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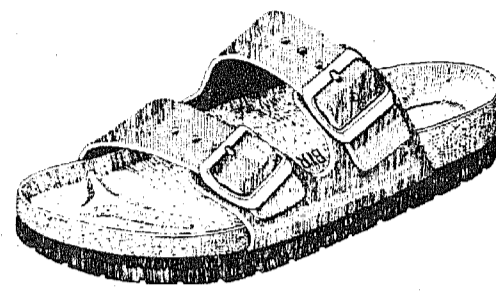
# solares hill

VOL. 16, NO. 5 / KEY WEST, FLORIDA / MAY, 1988



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### Editorial

Greetings—  
A couple months ago my work at *Solares Hill* grew from freelance involvement to serious full-time employment. At about the same time our editor and publisher decided to take a sabbatical, well deserved after 12 years of deadlines—almost nonstop.

Somebody asked me recently if I were planning to wear Bill Huckel's shoes (Birkenstock's, they are, actually) while serving as managing editor of *SH*. My response: Wear his shoes? Preposterous! Follow in his footsteps? Impossible! Walk in his direction, along the same path? Absolutely!

*Solares Hill* is a tradition—we all know that.

May is here, and the heat is turned on. The busy season seems to have withered away and the slow sensuality of summer is creeping back into position. By all indications Key West should be settling in for the slow period, getting ready to relax. Instead this island is jumping; things are happening all over the place.

The Tourist Development Council story is just beginning to unfold. The deeper local media digs, the more complex and far-reaching the findings will become. But as suggested in this month's article "The TDC and You," by Bert Lee, *SH* is more interested in the possibilities for growth from this experience that we are in the dirt.

How is that \$2.9 million most wisely spent?

All CES residential customers will pay a fuel adjustment charge this month. Every little bit hurts, especially here where living seems more expensive everyday. I scanned the classifieds under "apartments, unfurnished" in the *Citizen* the other day. The increase in rents over last year is outrageous. There simply is nothing available for one person for less than \$550 or \$600.

More on affordable housing next month. In this issue—Bud Meaker investigates the practicality of the proposed noise ordinance (it's been tabled until mid-May), DeeVon Quirolo brings us up to date on offshore oil drilling, Key West High School Students share their literary talents, Bud Jacobson whispers, and much more.

Best wishes to Francis-Elizabeth Signorelli and Gil Ryder who aren't writing for us this month due to health troubles. A speedy recovery to both.

Until June—Ann Boese



Our cover painting is entitled "Offering to the Sea." Lent anonymously.

## Charlie Toppino and His Sons

### Dominating the County's Growth Since 1934

by Bud Jacobson

TAKE A LOOK around you. Almost every building, every road, every byway, almost all the bridges, almost every one of the canals, much of the military construction, has the imprint, somewhere inside it of Charley Toppino & Sons Inc.

And who are they?  
In 1988 they're the grand-daddy construction company in Key West and Monroe County, now headquartered in a small, two-storey, modest-looking office building out on Rockland Key, set way off the highway, a place you'd go by a thousand times and never see.

Over the door it says: Toppino's.

IT IS REALLY one of the last of Florida's major construction companies that is family-owned, family-run and with a family feeling in the air around it.

"That's something, among lots of things, that we got from our father," comments Frank Toppino, president and now the oldest of the remaining four sons, including George, Edward and Paul. Philip Toppino, who had been Numero Uno and the oldest, died suddenly in 1980 while considering a heart operation.

Frank, who took over as the next son in line, is a slightly built, easy-moving man of



Near Safe Harbor Marina on Stock Island, from left: Philip, Frank, Edward, George and Paul.

conservative taste in clothes, quick to smile and talk about almost anything going on in the world while, at the same time, he handles company business details with one of his sons, or one of his brothers, or talks

to an employee about what job a certain truck is supposed to head for. One thing immediately apparent when you watch the workings of the Toppino brothers in their element, construction and

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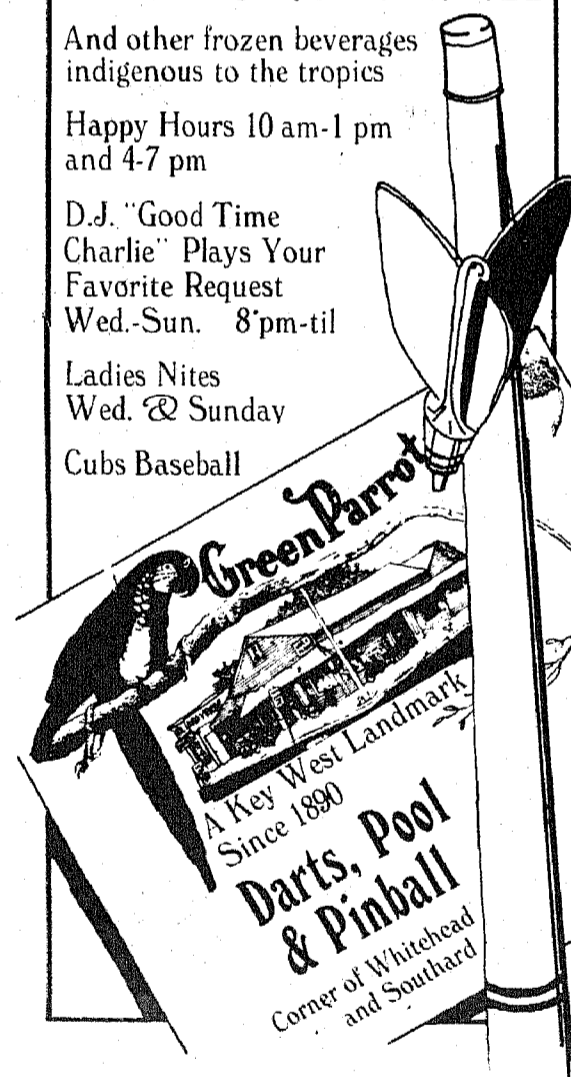
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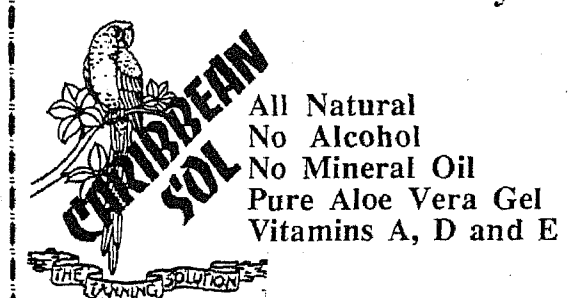
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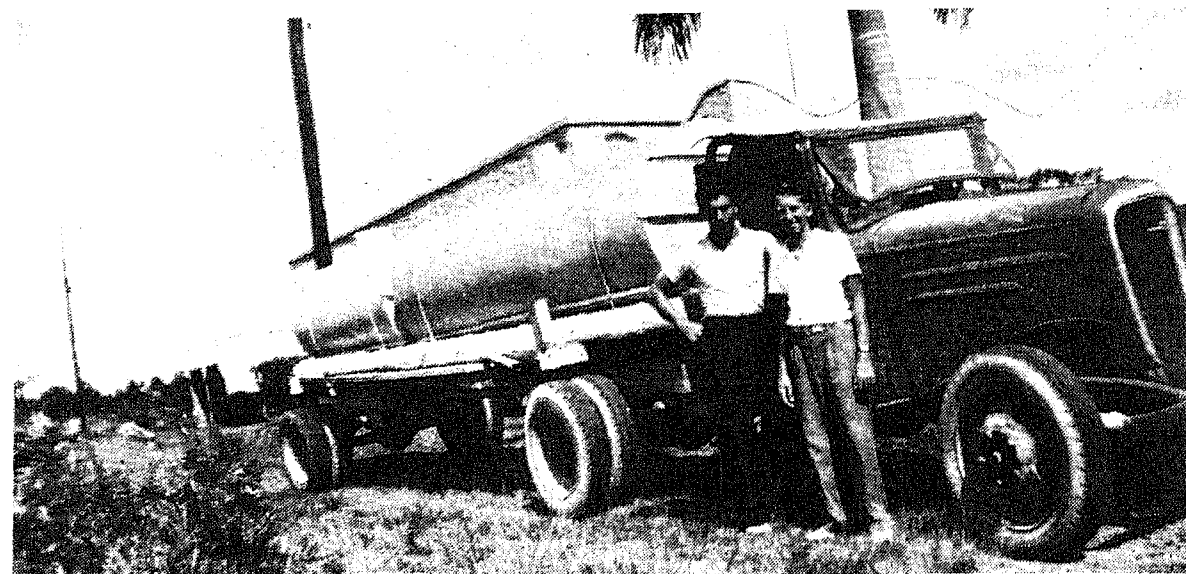
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First of the 2,000 gallon water trucks with Philip and Frank in Marathon.

building materials, is the way there is an attention to doing the work -- Frank's sons, Richard and Danny, take an evident serious interest in their roles, working in the field with the men and learning the business from the ground up.

The sons of the sons will inherit a multi-million dollar business which was started by their grandfather who quit school after the second grade and went to work.

CHARLEY TOPPINO, WHOSE real name was Paul, came from a large Italian family in the small town of Canale, in northern Italy, under the shadow of the Alps. When he stopped school, Charley, then about 8 years old, got himself a donkey and for a few cents a day he would haul grapes and other cargo around the hills near his town. In his teens, Charley moved to Genoa and from there he worked his passage across the Atlantic to New York, just in time to get into World War I, in the U.S. Army.

In the New World, was the real beginning. "Our Dad wasn't cut out to work the rest of his life for somebody else. He had an extremely fast head for numbers; he could calculate weights and measures as fast as any machine -- for a guy who only had two grades in school, he was miles ahead of a lot of others."

Charley, according to son Frank, went to work on the Hudson Tunnel in New York and then moved south to Virginia where he worked in stone cutting and gradually the business of forming and building cement

blocks came to his attention and the wheels turned toward construction.

"Someone of his friends told him the future was in Florida, this is in the '20s, and Charley came south where he worked for a spell in orange groves and then got serious about cement blocks. His first contract was for Rollins College, in Winter Park," Frank said.

But he wasn't too busy that he couldn't go back to his hometown, Canale, and marry his girlfriend, Orsalina, who became the mother of the five prominent sons.

AS THEY GREW up (and as the sons of the sons grow up) they worked some strenuous hours for their father, and still went to school, something the old man insisted on.

In the bright rich glowing years of the Great Florida Land Boom, in the 1920s, Charley and Orsalina and the five boys moved around Florida as Charley invested in several businesses which were not really in his orbit. After a couple reverses that saw the family, like thousands of others in the Great Depression, broke and wondering where the next bag of peanuts was coming from, they landed in Homestead in 1933.

Charley, during all this, Frank recalled, was not beaten or disillusioned.

"He somehow knew and had conviction that there would be building in south Florida. After all, Flagler's railroad was still running and needed work so in 1934 we moved down to Islamorada, and with



Anniversary Party, from left: Orsalina, Charley, Paul, George, Edward, Frank and Philip.

his experience, he was put to work in charge of the bridge that was being started at Channel 5.

"When you go across the channel, you look out in the Bay and see five concrete pilings that were begun but not finished; that was supposed to be a span across to Big Pine Key."

ALONG CAME FATE and the mightiest hurricane ever to hit the Florida Keys, on Labor Day of 1935, when winds and water rose to unprecedented heights and barometric pressure dropped to a little over 27 inches.

"It was a complete wipeout in the Upper Keys. We had dump trucks and we got lines and dredges and when the government

went to work to clean up, Charley Toppino and his sons were there to help."

The course of the enormous task, cleaning up and re-building, and beginning work on new bridges, led Toppino, his crews and his family to Marathon, where they settled in late 1935 to 1936.

"One of his biggest thrills, I think, was the day when President Roosevelt drove down the Keys to see the work, and Dad saw him -- that was some day."

They lived in Marathon for a number of years during the time the Overseas Highway was a toll road. Charley built and operated the Overseas Lodge, restaurant and bar which is still in place today. At the time it was opened, it was near the toll gate and sold gas and oil to the few cars out there on

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the highway. The family lived upstairs. "We were going to school in Marathon, then, working after school for the company; at night, if somebody needed gas, we'd hop out and pump gas. Philip was going to high school in Key West and would come home on weekends; he was staying with friends in Key West. The weekends were for work, too."

AROUND THAT TIME, in 1939 and 1940, Charley got the idea about selling water in the Keys, so he'd travel up to

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Homestead where he'd load up one of the 2,000-gallon tankers with fresh water and sell it for four cents a gallon, going all the way to Key West where, in 1940, they moved, lock, stock and barrel when military construction began in earnest prior to World War II.

From then on, it was constant expansion for Toppino's company. Trucks, drag lines, dredges, derricks, cranes, heavy machinery, dozers -- everything was bought or leased. Loans for the growing business were being made and paid off as Charley kept pace with his company that, along with Alonzo Cothron's in the Upper Keys, was a giant in construction.

"He was a man of unusual vision, especially when it came to real estate, and he could tell where the moves would be made in years ahead."

Real estate and development go hand-in-hand. Charley, according to his sons, could see the enormous development, almost 20 years ahead, of the east end of Key West. What was once a swamp of mangrove and brackish water in the early '50s is today Searstown, Pantry Pride, Scotty's, movies, stores and what-have-you. While he was busy with all his contracts -- government, city, county and otherwise -- Chicago investors Charley Helberg, Vince Conley and Abe Golan came to town, made a deal with some owners, and that tied up hundreds of acres of prime property, on the tax roll then for comparative pennies.

Toppino and his sons, of course, were in

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Charley Toppino with his trucks on the way to the Keys after the 1935 hurricane.

there for contracts on filling and building, machinery leasing, the works.

IN 1958 CHARLEY died. Within a short time, the sons, led by the oldest, Philip, were spreading out into other parts of Florida, and through Washington connections got into the bidding for construction of the famed Pan American highway. Their company, in 1967 and for some years after that, paved and built 202 miles of the highway, through Costa Rica, in a joint venture known as BTA Inc., a combination of Ballinger, Toppino and Asheville.

With a lot of hard work came a lot of hard play.

In those years, they owned small aircraft, took some happy trips; owned a ranch on the Isle of Pines, south of Cuba, which was taken over by Fidel Castro in the early 1960s; took a flyer in the nightclub business when they, and some friends, owned Raul's, a popular late night roadhouse and restaurant near the airport.

TIME GRADUALLY CHANGED and in the late 1960s and the early '70s, the Toppino sons could spot a trend in public thinking and sentiment leaning more and more toward environmental and ecological protection with stronger court rulings, fines and penalties; legal costs in the building industry headed toward the stratosphere.

When the company was young, Frank mused, "there was nothing in the way of dredging canals, digging borrow pits, right,

left and center. If the customer could pay, we'd work."

The times were sensitive. Developers, diggers and builders were starting to get a bad name as the conservation groups got more and more vocal, larger and more active. With their characteristic approach to public relations, the five brothers stayed low key and quiet -- no shouting, no raving, no bumper stickers.

That same approach, for years in Key West, on the edge of an always tense political picture, the five sons kept their own counsel. The only guy they openly and strongly backed was Congressman Dante B. Fascell, and for good reason -- Fascell was an influential voice where it counted. All good Democrats together.

THEN IN 1979 they got the offer they couldn't refuse.

A North Carolina construction firm, Dickerson Inc., bought out Charley Toppino & Sons Inc., all the machinery, equipment, the Naples property. The original contract, recalled Frank, was \$13 million; there was newspaper speculation in Miami and in the trade that when it was all wrapped up, the deal for Monroe County's number one construction empire was upwards of \$20 million -- but that was not confirmed.

Now, with Philip gone, and brother Paul for many years in business in Ft. Lauderdale, Edward, George and Frank stay busy in Key West -- "but it ain't like it used to be," said one of them, smiling.

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## THE POOR TOURIST

by Marion Robinson

ONCE, LIKE PRITAM Singh, I was a poor tourist in Key West. I didn't sleep out on Christmastree Island, but, as a child, student, and underpaid journalist, I stayed in a beautiful, if slightly seedy, conch guest house and shared a bathroom with seven other guests. We were, however, only two blocks from the beach. Later, I could just afford an island casual, very casual, efficiency apartment. It was under a Banyan tree and northern houseplants, like poinsettias, were blooming trees. Still later, there was a motel room I could afford, with sand and green water at one end of the street and a family restaurant at the other.

While I have delighted in all the restorations and the painting and polishing everywhere, I am becoming uncomfortable with the present and planned affluence in the island that is now my home. I probably cannot afford to spend the night in Old Town anymore. If I survive here financially instead of going north to parts of Florida that are cheaper and not as congenial, will I find myself living with people much wealthier than I am in a luxury museum paradise? Will the "early bird" dinners with their friendly prices ever come back? Are my wonderful restaurants charging what the traffic will bear and excluding me permanently?

Is it time to examine everything planned for Key West that is called "luxury?" I know two retirees, two gardeners, one commercial fisherman, one housekeeper, and two chefs who think so. They went north this month -- permanently. It might be time for a quality-of-life moratorium.

