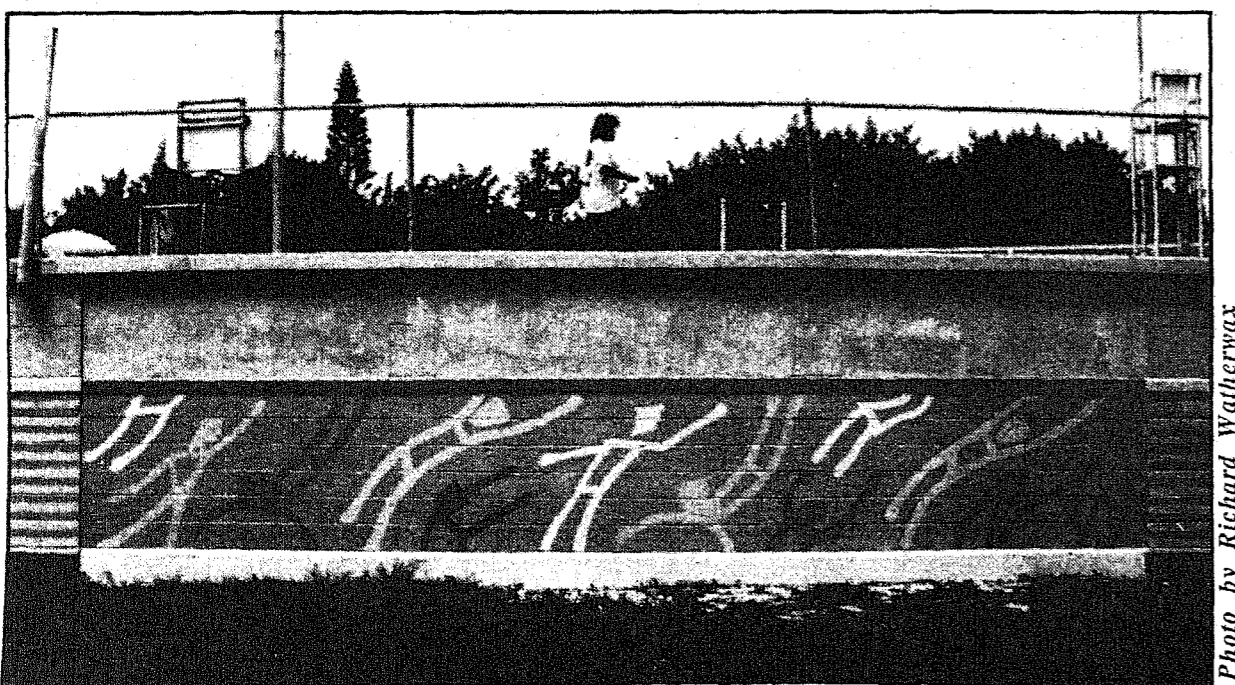


Photo by Richard Watherwax

The mural, at the playground at the Community Pool, was designed by Ron Baeza & painted in by all the kids at Blue Heaven under the direction of Cass Still, Stuart Vaughn and Janet Radtke.

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were cut as the trench was dug: "As a temporary solution, PBC pipe was used to feed into the main lines. However, the PBC was smaller than the older pipes and it was necessary to wrap the connections. In some places they used old clothes, including a green cardigan sweater!"

He does not blame the City altogether for the problem. But he, like most people I've talked to, thinks that more care should have been used in the selection of contractors.

"These people obviously have no experience with our kind of situation," says Mr. Stokes. "First, they expected sand and they got coral. Then, when the trench filled with water they were obviously amazed. They installed pumps to move the water into the sewers, but it ran back in, shooting around the cardigan sweater."

Mr. Stokes points out that there has been disrupted garbage pick-up in the affected area, and other services are inhibited.

"What if someone needs an ambulance? Or what if there's a fire?"

When he saw someone almost fall into the trench he called the City Manager and pointed out that a lawsuit might issue because there were no protective

barricades on the sidewalk edge of the excavation.

"To Mr. Koford's credit he had a railing put up right away," said Jim Stokes.

Commissioners Halloran and Weekley had some comments.

"I've talked with residents on Fleming St.," said Comm. Weekly. "There are definitely some problems. As far as there being no monitoring by the city, that's inaccurate. The Supervisor of Engineers is there several times a day."

Comm Weekly also suspects that there was a slip-up in the selection of the sub-contractor.

"It would appear to me that no beforehand checking was done," he said. "I think it was unfortunate that residents were originally told work would be done in six to eight days."

Commissioner Halloran cleared up the question of accountability.

"The city hired Danis Shook at the recommendation of CH2M Hill. They answer to us. None of this delay is costing the city anything and we get reports regularly. There's no question that it's been pretty sloppy over there. I understand that the present sub-contractor is being replaced soon."

Comm. Halloran continued:

"I expect that section to be finished by the end of August. Right now they're working on Thomas St. They should be done there soon and will shift to Fleming and the work should go ahead quickly. The final surface will not be put down then, but it will be blacktopped."

Commissioner Halloran says that the barricades are deliberately left open now at night.

"There was apparently one car which went too close to the ditch," he said.

Upon recent inspection of Fleming St. I found that two portions of the street were still afflicted by the open trench: in front of Eden House and toward White for about one hundred feet, and at the corner of Fleming and White. Traffic had resumed along much of the street. There was still some dust problems from the filled areas.

When I called the City Manager he referred me to Keith Damkot, an Engineer Inspector for CH2M Hill, the company which oversees the progress of the new \$28 million waste treatment plant. Mr. Koford had high praise for Damkot, saying: "He's saved the city \$350 thousand on this project so far."

The engineer, friendly and open, informed me that the work on Fleming St. was part of the \$2.5 million line which will eventually connect with the new treatment plant.

"The Contractor of Record for this project is Danis Shook of Florida," he said. "They're the ones responsible for getting this particular job done on schedule."

Mr. Damkot says that it was impossible that the Contractor of Record was "surprised" by the Key West soil structure.

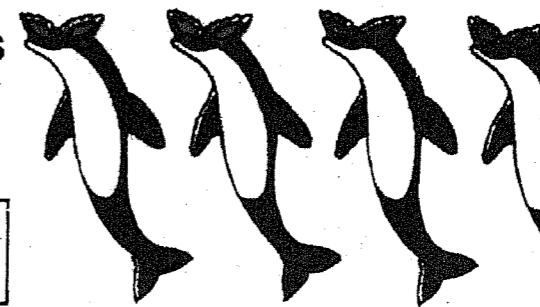
"We had a description of the subsoil in the contract which we put out for bids. Also (to clear up another misconception) there is no regular flow of sewage in the trench, except for minor seepage."

Nevertheless, Danis Shook experienced sufficient difficulties that

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they decided to sub-contract the work to a firm which "had experience with pipeline construction." They engaged MVRT, from Homestead.

I asked Mr. Damkot why firms were not investigated for their experience in similar situations. He surprised me by indicating that this was not the custom. The usual method is to put out a contract for bids to reputable companies and then, once the project is started, to make sure things are done according to contract standards and timetables. (I was so incredulous about this I asked him to repeat it.)

Despite the arrival of MVRT the work still goes slowly.

"MVRT is having trouble finding a back-hoe operator," said Steve Damkot.

This seems rather amazing, but, apparently, the Key West cost of living has made scarce more than one form of skilled labor.

"It's hard to ask a back-hoe operator to commute from Miami," said Steve Damkot.

Are there contractual penalties for being late? I asked him.

"No. But the contract contains certain advantages over some arrangements which the City experienced in the past. There is better quality and time control. There can be no more than two blocks of continuous trench at one time. Also, this is just a small part of the overall waste treatment project. The contractors are very motivated to do a good job, hoping to get more work later."

What happens if the work is not finished by August 31st?

"The City Commission may wish to extend the time limit," says Mr. Damkot. "But the job will go quickly once the crews switch over from Thomas St., and a back-hoe man is found."

"Note: Mr. Damkot made no mention of any contractor "being replaced." As of deadline time I've been unable to reach him to confirm or deny this.

The work area between Grinnell and White is, of course, but one section that will be done. In succeeding months the merchants and residents of other blocks along Fleming St. will observe, first-hand, the continuing efforts of CH2M Hill and, apparently, MVRT of Homestead.

Meanwhile, anybody know a good back-hoe man?



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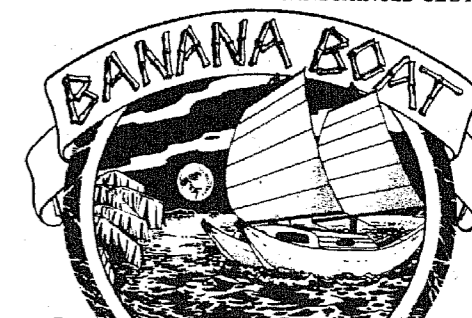


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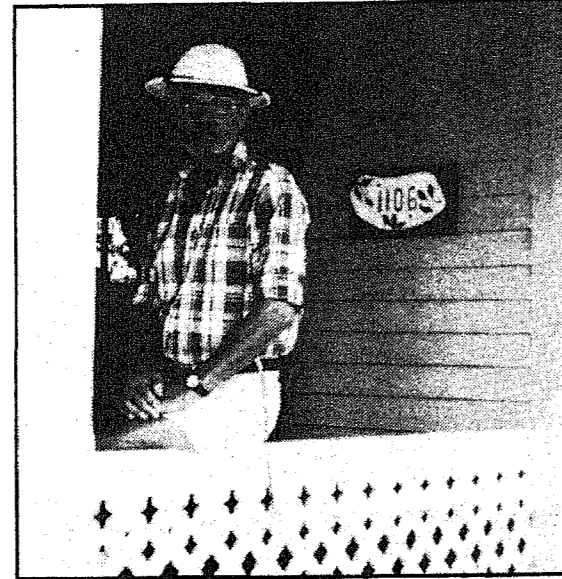
BON SOIR

By Grant Spradling

Time came full circle for Rex Madsen and me when I stopped to admire the work Rex was doing on the porch of his house. His house, at the corner of Georgia and Virginia, is across the corner from Bay View Park where Cliff and I sometimes attempt to fly kites. Cliff has invented. Anyway, we live just around the corner from Rex on Eliza. The location made the time-wrap extraordinary; I mean this was not the Russian Tea Room, Maxim's, the Via Veneto, the Thorn Tree in Nairobi or even Fausto's, the Pier House or Claire's. The corner of Virginia and Georgia is not one of the great cross-roads of the world. I was wearing run-down thongs and cut-offs and Rex's Birkenstocks were splattered with paint and we were sweating profusely in the September heat. But there and then Rex made a remark that led to a whole stream of recollections, a fabulous acquisition for the agency for which I work and an almost irresistible urge to say, "Small world, isn't it?"

About the time I left Oklahoma to study in Boston in the early 50's, one of my best friends migrated to New York City. He settled in the middle of Greenwich Village where he shared an exotic apartment on Waverly Place. When I went down to New York to visit him, he

took me to places that were considered "in" at that time. We went to hear Sara Vaughn at Birdland but his favorite club was just around the corner on 8th Street. My friend, e.t., was smitten with Noreen Tate and May Barnes at the Bon Soir. If you didn't know where you were going, you would miss the entrance to the small



Rex Madsen

supper club down a steep staircase below street level protected by an unobtrusive black awning. The bar to the right as you entered was awash with handsome gentlemen in grey flannel suits, the rage in the 50's. Across the room furnished with small round tables, was a low stage accented by two white, grand pianos. The pianos dominated the room until one of the elegant ladies started to sing. Then,

we were mesmerized by Noreen Tate or May Barnes. For some of you readers, these names will bring back memory, of sophisticated chic. Garland Wilson at piano and Tiger Haines on bass were also regulars and there were many, many others who performed there before they were discovered by the rest of the world. Those who knew the Bon Soir in the 50's are a kind of secret society who gloat in having helped discover Phyllis Diller, Barbra Streisand, James Kirkwood, Kaye Ballard, Charlotte Rae - to name only a few. Incidentally, the Bon Soir was Barbra Streisand's first engagement in New York.

The Black host of the intimate little club was Jimmy Daniels. Brilliantly handsome, Jimmy cast a spell that made those of us who had just arrived at his club feel we were, for a while, a part of the famous and glamorous. The ambiance of the Bon Soir was a balance between elegant and intimate, risqué and respectable. The celebrity collectors at the bar whispered to one another, "There's Sarah Churchill or Hubert Givenchy, Betty Grable, Debbie Reynolds, Truman Capote, and Yul Brynner. The list goes on: Doris Duke, Ethel Merman and poor little Barbara Hutton's brother, Jimmy Donohue. From that dimly-lit room, I telepathed a message back to Oklahoma "Hey, gang, look at me now. I've made it."

Had I future vision, I would have recognized my Key West neighbor. He was probably sitting at the table against

the wall across the room from the bar where Jimmy Daniels sat between numbers. He was Jimmy's close friend, Rex Madsen. They shared a brown-stone house on Bank Street where they let out the second floor apartment to Pearl Bailey. After Pearl moved, Mildred Bailey (the rocking-chair lady), rented the apartment. Mildred and Pearl were not related. The meshing of the wheels of destiny makes a person wonder at the whimsical purpose of our fate-maker.

Rex and I discovered that our paths had side-swiped at the Bon Soir in the 50's when he happened to say that afternoon, "You're supposed to know so much about art; do you know anything about Black artists?" I replied that I didn't know much about much but I knew the people who did and my friend, David Driskell, Professor of Art at the University of Maryland, is a leading expert on art by Americans of African descent. With that I learned about the extensive collection with which Rex was concerned.

Rex told me that Jimmy Daniels died in 1985. He left a collection of photographs and two bronze sculptures by Richmond Barthe to Rex. Rex, in turn, has now donated the Barthe bronzes and the photographs to The Amistad Research Center where I curate the Aaron Douglass Art Collection in New Orleans. The Amistad is the country's largest archives of ethnic minority documentation. The gift Rex has made has a dollar value in excess of \$67,000 and is the largest donation in

monetary value The Amistad Research Center has received from an individual. But the market value is a poor measure of the importance of these treasures. Richmond Barthe was the first sculptor of African heritage to become well-known in this country. The two handsome bronzes, The Shoe-Shine Boy and a bust of Kenneth McPherson, add greatly to the quality of the Aaron Douglass Art Collection. And, it turns out, that a major portion of the photographs were taken by Carl Van Vechten. The photographs are of many of the luminaries that populated the Bon Soir - Jimmy's and Rex's world. Furthermore, the photographs were taken by the man who has been acclaimed as virtually the "midwife" of the Harlem Renaissance. Author and critic Carl Van Vechten was himself a noted celebrity and bon vivant. Rex recalled that the first time Van Vechten visited Rex's house at a cocktail party, Carl told him he was a photographer, and Rex asked, "Where is your shop?" Rex was embarrassed when he realized that the millionaire did most of his photography at his Central Park West apartment, and being a fellow Iowan, Rex said that Van Vechten was very understanding. Rex was there in the midst of the heyday of the supper club circle, the Ruban-Bleu, RSVP, and Blue Angel and he has recorded reminiscence to go along with the photographs. Some of his comments are too intimate to be published now but they will give historians a rare glimpse and a few chuckles about the goings-on around Jimmy Daniels who

attracted the talented and glamorous as a light attracts night creatures. For example, he told, "I was sitting at a table with Burgess Meredith one evening and some lady was crawling on the floor under the adjacent table. It was Tallulah, a little tipsy, looking for her lighter." Bon Soir was part of the chic supper club world that was a green flash at the sunset of the Harlem Renaissance. It was the last in a line going back to Cole Porter's and Elsa Maxwell's favorite Paris night spot, Bricktops. The Bon Soir along with Cafe Society and the Village Vanguard was up-town gone downtown and intimate. These were speak-easys gone smart and almost "legit." The photographs of people surrounding Jimmy and Rex provide a footnote to the history of the Black experience, show business and, for many of us, our emergence in New York in the '50's. Carl Van Vechten, who grew up in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, became a major chapter in the thirty-year era stretching from the '20's to the '50's. He was a central figure responsible for the popular recognition of the Negro as creative artist during the Harlem Renaissance. His book, *Nigger Heaven*, daring at the time, was a sensation. A music critic for the New York Times, he has published nine volumes of musical and literary criticism as well as several novels. He is credited with having recognized before they were officially discovered, Gertrude Stein, Arthur Machen, Langston Hughes, and James Purdee. Then, at an age when most

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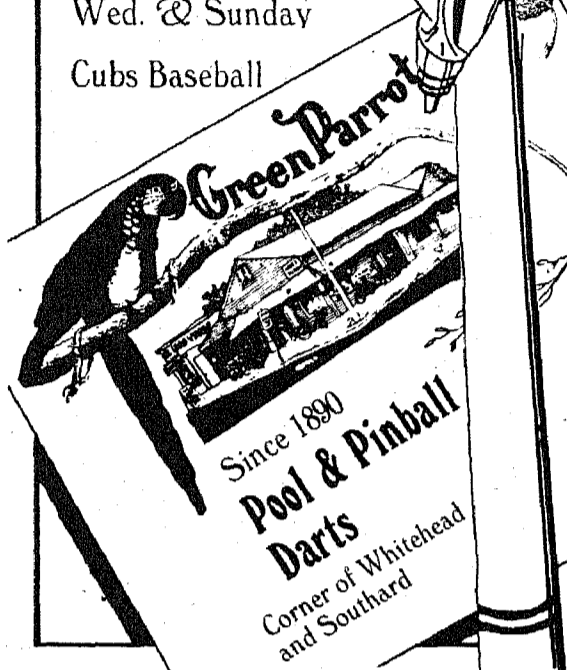
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would consider retiring, he took up photography. His photographs have been the basis of collections at Howard University, Fiske University, The University of New Mexico, Yale University, The New York Public Library and now The Amistad Research Center. The indefatigable Van Vechten has also established six library collections - four on Black American art and music - and two on cats.

That Rex came from Cedar Falls, Iowa, perhaps, was part of the bond between him and Van Vechten. In New York, Rex became an award-winning fashion designer, becoming well acquainted with the celebrity world through his design of clothes for Pearl Bailey, Anita Vanderbilt, Alice Ghostley, Mildred Bailey, Bess Meyerson, and Millicent Rogers, the Standard Oil heiress, and a close friend of Rex's and Jimmy's. Some of the dresses he designed have been exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum in New York.

The contribution Rex has made through the gift of the Van Vechten photographs and Barthe sculptures is of inestimable value. They provide important nuance to our understanding of our history and thus ourselves. "I wanted to place these photographs and bronzes where they would do the most good," Rex said. "They need the attention of sensitive and honest historians as well as professional conservation. I have also

asked that some time they be exhibited in Key West."

The New Orleans Museum of Art in collaboration with The Amistad Research Center is creating a traveling exhibit that may come to Key West next year. The exhibit will include Van Vechten photographs and explanatory panels. There will also be background music, tapes of Jimmy, Bobby Short, May Barnes and others singing the wonderful tunes, "Just One Of Those Things, Lush Life" and "I'll Be Around," while visitors view portraits of Billy Dee Williams, Pearl Bailey, Bricktop, Marlon Brando, Joe Louis, Ethel Waters, Tallulah Bankhead, Josephine Baker, Van Johnson and Harry Belafonte.

It all came about when two Key West neighbors leaned against the porch rail at the corner of Virginia and Georgia. Fate was up to her old tricks. They had been across the room one evening in the dimly-lit supper club in New York back in the '50's. Now, some thirty years later, they savor and save some of the tantalizing aura that they had unknowingly shared back then and The Amistad Research Center is the beneficiary of \$67,000 treasure!



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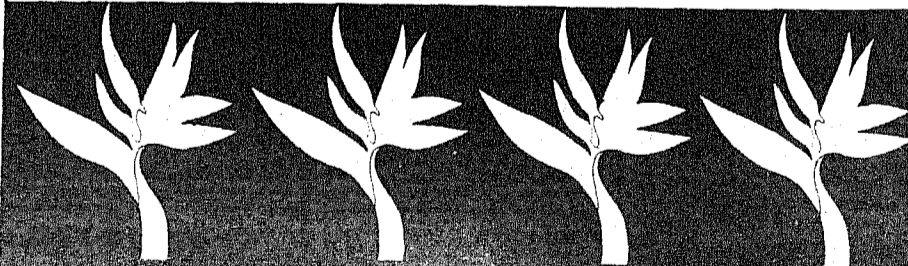
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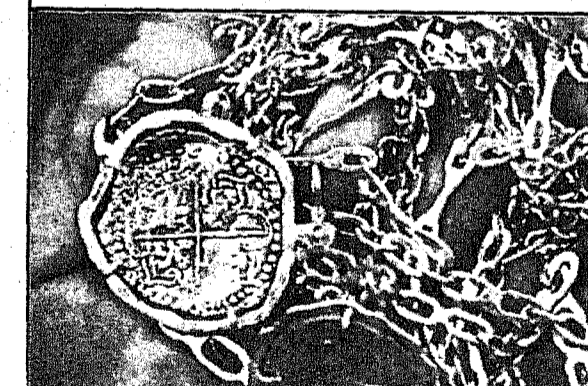
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 296-3651; 3rd Tuesday, Monroe County Conference Center "Chapel" on Stock Island
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 294-9891; 4th Thursday of each month
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 294-2587; 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month Noon; Various locations
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 292-6718; 1st Wednesday of each month, 2 PM; 500 Whitehead Street
INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF RAINBOW FOR GIRLS
 296-3945; 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:30 PM; Scottish Rite Temple
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 296-3913, 296-6206; 4th Tuesday of each month, 3501 South Roosevelt Blvd.
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 294-1366; Wednesdays, 7:00 PM; 3825 Flagler Avenue (Clubhouse)
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 296-8819; 3rd Sunday of each month
KEY WEST WOMEN'S CLUB
 294-2039; 1st Tuesday of each month, 2:00 PM
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 294-1717, 294-6546; Every Tuesday, 6:00 PM, Perry's Restaurant
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PARADISE PLAGUED By Tom Rooney

The phenomenon we call AIDS provokes such a specter of fear that it is repugnant to me to have to give it recognition by writing about it. I want it to go away - to never have been - to wake up from this seven year nightmare and realize that it never happened.

A plague of unknown origin with no known cure striking first at an already plagued population - men plagued for centuries by misunderstanding, prejudice, illegalization, excommunication and just plain hatred. Men, who, prior to AIDS, had already been rejected by their families, church, government and society in general.

Men who struggled valiantly to be understood and accepted but who now, because of AIDS, are further vilified-condemned by Supreme Court rulings, Papal pronouncements and public outcry.

AIDS has given homophobia a legitimacy never before envisioned. Anti-gay violence has proportionately spread with the spread of the epidemic and now gay men are even more deeply despised than before - now not only for being gay but also for being the cause and the carriers of AIDS.

It is difficult for some people to

separate their fear of AIDS from their fear and hatred of gays. Fear of same sex coupling is a deeply rooted, entrenched phobia stemming from an earlier time in our evolution when, without reproduction, there was extinction. AIDS represents extinction too and so the fears get confused, muddled, twisted together and then just as the person with AIDS is forced to face his own mortality, he is often treated to the collective hysteria of a society which had already identified him as a target for derision and disregard.

AIDS is for many people the final blow of a tortuous process of alienation - from family, friends, then the schools, the churches, the jobs etc. And people with AIDS who are not gay are sharing in this experience sometimes knowing first hand and for the first time what it feels like to be gay and hated. Children are expelled from school, patients are denied treatment, families with AIDS are shunned...the list goes on.

It is, of course, true that gay men are not the only people with AIDS and not all people use AIDS as an excuse to ventilate hostility toward gays. Indeed there are many non-gay men and women and lesbians who are leading and joining in the fight against AIDS. But it is still true that the present vast majority of people who live with AIDS and who die from AIDS are gay men and this is the emotional climate in which the virus has taken hold.

So much for the plague. What has this to do with Paradise. Key West is internationally known as an island in the sun at the end of the land where people of varied persuasions and pursuits come to live or to visit-to put away the cares and the clothes of the cities, to put on their party hats - to relax, to frolic and have fun. Key West is especially attractive to gays and has long been a mecca of freedom where the only commandment is "Live and Let Live." A friend who is leaving Key West for another job in another town recently told me with real tears in her eyes that she was sad to leave Key West because she derived so much strength from living with people who dare to be different. And it is that strength derived from the daring and courage that it takes to be "one's self" that Key West has plenty of. That strength has taken root here and is blossoming into an heroic effort to heal oneself and one another. Steadily and steadfastly the caring community of Key West has put in place a testament to their concern. Individuals, couples, groups, professionals, volunteers and most importantly people living with AIDS have joined together to show us all what real love is all about. M. Scott Pech in "The Road Less Travelled" defines love as an extension of oneself for the benefit of another. As for sex we are all learning that with sex comes responsibility-not to lessen its pleasure, but to respect its value in our lives. And Key West can take enormous pride in its effort to get beyond the pain of AIDS (when possible) and do what needs to be done. There have been safe sex workshops, holistic health seminars, conferences, councils and committees. As I write this there is a meeting taking place to form a support group for people who test positive

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GALLERY HOPPING
 by Gordon Lacy
 Andy Warhol's death has set off a train of thought, or rather dream, because life not being complicated enough, I go on doing all this in my sleep and in this particular dream he was coupled with Rene Magritte. I have never found Warhol simpatico; he was not physically attractive, his films lasted many hours and had no action. The people who frequented his atelier were

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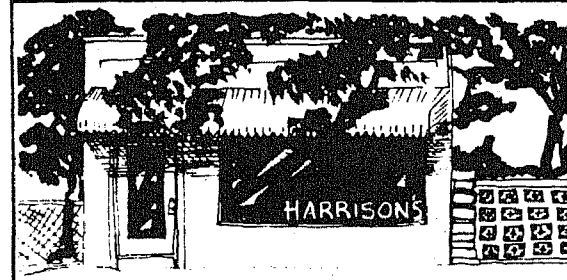

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drug blighted, sordid and tragic. The thing about Warhol is that he went back to basics; ART= TRUTH and nothing can be truer or more basic than a Campbell's tomato soup can ergo, SOUPCAN=ART. or logically transposed, vice-versa, right there for everyone to see. Others may argue what is ART without BEAUTY? Well, beauty is in the eye of the observer, supposedly. The tomato soup can evokes, for example, stolen sick days home from school, the scalding soup administered by an adoring mother with lovely saltines, and if one were truly sick, a dollop of cream. So by the time we get to his in-series portraits of Marilyn, the



evocations become more heady and muskier. Religion has fallen out of the Arts several centuries ago, nobody is illustrating bible scenes, archangels and halos are out. We discovered that Art was not necessarily romantic beauty, Chopin, Swan Lake and all that, but that beauty resides also in familiar everyday switch-ons, or in the beautifully painted put-ons of Magritte, for example, or Warhol.

The most important thing to have happened on the art scene this month was Vaughn Gibson's second first prize in the annual Hemingway Short Story contest. Five years ago he won the first prize, last year the second prize. There were more than 400 manuscripts submitted and this year they came from as far away as Switzerland, Puerto Rico and Alaska. A distinguished panel of judges read the stories blindfolded as it were, the author's name removed and replaced by a number. Gibson took the additional precaution (why?) of writing under a pseudonym. His reaction was, "tell them that \$1000 prize money will buy me time for my in-the-works novel. "Three cheers from all of us Vaughn; keep at it! The little title incidentally is "The Dark Side of the Moon" and it treats of an AIDS victim.


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Karen at Artist Warehouse when asked "what's up?", replied "Nothing, nothing at all, I'm framing, I'm painting for myself and I'm hot!" She'll be open August and closed part of September.

East Martello opened a new version of its Members' show on the 28th of July (too late for our deadline) which will run through the 20th of September. The new is that it is an all-Keys show, no longer limited to the members. Craig Biondi is the Gallery chairman and Susan Olesen tells me that the jurying will be rigorous with the thought that the show will reflect more discrimination than usual. Biondi has been busy getting the walls recovered and new track-lighting, good news for everybody.

The Lucky Street Gallery on Duval is open mostly on a seven day a week basis, Monday-Thursday 11-6 p.m., Friday and Saturday 11-9:30 p.m. They are doing a special this month on home furnishings, hand-painted by Heliographics, very fun stuff I might add. They will have some new gouaches by Colbert, new pieces by Howard Finster, Roberta Marks' fine three-dimensionals, and the subtle land and seascapes in pastels of local Diane Karasac.

Barbara Cooper at Aristos said she had a dry spell earlier on but that things have picked up since. She has tons of Chinese Art, peasant water colors, and will soon have even more. She also has some Peruvian sculpture and is showing Australian Ester Ginat's jungle scenes

plus her usual gallery painters. Joe Pais at the Lane Gallery says the gallery will be open Thursday-Sunday 11:30-6:00 p.m. showing Alice Terry, Vaughn Gibson, Walt Desel, Scott Jones who recently won a prize in Salem, Ohio for his abstract pastel. Also to be viewed are Teena Rice's small pastels of Mexican scenes, Jack Baron's well known work in oil on local life, Judi Wagner's water colors, plus certain works by a Brazilian diplomat named Marcos Duprant who is the current darling of the art world in London.

Jim Moseley of Rose Lane Antiquities has a large assortment of Mexican, Mayan and Guatemalan figures that are charm personified at very affordable prices. He has them from a major N.Y. dealer so everything has a pedigree.

The Gingerbread Gallery is on summer schedule, showing their well known stable of painters, open Thursday-Sundays. I rather had the idea that Richard Heyman might be thinking of other things...

We were unable to get a hold of the busy Judi Bradford at the Guild who has their masterplan on her night and day so this month's guest artist's schedule is not within our deadline possibilities. But something is always going on over there, so stop by and see for yourselves.

The Haitian Art Co. has received a new shipment which contained three paintings by the reknown Jacques Enguerrand-Gourge, otherwise known as Gourge (and why not?) who paints

very layered canvasses full of the mystical male-female relationship behind the voodoo facade.

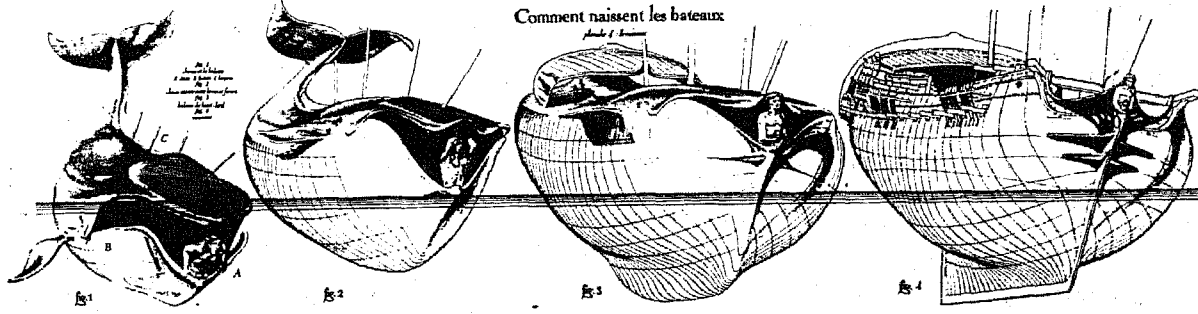
The Lighthouse Museum's stellar attraction is a seven-foot model of the Maine meticulously put together from scratch from Strunk-donated wood by Howard England who after two years of loving labor gave it to the Lighthouse. It is remarkably exact and certainly worth a visit.

The Key West Art Center will finish Al Weintraub's show of watercolors and acrylics on the 8th and will present Connie Hauk's local water-colors which Ruth Munder assures me are very good from the 9th through the 22nd. Edna Dameron will be showing her watercolors and acrylics from the 23rd-5th.

The White Street Gallery can be fairly said to be open two days a week, Mondays, Thursdays but we are open by appointment and have one of those hateful answering machines. The gallery artists, Meinster, Simone, Soisson, Lawrence, Henocque.

I've been trying to see Helen Harrison for days now and our hours don't mesh.


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It is just summer in Somo. Looking through Harrison's windows, I perceive her usual exotic stock from all over, Diallos Jamaican gourds and Helens own very smooth carvings.