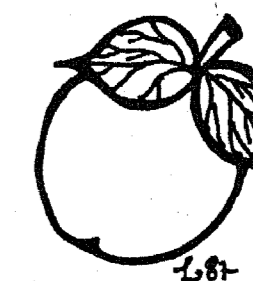
Affordable housing near shopping, with mass transportation, would be one leveler for permanent and seasonal residents. Glorified dormitories for hotel staff would be another, and public opinion could be brought to bear on investors, developers and managers to provide them. It costs a lot of money to arbitrate employee discontent or bring a new employee on board -- not to mention the training required to replace and maintain qualified staff.

POOR TOURISTS SHOULD also be included in planning. Where would Pritam Singh pitch his tent these days? (I wonder if he has thought of a campsite on the Truman Annex property for fledgling Pritams or, one step up, a spring break dormitory.)

With a lot of luck Key West will own its salt ponds soon. Supervised camping could be provided with restrooms, showers, etc., by imposing a small daily charge to cover the amenities. The consultants to hire for this plan would be the managers of beautiful

Bahia Honda. We welcome students, as Bahia Honda does, but we provide them with very little. Some of them, however, will always prefer to dance all night and sleep in their cars or on the beach during the day. Our climate and our laws give them that privilege. The city, on the other hand, provides them with one restroom for the whole length of Smathers Beach and no garbage cans for the bridge parking.

It worries me that Key West seems to be going the way of two other islands that I love -- Nantucket and Bermuda. They are perfect, but too expensive now. Key West has always been gloriously imperfect and charming. Does it have to become a tropical museum and will it lose the relaxed, laid-back quality that lures us all here in the first place? It seems to me that Key West's challenge is to try to make our island paradise affordable for permanent residents and tourists of all ages and financial means.



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## The Oil Story Offshore Drilling Still a Threat

by DeeVon Quirolo

LAST MONTH PRESS announcements from Governor Martinez' office flooded Florida and the Keys proclaiming "an historic agreement [between Martinez and U.S. Department of the Interior Secretary Donald Hodel] ... to protect the Florida Keys from even the most remote threat of harm."

Within days, that message was published in newspapers and broadcast over radio. The *Key West Citizen* headline read "Keys Oil Drilling Plan Scrapped." The front page of *The Keynoter* announced, "Pact halts Keys oil-drilling plans." "Drilling ban sweet victory for the Keys," ran boldly across the *Miami Herald*. And so on. It sounded great, and people living here were happy. But the governor's announcement and the resultant media coverage were misleading.

That fact remains: A 60-million-acre area 25 miles north of Key West is being leased to oil companies, and new sales are scheduled for November, 1988. Called Leasesale 116, this area serves as breeding ground for shrimp, spiny lobster, stone crabs, many fish and other forms of marine life. And drilling here poses a threat to not only these species, but to the reef as well.

How did this happen? How could we be led to believe the Keys were safe when, in

actuality, they are as endangered as ever? The best way to explain is to start at the beginning.

THE UNITED STATES government created the Department of the Interior (DOI) to provide federal protection of national wilderness areas and guardianship of natural resources. Under DOI Secretary James Watt the department was criticized harshly for its policy of selling these resources to large industries.

Watt's successor, Donald Hodel, who was appointed in 1985, expanded the land and water areas available for development, declaring vast portions of our continental shelf available for oil exploration and development under the Five Year Plan for Oil and Gas Development.

Prior to leasing activity, the DOI Mineral Managements Division is required to hold public hearings and to order environmental impact studies. The hearings -- usually drawing only a few lobbyists from the oil industry -- have been attended by thousands of opponents to offshore drilling. The hearings at Fort Bragg, California, a remote wilderness area, attracted over 3000 opponents -- more than any other public hearing in California history.

In Key West, the public hearing last May drew 65 speakers decrying the plan in five hours of testimony before several hundred

witnesses. Civic, industrial and governmental groups presented resolutions opposing the offshore oil plan. More than 4000 signatures on petitions and letters were delivered to government officials.

IN APRIL, ENVIRONMENTALISTS concerned about these and other coastal areas met for three days in Washington, DC. Craig Quirolo and I, representing Reef Relief, joined about 20 others and developed a strategy to stop oil drilling in sensitive areas. The group agreed that networking would continue on a greater scale; that we would all work toward educating the general public -- including the inland population unaware of the threat to coastal areas; we would support legislative efforts to cut funding for DOI leasesales in the most sensitive areas; and we would work to strengthen the state's powers so that federal offshore leasing programs are consistent with state resource management plans developed under the Federal Coastal Management Act.



**WE ARE OPPOSED  
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Recently, Hodel and Martinez came to an agreement about oil development in the Keys, making Florida the first state to strike a deal with Hodel. Martinez agreed to drop

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a lawsuit he had filed against the DOI in exchange for removing the Straits of Florida from the Five Year Plan. Development of areas of the Appalachian oyster beds was also deferred for one year, and a small buffer zone around the beds was exempted completely.

In response to the agreement came the press announcements mentioned before. And while most were under the impression that the development had been halted, some were extremely concerned. Lynn Davidson of Greenpeace, Ann Whitfield of the Florida Public Interest Research Group, Bob Ernst of the Florida Keys Citizen's Coalition, and Craig and DeeVon Quirolo of Reef Relief were summoned to the governor's mansion the evening prior to the press announcement at Pennekamp State Park.

AFTER THE BRIEFING on the settlement by the governor and his staff, there was an uncomfortable silence. Though we were pleased that the governor was able to obtain permanent exemption of



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"Listening to 500 dolphins shrieking in panic as they fight against the net and gasp for air, seeing crew members toss a baby dolphin back and forth like a football, standing helplessly as living dolphin were dragged aloft thrashing and flailing in terror before being literally crushed to death in the power block -- it's enough to make anyone give up eating tuna for life."

Sam LaBude  
Marine Mammal  
Biologist

Due to a quirk of nature, yellowfin tuna school beneath herds of dolphin. Tuna fishermen have capitalized on the association with deadly efficiency -- setting mile-long purse seine nets that maim and drown hundreds of thousands of dolphin to catch the tuna below.

In 1987 alone, 150,000 dolphin were massacred in tuna nets. This slaughter is not an incidental bycatch of tuna fishing -- the dolphin are spotted, chased down and intentionally captured.

The United States consumes 70% of all canned tuna. Please don't support the tuna industry's continued slaughter of dolphin. Albacore, or white tuna, is caught using lines and hooks. This is an alternative to chunk light tuna, which perpetuates the dolphin kills. Ask your local delis, restaurants, school cafeterias, and employers to discontinue using chunk light tuna. Contact us at Greenpeace for more information on action you can take.

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**Seeme!** by *Glenna Moore*

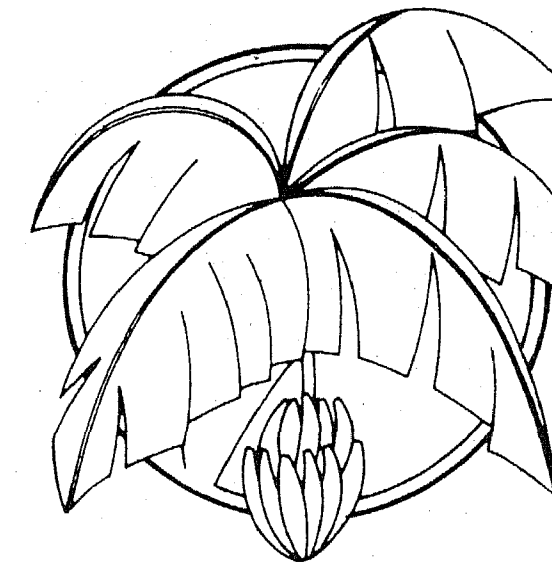
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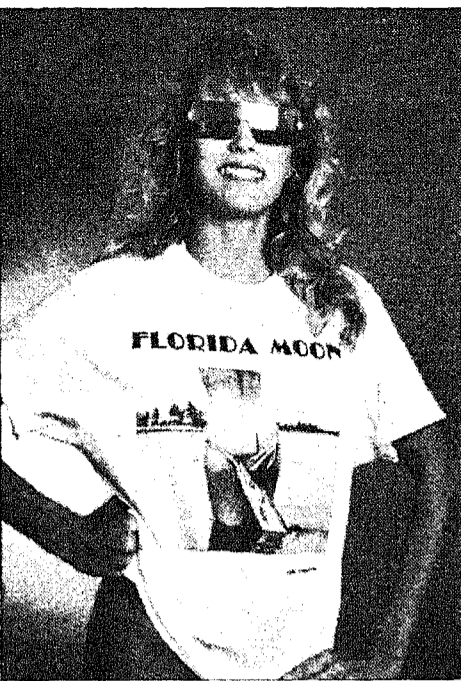
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the Straits of Florida, that area already had been deferred until 1992.

Leasesale 116 -- the subject of our public hearing last May -- was totally ignored. Even the governor's map illustrating the settlement failed to show this area.

Ann Whitfield of the Florida Public Interest Research Group, concluded: "In essence, Secretary Hodel has removed only those areas which James Watt never offered for lease in the first place. In order to protect the Keys, all areas south of Miami and Naples must be removed from the program. This is a good first step but the real test will be winning protections before this November's sale."

"It's a relief to put the ridiculous notion of leasing the Atlantic side of the Florida Keys aside," said Lynn Davison of Greenpeace. "We can now focus on the urgent need to protect the Everglades and the sensitive ecosystems in the Gulf from development of tracts about to be leased and those already leased to the oil industry."

CHARTS OF LEASESALE 116 provided by the DOI show that the Gulf Loop Current easily could carry toxic drilling fluids and wastes onto shoreline areas after devastating marine life in the immediate area of the oil activity. We are downwind and down current of the area slated for oil development.

Northern winds, typically experienced during winter months, further increase the possibility of pollution from oil drilling being carried to the Keys and coral reefs. Westerly winds would carry the pollution to the Everglades.

Routine oil exploration and development operations release drilling effluents that are toxic and often fatal to organisms living in the area. Other potential causes of adverse impacts are oil spills, blowouts, anchoring from support boats and ships, structure emplacement, pipeline placement, leaks from offshore to onshore processing facilities and platform removal.

Oil operations would affect onshore areas too, impacting the Keys' infrastructures--marine facilities and highways--and competing for space in a tourist environment. Socioeconomically, unemployed oil-industry workers would move to this area for employment in the industry that left them behind in other states.

THE GULF OF Mexico is already suffering from the 2 million tons of drilling muds discharged annually into its waters, containing a total of 3.6 million pounds of toxic metals, according to the latest DOI environmental impact statement.

Pipeline emplacement causes considerable disruption to the bottom. It is estimated that six acres of the bottom are physically disturbed per mile of pipeline laid. Add to this damage caused by the anchors of the pipelaying barge.

Any spill would be disastrous. The impact statement reveals that there is no known way to treat oil pollution on coral reefs and mangroves. Furthermore, there are no cleanup equipment locations south of Naples on Florida's west coast.

Reef Relief Executive Director Craig

Quirolo sees the oil drilling as the result of a poor national energy policy: "The larger problem of energy needs stems in part from President Reagan's decision to relax fuel efficiency standards for new cars three years ago. Based on analyses released by the DOI, the extra gasoline these new cars have consumed is more oil than could be recovered from Florida's entire outer continental shelf."

"The current administration would lead us to believe that it is necessary to risk the entire country's outer continental shelf for offshore oil development because of key phrases like 'national security,' 'foreign oil dependency,' and 'more domestic production.' Simply put, the oil industry dominates world politics, domestic politics, and every American who drives a car, boat or plant," he continued.

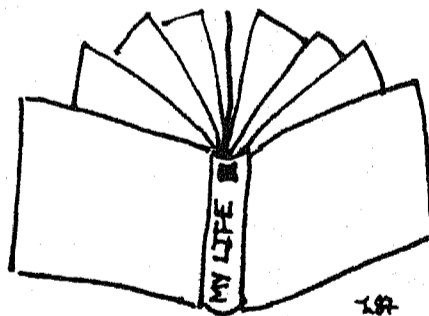
"At the current rate of consumption, there is less than one hundred years' supply of oil left in the world. We need a new national energy policy with absolutely no strings attached to the oil industry. We need a comprehensive national energy program demanding more fuel efficient vehicles," he said.

The reaction from environmentalists has been strong: Stop Leasesale 116.

*Editor's note: On April, 28 Congressman Dante Fascell testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee, requesting that funding be cut for Leasesale 116 (thanks to pressure from Representative Ron Saunders, Key West City Commission, Monroe County Commission, Key West Chamber of Commerce, Key West Hotel-Motel Association, and others). He argued that there was no reason to rush into an environmentally sensitive area before impact studies had been reviewed thoroughly.*

*Governor Martinez' staff currently is studying the impact data and has requested an extension to issue a final report.*

*Meanwhile, applications to drill in five, three-by-three-mile blocks have been filed by AAMCO and Shell. A Mobile oil surveying vessel is berthed at Truman Annex when it is not surveying the bottom of Leasesale 116.*



# Nervous about Removing One's Hat

by John Hellen

I HAD NEVER been in a recording studio before, so when my good friend Court said he had to go to rehearsal I asked to tag along. Court, a son of Memphis, Tennessee, is the tenor saxophonist with the popular band "Bill Blue and the Nervous Guys." And it should be noted right away that all six members of this band live here in Key West.

The implications inherent to local residency soon became apparent as we arrived at Danny Simpson's Private Ear Recording Studio on Truman Avenue. Danny is the electric bass guitarist for the band and also runs the studio, equipped to audit and mix any type of musical or spoken work for records or tapes.

Court, uncharacteristically for a musician, seemed concerned that we arrive on time, precisely at eight o'clock. I assumed that this Bill Blue guy was a stickler for punctuality and must discipline tardiness with some psychological punishment (withholding solo spots?) that rendered the offender nervous, or something.

I SOON FOUND out this was not the case. On entering the large front room of the studio the feeling of being in a country store takes you. There is a long counter scattered with pieces of musical instruments, sheet music, trade publications and paraphernalia familiar to musicians. Rocking chairs and stools sit randomly in front of the counter. These were occupied by some of the Nervous Guys, who all seemed completely at ease.

As we walked in, alto saxophonist Joe Gilvary was discoursing on the disadvantages of being a local band. "These damn bar managers fly these other groups down here, put 'em up in swank guest houses, pay them a hundred dollars a night more than they pay us, buy 'em drinks. Then two weeks later they drive 'em to the airport in a limousine. And we can't get a decent length's gig or a righteous amount of pay just 'cause we live here. It ain't right! They think 'cause we're local they can call us at the last minute and we'll come

running. These guys got a few things to learn."

Gilvary continued his calm observations, working his way up to a note of irony -- half an octave higher than when he started -- on to a discordant solo of social injustice, then to a satirical lamentation pinpointing specific cases of calumny. By then, red cheeked, as he sometimes becomes while blowing notes heard only by angels and dogs, Joe culminated his slowly built bolero with the simmering statment, "Something's got to be done."

THE NERVOUS GUYS nodded in agreement, and Bill Blue said, "Yeah, man."

The minutes of the previous meeting thus having been read and there being no new business to discuss, the band wandered one by one into the soundproofed studio and began warming up for the song to be rehearsed that night: Randy Newman's slow, earthy, anticipatory litany of invitations called, "You Can Leave Your Hat On."

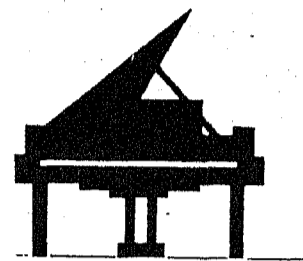
A new addition to the Bill Blue repertoire, Newman's song ideally fits the steamy, low-push, horn-humping blues the Nervous Guys do so well. Theirs is a sound based on the Presley-esque "Mamma C'mere" sensuality of leader Blue's voice. His is a guttural intensity so smoothly -- and at times, sleepily -- foghorned to the audience that those with dates hold them a little tighter, and those who aren't dancing begin to in their chairs.

After 20 years on the road, many as a protege to artists who have come and gone, Blue is a clearly established classic in his own right. He has bitten the bullet of honky-tonk's rough-and-tumble life, the smoked-filled beer hell that non-musicians conjure up as romantic stardom.

Blue has frozen his ass and his assets several times in Sweden and Denmark during long tours through the Scandinavian low countries. He has played many nights for many dollars with the invisible curse of Uncle Sven's tax man attacking well over half his earnings. He has recorded albums, written songs. He still plays them, sandwiched between tunes written by those

more fortunate than he. He has been on the road with Bigboy and built it into a classic slide guitar paean he wrote to road life that, logically, in its time, should have topped the charts. Bill Blue still could be on the road making the big bucks. But at 40 he doesn't

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Bill Blue and the Nervous Guys, a local band with plenty of promise. From left: Rico Peterson, Dan Simpson, Joe Gilvary (with sax), Bill Blue, Courtney Haycraft and, seated, Carlos Silva.


want to be. Because he lives here, and he likes it.