I felt that Paulette Maccione was rather short-shrifted in the press for her second win in the "around the island" swim which took place on July 11th. I spent the winter watching this tri-athlon athlete train and push herself to the point that she put a rib out of place a couple of weeks before the race. I arrived at the Reach late and the swimmers were in the water. I yelled "Paulette!" at the red cap, her head spun around, she lifted an arm, flashed her dazzling smile, turned to the

ocean, and her body arched into her powerful stroke, legs working well, her arms pulling like pistons, her head slightly raised. She headed due south, out into the seas, seeking cooler waters, setting the pace. At Fleming Key, tiring, she was refreshed by a rain shower; coming out of Cow Key Cut she said to her rower after a drink, "I want out." "But you're almost there. Go on!" She took a half an hour off her previous win and was 30 minutes ahead of the second place. I know how scared she was and I salute her spunk.

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- and Solares Hill Newspaper

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LOWER KEYS

Just My Opinion

by Gil Ryder

You may have noticed that there was no *Solares Hill* available in July. That's because we all came down with a severe attack of laziness and took a vacation.

Vacation's over now so I guess I'll go back to bed - and breakfast. The reason for my going back to B&B is a demand from a number (well, five, anyway) of my readers that I do so. Also, they want me to take a strong anti-B&B position. I told them that I had written concerning the subject earlier and that it had appeared in "Just My Opinion" in April this year. They all assured me that they were regular readers of my column but must somehow have missed it in April.

Be that as it may, I think I'm about to lose five steady (except for April) readers. I simply cannot take an adamant stand against what I would consider "Bed and Breakfast". However, I will state that I am opposed to anyone operating a hotel and calling it "Bed and Breakfast".

We really need a legal definition of "Bed & Breakfast", and that definition should come from the County Commission and/or the State Legislature.

Once the phrase has been defined, it will be a lot easier for local government to

establish rules concerning that activity, including where such activity shall be permitted and where it shall not.

When I say that I cannot, in all honesty, adamantly oppose all B&B activities, I will admit that I am probably somewhat persuaded by nostalgia. When I was child and even a young man, there were many areas in the Northeast that were generally considered "summer resorts".



These areas were largely seashore, mountains, and some just pastoral or rural areas - places to vacation away from the cities where so many lived and worked.

In the pastoral areas, the farmers (not all of them) took in summer boarders who would eat heartily, sleep late, ride the country lanes on horseback or in carriages, swim and fish in local lakes and streams and generally rest and relax for a week or two.

Those who were not enamored of the quiet bucolic scene would arrange for room and board in very large houses in the seashore areas where there were street after

street of such houses, and also a few hotels. The houses all had very large porches or verandahs furnished with numerous rocking chairs for the use of the paying guests. The guests didn't do much riding around but, rather, strolled on the beach or boardwalk, swam or "bathed" in the ocean, where there were ropes for the non-swimmers, and small children played in the sand. The adult males liked to watch the pretty girls strolling (well covered) on the beach or boardwalk, while their wives watched the children and also kept a suspicious eye on their husbands who had their eyes on something else.

Very similar conditions prevailed in mountain resorts, where there were usually lakes and streams and row boats. In the evenings, young adults sang and danced to music provided by the hosts' wind-up phonograph (no radios yet) or music provided by themselves. Most of the adults could play the piano, and pianos were as prevalent then as TV's are now. Banjo, violin and mandolin were also popular instruments.

There were no parking problems because even the few who had cars really didn't trust them very much, especially for any jaunt past 10 miles or so.

Most of the gas lights were turned off in the boarding houses by midnight. Wild

continued on page 44

Along the Lower Keys

by Bill Becker

It has been a very busy summer on the county government scene. The county commission has been averaging three to four days of meetings for about six weeks straight lately, dealing with Land Use Plan (LUP) text change proposals, map change proposals, budget workshops, special meetings and regular meetings.

The Monroe County Planning Commission recently wrapped up an exhausting schedule of hearings on the text and map change requests -- approximately 500 separate items. The Planning Commission members -- Mary Kay Reich, Ed Kloski, Jean de St. Croix, Michelle Keevan and chairmen Timothy Koenig -- deserve a collective community "thank you" for their innumerable hours of work on the six-month review of the LUP. Their findings and recommendations have been invaluable to the county commission which must make the final decisions -- determining what amendments and changes are incorporated into the plan.

Ever item passed by the county commission must still face review by the Department of Community Affairs (DCA) in Tallahassee -- the state agency charged with overseeing the county's critical concern status and its LUP. The DCA, even under the new Martinez administration, shows every sign of taking a firm stand on the important

issues. By appealing a number of the commission's actions since November the DCA has put the county on notice that the close scrutiny will continue.

The most volatile issue in the current round of amendments to the plan has been the Bed and Breakfast controversy. Dozens of letters -- both pro and con -- have flooded local newspapers. It has pitted neighbor

Bill Becker is
News Director
for US-1 Radio
(104.7 FM)



against neighbor, becoming such an emotional issue because it affects people where they live. Even the Spring term Monroe County Grand Jury has investigated the situation, saying that B&B's have a valuable place in providing an alternative for the traveling public, but that place is not in single-family residential subdivisions. Unfortunately, that's where most of the handful of B&B operations exist. One senses that the county commission's recent 4-1 vote to drop the proposed B&B amendment from consideration in this round of LUP revisions is just one battle in a long war. B&B operators face a tough, uphill struggle at this point. County Attorney Lucien Proby has declared B&B's illegal in residential areas, recommending that they apply for relief under the LUP's cumbersome procedure for

vested rights. For many of them, that will be difficult to prove, since there was no legal provision for B&B in residential areas under the old code, and none exists under the new plan. Till then, all eyes will be on the county's code enforcement division for its response to the situation.

Several B&B operators have already received warning letters from the State Attorney's office. With no state statute specifically providing for B&B, the operations fall under statute 509 -- the state regulations governing hotels, motels and guest houses. The licensing and inspection requirements of statute 509 are practically impossible for residential B&B's to meet.

Meanwhile, the county commissioners have been put on notice that another government agency will be watching their actions much more closely. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) oversees local compliance and participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. At a recent meeting with the commission, FEMA officials took exception with the pattern of flood plain construction variances being granted by the commission, frequently over its own staff recommendations. The FEMA officials apparently surprised the commission by actually zeroing-in on a half dozen of the more questionable variances. The commission was warned that by continuing that pattern of disregarding the flood management regulations, they are jeopardizing the entire county's continued participation in the federally subsidized flood

continued on page 44

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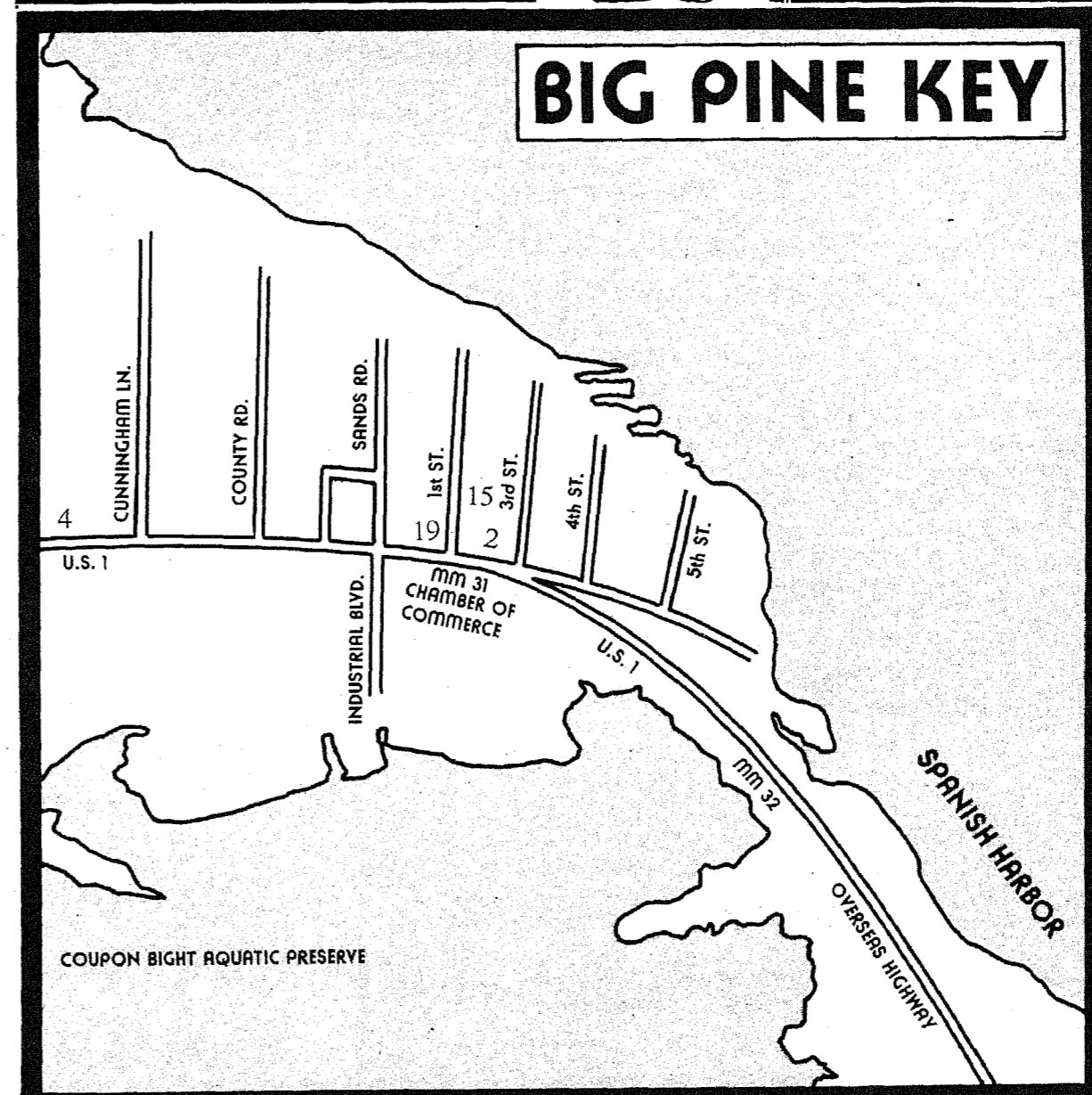
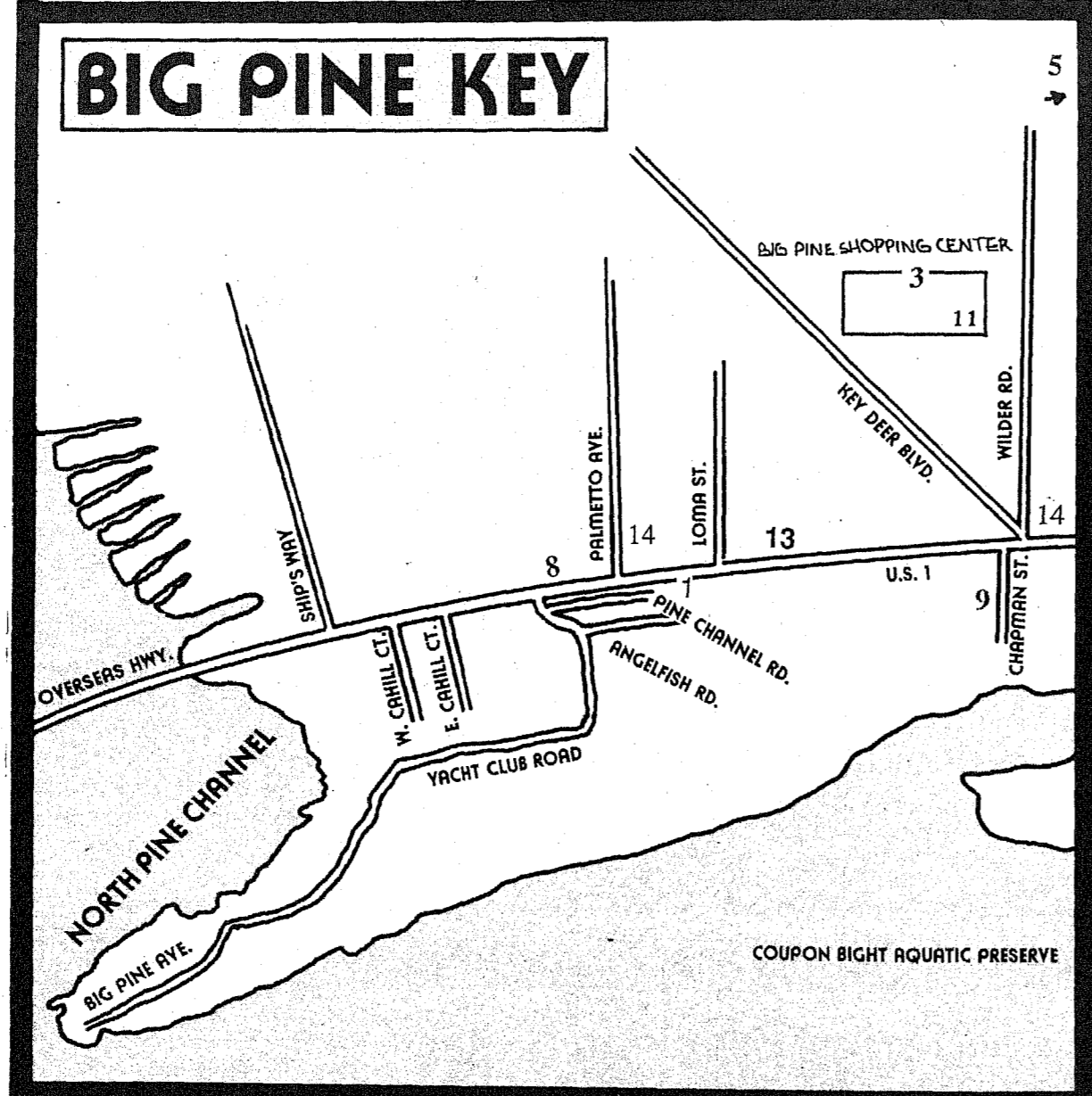
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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE LOWER KEYS

continued from page 41

parties were unknown. Any hankypanky that occurred was preceded by romantic strolls in the moonlight and swinging in a porch swing. Booze did not play a big part in these middleclass resorts and drugs were practically unknown.

Those were indeed the "innocent days". The young men feared irate fathers and the young ladies feared pregnancies and their fathers. The pill, like TV, radio and electronically magnified noise, was not yet with us.

Summer vacations did precipitate a few hurry-up weddings in spite of innocence and fears, but love-making in those days was inspired by sentiment and romance rather than incredible noise - so - no one suffered, other than the bride and groom, and that came later.

As I write this, I begin to realize that my nostalgic memories may have led me astray. Perhaps the anti-B&B people are correct. We have lost our innocence and serenity and have gained heavy auto traffic, the pill, and electronic magnification of so-called music.

Young couples can no longer stroll in the moonlight - they'd be mugged. There's no safe, quiet place for a couple to experience a sentimental romance so it had to be abandoned in favor of mass mating rituals

known as "spring break", and who wants the noise and uproar of spring break in residential neighborhoods?

The old-time vacationer came by train and trolley, and - they were largely middle-aged. Now they're young, exuberant, noisy, and travel by cars and even motor cycles.

But - let's face it - would the spring breakers really be looking for B&B's as a proper place to relieve their tensions? Are they really going to invade the Keys where the beaches are largely made of stone rather than sand? Somehow I doubt it.

But in spite of my doubts, it would still be wise to look at the B&B situation closely and enact carefully thought-out, restrictive laws governing such projects. Remember that, in the days of my nostalgic memories, the population of our country was probably less than half of what it is today, and only the upper class and upper middle class could afford to go to vacation resorts.

The lower middle class - clerks and blue-collar workers who were fortunate enough to have relatives on a farm (there used to be a lot of family farms) would visit the farm, and the rock-bottom poor had no vacations. No, they weren't on welfare, that hadn't been invented yet either, they just toiled endlessly from early childhood to the

grave and were more interested in the next meal than the impossible dream of vacation.

Anyway, why can't we have certain residential areas zoned in such a manner that no commercial, industrial, or agricultural enterprise or business of any kind may be conducted therein? After all, every American has the right to pursue happiness even when such happiness can only be found in an exclusively residential neighborhood. It should be recognized as a duty of government to protect those whose pursuit of happiness includes quiet, peaceful serenity in their homes.

It is also the duty of government to protect the rights of those whose pursuit of happiness includes operating a B&B, but government must recognize that the enterprise cannot be conducted any place the entrepreneurs desire nor, necessarily, in the manner he or she desires, and the operation must be limited as to size, impact on traffic, parking, etc.

Remember - the Constitution gives you the right to swing your fist - but not too close to your neighbor's nose!

continued from page 41

insurance program. No flood insurance means no bank loans for construction. FEMA officials will soon be conducting a community assessment survey with particular emphasis on the county's enforcement of the flood management regulations, especially illegal enclosures beneath houses on pilings.

Amidst all of this the county commission is wrestling with a proposed budget that is nine million dollars more than current spending levels. The tentative budget would require a tax millage increase of more than 37% over the roll-back rate (the millage required to raise the same revenue as last year). Budget-cutting is under way.

And rapidly approaching is October 4

when voters county-wide (including Key West) will be faced with two tax referendum questions: a 1% tourist impact tax on overnight accommodations with the revenue earmarked 50/50 for the Land Authority and for property tax relief, and a 1% local option infrastructure sales tax for five years to fund a long list of capital improvements. It is time, say the commissioners, that we shift some of the tax burden from the local residents to the tourists.

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SOME COMMENTS ON THE HOSPICE OF THE FLORIDA KEYS, INC. FUNDRAISING EVENT 7/30/87

-The Third Annual July 4th Picnic, a fundraiser for Hospice of the Florida Keys, was held at the Casa Marina Resort - July 4, 1987.

-Tom Sawyer, Mayor of Key West, proclaimed July 4th as "Hospice Day in Key West."

-Chairpersons were Al McCarthy and Peggy McClain, President of the Key West Woman's Club

-The Key West Woman's Club continued to be actively involved with this event with at least 15 members contributing numerous hours and talents.

-Over 1,000 people attended the event.

-Activities at the event included: a good old fashioned picnic, prepared by the Casa Marina; entertainment (details below); patriotic decorations and presentation of the colors (coordinated by Roy McClain); games for adults and children (coordinated by Sue Sellers, Virginia Panico and Becky

Bever); prizes; raffles (details below); free Pepsi (thanks to the Pepsi Cola Bottling Co.); and fireworks (a fabulous display by the Key West Rotary Club).

-The first prize raffle item was donated by John Kiraly, a noted artist residing in Key West - an artist proof of a new silk screen edition, entitled Poinciana Palace. Mr. Kiraly has offered to continue such valuable donations for future Hospice Events.

-Other raffle prizes which were donated include: an air conditioner, by the Marine Bank; a Casa Marina Escape, by the Casa Marina Resort; and a LaConcha Weekend, by the LaConcha Hotel.

-Honored for their contributions to Hospice and those served were: Peggy McClain, Chair of this Event and Dr. Michael Klitenick, Medical Director of Hospice.

-Entertainment was coordinated by Vickie Roush, noted Keys entertainer and included: Company B; the Barbershoppers; Jan McArt's Theater - Cast of "From Broadway with Love"; John Wells; and Dini Lamot.

-This event, including the selling of the raffle tickets, raised \$35,000 for Hospice.

-Hospice "Statistics" include:

-141 Terminally ill people have been served since March, 1986.

-Hospice is following over 90 families and

friends in their bereavement program.

-Offices have been opened in Tavernier, Marathon and Key West (all in donated space).

-Services are rendered primarily in the patient's homes (24 hours a day, 7 days a week) and include: nursing and medical care, social services, pastoral services, therapy services and volunteer services. All services are coordinated by a staff R.N., working closely with the patient's attending physician and Hospice's Interdisciplinary Team.

-Over 60 volunteers have taken the Hospice training program and assist staff with multiple patient care and administrative services.

-Hospice is a non-profit, tax-exempt agency-supported by the United Way and also receives funds from Monroe County, the City of Key West, the State of Florida, memorials and bequests, fundraising events, Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance.

-All terminally ill people are eligible to receive Hospice Services, without regard to age, location, diagnosis, background or economic status.

(For more information, contact Liz Kern, Executive Director of Hospice, 294-8812 or Peggy McClain, Chair of the Fundraiser, 294-4958.)

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We would like to take this opportunity to express our full endorsement of this fine restaurant. We suggest to our readers that they enjoy their favorite seafood dish soon at A & B LOBSTER HOUSE RAW BAR & MARINA. You'll find yourself returning often.

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What most health food stores really offer are foods and vitamin and mineral supplements "prepared nature's way." Medical science has proven that processed sugar, synthetic chemicals, preservatives and fats contribute to our many modern health problems, including heart disease, cancer and other ailments. Health food stores offer alternatives.

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Have you visited KEY LIGHTS LIGHTING & FAN SHOWROOM, located on U.S. Hwy. 1, phone 745-2127? If you haven't you have missed a treat, because this shop carries a very complete selection of lighting fixtures and accessories to beautify and brighten up your home. Visit this modern concern and let them counsel you on your lighting needs.

They have a most complete stock of lights and lighting equipment. No matter what your lighting problem, they'll have the solution in an attractively styled fixture. KEY LIGHTS is a STOCKING distributor of LIGHTOLIER TRACK AND HI-HATS.

For those who intend to build new homes, remodel or redecorate, expert advice is always available. They also carry a stock of commercial and office fixtures and invite homeowners and businessmen to inspect this stock for their lighting fixture needs. KEY LIGHTS can also supply all your ceiling fan needs and carries fans from HUNTER, EMERSON and LITEX. FOR PERSONAL ATTENTION ASK FOR SHARON PETT.



SAFE HARBOUR Marina & Club

FREDRICK ROBLES - GENERAL MANAGER

One of the best liked marinas in this area is SAFE HARBOUR MARINA & CLUB, located at #1 Front St., Stock Island in Key West, phone 296-9011. Transients and local area residents alike have learned to rely on this center for a wide variety of marine services.

They have a deep water Atlantic entrance with deep water slips for up to 125' vessels! With their convenient location and fuel and other supplies available here, this is the ideal place to dock or store your boat whether you use it regularly or not. Their experienced staff can service and repair most any make of boat or marine engine!

SAFE HARBOUR MARINA & CLUB also offers a sail loft and a Ship's Store. A marina becomes the favorite of a majority of boaters when they offer a full range of services and devote themselves to taking care of your every need. This is exactly what you'll find at SAFE HARBOUR MARINA & CLUB and it is the reason we recommend them.



1 SALOON

The staff, Virgilio Vitale (Owner) and Mara Cerutti (Partner), of 1 SALOON, located at 524 Duval St. in Key West, phone 294-5797, extends a special invitation to you to spend an evening with them! They are open 7 days a week, the bar is open from 4 P.M. - 4 A.M., with food always available, and the restaurant is open for dinner from 6:30 P.M. - 11:30 P.M., in the dining room. Come and enjoy their NUMBER 1 TEA DANCE held from 4 P.M. - 8 P.M. Sunday evenings and their DOUBLE DOLLAR DINNERS at 6 P.M. Sunday. The bar is open on Wednesdays from 4 P.M. until . . .

At 1 SALOON you'll be treated to quick and courteous service and you'll find the intimate atmosphere just what you've been looking for. You can talk, meet new people, enjoy the music and dance to your heart's content and in addition, they also have video games and billiards for your enjoyment. For an enjoyable change of pace, stop in at the 1 SALOON soon!



JAY-MAR OF KEY WEST

When in need of stationary guards, call in the experts at JAY-MAR OF KEY WEST, located in Key West, phone 294-1082, where service beyond the average is a guiding principle. JAY-MAR OF KEY WEST is family owned and operated with extensive background in the security field. This company strives to provide their clients with efficient and professional security programs in order to protect their clients' property and goods. Don't settle for less than the best when the best is available through them.

Call their friendly and courteous staff anytime for an estimate on the job you need done. To name a few . . . armed or unarmed stationary guards, guards for special occasions and holidays, curtailing of vandalism and theft, or in need of private investigative services, JAY-MAR OF KEY WEST INC. can help you. They're more than happy to advise you on your needs at a reasonable price. THEY ARE NOW OFFERING A PATROL SERVICE FROM 10:00 P.M. - 6:00 A.M. AT VERY REASONABLE RATES. Call for more information.

LA LECHONERA RESTAURANT

Have you treated yourself to a dinner out recently? If you haven't, there can be no doubt where you should go. If you're like most people, you want to dine out at a place where the atmosphere is elegant yet relaxed, where the food is delicious yet moderate in price and where the service is efficient yet unhurried.

This is what LA LECHONERA RESTAURANT, located at 3100 Flagler Ave. in Key West has to offer. Their management and staff invite you to dine with them and they would like to become your favorite restaurant. Here you'll dine in the most enjoyable surroundings on the best food prepared exactly to your taste. The entire family will find something on their extensive menu that is just exactly what you've been craving to have AND THE PREPARATION IS OUTSTANDING!

Give them a call right now at 296-7881 and make your reservations for an evening of gourmet pleasure that we are sure you won't forget!

BARNETT'S PAINT & BODY

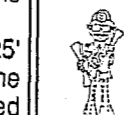
People do not have to look far for a shop that does quality auto body work and painting. Most everyone knows that BARNETT'S PAINT & BODY, at 1111 Eaton St. (rear) in Key West, phone 296-4018, can repair, refinish and repaint any automobile, foreign or domestic quickly, economically and professionally. BARNETT'S PAINT & BODY will complete the work to your exact specifications in accordance with the estimate, so turn to them for all your auto paint and body needs!

Architectural Accents

ARCHITECTURAL ACCENTS, phone 294-4763, CURRENTLY BUT NOT FOR LONG, located at 3332 Flagler Ave. in Key West features beautiful ornamental wooden railings, balcony railings, and fencing for your home or business. They feature both modern design and Victorian Gingerbread and will also custom design to meet your specifications. The design possibilities are limitless and will allow your home or business added dignified simplicity and charm. If you have existing railings that you wish to repair or replace, we recommend this firm to you for complete service at reasonable prices. We assure you of a job well done! Simplified, easy-to-assemble balcony railings or banisters are also available for contractors and homeowners. For any of these needs we highly recommend them to our readers! LOOK FOR THEIR NEW LOCATION - COMING SOON!

JULIAN GROCERY

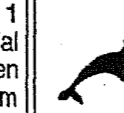
It's the extra friendly service and fair prices at JULIAN GROCERY, JULIAN FERNANDEZ, OWNER, at 730 Emma St. in Key West, phone 294-6348, that makes them the choice of so many. No matter what you may need - tender meats, canned goods, dairy products, fresh fruits, and vegetables, frozen foods, or U.S.D.A. inspected meats - they have it! JULIAN GROCERY has an able and efficient staff whose job is serving you, and they are glad to do it. Be sure and stop in soon.



ROWE DRYWALL INC.

When you need drywall work done, call the professionals at ROWE DRYWALL INC., at 1111 12th St., Suite 212-B (Key West Professional Plaza) in Key West, phone 294-6745 or 294-6405. ROWE DRYWALL INC. has the experience to handle any drywall installation quickly and expertly. And they will be happy to offer any needed advice in the planning and design stages. In addition, they specialize in metal framing.

A complete drywall service is offered by them, including installation, taping, texturing and repair work. They are licensed (SP 1051; SP 1052) and insured and you'll find their cost estimates precise and their work on-time. We highly recommend them! For more information and personal attention, call and ask for BOB!



KEY WESTER RESORT INN

Beautifully located in Key West on A1A ON THE OCEAN, phone 296-5671 or toll free in Fla. 1-800-432-7413 or 1-800-327-7072 anywhere in the U.S., is the KEY WESTER RESORT INN - one of the most popular resorts in the area. Taking your vacation here can save you all the inconveniences of traveling to another area.

Don't put up with the hassles of trying to program your vacation with one motel after another, a different town every night and all that traffic. Pick up the phone and make reservations for your vacation at this popular resort right here in Key West. Here you will find a beautiful atmosphere of peace and quiet, an Olympic size pool, a tennis court, pro shop, sauna and gym, bikes and an excellent restaurant and Tiki Bar, as well as the ocean and exceptionally comfortable accommodations.

Don't be in that group of vacationers that come back more tired than when they left. Let the KEY WESTER RESORT INN make your vacation what it was meant to be. We commend them for providing many relaxing vacations that they've given to people everywhere.

CAPT. JOHN'S GREYHOUND V

Call CAPT. JOHN'S GREYHOUND V, phone 296-5139, and inquire about their fishing trips (night fishing available during summer months only) and charters aboard their 65' charter boat. They have electronic equipment to locate fish and are U.S.C.G. INSPECTED. Rod rental is available and free bait is supplied. THE GREYHOUND V has a large sundeck with lounge chairs, clean restrooms and a snack bar. They are located at the City Marina at the Amberjack Pier.

BUSINESS DIGEST

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FLORIDA DISPOSAL CO.

Business owners, contractors, homeowners and others have learned to rely on FLORIDA DISPOSAL CO. - A WASTE MANAGEMENT INC. COMPANY for a reliable garbage collection service. Their growth is an indication of the fine service they offer. For your convenience, they supply and maintain 2 - 8 cubic yard trash containers which are sprayed and disinfected regularly. FLORIDA DISPOSAL CO., located in Key West, phone 294-3787, serves commercial, industrial and residential needs and invites you to call!

LAS PALMAS

At LAS PALMAS "THERE'S RUMOR OF PERFECTION," referring to their impeccable service, relaxed atmosphere, distinctive, delicious foods, and reasonable prices! They offer some of the best ORIGINAL and INVENTIVE cuisine you will ever have the pleasure of eating. Dinner is served nightly from 6 - 12 P.M. and Sunday Brunch from 10 - 3 P.M. LAS PALMAS is located at 1829 Southard at Francis in Key West and we suggest you phone 294-7991 for reservations. You'll be happy that you did!

SLOPPY JOE'S BAR

For a change of pace after work today, stop in at SLOPPY JOE'S BAR. They're not too far from you at 201 Duval St. in Key West, phone 294-5717. Come by and introduce yourself! Tell them you saw their ad and decided to stop in. This is one of the friendliest bars around. Have yourself a relaxing and enjoyable time just having a few drinks and meeting new people. A little change is good for what ails you. And the place to get a little change is SLOPPY JOE'S BAR. Making them a routine could be a real pleasure.


SATELLITE SOUTH INC.

SATELLITE SOUTH INC., at 421 Simonton St., phone 294-1599, has satellite dishes in a variety of sizes and price ranges. With a satellite dish you can get as many as 100 different channels from all over the world. You'll be able to get movie, sports, news and religious channels as well as channels featuring children's programming, old movie reruns and dozens more. They are also installation and repair specialists. Call today to inquire about all they offer including RENT A SAT.

The Pearl Hut

THE PEARL HUT, at 115 Whitehead St. in Key West, phone 296-6972, cordially invites you to stop in and browse through their lovely selection of gifts. They have gifts that will suit every need and occasion, and their price range is within the reach of everyone. When you have a gift to buy and you don't know what to select, we suggest that you let the staff of THE PEARL HUT help you. Visit them soon!

→ → → → → → → → → →



On the Old Waterfront is "Key West's Oldest Eating House" - PEPE'S. Since 1909, the friendly atmosphere has attracted a varied clientele including President Harry S. Truman (who slipped away from bodyguards early in the mornings to frequent PEPE'S in the 1940's). Truman's secret is understood by Key Westers who, for 77 years, have enjoyed "from scratch" homemade quality meals. Being located on the Old Waterfront not only assures the freshest produce, seafood and meats, but guarantees an eclectic crowd of fishermen, tradespeople, waiters, politicians, locals, visitors... and more!

No reservations are needed. Sit inside or out under the giant Bouganvillea Arbor or Mahogany Tree. They are open 7 days a week from 6:30 A.M. - 9:30 P.M. and are located at 806 Caroline St., phone 294-7192. Sandy, Allan and Randy thank their customers and are looking forward to serving them in the future.