FROM WATCHING MOVIES we think of recording studios as roomy arenas insulated with pegboard paneling. They seem always to contain pianos, an organ, banks of monitors, stalactite-stalagmite microphone arrangements, and plenty of room for girlfriends and sycophants. These studios are overseen by a two-way mirror from high above and from which

periodically emanates a voice which pleads, "... alright now Mr. Jagger, would you care to try it one more time from the top?"

Private Ear Studio is not a roomy arena nor does it house an organ. It is, however, successfully insulated with shag carpet remnants, it has a piano, several microphones on stands, and is overseen by a clear glass window at one end where I sat and said nothing.

The studio is air conditioned, whereas where I sat was not. After the rehearsal

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began, Bill Blue opened the door to the sanctum and told me to come in and sit on the piano bench. "It's cooler in here, man."

INDEED IT WAS. Lead guitarist Rico, a superbly gifted jazz guitarist, had already mastered his ins and outs, the so-called accents and his limited vocal backups. Rico is adjoined to the Blue group for lack of a vehicle offering more his style of play.

The rehearsal was largely a democratic affair, with each member running over bits and pieces of his own part only to be set

upon critically by his fellows. It was a begin and begin again experiment that within a half an hour was ready to be run through.

Bass man Simpson and Bo, the newest member of the band and creator of its exquisite drumbeat, launch into the slow, suspenseful lead-in.

"Dahn, dahn, dahn, dahn, dahn, da ... Baby take off your shoes," Blue coyly invites on the vocal mike. "Baby take off your coat, honey ... dahn, dahn, dahn, da dahn ... Do you know what love is? ... Cut!"

Courtney asks, "Where's my accent on that come-in?" Four Nervous Guys tell him.

From the top. "Dahn .... take off your dress -- closer ... Dahn, dahn, dahn da ... Wait a minute. Cut! How do I get back in?" asks Blue.

Simpson replies, "Just start singing, Bill."

"OK. Go again. Dahn ... You can leeeeeeave your hat on. Da, da, dahn, da, dahn, ta ... oh Baby I know what love is."

Pretty good, everyone agrees. Alright now, Mr. Blue would you care to try it? Blue says, "Lez try'd agin."

A FEW MORE runs through and another solid song is packed into the musical memory of Bill Blue and the Nervous Guys' repertoire. Two hours spent practicing on an otherwise easy-going Wednesday night by six local guys.

After exiting the sound room, one of the Nervous Guys points out that in the upcoming few weeks the band has what was supposed to be a seven-night run at a local hotel. The gig has been cut back to only three nights because the hotel had to make some "repairs" before its season hit.

At another local place Blue and the group were scheduled for a solid run during spring break, but later were offered only one night a week. Some reason having to do with what college kids today like and don't like was given.

The list of unsubstantiated "verbal

handshakes" is lengthier than those few mentioned here. Other local bands and performers have been looked upon by those who would present entertainment to the public as an inert natural resource -- here for the taking, whenever needed. Weren't conchs in surrounding waters once treated this way?

So it seems for the local full-time resident musician there is a general offer from those who hire him that "You can leave your hat on."

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# The Brief Demise of Mr. Greenstone

by Helen R. Chapman

HAROLD F. GREENSTONE, age 65, retired, handed the first section of the newspaper across the breakfast table to his wife, Ivy. Ivy accepted it silently, knowing that as her husband opened the second section, she would once again be assailed with obituary notices.

Ever since his retirement, Harold had been obsessed with death. All their earlier plans for retirement activities had gone up in smoke as soon as Harold became aware of health hazards. Accident reports to which he had paid little attention previously became preclusions to travel. The moment the Surgeon General's warning appeared on cigarette packages, Harold quit smoking. His drinking, never coming close to a dangerous level, ceased. Added to all this was fear of cholesterol, salt, sugar, saccharin, which assisted Ivy in losing interest in her kitchen.

Then began the daily reading of obituaries, such as:

"Minnie Buxton died. Age 67."

"We don't know any Buxtons, do we, Harold?"

Impatiently. "It doesn't matter, Ivy. She's dead. Only two years older than I am."

Or:

"William G. Simpson, age 93. Well, skip him."

"I don't think we should skip him, dear. Maybe he drank himself to death." Ivy giggled, which produced a scowl from Harold. "Just trying to lighten up the conversation," Ivy mumbled.

"I didn't have my fiber yet, Ivy." Harold peered accusingly over the paper at her.

Ivy was engrossed with a front-page story.

"YOU KNOW, HAROLD, I think the press has too much power these days. Like this story here, about the election campaigns. They practically do our voting for us, what with their stupid polls and all. They sway people toward certain candidates."

Harold grimaced. "People have minds of their own, you know, Ivy. They can't be influenced that easily."

Ivy looked up at him. "You can. You're influenced by every health article that comes down the pike, dear. Even if it contradicts what you read the day before."

"Well, after all, medical science discovers new things every day. Which reminds me, Ivy. I haven't had my fiber yet."

Ivy rose to go to the kitchen. "Well, I still believe the press tries to sway people too much. And other media too, like television news. Bran flakes?"

Harold nodded. He continued reading aloud to the empty room. "John W. Ackerson, age 58. My God! He died young. After prolonged illness following a car accident. See there! It's lethal to get out on the road."

IVY, POURING CEREAL into a bowl, heard none of this and was still thinking about the force of the fourth estate, running the gamut from the Iran-Contra coverage to a murder in their own small city a few years before. Ivy was convinced that the sequestered jury had had access to newspaper reports which she felt were slanted in favor of the prosecution and that an innocent man had been executed.

"Harold, do you remember that Hogan murder a couple of year ago?" She set the cereal down in front of Harold.

"Oh, Ivy, don't start that again."

"Well, it's true, Harold. That James man would never have been sent to the electric chair if it wasn't for the pro-capital punishment people. The papers were full of it and the editorials were all for doing him in."

"Ivy, could you use your words a little more delicately?" Harold said between crunches of fiber.

"Well, that's what they did. Him in, I mean. He had all those witnesses to his whereabouts at the time of the murder and only one was called. And all because there hadn't been enough executions that year. Harold, I don't care what you say. The press played up the importance of capital punishment."

BUT HAROLD HAD passed on from the obits to Dr. Blake's Good Health column.

"Dr. Blake advises more exercise for older people," Harold read out. Harold had gone from long jogs to short jogs to long walks to short walks to no walks in the space of six months. Now he was going through a no-walk period.

"He advises long leisurely walks," Harold continued.

"I always said that," Ivy put in. "More coffee?"

"Too much caffeine."

"It's decaf."

"Can't be. My heart's pounding."

"It's the obits," Ivy said with a sigh. "They overstimulate you. Any rousing good funerals to go to, dear? My, I haven't been to an Irish wake in years."

Harold, who was very fond of his wife and realized that she tried to keep him cheerful, lost his temper.

Continued on Page 15

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## Hearing Is Believing

In Search of a Noise Ordinance that Works

by Bud Meaker

LOUD MUSIC IN the downtown bars in Key West has been a serious problem for about 10 years. The music grows gradually louder. The neighbors become irate and demand that the city pass a tough new law to wipe out the noise once and for all. Bar owners contest the law. Then, the law is overturned and made unenforceable.

It makes you wonder. What really is the problem here? The noise or the laws that try to control it? The present city noise ordinance has failed to contain loud music within the Historic Entertainment District. And a proposed ordinance is in the works. But according to this ordinance, a decibel reading shows a city commission meeting is illegally noisy and a window air conditioner would be illegal, too, if used in an apartment at night.

Perhaps a careful look at the problems with the proposed ordinance and the reasons the present ordinance has failed will help commissioners to write an acceptable and enforceable law by the time they meet to finalize it on May 18.

I RECENTLY ASKED Lt. William McNeill, a long time veteran of the decibel wars in Old Town, what would be fair to both residents and bar owners. He suggested that sound levels be measured

inside the bars and said, "If the bars maintain an interior level of 113 db or less then there are generally no complaints from residents in homes in the area."

When I asked him why he chose a level almost four times the 95 db limit proposed in the new ordinance, he replied, "The limit must be set at a high enough level so that it is defensible in court, backed by scientific study and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Then it can be enforced as a health measure for the protection of customers and employees."


A study done by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and OSHA showed that exposure to three hours of continuous rock music at 112 db produced a slight, temporary hearing loss to listeners.

McNeill admitted that the Key West ordinance would "need something more to prevent abuse by bars in residential neighborhoods." I believe this also applies to open air, second story bars in Old Town since music from them does carry farther.

TO FIND OUT why the present ordinance isn't working I accompanied a Noise Level Officer, Sgt. Frank Sauer, to take noise measurements in one of the loudest sections of Old Town. It was Tuesday, April 19, and I didn't need a noise meter to tell me this was an especially quiet

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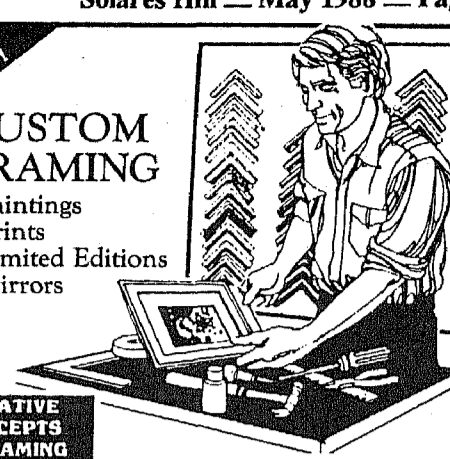
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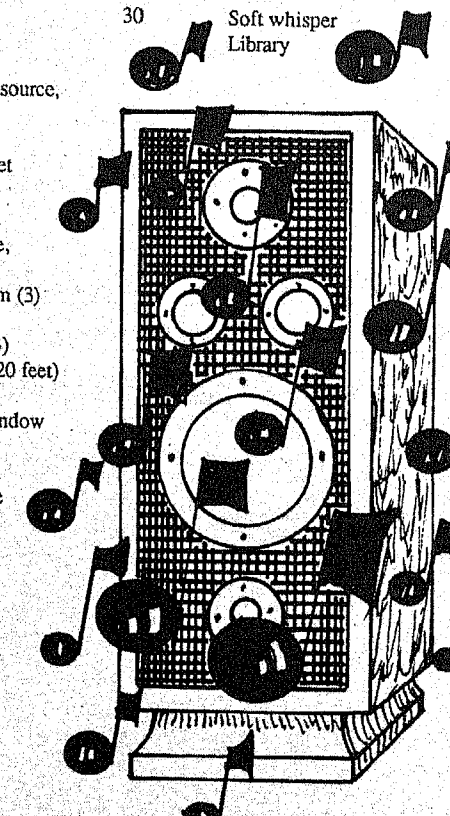
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Because of reflections, nodes and other technical reasons, there is a 5 db leeway in measuring noise sources for violation. Likewise, a noise source must be at least 10 db above the ambient (or background) sound level for a violator to be cited. Noise measurements cannot be made if the wind is blowing stronger than 10 mph because it affects the sound meter.

DECIBELS	SOURCE
120	Jet takeoff
123.4	Sloppy Joe's (2)
118-122	Durty Harry's (2)
114.5	Durty Harry's, surprise reading (2)
111.1	Rick's second floor, taped music (2)
110	Threshold for discomfort
104	Rick's at top of stairs, 10 feet from speakers (1)
100	Motorcycle engine Chainsaw Garbage truck
95	Business, including bars (4)
92.8-96	Outside Sloppy Joe's door, corner of Green and Duval (1)
92	Popcorn machine at Mallory Square (1) Crowd noise around Rasta Yoga Man (1)
90	Heavy city traffic Duval, in front of Rick's, music from second floor (1)
91	Charles Street door of Durty Harry's, people talking (1)
88	Charles Street door of Durty Harry's (1)
86	Girl playing quiet lounge music, the Quay (out side door on Duval) (1)
85	Home shop tools Automobile as per state and federal laws
83	Sloppy Joe's, no music (1)
81-84	Kennedy Studios, across from Sloppy Joe's with music playing (1)
80	Hair dryer Alarm clock
79	Commissioner talking with reporter after city commission meeting (1)
78-80	Ricks, bar on deck
70	Business, as receiving source, 8 am-10 pm (3) Noisy restaurant Man's voice at three feet Vacuum cleaner
60	Residence, public space, institution (including sidewalks) 8 am-10 am (3) Business, as receiving source 10 pm-8 am (3) Air conditioning unit (20 feet)
57	Pigeon House Patio window air conditioner (1)
55	Residence, public space (including sidewalks) 10 pm to 8 am (3) Clothes dryer
54	Ballast of streetlight at Presidential Gate at Truman Annex (1)
52-53	Ann Street behind Old City Hall
50-53	At water tank across from 215 Whitehead St.
50	Residence (multi-dwelling unit) 8 am to 10 pm (3) Quiet conversation
47.4-48.8	Lowest level encountered in Old Town, across from 317 Whitehead (1)
45	Residence (multi-dwelling unit), 10 pm to 8 am (3)
40	Refrigerator
30	Soft whisper Library



(1) April 19 measurement by Sound Level Officer with city's meter. (2) April 19 measurement at speaker stacks with meter set to peak. (3) Acceptable level on receiving property under proposed ordinance. (4) Acceptable source level under proposed ordinance. All others are from the EPA and are considered typical.

night for downtown. There was virtually no wind and very few people on Duval Street to interfere with or influence our readings. We chose to test Durty Harry's, 208 Duval Street, since it seemed to be the loudest.

A surprise reading of the music at Durty Harry's yielded a peak inside the building of 114.5 db. This reading was obtained by walking into the bar with the noise meter set to hold the peak reading, passing the meter over the entire front face of the speaker stacks, then simply taking the reading from the instrument. The measurement takes about 15 seconds. Of course, in the process we lost the element of surprise. A policeman, in uniform, with a noise meter, measuring the volume of the speakers in a bar, is hard to camouflage.

We explained to the manager that we were surveying the noise level for Solares Hill and that no complaint had been filed. He offered his assistance and kept the sound level steady for our measurements. We returned to the speaker stack and obtained another peak. It registered 118.0 db, and the following readings are based on that sound level.

At the Charles Street entrance to Durty Harry's, the noise level for music alone averaged about 88 db. But with people talking the level rose to 91 db. Across New Street from Durty Harry's the sound level was 74 db. Halfway between Charles and Caroline on New Street the level was 60 to 62 db. The point here is that as you move farther from the noise source it becomes harder to measure. The sound source for all

these readings was the music at Durty Harry's.

**OUTSIDE THE HISTORIC** Entertainment District our first stop was across Caroline Street from New Street. The meter reading there varied from 53 to 58 db. Voices from people walking along Duval Street and a passing bicycle caused slightly higher peaks. Music could be heard from several bars, but Durty Harry's was the most prominent.

Along Caroline Street our next reading was the window air conditioner at Pigeon House Patio which produced a consistent 57 db. I could hear no music through the hum, but I could detect the beat of music from somewhere in the background if I concentrated. When I moved slightly away from the air conditioner I could hear Durty Harry's music again, but I couldn't be positive that the beat I had heard was coming from that specific bar.

Under the streetlight at the presidential gates of the Truman Annex, the buzz of the ballast was 54 db. Music could be heard, but pinpointing the source was difficult. This isn't especially loud for a streetlight, yet it is only 1 db less than the sound level the proposed ordinance would have required a bar owner to maintain on the sidewalk in front of his establishment. Due to technical considerations regarding the measurement of noise, a citation could not be issued until the noise was just over twice as loud as the streetlight, but that is still extremely quiet for Duval Street.

Along the Truman Annex fence across from 317 Whitehead Street, we found a place where no music or beat could be heard, and there were no electric transformers, streetlight ballasts, air conditioners, cars, people, or other specific noise sources detectable. The lowest readings there were 47.4 to 48.8 db with occasional higher peaks.

Along the Truman Annex Company fence across from 215 Whitehead Street, near the water tank, music from two sources could be heard at about equal levels. Meter readings were 50 to 53 db. When one -- presumably Captain Hornblower's -- stopped, the meter readings remained about the same. It was obvious that the other source was Durty Harry's.

**WE RETURNED TO** Durty Harry's and took another surprise peak reading at the speaker stacks. The reading was 122.0 db.

Music was loud at the source. But when it reached the residential neighborhood it was so near the background, or ambient

level, that it was difficult, if not impossible, to identify and measure. This is the main reason that the present noise ordinance has failed.

There were no noise complaints made to the police department the night of our noise study. A telephone survey the following day of seven residents from the same neighborhood turned up nobody who was disturbed by the noise. This survey included several regular noise complainants. When asked if the noise was higher or lower than normal, four said that the noise was less than normal and attributed it to either the end of spring break or the influence of the new law; the rest had no opinion.