JUAN MAYG'S GROCERY STORE & SANDWICH SHOP

Drop in at JUAN MAYG'S GROCERY STORE, (family owned and operated) located at 1120 White St. in Key West, phone 294-1926, if you're interested in real food bargains. To assure you of top quality merchandise, this store selects their groceries, fresh produce and meats carefully.

Come in and enjoy their take-out service featuring home-cooked meals and delectable sandwiches. And, they have daily luncheon specials that are a real bargain! They also feature an **OUTSTANDING DELI AND THE COLDEST BEER IN TOWN!** Compare service, selection and prices and you'll choose JUAN MAYG'S GROCERY STORE as your market!

PANCHO & LEFTY'S Southwestern Cafe

For the best Mexican food in the Keys go to PANCHO & LEFTY'S SOUTHWESTERN CAFE at 632 Olivia St. (corner of Elizabeth & Olivia) in Key West, phone 294-8212. You can choose from Enchiladas, Burritos, FRESH Chili Rellenos, Black Bean Soup, Fajitas, Guacamole Salad and Dip and other dishes. Ask about their soup of the day or have a beer from their extensive selection of Mexican beer. **KEVIN AND DONNA RIKER (NEW OWNERS)** invite you to dine here soon!

CAN'T MISS NIGHT FISHING NOW AVAILABLE

Get away for a day of excitement, go deep sea fishing aboard the **CAN'T MISS**. Just phone 296-3751, and inquire about the deep sea fishing trips you can take aboard this fine custom equipped 65' party boat.

They'll take you out for a fishing trip, and supply all the fishing gear and bait. Depending upon the season, night or day fishing is available (night hours from 6:30 P.M. 'til 1:00 A.M.). You may come back at the end of your trip with a snapper, yellowtail or grouper. This Coast Guard approved party boat also has an enclosed lounge and snack bar. Call any time for rates, reservations, and to inquire about the **MILITARY AND SENIOR DISCOUNTS**.

Continued from page 2

was enormous and showed no signs of being reduced. Charges that there is "no communication;" that "he tells you one thing and does another;" that their's is an "adversarial relationship;" that "he does not support the local artists;" that he is "rude, untruthful, arrogant and looks down on us" predominated.

Nor is this attitude of disenchantment limited to our area. In San Antonio where Parvan was Director of the San Antonio Festival there were negative voices raised. Gilbert Denman, President of the first San Antonio Festival, Paul Ready, the second President and current President Linda Rourke were consistent in their strong criticism of Parvan's budget overruns. When Parvan left, the San Antonio Festival was many hundreds of thousand dollars in the red--a debt which has been reduced to approximately \$200,000 today.

Most interestingly, however, all had praise for his abilities to put together and pull off an exciting festival. There appears to be little doubt that Parvan is a superb impresario. Certainly people like myself in Key West have been very appreciative of his abilities to produce exciting

entertainment. And The Festival of the Continents could knock our socks off if it comes off. I remain very impressed with Parvan's desire to produce Aida at Ft. Taylor with Jimmy Buffet in a minor role (it is uncertain if this spectacle is going to occur, however).

I have no reason to doubt what members of our local arts community have reported to me. I have no reason to doubt that Parvan has the capability to bring off an exciting festival that would be a big plus for the town. But a festival that divides the town is undesirable. Can the best be brought out of this controversial impresario? Can the Key West Arts Community get behind him?

Well, unfortunately, I've heard some people who've stated that "gulf" can not be crossed & they will have nothing further to do with Parvan. They feel that the festival will never come off & good riddance to it.

But suppose that Richard Heyman and members of his board seriously intervened and tried to heal or at least smooth over this breach. Suppose that a liaison person acceptable to the board & to the estranged members of the arts community were to create & maintain a

dialogue. Since Parvan (and his business associate Margaret Pent) have not established any rapport with these people, might not an ombudsman be a step towards a solution?

I remain optimistic that with proper channeling, Parvan's talent could give us a fine festival and almost everyone would be the better for it. He appears to be keeping an eye on expenses and operating within his budget. But without some remedial measures being taken soon the bitterness between Parvan & too many members of our town will become permanently entrenched and to no one's benefit.

It would be nice to establish a forum column to which readers could write & address specific columnists on issues with which they agree or disagree. We have a letter to a columnist with a short reply in this issue. If you feel like writing in, please do.

A tip of the hat to Michael Whalton for pulling off an extraordinarily successful Hemingway Days Festival.

See you next month.

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PRE-ELECTION COMMENTARY
By Bill Westray

The announcement by Mayor Tom Sawyer that he would not run for reelection because his employers were forcing him to either give up the mayor's job or give up his executive position at First Federal Savings and Loan was a shocker. Announcements by Charles "Sonny" McCoy that a group of about 20 of his friends had "drafted" him to run again, and by former mayor Richard Heyman that the illness that caused him to step down two years ago had vanished and that he wanted to run again left us breathless and unbelieving.

The grapevine has it that developer interests had found Tom Sawyer too "middle-of-the road" to be tolerated for another term. Many of his 1985 supporters felt he failed to fit the mold cast by former Mayor McCoy. However, we had found Tom to be refreshingly "fair" in presiding at commission meetings and performing other mayoral duties, and were inclined to want him to remain for another term or two.

We should not have been surprised to see McCoy back on the scene. The "concrete coalition" and its followers had served notice that it intended to sweep the moderates out of office in the city as they had done in the county last year. McCoy obviously is the leader who not only fits the mold but made the mold. We find him too much to stomach again. He is the mayor who fought for high rises, took our waterfront away from the people and replaced it with hotels and condominiums. He allowed development on Rest Beach and ignored the long standing easements that would have extended South Roosevelt Boulevard from Bertha to White Street. We believe that we might have had renourishment of Smathers Beach approved years ago if McCoy and his friends had not tried to tie replenishment of Smathers Beach to enlargement of Rest Beach at public expense for the benefit of condominium developments out there...a classic example of special interests drinking at the public trough.

McCoy's role in giving away the city golf course for peanuts (about 50 cents per square foot) is well known, and it failed to produce the "championship" golf course touted by McCoy and his friends. McCoy's efforts to solve our sewer system problem



failed miserably. The \$16 million bond issue he floated in 1980 repaired a few pumping stations and provided sewer lines and new streets for all the new development along Rest Beach. Conversely, it failed to provide a new treatment plant, outfall system, and the needed collector and force mains now being installed. After the Navy/GSA gave the city a large part of Tank Island for a sewer treatment plant, McCoy apparently gave it back, allowing it to become a candidate for use as a plush hotel and marina. McCoy personally promised that he would maintain the sewer rates for small homeowners at about or under \$5 per month, but that assurance fizzled; almost as soon as he left office, the homeowners' sewer rates were forced up to \$20 per month, and according to the latest sewer system studies are destined to go much higher.

The Resource Recovery Plant at the dump on Stock Island in our opinion was another fiasco. It never worked properly. It was supposed to compost garbage and sludge from the sewer plant into salable fertilizer and segregate cans and other metals into profitable scrap. It never did either successfully and became a million dollar white elephant.

From our viewpoint, McCoy had some redeeming characteristics. The revitalization of Duval Street in the "Downtown 76" project was, on balance, commendable. McCoy's decisiveness in emergencies was his finest characteristic; for example his takeover of the city's finances when a former city manager ran us broke and unable to meet payroll, as well as his takeover of City Electric during the brownouts following the failure and outage of our three largest generators, were outstanding performances.

However, the monstrous impacts of almost all the major development of the last few years had their inception during McCoy's 10-year reign as mayor. The present city commission has been struggling trying to correct and deal with the problems caused by this excessive development. Many of our old time residents are packing up and moving out. Hardly a week goes by without someone we know having sold out and left.

We are afraid that bringing McCoy back would be a throw back to giving the condo builders whatever they want...the remaining shoreline, the salt ponds, the high rises, the noisy commercial jets, the traffic snarls.

We would prefer to see Sawyer remain. The last two years have seen refreshing movement by the city commission to govern in the interest of all the people, not just the vested few insiders.

Although we are still very upset by some of Richard Heyman's decisions as mayor, we are mindful that he created a capable,


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My childhood dream was to live in a home that looked out on the open sea...

TOPS meeting:
 Need help losing weight? Come to TOPS "Take Off Pounds Sensibly." Call Debbie at 296-0100 or Irene at 294-2913. Meetings are held Mondays at 6:30 p.m. at Sigsbee School Teachers Room.

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors AIDS Help, Inc. are held on the first Friday of each month.


The next regular meeting will be held on Friday, August 7, 1987, at 9:00 A.M. at the Truman Annex Administration Building No 124, suite 314

functional city planning department, and they put in place a reasonable growth management plan. His return would probably continue movement in that direction. (We'll cover more on Richard in September.)
 We think that the voters should demand straight answers from candidates at the coming election. Ask yourselves what you really want from your city government and then vote for a mayor and commissioners that best serve your objectives.



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KEY WEST RECREATION & SPORT

By Robert Kareka

This is the first monthly column in SOLARES HILL devoted exclusively to reporting the recreational and sporting activities in Key West. The column's success will depend on the quality of reporting and a sufficient supply of information as to what's happening around town and the lower Keys. You readers know more about that than I can ever discover alone. Keep me informed-I need your help!

This first column will be an introduction to what you should expect on these pages. Next month we will cover a single sport or recreational activity in depth with highlights of the past summers' activities and announcements as to what will be happening the coming month. If you have any news or gossip, simply write Solares Hill, #4 Key Lime Square, Key West Fla., 33040 and please address it to my attention - Sports Editor. If the information is hot, call 294-3602 and leave your phone number. I'll call back.

The following is from Webster's Dictionary:
SPORT: v.i. To play or frolic. v.t. To divert or amuse oneself. **RECREATION:** n. Refreshment in body or mind, as after work, by some form of play, amusement, or relaxation. **RE-CREATE:** v.i. To revive or refresh. v.t. To create or form anew; to re-make. The tone and spirit of this column will be according to the above meanings of sport and recreation as opposed to the following: **COMPETE:** v.i. To contend in rivalry. **RIVALRY:** n. State of being a rival. **RIVAL:** n. One or two or more persons striving for something which only one of them can have.

I see the joy in sport, the fun in winning and the innocent competition that is necessary in any game or play between individuals or groups. But, if it is to "Better" the other, it seems that we have enough one-upsmanship going on in the world and the world isn't doing too well.

Having "done some editorializing", it's time to do my job. In the future I'll try not to expose you to much of the above.....maybe.

Here's some quick sketches about only a part of what has been and what is going on:

BOCCE BALL LEAGUE: Set up by the Sons of Italy, the players are rolling the Pallina and Bocce balls on the courts at Bayview Park, next to the Tennis Courts on Truman Avenue every

Wednesday night starting at about 6 P.M. and ending when the teams finish - 11 or sometimes 12 P.M. Fascinating to watch this seemingly simple yet strategically complex game imported from Italy. Drop by and join the picnic.

SOCCKER: A welcome addition of the creeping Soccer craze is "Soccer Camp". Worldwide Pros will be coming here to coach Soccer Camp August 10-15 at KWHs Stadium. Training in playing, coaching and refereeing will be given. Hurry! Sign-up for camp is open to children from K thru 8th Grade and High School. Contact SSA Camp coordinator, Rae Miller-296-5569 or Dave Sudan - 294-0158.

DART LEAGUE: There are three divisions in the league; each representing different standards of playing ability. Find out where you fit by contacting the Hukilau Restaurant, Aunt Roses Restaurant, the Charcoal Hut, Lopez Budweiser, Coconuts, Sandcastle, Blue Lagoon, Green Parrot, Diamond Lil's, Sea Fox, Cow Key Marina, Bull & Whistle, Stick N Stein, and VFW #3911.

MS QUIK-BALL TOURNAMENT: Way back in November of last year Susan Dion of the Dion Oil Co organized a "One-pitch Elimination Quik-Ball Tournament" to benefit persons in Key West with Multiple Sclerosis. A number of local businesses joined in this effort by sponsoring teams to participate in the three day event which raised over \$5,000. A 1987 event is planned for late fall. Contact Susan Dion at 296-2000 for more information.

5K HEMINGWAY SUNSET RUN: I can't imagine running during the summer months in K.W. but people do, as in July 18th's 6th Annual Run. Debbie Ziebart from Lauderdale, Fla., won the womens race in 20:14 and Eric Joffrey from Midland, Mich., was up front in 15:41 in the men's event.

SOFTBALL: The K.W. Firefighters All-Stars 9 - 5'd the Miami Dolphins All-Pro All-Star Team a couple of weeks ago. Tom Welters went 4 for 4 with 2 homers for K.W. to help with the win. All proceeds went to the Fla. Keys Youth Club.

ANNUAL SWIM ROUND KEY WEST: The traditional 4th of July event was held on July 12th this time because of unfavorable tide conditions on the 4th. (A special column on this event coming soon as with many other events.) Order of finish was Paulette Maccione, 5:47:28;

Anna Fugina, 6:23:30; Paul Braun, 6:48:12; Chris Thomas, 6:57:58; Tom Sharpley, 7:55:01. In the Fin category Bob McKendry did it in 6:35:07 and Joe Breton in 6:39:07.

GOLF: It took Jimmy Mira, Jack Church, Bob McCord and Bob Chango as a team to low gross 58 and place 1st in the Miller Lite Gold Scramble. The Lower Keys Golf Association played at the Key West Resort Golf Course. Many tournaments coming. Call the K.W. Resort for details at 294-5232. For sure, the Amateur Champ Tournament scheduled for August 21-23 looks like potential for some good golf watching.

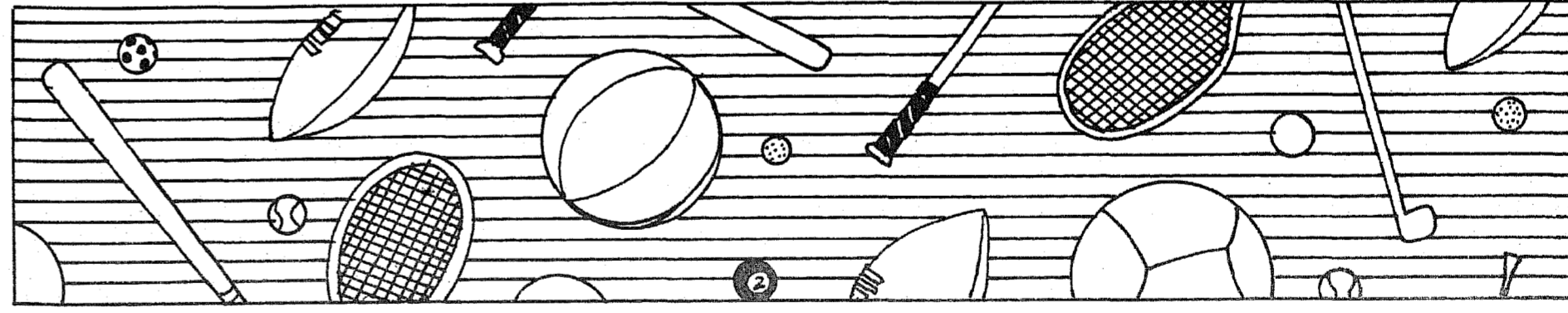
LITTLE MAJORS BASEBALL LEAQUE (AGES 10-12): The K.W. American All-Stars lost the first game in the Fla. Little Major League State Tournament at Jacksonville to West Palm Beach by a score of 10-9. But, it took extra innings for West Palm to do this. K.W. started off with a blazing lead, but... For Key West, Bobby Green had 3 hits and as many RBI's and 3 Homers for Randy Emerson. Regardless of who wins the Tournament it's for sure that it was a champion start for K.W. even with the 1st game loss.

And, there was and will be more. For example: Tennis clubs, rowing teams, women's softball, several youth baseball leagues, running clubs, bicycle clubs, volley ball teams and on and on and on. In the meantime you can read more of what will be coming in the next issue of "Entertainment Key West", also a publication of Solares Hill Co. Inc.