Although most bars were quieter than normal, the music seemed loud enough to satisfy the customers yet not loud enough to disturb the neighbors. I believe that this indicates that both the residents of Old Town and the bars there can co-exist with minimal problems if an ordinance is drafted that establishes reasonable noise limits. A level of 112 db anywhere in the bar seems reasonable. That is about half the levels we measured on the night of the study, and it can be defended in court based on a scientific study conducted by the EPA and OSHA of the effect of rock music on people.

In measurement in the real world, I believe that for bars in Old Town the law should be based on noise at its source. It is much easier to measure there and is not affected by wind at the airport, background noises, or other sources. Also a bar owner can take a reading and tell on the spot if he is legal.

Any law that is based entirely on measurements taken from receiving property -- the point from where the complaint is made -- is doomed to fail because of the complexities of measuring noise so close to the background levels. Basing a violation on whether the beat or cadence of music can be heard in the distance, such as the proposed ordinance would do, is too subjective. Note that I could hear a music beat through the noise of the air conditioner at the Pigeon House, but the sound could not be heard. And the music was much quieter than the A.C.

Another problem is that of enforcement. A policeman in a bar measuring noise can really make a bar's patrons feel uncomfortable. He is also hard to hide. When we took measurements in Sloppy Joe's we got less than halfway to the speaker before the band noticed and stopped

the music. Also the time spent in enforcing the noise ordinance could be put to much better use elsewhere. The two weeks of training involved in certifying each officer is time not spent in the field. We do need to have noise officers in the police department to handle 2:00 AM complaints, but spot checks by other city employees, such as code enforcement, would be more effective and less costly. Bars would always have to be legal or risk a ticket from a plain-clothes noise inspector taking random readings.

Commissioner Sally Lewis has said that she will ask that the ordinance be tabled for two weeks to work out the problems. The City of Key West desperately needs a noise law that is fair to both residents of the Old Town area and the bar owners, not a law with numerous technical problems that may not withstand a court test. Any law that the city passes should have absolute, measurable limits so that both the bar owners and police know what is legal and what isn't. Anything that falls short of that goal will only cause serious problems in the future. I firmly believe that if all parties cooperate to that end it is an achievable goal.

Nobody, with one possible exception, will benefit by closing the bars on Duval Street. They are, after all, one of the reasons tourists come to Key West. Now is the time to pass a law that is fair and equitable to all and I hope that the City Commission uses the additional time to create a law that will not only be fair, but also one that will stand up in court.

The citizens of Key West deserve no less.

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# The TDC and You

by Bert Lee

AS A TOURIST island, Key West depends on a healthy national economy, one that ensures leisurely and uninhibited spending of easy dollars. We've built, and keep building, on the assumption that those who come here will be indifferent to the prices we put on our wares and services.

But, as the peak season comes to a close, reports are coming in, and the signs are not encouraging. Tourism is up, flaunts one banner; bed taxes are down, reads the disconcerting small print. Streets are swarming with folks, but retail sales are low. What, really, is happening?

It is not a comforting or popular thought, but the time has come to think realistically. The economy, overall, is not good. A look at the financial pages is evidence of that. The effects of last October's market crash are already apparent.

As individuals, most of us feel the squeeze. We are finding ourselves slaved to more than one job, just to keep afloat. If there are more jobs available these days, it should be noted that they are mostly low-paying service jobs. Taxes, rents, and commodities, on the other hand, are up.

While tourists are still coming to Key West, the figures suggest they are day tourists: South Floridians who return up the road having bought a couple of T-shirts and

visited the usual spots. Some stay for a day or two, and a drive around town at night suggests that many are lodging in cars. They want to come here, but they are not the high-rollers our businesses depend on.

RECENTLY, I WAS drafted to research an article on the Tourist Development Council (TDC). Impropriety was in the air, and details were needed to determine the existence and extent of alleged wrong-doings. At stake were big bucks, dollars earmarked for tourism promotion. I put on my reporter's cap and interviewed city commissioners, concerned citizens and business luminaries. Then I went home to review and mull over what I'd learned.

The matter concerns possible mismanagement of TDC moneys and, in a nutshell, the case goes like this: Under Florida State Statute 125.0104, the first two cents raised from the tourist tax dollar are to be disbursed by the TDC to help promote tourism in the Keys. The statute very specifically indicates what these funds are to be used for -- advertising and promotion, beach renourishment, improvement of such facilities as public restrooms and recreational facilities for children and the elderly. The total estimated revenue from these first two cents is \$2.9 million per

year. At present, all of it is allocated for advertising and promotion.

The alleged impropriety in question stems from the fact that Sandra Higgs, the administrative director of the TDC, also owns Keys Advertising and Marketing (KAM) -- the advertising agency that receives these funds. That this poses a conflict of interest might seem, to the political non-initiate, obvious. But, incredibly, a resolution passed by the Monroe County Commission in 1986 waived prohibitions against conflict of interest caused by the TDC/KAM contract.

IT IS TIME for that contract to be reviewed for renewal, and there is a groundswell against it. Three of our city commissioners, Sally Lewis, Harry Powell, and Jimmy Weekley, have taken strong positions. They feel, and I think, wisely, that the other uses to which these moneys were to be put should not be overlooked any longer.

"Of course advertising is necessary, but it's not the solution to the problems we face. The very things people come here for are falling apart; we're losing our beaches to erosion, and our public facilities are in sorry shape. If this money can be used to remedy this, we should make these [improvements] our first priority," said Commissioner Weekley.

And, as chairman of the newly-formed citizen group, Committee to Improve our Tourist Economy (CITE), Weekley issued a memorandum that read, "Business owners with foresight, recognize that long-term success requires a positive reputation based on customer satisfaction. *Satisfied customers are the best advertising...*"

Commissioner Powell told me, "What really is going on here is that we can no longer take booming economy for granted. It's never been more important to use public funds wisely, because we're starting to feel the pinch."

DAVE VINCENT, LOCAL businessman and perennially concerned and active citizen, shared his thoughts on these matters. He spoke of the need for greater accountability, and the need for all parties charged with handling public funds to be above the taint of conflict of interest.

"Even if Sandy Higgs can show how this money has been spent, and can convince us that there's been no public disservice, it's most important that we establish a better system. These moneys should be put in the trust of a committee drawn from all aspects of Keys society. Teachers, environmentalists, small businessmen, artists and theater people -- real representatives of our diverse community -- should be brought into this process," he said.

"It won't do for those in control of such funds to have even the slightest aura of self-servingness. It's not to say that what we see going on now is out-and-out corruption; but whether it is or not, it opens up the very real possibility that some future manager will cash in big at the public expense," Vincent concluded.

I ATTEMPTED TO contact Sandy Higgs, and after a few days of leaving messages, I did finally get a call from her. I had some questions, I told her. Submit them in writing, she told me. I began compiling a list of questions -- a process that led me deeper and deeper into the maze created by the case.

This is, I realized, a small and economically incestuous island. It is also a place where the prevailing attitude encourages less than acute attention to detail. No matter how hard anyone pries into a situation, there will be built-in unknowables. For example, the TDC contract with Keys Advertising breaks down into two parts. About \$143,000 is provided for administrative services performed by Higgs, acting as the hired employee of the TDC, her assistant Linda Stewart, and an office receptionist. Then there is about \$58,000 provided for mail and toll-free phone lines.

Initially, Higgs reported that there were four full-time employees handling these operations. Then, when subsequent research revealed that the TDC has a separate budget for the phone and postage, Higgs spoke of an eight-person mailroom staff, somewhat transitory in nature. My guess is it will be very hard to determine how, exactly, that \$58,000 is spent.

Nonetheless, I believe a process has begun. Public interest will give this process momentum and, in the end, the realities of

our situation will become apparent. Gone are the days when a few hundred thousand here and there could be written off as inevitable leakage in the public plumbing. With hope, a new and better approach to handling these funds will develop. As Harry Powell said, "This is the pinch ... time to sharpen up."

THE MOST IMPORTANT problem here is not whether funds were mismanaged and by whom, but what should we do with this money to improve our island, for the tourists, yes, and, not incidentally, for those of us who live here? If times are changing and the type of visitor we have depended upon -- for whom we have built, and some would say overbuilt, our island -- is no longer vacationing here in the accustomed numbers and manner, are we going to be economically flexible enough to adapt to the change?

These matters are not one-dimensional. They can't be met by moving advertisements from one magazine to another, nor by renourishing our beaches or creating bike trails. We have to look at what we've got and ask some difficult questions, make difficult choices.

If, somehow, economic doomsayers are wrong, and tourism picks up, and if we are somehow able to fill all the rooms in all the old and new hotels on this island, are we ready to live with the environmental impact that would accompany such a boom? The air downtown is already choked with exhaust fumes. In the end, what appeal is there in a polluted paradise?

ARE WE READY, as some have suggested, to build a huge parking lot on Stock Island, and bus tourists in?

Are we ready to take the initiative and revamp our transportation system, as some western cities have, converting to electric buses or trolleys, in the interest of our lovely environment?

Do we want to become another Palm Beach, where living expenses are so impossibly high that the service work force must live out of town? Or will we create bold new housing programs, offering incentives to convert old motels and hotels to efficiencies and moderate-income family housing?

Will we ever get our rears in gear and pull together our waste management system?

Bouncing these thoughts off friends, I hear the theme: These are ideas ahead of their time. People aren't ready, yet. But, ready or not, the times are changing. Big decisions can be made only with unclouded minds.

For myself, I don't care what Sandy Higgs did or didn't do with those funds (though I do agree with Commissioner Weekley, who said, "For the sake of public trust, she ought to at least come clean and admit, at the very least, that this doesn't look too good.") What I do care about is that we start channeling our resources with honesty about the present and future and an enlightened sense of self-interest.

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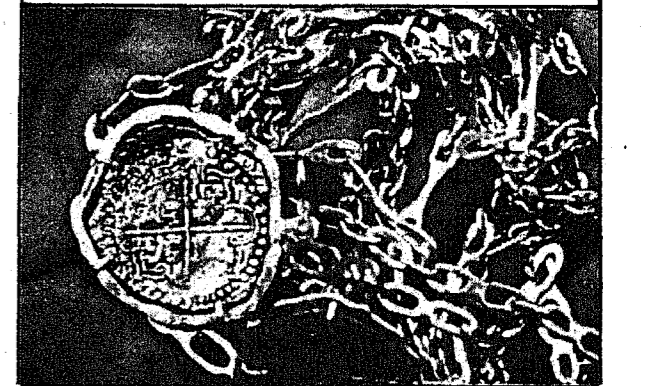



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# EDITORIAL

by Bill Westray

SMATHERS BEACH BECAME the focus of attention for hundreds of spring break college revelers during the few weeks just before and after Easter. In past years we have tried to do beach counts during these busy periods to determine exactly how many beach visitors were using Smathers as well as Higgs and South Beaches. This year we found it difficult to get near the beach, not because of the number of people out on the sand, but because we couldn't find a place to park. The traffic problem around Smathers Beach had reached a point of total saturation. Bumper-to-bumper cars, parked at all sorts of crazy angles along the entire reach of the bridge path from La Brisa Condominiums all the way up to the Florida Highway Patrol station.

The beach count at Smathers was fairly high, about 2500 people peak at one time, but still fairly well within the state standards of 100 square feet per person. Smathers Beach has about 400,000 square feet of usable area, close to 500,000 if one counts sandy stretches between the groin and the boat ramp on the west end, and east of the groin on the east end, so quantity of beach is not the problem. The real problem is the quality of the beach -- the eastern half is eroded, hard-packed, and lacking in adequate landscaping, picnic shelters, rest rooms and other needed amenities ... and, of course, parking. Coupled with these shortcomings are the bumper-to-bumper vendors that line the beach side of the road, totally blocking the view of the beach, and creating another hazard as bathers dart in and out between the large trucks, and back and forth to the other side where their cars, vans and motor homes adorn the bridge path.

A SERIOUS PROBLEM that seems only to have arisen this year are the jet skis. We have had small numbers of Hobie Cats in the past, but this year we suddenly find jet skis being rented out at both ends of the beach -- one vendor in the cove near the boat ramp at Bertha Street, the other from a trailer opposite Key West by the Sea. We have observed a number of jet ski riders

operating in a careless manner with respect to the safety of swimmers almost every time we have stopped to watch. We have watched them circling small groups of



swimmers, and speeding back and forth from water's edge to where the vendor has presumably placed a line of plastic floats about 300 feet offshore.

We guess that the floats were intended to separate the jet skis from the swimmers. Unfortunately the water and beach gradient at Smathers is so shallow that one has to get out more than 300 feet to find water deep enough to swim in. And the jet skis still have to drive in and out from the shore ... where the swimmers are. We watched one jet ski the other evening skimming along parallel to the beach at the water's edge, actually trying to skim in and out on the sand. We were hoping he would suck sand up into the engine and destroy it -- he didn't!

Once we were snorkeling on the north side of Big Coppitt with a diver's flag flying and were harrassed by a pair of jet skiers circling and playing tag with us in the shallows over sea grasses. It was truly frightening. We bailed out and got ashore as quickly as possible. The jet skiers continued to skim nearby while we got a camera and took pictures of them ... we still have the picture ... of a young man and woman.

We believe that jet skis, or any powerboats operating along swimming beaches, are serious hazards. Even Hobie Cats are a danger, and we see them sailing inside the mole at Higgs Beach as well as near Smathers. We'd like to see jet skis banned completely from these beach areas.

NOTHING SEEMS TO be happening to do even minimal renourishment at Smathers ... this needs to get moving, now! The traffic parking problem at Smathers needs to

be actively addressed now, too, before the next spring break hits us in 1989. We see a positive attitude by our officials to use tourist tax money for beaches ... we support that movement and want to see it acted upon soon. The Beach Advisory Committee seems to only be interested in a fishing pier at White Street. Smathers Beach is a city beach which should receive priority attention. We urge the City Commission to get their applications for permits into the Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Natural Resources and Department of Environmental Regulation, and let's move on renourishing at least the foreshore areas with the available TDC funds this summer.

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## The Big Romance Is on Again

by Adassa Frank

*Hands of trees discovering once more  
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familiar flesh of hills,  
the reaching tickle of the roots  
fingering  
the private place of summer.*

*The dreaming in the loins is repeated  
everywhere.  
Even in the stiffened angles of the cliffs  
fuzz is showing;  
bony girls, growing up.*

## Political Whispers from the Birdcage

### A Continuing Saga

by Bud Jacobson

WITHOUT EVEN TRYING hard, the County Commission has got itself a couple of hot potatoes to juggle in an election year. Three of the commission posts will be on the voters' auction block a few months from now, and there are whispers around about possible contenders. But there's plenty of time before you have to put your money where your mouth is; qualifying begins July 18 through 22.

Meantime, the county's Code Enforcement Department and the Tourist Development Council have generated some heat and a little smoke for a commission which prefers peace and quiet.

Throwing some spice into the mix at the CED, Commissioner Wm. Billy Freeman recently put through the appointment of Linda Jensen, of Marathon, as one of the seven-member board which monitors the work of the CED. Jensen had been secretary to the investigating ad hoc committee that rapped the CED for sloppy practices, a month ago. She had pressed ahead on a number of fronts, during the time the ad hoc committee was working, and claimed she was told to "back off," and then alleged that threats were made. Now she's on the overseeing board which reports directly to the commission.

ACCORDING TO ONE ad hoc committee member, "The heat started with Commissioner John Stormont who was angry about the CED failure to do its job in the Upper Keys. And he was sore at Stack, too." Ronald J. Stack, a well-traveled and controversial political figure in Key West for many years, is head of the CED with its \$355,000 budget this year. Under him are inspectors Woody Niles, Gene Favors and Marty Arnold, all well-known Conchs.

Stormont comes up for re-election this year and is likely to have Bill Cullen, a GOP retired businessman, opposing him. Stormont has built firm backing from conservation groups in the county.

AT THE TOURIST Development Council everything was going like milk and honey this year until a bunch of unhappy citizens began grouching about possible conflict of interest inside the TDC and its contract advertising agency, Keys Advertising and Marketing.

Sandra Higgs, wife of Ervin Higgs who heads up the Tax Assessing Office in the county courthouse, is the hired director of the TDC -- and also owner of the advertising agency which gets about \$201,000 for promotional work from the TDC. Her ad agency bid on the contract a few years ago, but since then, mutter the disgruntled citizens like Billy Lowe and Arthur Weinstein, the contract has been automatically okayed. Hmmm! muttered the citizens.

Politicians in an election year tend to be jumpy and nervous when sharpened sticks are aimed at them, so the commission, at the urging of Commissioner Gerald Hernandez, smoothly handed over the supposed conflict

to the State Attorney General's Office for an opinion.

While a lot of this was going on, Commissioner Gene Lytton, a staunch defender of Sandy Higgs, made the remark that the old Conch-Bubba system was fast disappearing into the termitted woodwork because a lot of the "new people" were taking over.

"Haw, haw," chuckled a courthouse official, "He ought to take a look inside City Electric, or around the courthouse. If the

Conchs are fading out, bubba, then I'm the invisible man!"

IN THE WINGS offstage are some other would-be candidates, besides Cullen.

Doug Jones, who recently scored on a damage case against The City of Key West and Mayor Richard Heyman, told one of the whispering political watchers that he was considering a run for the open chair on the commission to be vacated by Freeman. Jones indicated he'd run on the GOP ticket, thereby eliminating battles in the Democratic primaries.

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There's also been some movement among friends of former City Commissioner George Halloran to persuade him to get into the county side, but George is not saying anything right now.

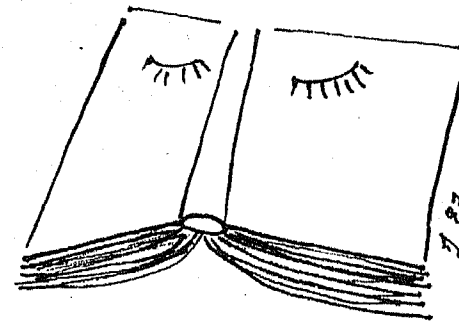
OVER ON THE legal-judicial side of the county, the commission's attorney, Lucien Proby, will retire on July 4 and, presumably, the commission will have someone to appoint.

Rumors along Whitehead Street float around some lawyers well-known locally. Names surfacing include Bob Leeman who has been a hard-working assistant to Proby for a few years and is well thought of by commissioners and other lawyers; Hugh Papy, once a city judge and well-respected in legal circles; and Randy Ludacer, who has done some part-time legal spadework for the county attorney.

Anytime now, according to a couple of the legal eagles, the governor is going to appoint a man, or woman, to fill the post vacated by Circuit Judge David Kirwan in Key Largo. Kirwan resigned when he figured he would not run for re-election after a brush with the Judicial Qualifications Commission.

Names on the governor's desk include Virginia Stones, a lawyer for the state attorney; Jeff Overby, a lawyer with the public defender; Diane Marger, an attorney in Fort Lauderdale.

County Judge Reagan Twomey, who has been handling some circuit matters in Kirwan's absence, while not actually mentioned, might be the surprise choice.



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**Nature's Way: May Magic**

by Alice Terry

THE WORLD SHOUTS: "It's May!" It's really spring, and the gloomy, cold days of winter are far behind us for yet another year. Never were warm, balmy days and nights so welcome. As a transplanted northerner I laugh at that statement, for here it never becomes truly frigid in the northern manner. Something happens to us after a few years in the Keys. Our blood thins? Nonsense. However, when it plummets below 70 degrees ... well 65 ... we feel it and suffer. So hooray for spring, and the merry month of May.

We may expect an average temperature of 75 degrees this month. Look for 2.7 inches of rain. Of course, we did have lots of rain during the traditionally "dry" months of winter this year, so who knows? The gumbo-limbo trees are somewhat confused, belatedly remembering to shed their greenery, and quickening with fresh leaves at the same time.

Key West is swathed in floriferous splendor. A wild profusion of color accosts the eye wherever one looks. The bougainvilleas continue to amaze and thrill, shouting gaudy greetings from treetops, walls, fences and roadways, exciting our island with tropical visual shock waves. Blooming trees are virtually everywhere ... the geiger, golden shower and orchid trees ... the list goes on and on. Look for the lovely lignum vitae, that slow-growing beauty with lavender-blue blossoms. Wait and watch for the royal poinciana to burst forth in all its vivid glory ... soon the heavenly canopy of orange and yellow blossoms will grace our streets and yards in annual celebration of life and beauty.

HOW IS YOUR garden doing? Mine is tiny, but packed with native and exotic plants. The fast-growing gumbo-limbo is now sharing backyard space with a paradise tree, a wonderful native that is growing like the proverbial Topsy. The new leaves are a

lovely reddish-bronze color, the tree trunk is straight, slim and tall. Up, up, up it reaches. It stands next to a datura, a two-year-old division of a friend's mother plant. It just finished blooming, displaying 95 bell-like blossoms at once ... a spectacular feat. The hibiscus continues to show off its flashy blooms, and the firecracker plants never give up. The little fish pond sports a delightful pale blue waterlily while the happy fish (koi, goldfish, guppies, et al) are fat and sassy. You get the idea.

May is a fine time to divide and replant herbaceous perennials that bloom in winter or early spring -- daylilies, for example. You can easily start allamandas from cuttings at this time. Try both the yellow and purple varieties. Provide a good garden fertilizer, and good drainage. Seldom bothered by insects or pests, the allamandas provide cheerful, welcome color in return for minimum care and attention. Seeds to plant this month include sweet alyssum, China aster, hollyhock, marigold, morning-glory and zinnia. I spotted a front garden chock-full of marigolds lately, and my neighborhood boasts lush morning-glory vines clambering up trees and utility wires. Another front yard shows off rows of yellow day lilies, so all things are possible, even if difficult. Once again I note that plants and trees in the absolutely correct location seem to flaunt their good health. My datura is a good example, as is the immense, once-again-blooming white bird of paradise plant behind my house, towering above the roof. Ah, the pleasures of living in Paradise.

I HAVE JUST assumed the responsibility of a three-year commitment to the Key West Tree Commission. I am happy to do my part in preserving the Key West legacy of living trees. The giants and saplings deserve love and care. A process involving easy-to-fill-out city permits addresses removal or heavy maintenance of our trees. The merits of each permit are

weighted by the City Tree Commission the first Tuesday of each month. The City of Key West, as well as business and private residents, is heard by the Commission at that time in the Chambers of the City Commission. The Tree Commissioners put in a lot of hours looking at the trees in question, and weighing the pros and cons in each instance. The Key West Citizen covers the hearings, reporting in words and photos the specifics. An informed public is more likely to follow the laws and regulations, and will, I feel, act honorably and responsibly. Community appreciation goes to Fran Ford, recently retired as head of the Commission. During the four years of her stewardship, she proved to be a wise, judicious and fair chairperson. Bravo!

The proliferation of environmentally concerned groups of private citizens points up the increasing need for some sort of umbrella agency or board in order to coordinate efforts to protect the environment. Energies, organizational skills and public relations expertise must be harmonized to some extent, in order to maximize their effect. Certain common interests and goals are inherent in Last Stand, the Land Trust, Reef Relief, and even the newly organized Key West chapter of the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association. Also involved in environmental matters are the Florida Audubon Society (without, alas, a local chapter), the Key West Garden Club, and the newly formed support group for the Key West Botanical Garden. I foresee possible combat over public support and dollars, such as there now exists in the realm of cultural organizations. This sort of friction would prove non-productive and destructive. The swelling tide of community concern for the environment should be noted and properly welcomed. An aroused citizenry is speaking up about beaches, streets, the quality of our water and air, traffic problems and the general appearance of the town. Hopefully, the leaders of the various organizations will explore the possible joining of hands and forces in the fight for a better community.

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# Gallery Hopping

by Gordon Lacy

ASIDE FROM GALLERY hopping this month, which we will do, all the same, there are issues on which I must reflect in this column.

Gripes: Number One on the list is the irresponsible TDC, presided over by advertising executives who cannot foresee any future for our city other than bringing in more and more people and who refuse to refurbish our island's needs for these tourists they attract by false images. We have no decent beaches, no fishing pier, we do serve liquor to minors and pay our police force -- already sapped by drug-induced crime lured here by our advertising -- to tighten up on the drinking laws. We entertain the powerboat races (three deaths in two years) which louses up the whole town with snarling traffic operations and a prodigious clean-up problem. Has any citizen had contact with these uncouth big-spenders?

Spring breakers bring the same problems, only worse. They stay in camps, not at the Pier House or The Reach. They spend their money on beer and fast food while they zoom around town on motorbikes honking and holding up traffic, often drunk. Here I must report that East Martello Director Susan Olsen was chased onto the sidewalk by spring breakers in a car. She crashed her bike, injuring her mouth and teeth, and will have scars forever. Did the TDC pay her hospital bill? A great guarded secret; the luxury hotels all had vacancies during spring break and they aren't admitting to what percentage, but the consensus is that wealthy clients of yesteryear are allergic to spring breakers.

If the TDC would back Parvan and the Arts Council, and get some headliners from opera to do a series of concerts, a la Santa Fe, for example, or an exciting art event of international scope, we would attract an affluent bunch of people who buy paintings and expensive clothes, who dine well invariably, and are theatre-goers and party-givers to boot. Or why not just help pay for the White Street Pier? No. We are doomed by the TDC to rednecks and minors and the

quality of our daily living is being impoverished. Bahama Village, the most fragile, is the first to go; adios, Gus Morgan, who sold his house to seek refuge in Tampa, and the many others who can no longer make it in their home town. What a pity, what a waste, what a crying shame! And all for money.



SPRING ALMOST OVER, let us get back to the world of art where I am certainly more at ease and less vituperative. The season is at the grand finale and the last "big" show was John Kiraly's at Gingerbread. This turned out to be a cocktail party and exhibit, as all the works were sold in advance, thereby limiting the suspense and absolving us all from groping for checkbooks in hip pockets. There were no surprises in the show, familiar and painstakingly rendered Proustian tropicals, "Remembrance of Things Past," some in process of work (though already sold), jungly and tropical scenes of houses by languid beaches, rooms exotic and waiting, unpeopled, all clear and limpid and masterfully painted. Several of the paintings have been reproduced in lithographs that are always available at the gallery and on view in the suites at the Hyatt. John slipped unwittingly through my fingers last month in the preview schedule, due probably again to my lack of dexterity with my machine. But there was nothing personal or aggressive in this omission.

Well, if Kiraly was splendiferous, Wendy Turner in her April 12 show here presented us with incredibly lovely work: Plants she had promised, but the main part

of her watercolors were orchids, and yes, the flowers and petals were all there plus the root systems and the whole works -- like it is in nature and less often in art, unfortunately. I even heard one lady exclaim that the bug holes in the leaves were perfect. A beautiful show because Turner goes to the ends with her florals.

THE NICEST THING about the Hyatt House opening was certainly the employment of the PATA-detested Mallory Square Mafia-sun-downers who performed marvelously. The juggler and his partner, an authentic little French lady from Buffalo, I think; our nationally important Love 22, who has run for president once and probably will again; and Will-again Soto; plus the most estimable group of musicians on our isle, the Solares Hill String Band, the likes of which no one else has. They are ours and totally marvelous. For all who eschewed this evening -- regrets. The splendors of a pricey deluxe hotel are just fine for an evening, but let us not allow our heads to be turned. The food was copious, varied and better than I have ever tasted on this isle; I ate for two because it was excellent and I shall never be able to afford it on my own.

The East Martello Mario Sanchez show with two cohorts, Martinez and Ruig, was from Sanchez' point of view a total success. He sold about \$42,000 worth -- 14 works out of 17, which is very good for the actual market. His friends were perhaps very dear, but their work seemed unsophisticated next to Sanchez'. Ms. Martinez, who paints in coffee and in tea with prices in the thousands, does not belong in a museum. Nor do the works of Mr. Ruig, which seemed ill at ease in the Martello.

Lane Gallery showed the photos and pastels and drawings of Scott Jones, light and colored and easy to digest. David Pole, an artist from London who does exceedingly well over there has done the same thing here, and Joe and Bob sold well in the opening. Hats off, though I will have to find that the excellently painted watercolors -- mainly almost-miniatures of teapots and kittens mixed with other fauna

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and fauna (phrase redundant but applicable) -- aimed at what I call the "tea-cosy" society. No balls, and in art, balls is what it is about. As Grant Spradling patiently explained to me, people are attracted to and do buy virtuosity. The contralto who can get through Wagner's "Hoyotohoyas" faster or louder or both than anyone else in the world will inevitably gain renown and lucre.

SOFT FOCUS ON the galleries this month; they have all been strained to outer limits during the season and are battenning down hatches.

Karen at Artist Warehouse has more exciting and authentic African primitives, new and old tribal pieces from a private collection. When I say primitive it means tribal, unsigned art and has nothing to do with naïf painters Grandma Moses, Jack Baron or Patricia Townsend, who are self-taught and sophisticated painters and, let us hope, are not coming on in tribes, unsigned. Karen who is not particularly primitive either, when one gets around to looking closely, will be showing Burmese tapestries, too.

Farrington's window of the month will feature Skipper, a local Keys watercolorist who does very masculine and active sea-boat-dockyard scenes that are highly prized by a clientele that loves watersports and fishing. The originals are in the \$1500s, the lithographs are much more affordable. Lively works feeling of spray and high good spirits. I think this is probably Skipper's third show here and wish him well with it. Also at Farrington's is the only restoration and cleaning of paintings service in town that I can fully, in good conscience,

## HIGH TECH GLAMOUR IN BLACK AND WHITE

It seems that every woman, at least once in her life, has harbored a secret desire to be a glamour model; to look and feel like a star.

Professional photographer Joan Strunk can turn that dream into a reality for any woman. She makes a portrait session fun and exciting. Clients are treated like beautiful models. They're pampered from the time they arrive for their make-up session at a nearby salon, through the approximately 60 minute photo session of high fashion glamour photography. Ms. Strunk makes her clients feel like the most beautiful people in the world.

This concept of high-key/high-contrast photography began on the west coast and is presently sweeping the country. While overpowered by color photography for years, black and white is now reemerging as a popular portrait medium.

The technique, developed by Trish and John Perrin of On Broadway Photography, Portland, Oregon, utilizes "shadowing and highlighting methods of black & white drawing to accentuate certain facial features and white out others for an exciting, high-contrast look, and also correct facial shortcomings, such as a wide nose or narrow mouth."

After attending a seminar on the Perrins, Ms. Strunk returned to Key West with a burning desire to master the lighting skills needed to produce this high tech glamour look. And as she tells us -- "I've got it! Between my make-up artist, Deanna Rogowski, my studio manager, Shelley Malone, and myself, we guarantee you a great time and portraits of yourself like you've never imagined! We invite you to come by and see this exciting new glamour work and before and after photographs. We're in Luani Plana -- 1440 Kennedy Drive.

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recommend. This is Pete's domain and he does it with excellence. Before summer gooze happens, have your treasured paintings -- oil or watercolors or even highly perishable lithos -- checked out here. We do.

Guild Hall Gallery will feature Nicki Suehr behind the desk as artist of the month with her lavish watercolor florals; Gary Zimmerman will have the up-the-staircase position. Otherwise, Guild seems to be awaiting our spring hibernation period after a wild season.

LUCKY STREET GALLERY will not be having any openings this month, but it is presenting five new canvasses by Jean Louis LeBrun who was so taken up with a commissioned mural in France that he spent exactly four days here to deliver his work and get right back to his mural. This artist has made great strides in the last three years he has shown here and his lush tropical scenes feel of Conrad and Faulkner, oppressive and sensual and more and more delicately painted. John Martini has been selling very well and regularly at the Halendar Gallery in Palm Beach, reason

why we see less of his work here. The gallery also announces the colorful naïf art of South African Jan Evershed, who is relocating here.

The Key West Art Center will be starting a spring and summer artist of the month every two weeks. They also will be redoing last year's "Hands-on Art" with the kids

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who practice with demonstrating artists the techniques of wood-carving and egg-tempera (careful! real eggs). It's one whole hell of a mess, but instructive for children and adults alike. Florence Reher has great imagination and we can all thank her for the out-of-doors Annual Arts and Crafts Show and the February Art Show, also al fresco, which has been successful since its inception.

Jim Mosely continues to offer the best in Guatemalan, Mexican and particularly Peruvian pre-Columbian art at his Rose Lane Antiquities. Always reasonable and authentic, here are treasures for worthwhile and original presents.

John Morell at the new gallery Carole, on Whitehead Street facing Dorothy's marvelous grocery store (best conch fritters anywhere, ever), finished a work that was in process last month. The lines and perspectives that I saw then have solidified into a portrait of tiny black Carnetra Pete observed against the plain surfaces of the Methodist Church on Truman. She seems to be laughing and scared and in a hurry, and I liked it. This artist must become a part of everyone's SoMo repertory.

Boris Kravitz will be at the Haitian Art Company the first two weeks in May. He's on vacation from Haiti to see his old friends and touch home base. Ruth will be showing a recently received "Last Supper" by Seymour Bottex, plus a large fishing scene.

Sandford of Sign of Sandford is celebrating, in the best sense of the word, gaudy, practical and signed bags for beach or town, or whatever.

Theodora Bergery, whose charming work in watercolors on sea-island themes, Moroccan deserts and Greek temples, arrived too late in the season to have a gallery, has been showing in her home, by invitation. Some of her work will be on

view at the Lucky Street Gallery. Everybody go.