Finally thanks to the people who started this column with the information & time they gave me: Kathy Hoisington and Steve Ness from Canvas Creations; Nina Carr and Ray Masiero working at Half Shell Raw Bar; recent retiree from Winn-Dixie, Pepe Hernandez; Randy Sterling, our Director of Community Services; John Duke, rowing team instructor for the K.W. Maritime Historical Society; Sheila Sands, Public Relations Director for the Reach and Mick Hoskins -U.S.N. - a promoter of the Dart League and thanks also to all of you who I forgot to mention.

Again, if this column is going to work it will take three of us: you, me and Solares Hill Newspaper. Keep me posted. (Relax, if it bombs I'll take the blame.)

Take care. Will write to you again next month.



Family and Health Services

EMERGENCIES

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

EDUCATION

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

RECREATION

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

CHILD ABUSE

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

NAVY

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

DAY CARE

See Yellow Pages listing
 for day nurseries and child care.

SOCIAL SERVICES

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

HEALTH

Al-Anon..... 296-6616, 294-5531
 Ala-Teen..... 296-6616
 Alcoholics Anonymous..... 296-8654
 Alliance for the Mentally Ill..... 294-5237
 Blind Services..... 1-800-342-1828
 Chemical Dependency Unit,
 Delphos..... 294-5531
 Childbirth Educ/Midwifery..... 294-4536
 Easter Seal..... 294-1089
 Family Planning..... 294-1021
 Hello Baby..... 294-5531
 Helping Hand Stroke Club..... 294-5531
 Hospice..... 294-8812

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

MISCELLANEOUS

Adoptions..... 294-9513
 Birth Certificates..... 294-1021
 Family Resource Center, FKMH..... 294-5531
 Foster Homes: Information &
 Licensing..... 294-9513
 Legal Services..... 294-4641 x358
 National Switchboard for
 Runaways..... 1-800-621-4000
 Red Cross..... 296-3651
 Salvation Army..... 294-5611
 Single Parent Hotline..... 1-800-638-9675
 Victim Witness Assistance
 Program..... 294-5165
 Welcome Home Ministries..... 296-2366
 Zonta..... 296-4357
 Vietnam Vets of Key West..... 294-9802
 AIDS Education Project..... 294-8302

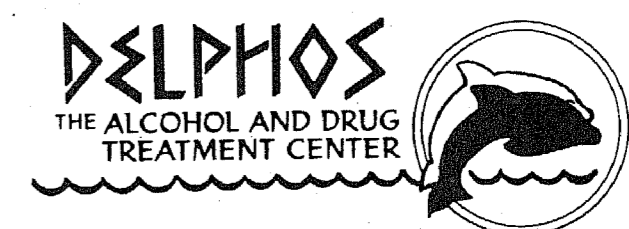
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FREE SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE TO MONROE COUNTY MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS PATIENTS

Close to 60 Key West residents, who have multiple sclerosis, will soon be able to take advantage of numerous, free invaluable services, which will be offered with the proceeds generated from the highly successful softball tournament, Quik Ball for Ms.

A check in the amount of \$4,960 will be presented on Thursday, Aug. 6 at 7 p.m. by Suzanne Dion, of Dion's Quik Mart Food Stores, to Anna Scharlet, R.N. and chapter board member and to Lynne Stein, M.S.W., Chapter Services coordinator for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, South Florida Chapter. The presentation will take place at Florida Keys Community College, Room 2103, Junior College Rd.

Immediately after the presentation, the first group meeting for people with MS will be held. Stein will be ascertaining the needs to the members, as well as outlining the overall plans for the services that will be offered for the forthcoming year. All MS people, family members and friends are invited to attend.

Suzanne Dion, who single-handedly organized and implemented last year's "Quik-Ball Tournament" with the assistance of private businesses and special groups raised a total of \$5,360 of which \$500 will be kept as seed money for this year's event.

One hundred percent of these funds will remain in Key West and will enable the MS Chapter to provide, for the first time in this community, the following much needed services:
 *Physical Therapy - a six-week program given on weekly sessions which will provide a through physical therapy

evaluation at Florida Keys Memorial Hospital.

*Support Group Program - Provided to newly diagnosed and long-term people with MS and to their spouses or significant others in eight sessions, every other week by a clinical nurse specialist and a psychiatrist. Through these support groups, counseling and an opportunity to share feelings, experiences, and special problems are offered, as well as, a chance to begin to better balance their emotional lives.

*Support Group Gatherings - will take place at the Clinic for Mental Health Services, Key West Professional Plaza, 1111-12th St. Suite 103 beginning August 8th.

*Loan Closet - Walkers, wheelchairs, canes and specialty items, as needed, will be available to all patients registered in the program. A location for the Loan Closet is still needed. Registration is completely confidential and is required of all who wish to take advantage of the new, free program. To register or get additional information call 599-0299. You may call collect.

See Solares Hill's next issue for complete coverage of all the services now available in Key West!

continued from page 54

legendary "sportsman." And the patron saint of conservation, James Audubon, often shot birds from sunrise to sunset -- not for study, but merely to see how high he could make the pile.

Hemingway is not the first novelist whose fame was instrumental in the enrichment of a town. Sinclair Lewis was despised when he wrote *Main Street* until he became world famous and the town fathers of Sauk Centre, the model for the book, realized he was a lucrative "draw."

We're lucky to have not one, but a whole group of famous writers to celebrate. This is not only good for business, it gives the arts the attention they deserve. In France, authors are accorded the same star status as athletes are in the United States. Key West is setting an example for the rest of our nation.

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Commentary

by V.K. Gibson

On Monday, July 13, Key West witnessed the premier of a new play, *The Lost Generation*, written by Hilary Hemingway and Jeffrey Freundlich, a husband-and-wife team best known for screenplays. The production, hosted by the Red Barn Theatre, was made possible by the Hemingway Days Festival and Burger King.

The play is set in Paris in the 1920's and focuses upon four historical characters: Gertrude Stein, Alice B. Toklas, Ernest Hemingway and Ernest's first wife, Hadley Richardson.

(By the way, Woody Allen did a brilliant parody of the Lost Generation era, "A Twenties Memory," to be found in his collection of comic pieces, *Getting Even*, published by Warner Paperback Library. This is a good example of how a genius writes about geniuses.)

The Lost Generation, in its present form, does not quite seduce us or apprehend the profound. But the writers have taken the noteworthy risk of departing from many popular concepts of what constitutes entertainment.

Gide and Cocteau did it with classical themes, using the myths of antiquity as points of departure, devices which distill a contemporary aesthetic. Perhaps Ms. Hemingway and Mr. Freundlich will consider this approach for further development of their play, finding a point of departure so that the dramatic burden does not depend so much upon historical interest.

There is some good writing, especially in the scenes with Hadley and Alice. The authors seem to have avoided a truly insolent penetration of the subject. It is confined to quirky mannerisms, the bombastic pontifications of Stein, and speeches by Hemingway which are deadpan and poetic in turn.

The play relies heavily upon audience fascination for the characters. The best of the ideas, borrowed from Stein, Hemingway and Toklas (who was a better writer than Gertrude -- read her wonderful cookbook) make for moments of amusement. We see these ghosts move about and hear them say their lines, and if our interest in them is more than superficial the play does not drag. (It is also short.)

But, what about viewers who know little of the subjects? This, then, may be an area which needs further work. There is an attempt here to create a sense of wonder. I think that it can be carried further. Another play, *The Apollo of Belloc*, by Jean Girardoux, is a superior example of how magical effects can be achieved by simple means within a short work. (I'd love to see that classic done in Key West!)

More of the psychological tension in *The Lost Generation* should erupt into action.

One awkward incident: When Hemingway bounds into the Stein presence to announce the birth of his son, his wife follows immediately with the infant. In

those times women routinely spent several days in hospital after giving birth. I know that the authors have chosen to disdain a natural time unity, and that this is a common device in today's theatre. But, in this case, it seems to provide an unintended meandering into the Theater of the Absurd.

Some words about the production. I have only praise for the gifted director, Susan Hawkins, and the talented cast: Joy Hawkins as a peppery and endearing Stein; Rita Bruckner-Brown as the interestingly titled Alice Toklas; Majorie Paul-Shook as the tragic, flapperish Hadley Richardson;



and Criag Biondi very neatly as Hemingway. The skilled people behind the scenes: Stage Manager Fred Andrews, Master Electrician John Dickinson, year. Costumer Edee Mathews, and Lucile Kravitz the Properties person. (And if I've forgotten anyone, my apologies.)

The Lost Generation is a work-in-progress and I assume that the playwrights hoped this production would inspire criticism pro and con. My comments are not intended to imply that the play was unworthy of the Festival. On the contrary, risk taking of this sort is very desirable. There is talk that Mr. Freundlich and Ms. Hemingway will submit a new work next year. This prospect is exciting. They have time to get their acts together.

The Hemingway Days Festival is a commercial venture designed to foster tourism in the "Dead" summer season. Our business community, which makes the Festival possible, deserves much praise for going beyond the purely commercial angles. Festival director Michael Whalton tells me that he has signed many checks for local performing, visual, and technical artists. Bravo! I would also like to mention that the idea for the street dramatic performances originated with the ever-resourceful Rae Coates.

I have a few suggestions for next year's Street Carnival. More music, please. Even a few merchants setting up roof-top speakers here and there would be an improvement. Visitors perked up visibly whenever they encountered music -- even a ghetto blaster which someone had perched near a sidewalk. I noticed that a good number of ethnic food vendors were attracted from outside Key West. Why not summon a few street musicians? Only one per block would do much to enliven the event. Perhaps we could even find these people locally. (Is it too much to hope that the Key West High School band might perform?)

To enhance the visual effect, clowns moving up and down Duval Street would be nice for the younger visitors. How about inexpensive prizes for all the children in costume? And a costume contest for grown-ups? In order to be eligible for a

prize, let adult entrants be required to visit the shops of sponsoring merchants. This would force them to become part of the Carnival and would guarantee added spectacle throughout the two days for relatively little cost.

But on to another matter. On July 19 the *Key West Citizen* published a reader's letter which expressed strong feelings about the Festival's choice to honor Ernest Hemingway, saying, among other things: "A lot of his writing was crap." The letter went on to point out glaring character flaws in the so-called Great Man. (I would normally answer a letter in the *Citizen* by my own letter to that publication. But this touches upon the subject at hand.)

Much of the problem with Hemingway stems from people confusing the man with his art. Many famous artists were befuddled in their personal morals: obnoxious, egotistical, brutal, petty, crude, racist. For example, Richard Wagner was an anti-semitic. Because of that, and because he was Hitler's favorite composer, some Jews will not listen to his music. He was, however, one of the greatest composers of all time. As generations pass, Wagner's character flaws will be of interest only to historical novelists and scholars.

I suspect that I wouldn't have cared for Hemingway. And I am absolutely positive that he wouldn't have liked me. But what does that matter? He is dead. All that is left are his books and stories, the people who knew him, and those countless articles, biographies and essays which have been produced in the last sixty years.

What about his work? Does it deserve the acclaim it receives? What makes a reputation?

For one thing, there is the effect which a writer has upon his peers. If professional influence is any measure of worth, Hemingway is the most important writer of our century. And that is saying a lot, considering the many literary giants who have appeared in our time. More modern writers have been influenced by Hemingway than any other contemporary author.

If a person creates *only one masterpiece* he is a great artist. Hemingway produced at least two novels which are considered masterpieces even by most of his detractors, and a series of brilliant short stories which are unsurpassed in English or any other language.

If only his story, "A Clean, Well-Lighted Place," or "The Snows of Kilimanjaro," or "The Short Happy Life of Francis Macomber," had survived, he would still be worthy of his fame.

Hemingway couldn't spell? Neither could Faulkner, or Tennessee Williams. It's odd, but writers of genius are often weak on spelling and even grammar.

The writer of the indignant letter is a champion of animals, and Hemingway was a hunter, a killer of animals for fun. Perhaps objectivity is too much to expect in such a case.

It is always a mistake to judge the citizens of the past by our more enlightened standards. Theodore Roosevelt was also a

continued on page 53

NEW AGE FORUM by Carol Shaughnessy

NEW AGE EDITORIAL

By Carol Shaughnessy

In the three months that the *New Age Forum* has appeared in "Solares Hill," I would like to think that many strangers have become new readers, and many readers have become friends. It is to those readers and friends that I offer my farewells: I will no longer be coordinating this section every month. An exciting new writing opportunity has come up for me, so starting with the September issue, Ann Boese will be in charge of the *Forum*. Ann has been writing fine theatre reviews in "Entertainment Key West" for over a year. I am very confident handing over the editorial coordination of

this section to her; and hope that you will be as helpful to her as you have been to me. Thanks, friends. I've had fun, and I've learned a lot -- and that's what it's really all about.

HOLISTIC HEALING: JOAN PRIESTLEY

By Carol Shaughnessy

Not long ago, holistic physician Joan Priestley attended a medical conference. It was not just a conference of holistic physicians; Joan found herself in the middle of a group of allopathic, or traditional, doctors who were somewhat sceptical of her brand of medicine. "I was talking with them about using nutrients instead of drugs in my practice, and they asked me, 'How on earth can you treat disease with nutrients? How can you find a satisfying practice?'" I said,

"Well, there is one drawback to this kind of medicine: I'm constantly dependent on an influx of new patients." When asked why, she replied that when people with illnesses followed her suggestions as to a beneficial course, they were very often well after only a few visits to her office -- so there was no need for them to come back. Recalling the conversation, Joan laughs. "The look on those doctors' faces was just priceless -- like 'I should have such problems with my patients.' That was fun"

Joan Priestley has been practicing holistic medicine in Key West for just over a year. She and her husband, Marty Price, originally came to the island two and a half years ago, running from a cold snap that threatened to spoil the camping vacation they were enjoying before taking up high-powered jobs in Los Angeles.

They never made it to L.A. Instead, they fell in love with Key West and bought a house. "This is a real light center," Joan says of the island. "It's a tremendous community for holistic medicine, for spiritually-oriented people. We have the Unity Church down here, we have the Course in Miracles, the Sanctuary, INSIDEOUT, we have Dale Alexander's office. This little island supports five health food stores. There's a wonderful, close-knit network here. It was the perfect opportunity for me."

Although her interest in spiritual matters began before medical school, Joan was trained as a traditional physician. However, she gradually became uncomfortable with the kind of medicine she saw around her. "I saw a lot of inappropriate medicine practiced. Inappropriate medicine coupled with ineffective medicine made me feel like I had just wasted a lot of time, and I left the profession after two years of residency."

It was actually former patients who re-awakened her interest in healing several years later. "Some old patients shoved some books in my hands," she says, "and it let me see that there was more out there than what I had been trained for." Joan smiles. "My patients have been educating me for years."

In turn, Joan has been healing her patients. In accordance with her definition of holistic medicine, when someone comes to see her Joan examines more than just symptoms -- she questions them about their lifestyles and life situations, their attitudes about themselves and spiritual outlook, diet and exercise patterns, and the supplements they may or may not be taking. She believes illness can have many complicated causes and that those causes must be found, instead of masked by treating only the symptom. "It (illness) can be emotional, environmental, allergies that are unsuspected, it can be dietary imbalances or



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NEW AGE FORUM by Carol Shaughnessy

deficiencies that most doctors aren't trained to recognize. So just prescribing pills for people is real unsatisfying and ineffective." Joan's daily practice involves treating people who have a wide variety of ills (including many with Candida, or yeast, sensitivity), but she rarely prescribes medication for them. Instead, she strongly suggests they undertake a health-building, whole foods, semi-vegetarian diet, and uses nutrients to combat disease. "Nutrients include vitamins, minerals, herbs, amino acids. It's been worked out with a raft of research about which nutrients seem to have a beneficial effect on which diseases, so I stock those nutrients and that's what I use for people. I'm really coming to feel that all chronic disease has a nutritional basis."

She has had special success with her AIDS prevention/AIDS management program. The cornerstones of this treatment consist of the patients making dietary changes, lifestyle changes like practicing safe sex and giving up alcohol and drugs, and taking supplements that are selected for being immune system stimulators. The most important aspect of the program, however, is an attitudinal one: she works on the patients' ability to love themselves, suggests that they utilize visualizations and meditation on their own as a way of de-stressing, and encourages use of Louise Hay's tapes and involvement in the local Living Circle group. The results of the regimen, Joan reports, have been much more favorable than she has expected.