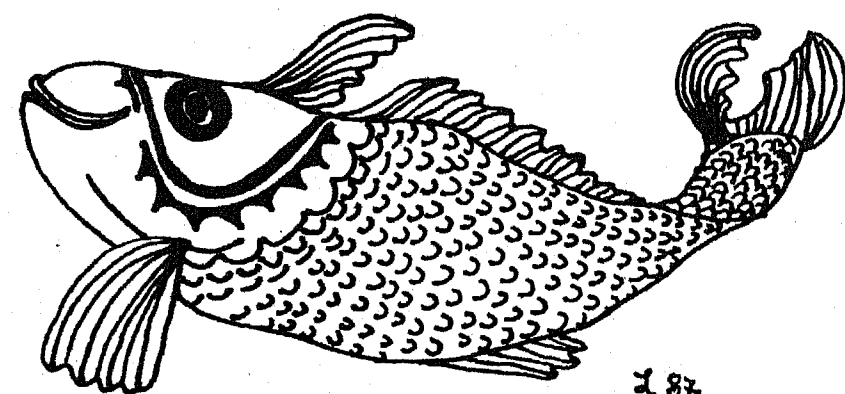
EAST MARTELLO, ON April 12, did a "Day in the Life" theme, the day being Easter. There seemed more photos than anything else and the real zingers were Craig Biondi's five or six shots of things we see every day, but not quite as well as he. John Morell showed two photos of excellent quality, one of which, completely in his vision of Key West, was a black child. It was as compelling as it was charming. There was an Eastery gold collage-painting by Piero Aversa; a series of photographs by Richard Watherwax; an exotic watercolor by Ann Irvine; a wild pastich-collage by Cricket Barnes that included practically the kitchen sink; an odd and fascinating seascape by Jean Porter; plus a couple of Ron Van Balen Easter eggs. The show had a last-minute air about it that I wish were not there. To be invited to show at East Martello is enough to make one suck in one's belly, check one's fly and stand straight. We have arrived at this only after a long and arduous trek -- all up hill, believe me. I have left many out, mercifully and unjustly, but may one day be thanked

... On May 7 we shall all be satisfied to have the annual children's show in the

citadel. We are so happy to show them in the museum where they belong and not in the gallery which must be for artists. In the gallery on this date Biondi has curated an installation-environment show with the various sallies in the hands of Anne LaBriola, Henry LaChapelle, Terry Thommes, Michael Chodzin and Luciano, the person who did the squiggles on 1800 Atlantic. It behooves us all to be present at this opening, which has the air of being a first.

Harrison's has some new Cricket Barnes' oils on display, and I feel this a marriage made in heaven. Barnes is not Van Gogh, but she is a fun painter of odd and whimsical ideas, gaining technical knowledge all the time, and she deals with our cemetery, cats and, well, Paradise Cafe, among other things. Reenie Stanhouse is represented by a very decorative fan in paper; Richard Matson by the Southernmost Point. Shown as well are Malley's lithos, of the SoMo Point, and Helen Harrison's "New Wave," a marvelous strokeable sculpture with one lovely soft side and one jagged edge in beautifully grained wood. The music shelf in this ambivalent gallery features hard-to-find tapes by the likes of Steve Goodman, John Prine, and lots of folk-country-off-the-wall stuff.

Next month will be shorter, I promise, maybe better ...



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**Untitled**  
 by *Gil Ryder*

*There are many men who are still alive  
 Who have passed the age of seventy-five.  
 More than half way through the Golden Years,  
 They've lost most hope but not all fears.*

*Approaching the sunset with shaky tread  
 And wondering how soon they will be dead.*

*How much will they lose -- how much will they gain?  
 Can they pin their faith on some hymn's refrain?*

*Will they die forever or live once more  
 And would that life be fun or just a bore.*

*Thousands of years of contract bridge,  
 Centuries out to raid the fridge,  
 I'm afraid that scene is not for me;  
 I'd rather pick up my girl and flee*

*Among the stars far out in space,  
 To find again the human race,  
 And see ourselves well-dressed and gloved  
 'Mid those we've lost but still have loved,*

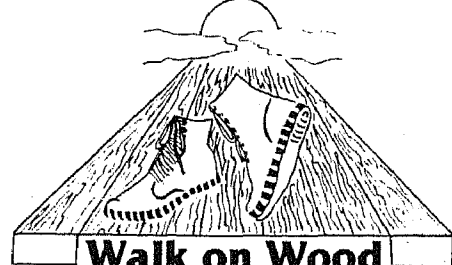
*And learn that this is not the end  
 There is a trail we've yet to wend,*

*Back once more to our place of birth,  
 Developers gone -- a born-again earth.*

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Taco Loco restaurant on Charles St. will host a taco-eating contest to benefit **The Florida Key Children's Shelter** on Saturday, May 21 from 4 to 7 pm.  
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# 1 Field Training

by Joe Petroski

WE WERE WALKING across the forest in the dark of night. There was a light rain, a mist. But I did not mind the rain. I love camping and that was one reason I joined the Marine Corps.

When I was a kid I used to play guns. That is why this field training in Norway does not bother me much.

I'm not saying that I like war. Actually I hate war. But as long as we are using blanks and nobody gets hurt, field training is sort of fun. We had not sighted our play enemy yet. While we walked, my throat became parched. So at the next break that we took I drank some good old spring water, and afterward, put a stick of gum in my mouth. We started out again, about 15 minutes later.

That's when we caught it. We began taking fire from two sides, automatic weapons. We all fired back excitedly. It only took a few seconds before we realized that they were using live round. Our lieutenant, who was standing beside me, yelled, "Get down! Live rou ..." Then the bullets struck him. Everybody went down, and I needed no encouragement. Everybody tried to stay as low as possible, but we couldn't get low enough. Nobody knew what the hell was happening. You could hear the rounds slicing through the brush, and the cries of agony as the bullets found their marks. I tried to crawl over to Lieutenant Johnson to see if he was still alive. He wasn't. He was killed instantly.

THERE WAS NO radio to call for artillery. Just the dark to hide in. It was only a short time before they brought in the

mortars. We should have moved, should have run; but nobody got up, and after a time, nobody could. And then, incoming mortar, and I heard screams as they hit, but there was nothing to do.

I could hear the wump as they fired, and you didn't know where they would hit, and you always felt like they would hit, and you always felt like they would hit your back. They swept back and forth with the mortars, and the automatic weapon. But it did not matter much then because almost all of us were dead. I crawled to the side and found my best friend Jackson, only he wasn't there, just part of his body, the top part, and I hid under him and waited and waited. Finally the firing quit. I took a glance at my right shoulder. Blood, but it did not hurt much at the time. I yelled once to see if anybody was alive. But that brought fire again so I shut up.

THERE WAS NOTHING, not even the moans. About an hour later our killers were packing up to leave. Five men went through the midst of us to make sure we were all dead. They were Russians. One of them poked Jackson's body, but he did not notice me. Pretty soon they were all gone.

I started to walk to the main base camp ten miles away. After about three miles I found the blue team all dead. About an hour and fifteen minutes later I came upon your base camp. And that's how it happened, Major Marshall. I wonder who sold us out to the Russians?

"I wonder who," the Major said, smiling as he reached for his pistol.

## Weird

by Philip Foster

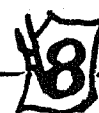
The book once knew what the pen could not write.  
While the car traveled through the sky at night,  
and the chalk drew a wonderful landing site.  
To stop and eat some food.



## Stress

by Denise Mira

If there be stress let it be  
for things undone ...  
unsaid  
unsolved  
confused  
to these add one:  
Feeling withheld ...  
... lost



## Untitled

by Michael Gibson

A nymph, one of peace's proponents  
never fights, but seduces opponents  
Their violence she'd quell  
as if using a spell  
You should see her material components



## WINNING WITH WORDS

### KEY WEST FICTION CONTEST

Last month the editorial staff of Solares Hill was honored to judge a fiction contest sponsored by Kaleidoscope, a new literary magazine soon to be published by students at Key West High School. Three of us read and assigned values to more than 30 poems and short stories. In rating them we considered originality, content, style, grammar, and creativity. The entries ranged in subject from love to adventure to death and to war; some were soberingly serious and others witty and light. But the elements shared by all pieces were the beauty and energy of self-expression by talented young people learning about their young world. Collectively, we found all the entries enriching and enlightening; they provided a refreshing connection to a new generation. What follows are the top-scoring

selections. These and many others, along with essays and artwork, will be published in the 40-page Kaleidoscope, available early this month. The magazine is, in part, an objective in the Monroe County Meritorious School Program. Its purpose is to encourage students to express themselves and explore their talents. An editorial staff of volunteer students, led by advisor Terri Axford, manages the project. Staff members are Allison Banks, Sheila Brumwell, Kristy and Lisa Cizmar, Amy and Matt Freeth, Monica Heilemann, and Ted Witker. The group is now looking for ways to raise funds.

Congratulations to each and every one of these fine writers on a job well done.

— A.B.

## The Artist

by Loray

Protected inside her dad's  
paint-speckled navy shirt,  
she arms herself with a sable brush  
and prepares to explore  
her untamed imagination.  
She will conquer the terrifying  
white plains of a stretched canvas  
and hope someone --  
just one ordinary person --  
will stand in awe at the courage  
it took to step inside herself  
and find something that has  
never before existed.  
Something beautiful.  
Maybe then others will listen  
in silent admiration to  
the colors she has erected as a  
landmark in her soul.



## Wave at the Old Man

by Patrick Nolan

Wave!

Wave at the old man sitting on the high  
balcony of the old folks' center

It is far better for him to revel in my youth  
than to observe it with cold envy

It is far better for him to enjoy the company  
of my youthful countenance

Than to wish that countenance were his.

Wave!

Wave back at that boy riding down the street.

It is far better to appreciate his kindness  
than to let him know I hate life

It is far better to look at him and remember  
the days of my youth

Than to desire his youth right now  
like a vampire



## A Blind Man's Rainbow

by Shawn Patterson

Red: The warmth and love a friend gives you when you are alone  
Orange: The smell of fresh fruit being washed in an April rain  
Yellow: The sun on your bare back and legs  
Green: The grass that tickles your feet  
Blue: The song of birds and the soft, muffled sound of a babbling brook  
Purple: The feel of soft petals on your finger tips  
Violet: The quiet of night  
Yes, a blind man's rainbow is a sight to behold



# Hunter and the Hunted

by Steve Ware

SNOW.  
Silence.

A seemingly endless expanse of white bordered on one side by a large forest. The Interior Region of Alaska, a rugged, subarctic area of land that consists of tundra, lowland, and plateaus.

A small mouse was making its way closer to the edge of the trees. Behind it, a timber wolf was following every move. The closer the trees came, the harder the two ran.

The mouse, constantly evading the wolf's snaps and lunges, managed to get into the cover of a small bush. The wolf circled the bush, barking and growling in frustration. Soon it gave up and sat back. The mouse saw its chance. As quick as lightning, it was out of the bush and heading deeper into the forest. But the wolf was quicker ...

\*\*\*\*\*

THE ICY ROAD would be impossible for any normal car, but the truck on it now was well equipped for it. The two men inside were drinking beer and laughing. A bump on the road caused one of the men to spill his beer all over himself. While the other man laughed, he removed his jacket and shirt and swore at the road, the truck, his partner, God, and anything else that came to mind.

After eating the mouse, the wolf's hunger was still not sated. The chase had not been worth it. The wolf was beginning to head out of the forest when it detected a strange smell in the air. What was it? Certainly nothing it knew of. A noise to its left caused it to turn that way. A moment later a boom rocked the snow off the boughs of nearby trees.

The wolf was lifted off of the ground and thrown back several feet. It was dead instantly. The rifle fired again, removing most of the wolf's head. Seconds passed and silence reigned. Finally, two men appeared from behind the tree. They both carried rifles. One was smiling, the other looking around in anticipation. As they neared the fresh carcass, the smiling man's smile turned to a grimace. The wolf's entrails were strewn out beside it, steaming in the cold air. The snow around the body was slowly growing redder. The smiling man nudged the wolf near the hole in its side and his partner retreated to the privacy of a large rock to vomit. Satisfied, the smiling man spoke.

"Come on, the rest of the pack has to be somewhere around here. They never travel alone."

The other man just groaned.

\*\*\*\*\*

THE SMILING MAN had been right. The pack was just outside the forest, traveling in a long, single-file line. The forest had just been coming into sight when

the now-dead wolf had bolted after the mouse. The rest of the pack did not expect to see him again. He had wandered into their group and had been allowed to stay only because of his superior hunting and fighting skills.

Nearing the boundary of the trees, the wolf in the line's lead halted. There was a strange smell in the air. The rest of the pack smelled it too. Was that something moving in the trees? The line's leader advanced two more steps and stopped again. Yes, there was definitely something there, but what? The silence was then broken. The wolf fell to the ground, one of its legs blown off at the knee by a bullet. The rest of the pack broke into the forest. The injured wolf was on the ground howling. Another shot ended its misery.

\*\*\*\*\*

The pack had regrouped and the smiling man was eagerly following the trail. His partner lagged behind complaining about the cold.

Soon the trail revealed that the pack had stopped running. This was the chance that the smiling man had been waiting for. After all that running, the pack would have to stop and rest. Thinking of that, the smiling man began to jog.

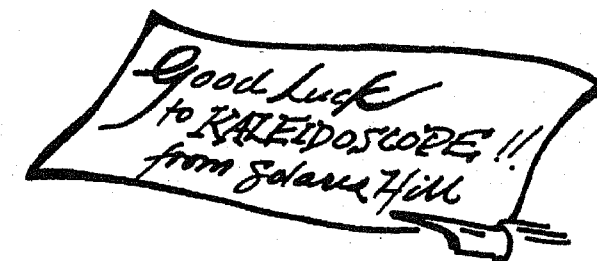
\*\*\*\*\*

THEY WERE NEAR. The smiling man could feel it. They were probably sleeping just over the next hill. He frantically motioned for his friend to hurry. They reached the top of the hill and stopped. A small clearing on the other side revealed a lone wolf. Before the smiling man could position his gun, the wolf was gone. He silently cursed, pulling his partner down the hill. At the bottom he slowed down for a moment. Something wasn't right. Then he noticed the eyes. They were all around them. The eye's owners were hidden by the trees, but the smiling man already knew who they belonged to. His belief was confirmed when a wolf appeared at the top of the hill where he had been standing a moment ago. He began loading his gun. His partner stared in amazement.

"Wait a minute, man," he whined. "Wolves don't do this. They don't attack humans."

The smiling man finished loading his gun, looked at his partner, and said, "Shut uip and load your gun. We're gonna have some fun now!"

The wolves started to move in.



Continued on Page 50...

# Walking Your Way to Fitness

by Valerie duPree

On April 9 over 300 people showed up at the Key West High School -- to walk. Short, tall, fat, thin, young and old, the walkers set out on a 10-kilometer (6.2-mile) route mapped out by the Key West Jaycees, who sponsored the Walk-a-thon in an effort to benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Monroe County. The event raised about \$19,000 in pledges to help local MS victims: it also raised some questions about the benefits of walking.

Karen Moses, Fitness Director of the Bodyshop at The Reach, was at the Walk-a-thon, passing out literature and helping walkers stretch. The healthy attitudes of the walkers impressed her, and she decided that walking is a perfect exercise for Key West.

Recently, Moses attended a Reebok

WALC (Walking Alliance Leadership Council) Clinic developed by the Institute for Aerobics Research in Dallas, Texas. The clinic was designed to assist program directors in starting and maintaining successful programs for sport, fitness, and recreational walking. To encourage more people to walk, Moses has created walking classes -- which are somewhat like clubs -- scheduled to begin early in June. What follow are her thoughts on walking.

Walking is the fastest growing fitness activity in America. Since it requires no special clothing or gear, other than good shoes, walking is the least expensive of all the aerobic exercises. It is the easiest way to get fit without spending any money, and it can be done almost anywhere in all but the most severe weather conditions.

Walking doesn't require any particular level of fitness of the walker. Plus you don't need to learn any new skills -- at least at first. Many people go on to more advanced forms of walking like hill, power and sand walking. But initially, all you really need to do is get out and do it. If you're not fit, you'll need to start out slow at first -- about five or ten minutes in one direction, then turn around and come back.

The best way to gauge yourself is to ask, how do I feel? If you feel OK, push a little harder next time. If you feel weak, exhausted or really out of breath, you need to back off some. Find a speed and distance that challenges you without causing pain. Then work up from there.

A good strong pace would be the 20-minute mile. At this rate, you burn the same



Karen Moses works with weights to further increase the benefits of walking.

Photo by Richard Watherax

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amount of calories you would if you ran the same distance. The only difference is that walking will take you longer. The longer exercise periods result in a longer period of higher metabolism. It's an effective way to lose weight.

Walking can be performed when other exercises are precluded because of injury or medical problems, thereby offering an alternative to regular aerobic activity. Many a runner or aerobic dancer has turned to and stayed with a walking program that was first prompted by an athletic injury.

Also, because of the specificity involved in training for one sport or repeating the same sorts of exercises, particular muscles and muscle groups become conditioned, leaving others at a disadvantage. A change in activity, particularly to one as general as walking, will improve overall muscle training. Walking uses almost all of the body's 650 muscles and 206 bones, more than any other single sport.

Stretch, always stretch. Before and after walking, or any exercise, stretching is necessary to improve fitness benefits and prevent injury. Slowly and steadily -- never by bouncing -- you should stretch for at

least five and preferably 10 minutes, establishing a routine that isolates your quadriceps, hamstrings, calves, lower back, shins, Achilles tendons, and inner thighs.

What are some of the other benefits of walking? For one, walkers run less of a chance of injury than do other exercisers. A walker lands with only one-fifth the force of a jogger or aerobic dancer.

And then there's stress reduction. Even here in laid-back Key West, life becomes harried. Stress is a physiological response to a demand, real or imagined. It causes symptoms like rapid heartbeat and muscular tension. Usually we think of stress as a negative thing. But the stress response is actually nature's way of gearing the body up for activity. That's why exercise, such as walking, is a good way to manage stress.

Of course some precautions should be taken in beginning a walking program. Individuals with cardiovascular, pulmonary or metabolic disease, including coronary heart disease, hypertension and diabetes, should check with their doctors before they start. Obese people, pregnant women, the elderly and children need to be extra cautious, too. Also, when humidity rises

above 70 percent -- often, here in the summer -- be alert to the symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, a potentially fatal condition.

Why should a person take a walking class? In addition to helping people set goals, the classes teach them how to read their pulse, how to reach target heart rates, and so forth. We also keep records of progress, with objective measurements of fitness like percentages of fat in total body weight.

All in all, walking is a wonderful exercise -- perhaps the most wonderful because it is one a person can do for his entire lifetime. And good health and fitness is a lifetime job.

Moses will present two talks on walking: "How to Walk for Fitness," Tuesday, May 24 and Thursday, June 2 at 7 pm at the Bodyshop. The first walking class will meet Tuesday, June 7 at 7 am near the phone booths across from Key West by the Sea. Class will be held on Smathers Beach. Those interested should call one week in advance for an appointment to determine physical condition. For information call the Bodyshop at 296-5000.

### Literary Review Needs Funds Looks to Locals for Support

by Marilyn Millhouse

Although pieces by Richard Wilbur, Jimmy Merrill and Philip Burton promise to grace its pages, *Key West Review* -- a new literary magazine originally planned to come out in March -- has postponed its publishing date until May 30. The reason is simply lack of funds.

"We will not be able to contract with the typesetter and printer until sufficient money is definitely on hand," said *Key West Review* editor William Schlicht, PhD. "At last computation, the amount still needed was between \$1500 and \$2000.

"I simply don't believe it's possible that the people of Key West who are keenly interested in the literary world would fail to come forward with financial support for the first genuine literary magazine to appear in the history of Key West," Schlicht said. "It must be that not enough people know yet that we are dependent on their monetary support to make this magazine a reality. The fact is we need (local) financial support to publish this first issue."

The Coordinating Council of Literature, a foundation that supports endeavors of this kind, has expressed an interest in *Key West Review*. But this organization provides grant money only after a first issue has been published. They need evidence of local financial support before making further funding available.

Schlicht blames part of the difficulty in raising money on *Key West Images*, an arts magazine that was supposed to come out about one and a half years ago. The staff collected advertising revenue, but never materialized, leaving several people with a loss.

Schlicht said that this will not happen with *Key West Review*. Subscription checks already received will not be

deposited until it is certain the review will be produced, he said.

Likewise, no advertising revenue will be collected until money is on hand for typesetting and printing.

"Nobody associated with *Key West Review* draws any salary whatsoever. The enormous amount of work -- much more than most people would ever realize -- is completed as a labor of love.

Most of the 3,000 copies of the first issue of *Key West Review* will be sent gratis to libraries of major colleges and universities all over the United States. Copies also will be mailed to main public libraries in major cities. An accompanying

promotional letter will encourage librarians to subscribe.

Consideration is already being given to the second issue of *Key West Review*, which is expected to come out late this fall. Publishers have already been promised a poem by John Malcolm Brinnin, the well-known local poet, critic, biographer, and social historian. John Hersey, novelist and Pulitzer Prize winner, has indicated a wish to publish in a subsequent issue, too.

To help support *Key West Review*, send tax-deductible contributions to *Key West Review*, 9 Avenue G, Key West, Florida, 33040. Checks should be made out to *Key West Review, Inc.*

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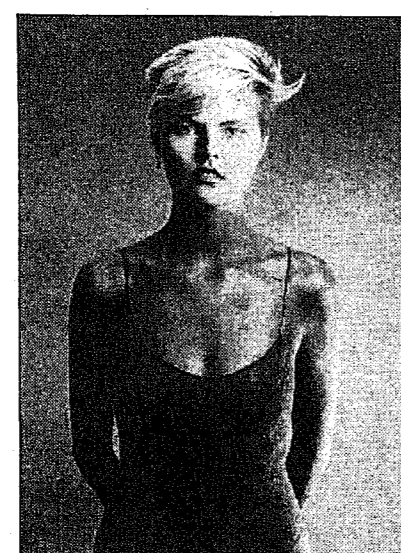
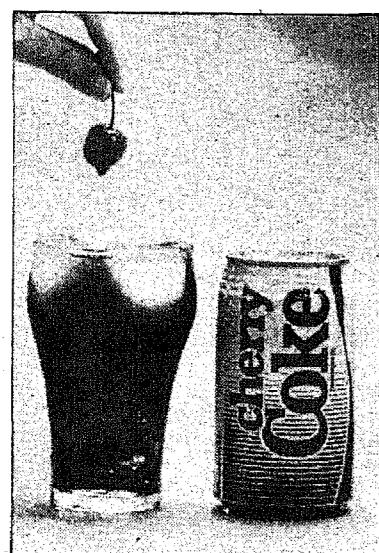
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### Above the Water Line

*Because the hills rise up and the harvest grows,  
because stars multiply and no one knows  
where the ends of tenderness can reach,  
because a good wind blows for sailing  
while the sea turns urgently and ailing  
fish will battle handsomely to breathe,*

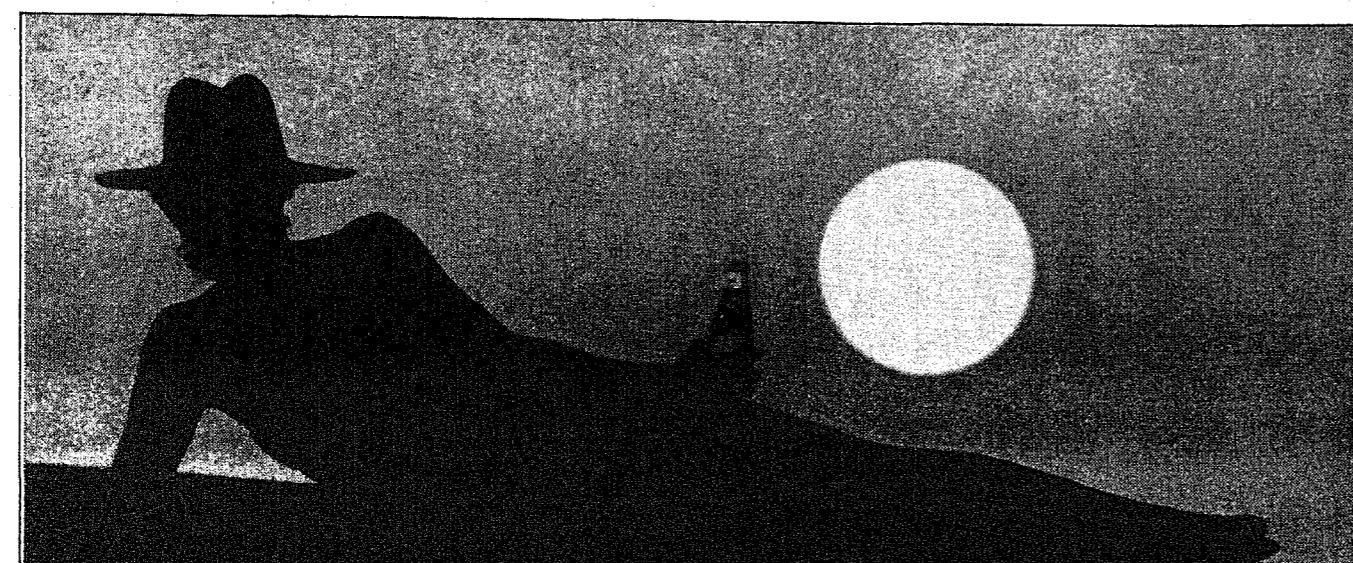
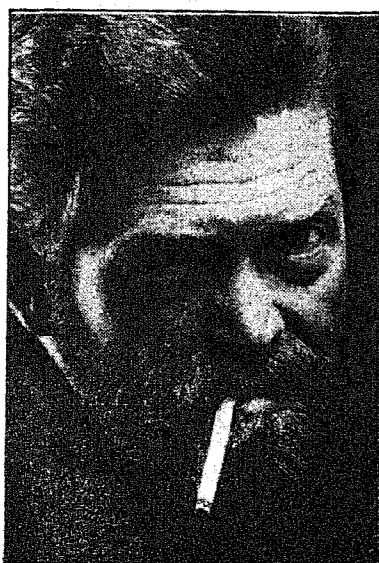
*because the yearly yield of green achieves  
a still surprising miracle of leaves,  
because, unlike some fish, we keep outside  
the murder zone of our own hooks of rage  
and stay robust with love despite the bait;  
we can survive.*

by Adassa Frank



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Photo by Richard Watherwax

Lumen Bustria and Amy Bramble of Key West's only Filipino restaurant, Amy's in Key Lime Square. Delicious, authentic Filipino cuisine.

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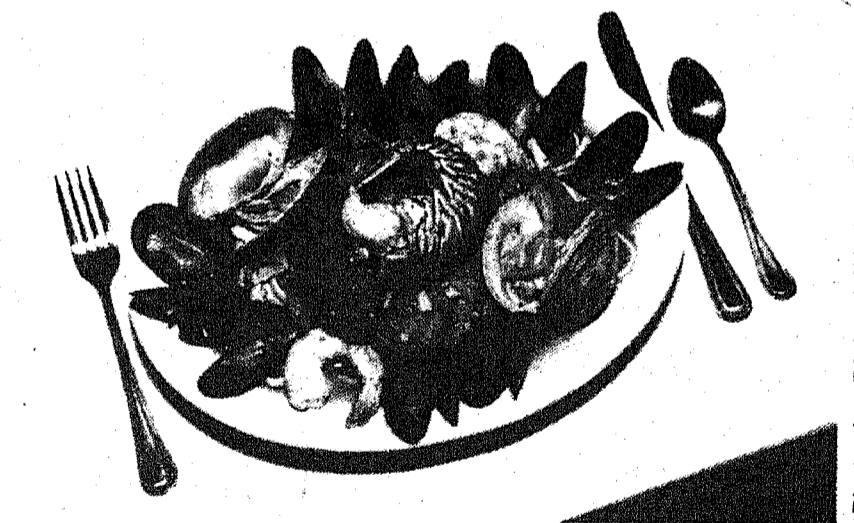


Photo by Richard Watherwax

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Photo by Richard Watherwax

Norman Van Aken, award-winning chef, formerly of Louie's Backyard, has recently opened his new restaurant, Mira, at Simonton and Fleming.

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# Red Ribbon Week Helps Kids Say No

Informed Families of Monroe County, Inc. (IFMC), a parent group founded in 1985 to educate parents and children about the dangers of adolescent drug abuse, is sponsoring Red Ribbon Week, May 6 through 15. The red ribbon symbolizes a refusal to tolerate the loss of Americans to the effects of illegal drugs. In essence, it means: Just Say No.

During the week, all Monroe County children and their parents are invited to attend demonstrations and speeches by Mayor Richard Heyman, former mayor Tom Sawyer, School Board Superintendent Dr. Henriquez, and other invited speakers. There will be a children's rally on Friday, May 13, from 9 am to noon, featuring the Key West High School band and cheerleaders. Children and teenagers may take the pledge to "Say No."

About 250 children are members of Just Say No clubs -- groups that use videos and other materials to help members lead healthier lives and develop a strong sense of self esteem.

"It's a club of their own," said IFMC President Charlette A. Ure. "And there's no rejection, no audition -- the kids simply say yes."

Ure encourages all Key West citizens to support the clubs by decorating the city in red ribbon, tying bows around trees, car antenna, door handles, bicycles,

everywhere.

Ribbon may be purchased for \$10 per 50-yard roll at: Bob Chango, Inc., 294-1003; Flamingo Ice Co., 294-9507; The Pigeon House Patio Restaurant,

296-9600; and the Florida Keys Youth Center, 294-0522. Proceeds will be used to purchase educational materials for the Just Say No Clubs. For more information call 294-3694.



A positive "no" radiates from participants of last year's Red Ribbon Week, a celebration of the drug-free possibilities for Monroe County youths.

# NEW AGE FORUM

BY ANN BOESE



## Editorial

Finally it's May, warm and wonderful. Last month's big rainstorm seems to have cleansed the island, and it's as if we've started anew. The rain also brought a preponderance of birds--some I've never seen. A tomato-red scarlet tanager and his mate sit in the tree outside my window as I write. They are simply beautiful, and I hope they stay awhile.

May is fitness month, and it's probably a good idea to get going in an exercise routine now (if you don't already have one), rather than wait until the heat is upon us. It's much more difficult to move to move in 90-degree weather than it is when it's in the 80s.

We have so many choices for exercise on this island--Yoga college of India yoga, Inyengar yoga, walking classes, aerobics, swimming, meditation, bicycle riding. There's really no excuse for not participating. And I suppose months like this were "created" to give us the boost we need to get started in something as commitment-oriented as exercise.

This month's New Age Forum features an article on Aromatherapy by Dorry Santiago which takes a new look at an ancient idea and a special contribution by columnist Sioux Rose on sexuality as it relates to the planets.

Until next month--AB

## Aromatherapy -- Nature's Soothers

by Dorry Santiago

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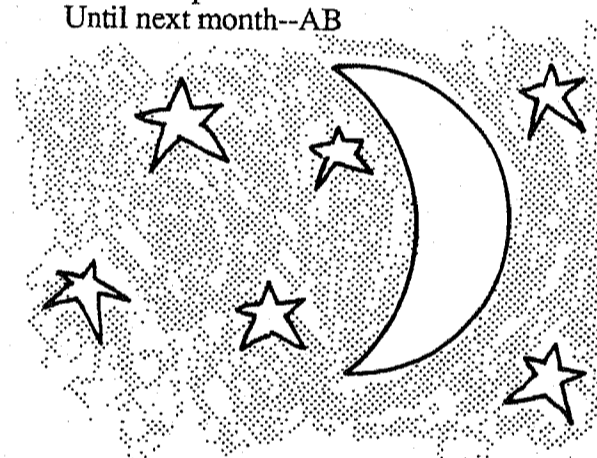
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BY ANN BOESE

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Everything old is new again and I am glad to be a part of this new-age rediscovery.

Dorry Santiago owns and operates John Santiago and Hair People, 1201 Duval Street, a hair, skin and nail salon.

### Human Sexuality and Recent Planetary Cycles

by Sioux Rose

While each sign carries tremendous symbolism with it, the sign of Scorpio is a most fascinating one. Ruled by recently discovered Pluto, God of the Underworld, the sign has dominion over the perpetuation of our species and sexuality, itself. Scorpio, as the 8th sign, borrows from numerology the concept of infinity and continuity, like the glyph. Scorpio represents the body's sexual function as well as its capacity to throw off wastes -- both biologically and through forgiveness. It's the cosmic eraser of karma.

It is no accident that all of the major planets have moved through the constellation of Scorpio in the last 25 years. This is significant when we realize that Neptune's orbit is 164 years; Uranus' is 84; and Pluto's is 248. In the divine plan, these planetary transits awakened new dimensions to human sexuality.

Libra, the sign of "the balance" precedes Scorpio on the wheel of time and karma. Neptune's transit of Libra from 1942 to

1956 awakened humanity to the values of social justice. The civil rights movement, women's rights movement, gay rights movement and general civil liberties began asserting themselves via this generation. New issues in social relationship merged with a goal of freedom of expression. Pluto passed through Libra from 1970 to 1984 and began to "equalize" the sexes. Seth projects the viewpoint that until the inner masculine is balanced with the inner feminine -- and the feminine not devalued by our world cultures -- that aggression would continue on our planet. The polarity between male and female, as expressed through sexuality, is like the two poles of a magnet infinitely recharging each other. Life renews itself in this format.

Humanity recently has experienced a move of all major planets through the sign of Scorpio to reveal successive lessons for each of us. The concept of god revolves around the realization of creatorship. It is through sexual relations that we create our species. Sublimated sexual energy can heal (Pluto as rebirth) or destroy (Pluto as death).

The first of the heavyweight planets to move through Scorpio was Neptune, the mystic, from 1956 to 1970. The God of the Sea disintegrated the fixed barriers and earthy traditions that imprisoned the sexual urge and misrepresented its true essence. Old morals stating that each person was expected to choose one lover for life began to loosen. Neptune has to do with Pisces, the sign of spiritual oneness, and through sexual relations, some people come in contact with a higher mystical realization. Pisces also rules drugs, which were moving into the mainstream of many Western cultures at this time. Many experienced their first sense of a oneness, taking them beyond the confines of the ego, through sexual relations and drugs. Since Neptune also rules the media, we saw some major films bring sex into a new light.