Joan believes the first step in healing -- not only for people with AIDS, but for those with most illnesses -- is "loving yourself enough to allow a transformation in your body to take place." She's very interested in helping her patients participate in their own healing through attitude changes. "There's never been more gratifying medicine," she says of her nutritional therapies, "but I'm beginning to

feel that I want to move to a more esoteric, mental approach with people, to start them becoming more involved in meditating and visualizing and opening up their own spiritual side. I'm beginning to feel that what I do now is just the next step on a long staircase."

HARMONIC CONVERGENCE-- AUGUST 16 & 17

By Sonie Green

New Age Forum readers may be aware already that there will be an extremely powerful shift in consciousness this month. Sunday, August 16 and Monday, August 17 mark Harmonic Convergence--the end of an old and beginning of a new world cycle, according to Hopi, Aztec, Mayan and other prophecies.

Sources are channeling their predictions through visions and dreams. One prediction is that "the time of August 16 to 17 is very important to your world. The analogous words are 'soft clay'.... being the condition of the Mother Substance on those days. That which shall be impressed at that time will be expressed most quickly, for never has the world's consciousness been so vulnerable to impression as it will be on these days..."

Simply stated, these two days will be a seed time in which to implant new aspirations as a race, and lift mass consciousness in a united outpouring of love and light. Prophecies for the next 25-year cycle relate to a global process of completion and spiritual transformation, and point to a critical time when humanity as a whole is initiated into a higher level of maturity and consciousness.

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the great pyramids of Egypt, for instance--people will gather to meditate, pray, chant and celebrate. Ceremonies will focus the strong intention to bring this planet to a greater level of awareness. Native American shamans will meet in Sedona, Arizona; Reiki healers have been asked to send healing to nature, the planet and mankind.

The Harmonic Convergence is a wonderful opportunity to benefit from the transition into more light. People may use this to initiate personal empowerment as well as world peace and harmony. Step out of your usual routine, take time to be with yourself, review your life and its direction, becoming aware of your highest purpose. Envision yourself experiencing total peace, love, wholeness and freedom, gloriously happy, radiantly alive, fulfilled and serving mankind with the highest wisdom and dedication.

Then let your vision slowly grow to encompass your family, loved ones, community, country, world, and the beautiful living Earth. Expand further to include the animal, plant and mineral kingdoms. Be creative, and remember--intention is the key.

Key West residents have the opportunity to link with these energies, empower our island, and send love and healing to our reef--creator of the coral foundation on which we walk. Gatherings at Smathers Beach and other locations are in the planning stages. Watch for more information, especially at INSIDEOUT and the Sanctuary.

NEW AGE ANNOUNCEMENTS

By Carol Shaughnessy

1) The Sanctuary would like to remind patrons of their summer hours -- noon to 8 p.m. daily except Sundays. They're also pleased to announce the debut of their new chef, Richard Barton. Richard, an extraordinary vegetarian chef, was previously the culinary genius at the Garden Kitchen. Also, the Sanctuary's small front room has recently become a reading room; patrons are invited to browse among the in-house collection of books -- primary topics are health and metaphysics. Pat Reiss and Gary Young are currently planting the seeds of The Sanctuary's Fall program and classes, and welcome suggestions to make their offerings as interesting as possible to Key West's New Age Community.

2) On August 6 and 12 at 7:30 p.m., Renate Perelom will host Sioux Rose's television show, "Astrology and Divine Order" on local channel 5. Renate, who is well-known among the island's New Age community, will discuss the upcoming Harmonic Convergence on the August 12 show. Key West Reiki Master and Teacher Sonia Green will host the program on August 19.

3) Greenpeace, the environmental store located at 612 Duval Street, announces the visit of renowned whale expert Roger Payne, Ph. D. Dr. Payne, who recorded the whale sounds for "Songs of the Humpback Whale" and "Deep Voices," will be at Greenpeace from noon to 6 p.m. on August 13.

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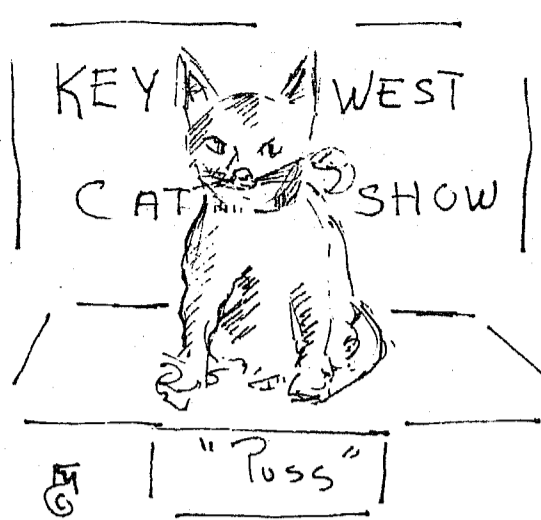
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294-3602

4) Sonia Green will hold a two-day Reiki Training seminar at the Sanctuary this month before the Harmonic Convergence. The seminar centers on an introduction to Reiki and first degree instruction. Classes are Friday August 7 from 7 to 10 p.m., and Saturday August 8 from 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$85.00; financial aid is available. See Pat Reiss or Sonia at the Sanctuary for details.

6) The original work of local artists and craftsman Joseph L. Stern, specifically inlay-overlay of exotic woods, and tropical scenes, will be displayed during the month of August at the Guild Hall Gallery, 614 Duval Street.

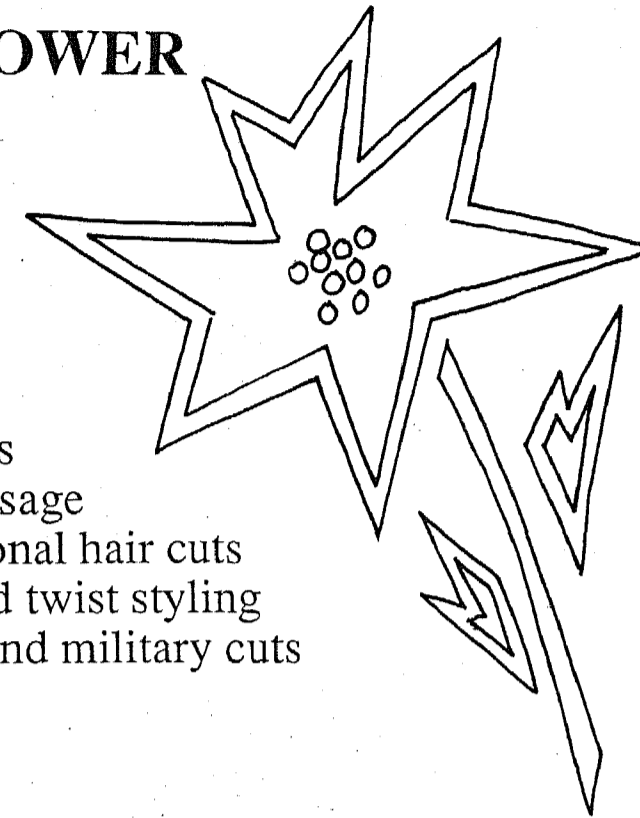
7) Captain Orin Oppermann, owner and operator of the "Loreley Express" charter

sailboat, has a special opportunity for people involved in the Narcotics Anonymous drug treatment program: twice monthly, he will choose one person from among those interested to take out on a free trip on the "Loreley." In offering this four-hour sail and diving tour, Captain Oppermann hopes to share with N.A. members the 'natural high' he experiences when diving and snorkeling at the reef. Anyone interested should call 294-6674.

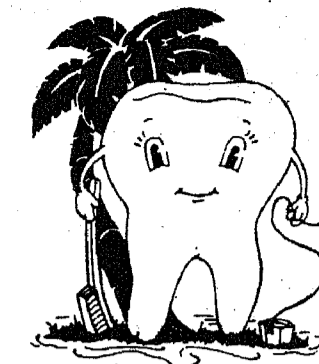


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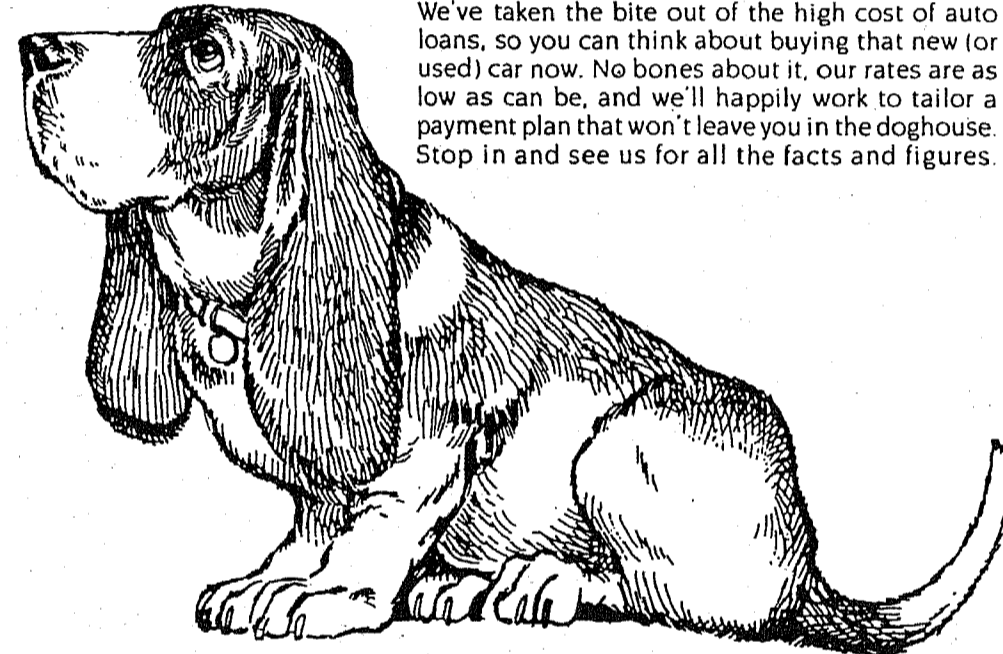
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Florida Keys and Key West Calendar of Events

We hope our yearly Calendar of Events will be of benefit to planners of special events as well as to those wishing to attend. We want to include all interesting events taking place in Key West and the Florida Keys, and we need your help. If you have a future event you wish to be included in our calendar, please send information to: *Kathy Roach, Solares Hill, #4 Key Lime Square, Key West, Florida 33040.*

AUGUST, 1987

ARTS

1-31: Inlay-overlay of exotic woods, tropical scenes by artist and craftsman Joseph L. Stern, Guild Hall, Key West. 296-6706 for information.
1-8: Allan Weintraub watercolor exhibit, Key West Art Center, Key West. 294-1241 for information.
9-22: Connie Hauk watercolor exhibit, Key West Art Center, Key West. 294-1241 for information.
23-31: Edna Damron watercolor and oil exhibit, Key West Art Center, Key West. 294-1241 for information

WATER FUN

1-31: Key West Fishing Tournament, Key West. Call 294-4676 for information.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

27: United Way Campaign kickoff dinner, Casa Marina, Key West. Call 296-3464 for information

FAMILY FUN-LIBRARY

1: "What Mary Jo Wanted," Library, Key West. Call 294-4888 for information.
4: Jungle Jubilee! Library, Key West. Call 294-4888 for information.
6: Summer Story Hour, Library, Key West. Call 294-4888 for information.
8: "Winter of the Witch" and "The Foolish Frog," Library, Key West. Call 294-4888 for information.
13: Summer Story Hour, Library, Key West. Call 294-4888 for information.
15: "Winnie the Pooh and Tigger, Too," Library, Key West. Call 294-4888 for information.
18: Celebrate your Library! Library, Key West. Call 294-4888 for information.
20: Summer Story Hour, Library, Key West. Call 294-4888 for information.
22: "Miss Nelson is Missing," Library, Key West. Call 294-4888 for information.

EDUCATIONAL

1-31: Poetry Workshops at The Blue Heaven. Call 294-6708 for information.

ALWAYS HAPPENING

Mon: Yoga Class, Coffee Mill Cultural Center, Key West. 294-0228.
Tues: Sweet Adelines, Presbyterian Kirk of the Keys Church, Marathon, 7:30 PM. Old Island Harmony Barbershop Chorus, Old Stone Church, Key West. 7:30 P.M.
Wed: Pool & Dart Tournament, Big Pine Moose Lodge, Big Pine Key. 872-9313.
Thurs: Card & Game Night, Senior

Citizens Center, Big Pine Key. 745-3698.
Key West Handprint Fashion Show, Casa Marina, Key West, 12:30 PM.
Fri: Key West Handprint Fashion Show, Hukilau, Key West. 12:30 PM.

SEPTEMBER, 1987

1-5: Edna Damron watercolor and oil exhibit, Key West Art Center, Key West. 294-1241 for information.
1-30: Key West Fishing Tournament, Key West. Call 294-4676 for information.
TBA: Beer to Beer Sailboat Race, Marathon.
6: Fireworks display, Islamorada.
6-19: Nurith Gordon poster exhibit, Key West Art Center, Key West. 294-1241 for information.
19: Annual Tube Olympics, Islamorada.
19: U. S. S. Key West Commissioning (tentative), Key West. 294-2587.

OCTOBER, 1987

1-31: Key West Fishing Tournament, Key West. Call 294-4676 for information.
2-4: Marathon International Bonefish Tournament, Marathon.
2-11: "Garden District" by Tennessee Williams, TWFAC, Key West. Call 294-6232 for information.
3: Oktoberfest Celebration, Islamorada.
10-11: South Florida Mini Power Boat Race Championship '87, Islamorada.
17: Oktoberfest, Big Pine Key.
17 & 18: Offshore Power Boat Race Assn. of Miami Regional Championship Race, Islamorada.
26-31: World Class Angler Billfish Tournament, Marathon.
26-Nov.1: Fantasy Fest '87, Key West. (DETAILED SCHEDULE TBA)

NOVEMBER, 1987

1-30: Last Month of Key West Fishing Tournament, Key West. Call 294-4676 for information.
1: Children's Day, Bayview Park, Key West.
10-14: 14th annual Sombrero Cup Regatta Weekend, Marathon (TBA); 14th Annual Delguercio Sailfish Tournament, Marathon.
11, 13, 15: "Tosca", TWFAC, Key West. Call 294-6232 for information.
13-15: Island Jubilee, Key Largo.
15 & 16: Bill Kings One Day Billfish Tournament, Marathon.
15-21: Children's Art Exhibit, Key West Art Center, Key West. 294-1241 for information.
17-22: 30th Annual Key Colony Beach Sailfish Tournament, Key Colony Beach.
20: Eder String Quartet Chamber Music Series, TWFAC, Key West. 294-6232.
21 & 22: World Class Sailboard Competition, Islamorada.
22-30: Members Juried Art Show, Key West Art Center, Key West. 294-1241 for information.
27-29: Thanksgiving Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival, Islamorada. Marathon Small Boat Billfish Tournament, Key Colony Beach.
27-30: Florida Keys Arts Explo, throughout the Keys. 296-5000, Ext. 357 for information
27-30: Festival of the Continents, Key West.

296-5000, Ext. 357 for information.
28: United Way Telethon. 294-3464.

DECEMBER, 1987

1-31: Florida Keys Arts Explo, throughout the Keys. 296-5000, Ext. 357 for information.
1-31: Festival of the Continents, Key West. 296-5000, Ext. 357 for information.
4-6: "Giselle", TWFAC, Key West. 294-6232.
11 & 13: "Swan Lake," TWFAC, Key West. 294-6232.
18-20: "The Nutcracker," TWFAC, Key West. 294-6232.
25-26: "Stabat Mater" TWFAC, Key West. 294-6232.

JANUARY, 1988

TBA: Sixth Annual Literary Seminar & Tour, Key West.
1: Pier House Blast for Charity, Pier House, Key West. 294-9541, Ext. 521 for information.
1-31: Florida Keys Arts Explo, throughout the Keys 296-5000, Ext. 357 for information
1-31: Festival of the Continents, Key West. 296-5000, Ext. 357 for information
1-31: 28th Annual Old Island Days, Key West.
30-31: Third Annual Arts Explo '88 Craft Show, Key West. 294-0431 for information.

FEBRUARY, 1988

1-29: 28th Annual Old Island Days, Key West.
27-28: 23rd Old Island Days Arts Festival, Mallory Square, Key West. 294-0431 for information.

MARCH, 1988

1-31: 28th Annual Old Island Days, Key West.

APRIL, 1988

TBA: Conch Republic Day

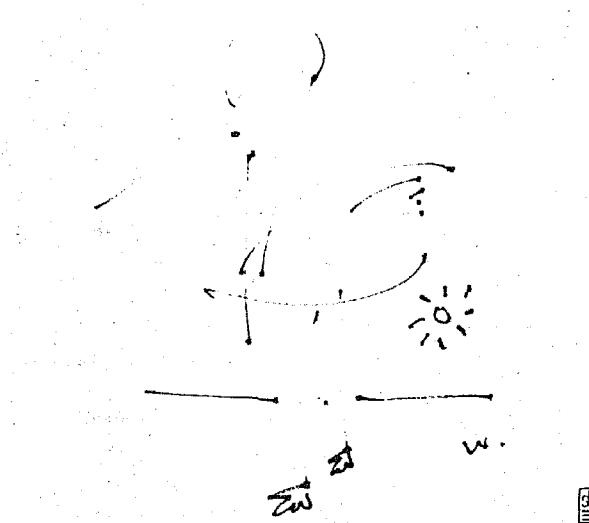
MAY, 1988

JUNE, 1988

TB: Fifth Annual Gay Film Festival, Key West. 294-5135 for information.

JULY, 1988

TBA: Hemingway Days Celebration, Key West. 294-4440 for information.



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Dennis Pharmacy 1229 Simonton
El Caeique 125 Duval
El Miramar 914 Kennedy
El Siboney 900 Catherine
Jose's Cantina 800 White
La Cubanita 601 Duval
La Lechonera 3100 Flagler
Papa's Place 1215 Duval

FRENCH
Cafe des Artistes 1007 Simonton
La Creperie 124 Duval
Gloria's Garden Cafe 618 Duval
Henry's (Casa Marina) Reynolds St.
Jordan's 808 Duval
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Las Palmas 1029 Southard
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Pier House Restaurant 1 Duval

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continued from page 24

there is no doubt that a growing number of crack cocaine addicts support their addictions by robbing and burglarizing us. 1986 arrests for burglary alone jumped up by about 50 percent.

We drive slowly along Petronia between Whitehead and Thomas. There's a lot of unemployment here; a lot of folks out in streets trying to keep cool. We pass the barber shop where sometimes crack dealers sit on empty blue milk boxes and sell their wares.

We're trolling. "See that guy on the bench over there? He's waiting to make a sale, I'll bet you." We turn into Terry Lane, between Petronia and Olivia, where a young black man sits talking with some older men across the narrow street.

Captain Lastres knows everyone but the young man. After tentative greetings are exchanged, Lastres shows his badge and begins checking the ground trash surrounding the bench. Often, he explains later, dealers hide the gravel-like crack cocaine in a paper bag or wrap it in a napkin and lay it under the bench making possession difficult to prove.

Finding nothing in the trash, Lastres and I get back into his car and move on. "I'll bet he had it in his pockets," the Captain says. Seems to me that the fellow was sitting on the wrong bench at the wrong time, but we'll never know. We had no right to search him.

Police work is ninety-five percent frustration.

THE GREAT CHECK CASHING SNAFU

Let me tell you a little about Captain Lastres.

If you're familiar with the late John D. MacDonald's Travis McGee, you already know George Lastres. His shoulders may not be as broad as McGee's and Lastres' eyes are brown, not blue. But with his tanned skin, his strong, smart, honest and caring demeanor, this Key West detective is as close to Travis as I'll ever get in real life.

Lastres is a third generation Conch, his grandparents coming from Cuba and Spain. At 51 he's been on Key West's Police Force 26 years. So when Chief Larry Rodriguez retired and Deputy-Chief Catala appointed Lastres to Captain, this new chief of detectives was ready. "Together we looked at the Key West narcotics problem and realized it was awesome," Lastres remembers. "Illegal drugs were so rampant and flagrant we took what money we had earmarked for drug buys and got busy." By late April Captain Lastres' men had made 80 arrests, 33 of those for the sale of cocaine.

"We had them on the run. We had it pretty well cleaned up when we completely ran out of money." Incredible as it sounds, the policemen went to write checks for new investigative funds, money needed to pay informers and make buys, and found that only ex-chief Rodriguez was authorized to sign. And Rodriguez wasn't around anymore. While they waited for new authorization permission from the city

commission, narcotics investigations stopped.

It was July before new authorization came.

Now Lastres needs more detectives. "With only eight men, we're stretched thin," he says. "Especially considering that one of my men is unavailable, assigned to the JAIL unit, and two have their hands full with seven internal affairs investigations."

Most frustrating to Lastres is his inability to forcefully attack illegal narcotics again. With a recent rash of car burglaries - probably caused at least in part by cocaine addicts needing money for drugs - even Detective Sergeants Gary Armstrong and Ed Brost, both veterans of the narcotics war, have been assigned other areas.

Captain Lastres hopes that the city commission will vote him two more detectives starting in October. In the meantime, our drive around Bahama Village shows the needs.

We pass an abandoned house at 807 Thomas Street. "One night," Lastres says, "we arrested a big fat guy named Hill from Tampa here, but after looking through all the trash we couldn't find the rocks. Then, on a hunch, I flashed my light up under the porch and there it was, a bag with 30 rocks taped to the underside." Lastres savors the memory for a moment. "He got 44 months probation. Now they're looking for him to send him to jail for not reporting."

Lastres' men recently closed down 806 Thomas, a house with six apartments, every one rented to a drug dealer.

TOMMY GUNS AND DOMINOS

We pass 309 Petronia. Here, day and night, dealers hang around on the sidewalk as people drive up on bicycles or in cars, make their buys and go on their way. Some afternoons around 4:30 the place gets crowded with white construction workers who drive in with their trucks to score a beer and some rocks.

As we continue driving Captain Lastres points out an abandoned house on Emma and the deserted school grounds across the street, both used by dealers.

Without doubt, making narcotics arrests is dangerous work. Some dealers search customers to see if they're wired, wearing a bug. "If they find out who you are, they can hurt you real fast." None of Lastres' men have been seriously hurt so far, but just last Friday there was word of machine guns at 114B and 116 Geraldine. "Miami boys," Lastres says, under his breath.

We drive by the New Lounge on Emma between Julia and Virginia where on Friday and Saturday nights crack cocaine is sold freely on the sidewalk. Across the street sits a white Ford belonging to a guy named Rob who's been tied in to 250 rocks of crack and goes to trial soon.

Citizens of Bahama Village are outraged by this blatant and open criminal activity. And with the markets at Pearle all but closed down, more dopers than ever are coming here. For years people would gather around the tables and benches at the corner of Julia and Thomas for dominos and gossip. Recently, drug dealers operating in front of

Remus Bar half a of block down Julia prompted people to ask that the benches and tables be moved if nothing could be done about the illegal drug dealing.

THE CUBAN CONNECTION

Driving across town to White Street, Captain Lastres recalls a night-long surveillance of Faro Sandwich Shop, a Cuban restaurant in the 1100 block. "I was laying on the roof of Pages Paint Store, next door, and that stone roof left deep indentations in my stomach which lasted three days." He paused. "Never did make an arrest that night."

Until recently, addicts could drive by Faro and buy all the cocaine they could afford. By evening, foot traffic in front of the restaurant was impossible, there were so many Cubans dealing.

After 10 arrests, one by Sgt. Brost accounting for \$2,000 worth of crack, Faro is "pretty clean." Says Lastres, "You might be able to make a buy there but it's not as flagrant as it was."

A third area of concentrated drug action in Key West is around Big Daddy's on Truman. "I've made a lot of buys right out in this alley," Lastres says, pointing to Watson Street. "People come out from the lounge to sell here and in the parking lot. The owners cooperate with us; they call us when they see syringes on the ground."

Inside this lounge just less than a year ago Geraldo Rivera videographed a bust by Florida Division of Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco undercover agents and showed the world.

So it goes in Paradise.

A NEW CHANCE FOR KIDS

In April I reported how Sherrisse Noelle and Debbie Dell, probation officers for H.R.S.' Children, Youth and Family Counseling Service, deal with kids arrested for repeated burglaries, the vast majority crack cocaine addicts. We learned about young 70-pound junkies, school dropouts near death from cocaine abuse.

I talked with Sherrisse again last week and asked if the situation had changed since we last spoke. "We're now seeing a lot more kids from upper-class families," she reported. "It used to be just Stock Island and poorer kids. Now, no one's immune."

Sherrisse did point out that the new adolescent program at Delphos is taking drug addicted kids for rehabilitation, kids who otherwise would have to wait for openings in Miami and beyond.

Dr. Ron Ersay, Director of Delphos Alcoholic and Drug Treatment Center, sees the new adolescent program fulfilling a major need in the Lower Keys. Installing the program with its 11 beds was not without trauma, however. Several staffers quit. "We have a close family here," said Ersay, "and big changes like this cause growing pains."

Marshall Wolf, Director of the Mental Health Center, also is enthusiastic about the new Delphos program. "It looks just great," he says. Wolf and his three full-time clinicians are also on the front lines of the

drug wars, seeing "more and more" cocaine abuse as time goes on.

To get the kids before they start using, Charlette Ure's Informed Families was moving into high gear when these articles started. She recently explained that they are close to their goal of having "Just Say No" clubs in grades three and four in every elementary school. "We'll teach these youngsters what drugs are all about and to say no to them," she says.

Ure claims that her organization is already seeing changes in younger kids, "More positive attitudes that drugs are bad."

"Remember," she says, "these kids are seeing older kids and relatives using and dealing. If we don't have a total reversal by 1990 I don't see any hope for the United States."

1990

What about the future of drug abuse in Key West? What will it be like here in 1990?

Mike Grodzinski says that as long as kids have no hope, we're going to have drugs. "Today, when our kids graduate from high school, the best they can do here in Key West is slightly above minimum wage. You can't buy a house. The Great American Dream is gone. It's no wonder kids get into drugs. Today everybody lies to everybody. Nuclear war looms over our heads. AIDS is rampant."

Hopelessness. Grodzinski thinks that it will just grow darker in the next two and one half years. "Even I don't see anything good in the future of the world besides Jesus. The Bible says it's not going to get any better."

Others, those who work with drugs and drug addiction professionally, see changes in type but not quantity of drugs used. Sherrisse Noel says, "Maybe there'll be another drug by 1990. LSD used to be big here. Now it's virtually disappeared. But as long as dealers make money selling drugs, there'll be something."

That something will possibly be another drug that we don't even anticipate today. At least that's the opinion of Dr. Ron Ersay of Delphos. He remembers a talk by Mark Gold of Fair Oaks -originator of the 1 800 COCAINE Hot Line - in which Gold spoke of the possibility by 1990 of seeing wide use of a more concentrated form of heroin, not injected but smoked, the kind that was used in the early '70s by our troops in Southeast Asia.

"That," says Ersay, "would be as unexpected as cocaine was" pointing out that coke had been around for years, used only by a small group of heroin addicts who would mix the cocaine with heroin to make speedballs. "No one thought that cocaine would be a widely used drug of abuse. It was too expensive. Then they invented crack."

DESIGNER DRUGS?

Sheriff Billy Freeman sees education as the answer to our drug problem and, coincidentally, to his chronically overcrowded jail. "But," he says, "there's

no total solution by 1990." He does see today's health kick an important trend away from mind altering substances. "Perhaps synthetic 'designer drugs' will be the big thing by 1990," he says. (Note: Designer drugs are mind altering substances which, when modified chemically, can be technically legal. One, called Ecstasy, is a known killer.) "One thing sure," says the Sheriff, "we'll have drugs of some kind around until society gets fed up with them."

About designer drugs, Marshall Wolf says, "I haven't seen a whole lot around here but the Sheriff is real good at forecasting." In spite of his clinic seeing "more and more cocaine," Wolf believes there's a trend to Key Westers getting smarter about drugs. "I think we are just beginning to see less cocaine abuse, with people starting to get more heavily involved in marijuana. They probably see marijuana as a safe thing, which is a fallacy of course."

And, as we've already read, JAIL's Jay Rigdon sees the trend towards marijuana as well.

Both Ruth Weinstein, the assistant public defender who defended Candy Mense, and Captain George Lastres just throw up their hands when asked what would be happening in 1990. Says Weinstein, "Maybe it's the media or maybe it's the police focusing operations on crack because of the media, but we have a proliferation of cases before us because of crack cocaine. That's the only trend I see." Lastres, too, is buried in the present epidemic of crack cocaine and finds it difficult to see beyond.

Cocaine abuse costs Key Westers millions of dollars, money to pay for health care, for accidents, for absenteeism, for our overcrowded jail, for more police, for crimes committed against us by cokeheads trying to pay for their habits, for the inevitable corruption drug money breeds, even, some say, for housing costs driven up by huge amounts of easy drug money.

Captain Jake Key, keeper of the county jail, once said to me, "How would you feel if your unemployed neighbor gives his 16-year-old son a brand new red Corvette? What do you think your 16-year-old son thinks?"

Our community suffers from a contagious disease. It takes but a concerned look to see its effect as addiction spreads from family to family, from neighborhood to neighborhood.

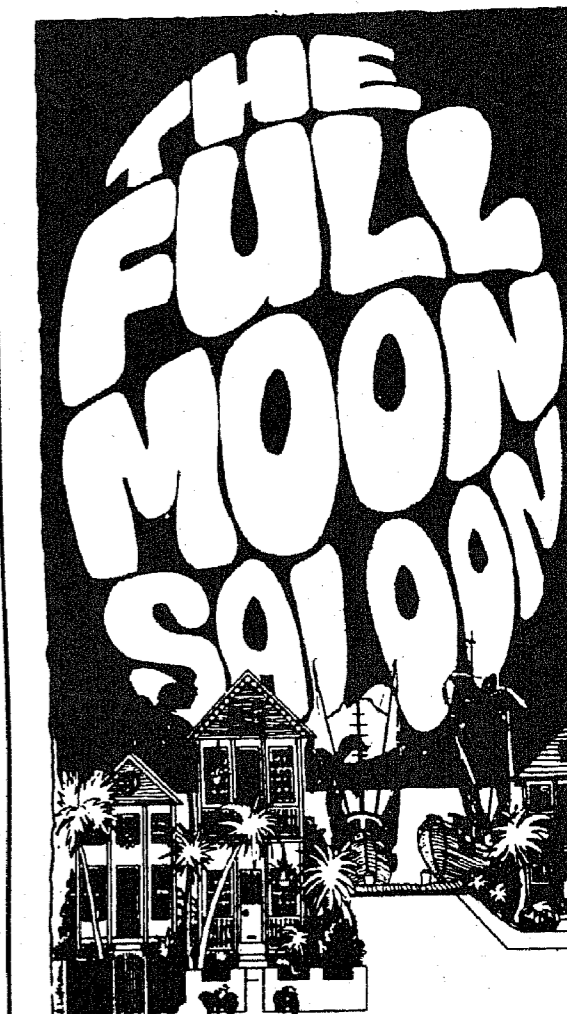
I can't easily forget a meeting just a year ago in the cafeteria at DePoo Hospital where there was standing room only and all the local glitterati in the political, educational, public health and criminal justice hierarchy spoke about crack cocaine and its threat to local glitterati in the political, educational, public health and criminal justice hierarchy spoke about crack cocaine and its threat to our children. "Just say no" was the evening's password and we were all feeling very self-righteous about this new evil in town.

"They" were turning our community to turmoil; "they" were paralyzing our legal and criminal justice system. But we weren't going to let "them get away with it."

Towards the end of the meeting Mayor

Sawyer was calling for public response and, from the far side of the room a guy by the name of Don said, "How can you expect to fight this thing when every one of us here knows how common cocaine use is in this town among adults. Surely you've been at parties where..." That was all I heard him say before he got harumphed down.

At least that's the way I saw it.



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