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Jupiter, in its 12-year cycle, passed through Scorpio several times in the last 30 years. Its first transit was during 1958 and 1959 when, as far as the media was concerned, the sexual revolution had not yet taken place. However, individuals born in those years have a strong propensity toward discovery and sexuality. Generally, these are free-spirited souls who understand the joy and power that a positive use of sexuality can inspire. Jupiter moved through Scorpio again from 1970 to 1971 when the concept of expansion held true.

Jupiter exaggerates and because of its large size it generates a tendency to see things in a disproportionate way. Jupiter's one problem is temperance and moderation. Jupiter exaggerated the potential panacea of sex as a remedy for all evils during its transit of Scorpio. This recurred from 1982 to 1983 while Saturn was entering Scorpio, altogether altering the picture.

Jupiter, astrologically, is the sense of faith, bringing out the gambler in all of us. Jupiter gives us the belief that simply wanting something is enough to make it so. Saturn, on the other hand, is the principle of karma, hard work, discipline, responsibility, and it brings a sometimes painful recognition of the results of one's actions. Jupiter and Saturn are diametrically opposed. These two planets first aligned in Libra in 1980 to 1981, with Pluto also present. Libra demanded balance and moderation. This created an adjustment phase in which trends of the late 60s and 70s moved from the experimental mode into a more rational and moderate approach.

After the realignment in 1981, the planets created a cooling-down phase before Saturn, the taskmaster, entered Scorpio.

Uranus is the ruling influence for the volatile, do-your-own-thing and individualistic sign of Aquarius. Related to revolutions, both political and personal, this electric force passed through Scorpio from 1975 through 1981. In many respects, I see that time as the "cosmic orgy" where everyone was invited to experiment beyond the traditional confines of past sexual identity. This was the peak of what even the media called the sexual (Pluto) revolution (Uranus). And it was necessary. Rebellion is a reaction to stultification and rigid forces. However, one cannot live rebelliously forever. The planetary emphasis on Libra in 1981, as Uranus left Scorpio, began down-playing the Uranian sexual rebellion phase.

Soon after the winding down, Saturn, the planet of karma, entered Scorpio. In one unflattering horoscope I once read, the author said that "one Capricorn (Saturn) was sufficient to quench the merriest gathering." Suffice it to say that Saturn is a good quencher. It's as though 1975 to 1981 marked the "orgy," and when Saturn entered Scorpio, in 1982 until 1985, the lights were turned on and some got caught. Saturn is the disciplinarian and extracts a price for all things. This was the punitive sting on the tail of the Scorpion, triggering the epidemics of sex-related diseases to remind people the party was over.

And so, Pluto, the ruler of Scorpio, entered Scorpio, where it remained from

December 1983 until May 1984. Then it retrograded into Libra for another brief "refresher course" in the lessons of moderation. Pluto re-entered Scorpio in September 1984 and will remain there until 1995.

Together, Pluto and Scorpio symbolize life, death and rebirth. Their function is healing and transforming and their fuel is forgiveness. No sign is more under the requirement of learning forgiveness than Scorpio. The reward is a psychic cleansing and a rebirth, not to mention the power to channel the life force of healing into others. The heritage of sexual punishment, deriving from guilt, can be healed through forgiveness.

I feel that Pluto's movement through Scorpio will teach even the most physical and materialistic people that sex is spiritual in nature. Rajneesh wrote many books on the subject and said in a few pages what Wilhelm Reich said in hundreds in *The Function of Orgasm*. Sex should be an act of prayer. When we choose to be at one with another person we enter into atonement -- a state in which all unforgiving thoughts burst loose and quintessential healing occurs. Cayce said that sexual mingling became part of both persons' souls for eons. He went so far as to say that the emotions and life events of the sexual partner would affect the other partner's emotions, moods, perceptions for years to come. We are not just bodies!

Pluto in Scorpio is teaching us the mythical reason for sex. Bodies melt away and souls join to form a cosmic axiom in which the sum is greater than its parts.

I said earlier that Pluto rules elimination as well as perpetuation of the species -- life and death, in other words. We, as a people, are eliminating old emotional patterns that give power to the body and, consequently, empower "disease" with a momentum of its own. Actually, spirit transcends flesh and when sexuality is spiritual, the true meaning of marriage and the realization that joining together is holy, purifies the experience. It

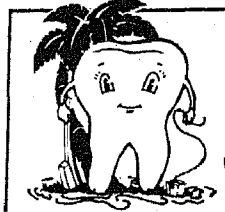
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allows both parties a healing and a transcendence and brings into unity the principles that the planets projected as they moved through Scorpio. Saturn teaches the responsibility for choice in sexual comingling. Jupiter brings the realization of the joy of sex. Uranus brings the freedom to utilize sexuality for common growth and individual expression. Neptune teaches that sexuality allows the soul to recognize itself through the flesh and to transcend it into a mystical sense of oneness. Finally, Pluto brings the cosmic cleansing of forgiveness; teaches us that we are essentially not flesh but spirit; and it allows human sexuality to become a chosen vehicle for mutual spiritual growth. It's all for growth and evolution.

## Children Learn Skills for Life Enhancement

Gary Young of The Sanctuary will teach a class creating an atmosphere of playful enthusiasm for children. Called Life Enhancement Skills for Children, this class will use games, coloring and play to teach children the importance of grown-up concepts like exercise, physiology, stress reduction and nutrition.

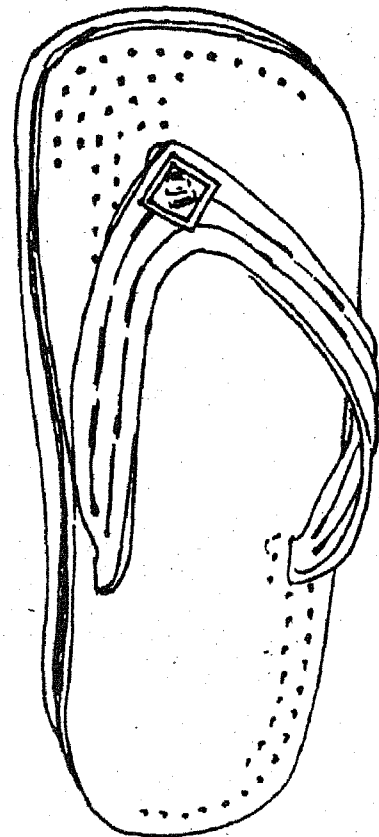
Familiarity with these ideas and a playful learning atmosphere will allow children to embrace these life-enhancing skills and carry them toward adulthood.

How would our lives differ if we all had an early understanding of our bodies and ourselves--enough to create balance within and the ability to embrace the challenges that life presents?

The class will be on Saturdays and will run through the summer. Parents will help in determining the best times for classes as well as supporting the children by helping them put what they learn into practice.

Classes will range for age groups 6 to 10 years, and 11 to 14 years. Each class lasts two hours, and a \$10 fee is suggested. A sliding scale is available. For information call Gary at 294-7104.

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## Brains and Braun

by Marsha Gordon

ROGER BRAUN FIRST came to Key West 20 years ago, in May of 1968. In that time he's made some decisions, formed some opinions. He's one of the people you talk with when you want an honest, well-reasoned hypothesis on a local issue.

His home town was different from the national norm. Perhaps that's why Roger's 20 years in Key West have been so comfortable. Roger grew up with the Seneca Indians, part of the Iroquois nation. Salamanca, New York is the only city in the world that's on an Indian reservation. Roger's father was the Superintendent of Schools. The isolation of living in Salamanca must have been much like living on our island city; Salamanca is surrounded by an Indian reservation while Key West is surrounded by water.

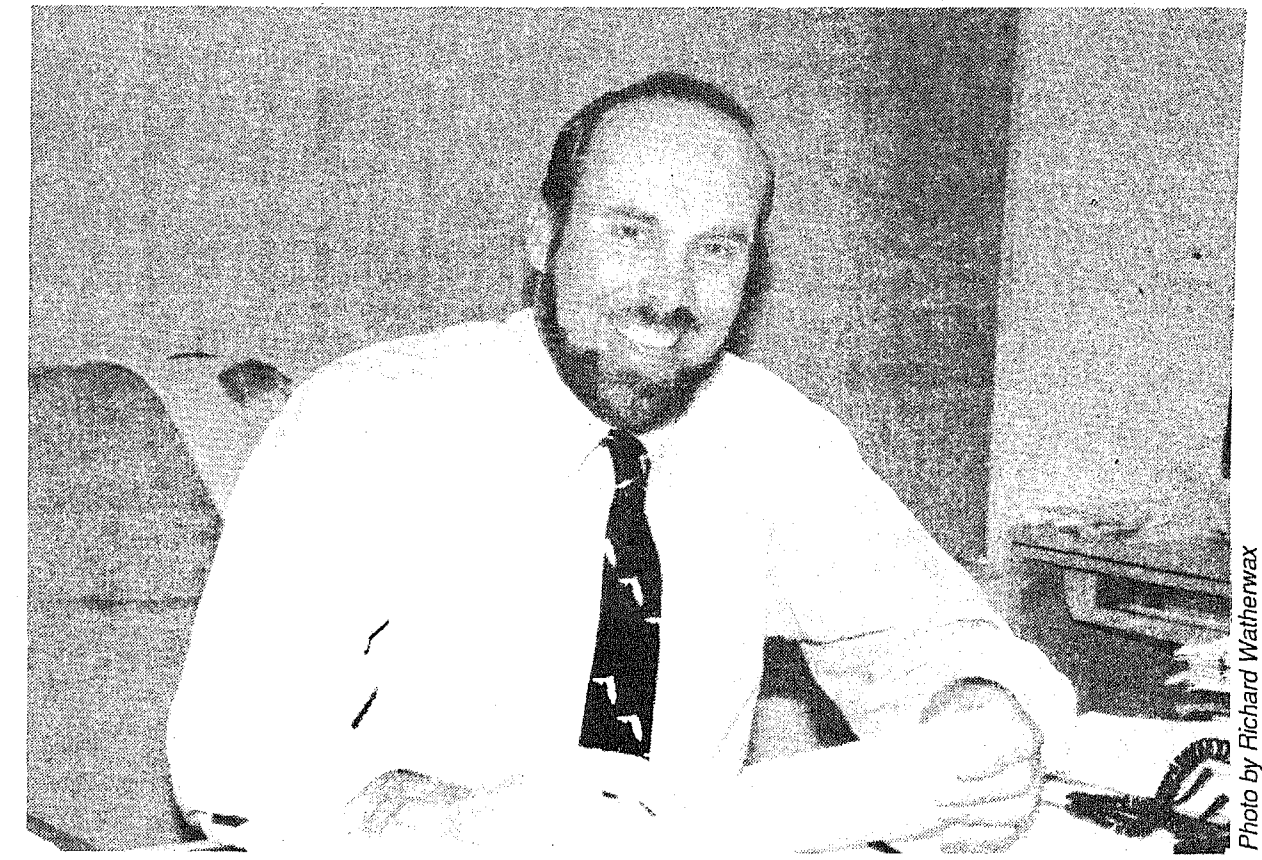
Roger came to Key West as one of Senator John Spottswood's business managers, particularly to oversee the Senator's acquisition of two hotels and the taking on of a radio station and the cable television system. After the Senator died, Roger and his wife opened the Browse and Braun gift shop in the old Harbor House in Old Town. The shop was a success; the marriage was not. When the marriage dissolved, Roger chaperoned a trip to Switzerland for a group of Florida State University Students. He stayed for almost a year, took some courses and taught a few in hotel management.

BEFORE ROGER LEFT to go abroad, Henry Haskins, former Monroe County Sheriff and Director of the Key West Housing Authority, offered to hold open a position in rehab and construction. Roger has been overseeing rehab and construction for the Authority since 1979.

One of Roger's primary objectives in his role as Assistant Director of the Key West Housing Authority and Assistant Director of Monroe Housing Authority, includes obtaining the grants needed to modernize Key West's 45-year-old public housing. The grants attempt to make public housing more habitable for the residents. Other grants deal with obtaining housing vouchers and certificates so the Authority can go into the private sector to lease apartments for very low income people.

Essentially, Braun deals with affordable housing, a term he says has become a political buzzword. It has also become an economic buzzword as employers pleaded with various government agencies to help them with housing for their service personnel.

"Affordable housing means something different to everyone depending upon economic and family status," said Roger. "The affordable housing question is now a joint venture between the private and public sector. The Authority has been approached by a number of private developers to work with them on specific projects. It's quite obvious that in the past, marketing studies



After two decades of community involvement, a smiling Roger Braun believes people need to learn to disagree without being disagreeable

done by large hotel firms did not take into account the critical housing shortage," Roger continued.

ACCORDING TO BRAUN, one of the

largest challenges facing us as a community in the next two years is the integration of the Truman Annex project both economically and socially. "Both the city and the developer need to take it step by step, which

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they seem to be doing, to make sure they are in concert with each other. Neither one wants to kill the goose that lays the golden egg," said Braun.

Roger laments the fact that Key West's golden egg is looking a bit tarnished. "We're becoming a community for the rich," he lamented. "We've lost a lot of our fishing industry and the colorful characters who went with it. We have a lot of little businesses on Duval Street, but we've lost the flavor of the ma and pa operation. Because of economic pressures, we've lost a number of the old Conchs, the homesteaders who were a living history of Key West. They knew personally the history of everybody living together on an island that was economically down and out. When you walked down the street, you knew the people sitting on their front porches. We've lost, I think, some of the creativeness that was Key West." With the optimism that keeps him going, Roger was quick to add, "But the arts are flourishing a

lot better than they did a few years ago, and that's a healthy sign."

Roger is starting to become as involved in the arts as he has been in the rest of the community. He is on the board of the Founders' Organization, the guiding force behind the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center at Florida Keys Community College; he'd like to devote more time to that than he has available now. He hosts Channel 5's *Political Pulse*, bringing to viewers an unbiased look at the county and city political picture. In his capacity as president of FAHRO, the state organization of housing and redevelopment officials, he is bringing a large state convention to Key West.

ROGER'S HISTORY OF community service in Key West goes back to his early involvement with the Jaycees and the Salvation Army. Through the Catholic Youth Organization he worked closely with teenage boys. "After ten years as a youth advisor and counselor, there's real burnout.

But it's great to get Christmas cards from Brown University or the University of Florida, rather than a prison and to know these kids have made it," said Roger with obvious pleasure.

He went on to voice his concern about raising teenagers today in a small town. He is pleased that Key West is again recognizing the need for a youth program. "We don't have a bowling alley or a skating rink," Roger pointed out. Some of his recommendations: "We need more playgrounds starting with the younger children. When we grew up, we had back yards or big neighborhood lots to play sand lot ball or build little shacks. The community is so built up now, there is no place for the youth to play. The streets are it. Most of our parks are for organized sporting programs. That's great but it doesn't give the boy or girl who's less talented a place to get together. I would hope we could have more mini-parks."

Roger is also afraid we're losing our ability to identify with each other on the island. He's concerned about getting into a "them" or "they" situation which he says can't work on a small island. He recognizes Key West's history of always being able to balance itself. "If we don't have a natural disaster, we'll hit build-out in the next five years. Then we'll go through an upgrading. Every time Key West goes up economically, it falls back a little, but it always ends up on a higher plateau. The bottom line is to revisit those things that are important to us; the public library, the bike rides," said Roger. He'd like to bring the funky factor back up.

HOW CAN WE do that? By really listening to each other more, says Roger. "Before we get so far out in front of an issue, whether it's political, economic or governmental, we should give it a chance to root and grow a little bit," he explains.

Roger sees three major problems in our town. The first is the growing economic pressure that has to be slowed down so the economy can adjust itself. Secondly, we have to learn to disagree without being disagreeable, as important in a small community as it is in a family. The third problem has to do with values. In Roger's opinion, drugs are ruining personal lives, the lives of families and the life of the community. He says we must offer an alternative to our youth as they come through their teens.

Of the three problem areas, Roger sees drugs as the most important. "We have to declare open warfare on drugs," declared Roger. "The community needs a team spirit to pull it through 1988."

Roger Braun, with his 20 years of community service in this offbeat town, might just possibly coach the team. He'd probably do it without reservations.

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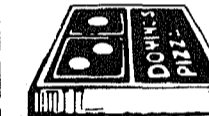
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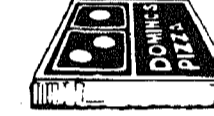
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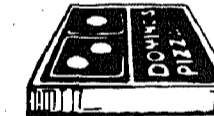
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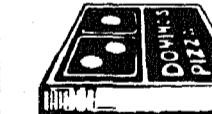
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**RESCUE OFF KEY WEST**

by *Natasha McLean*

THE COAST GUARD today is the object of criticism from many in the boating world. There are newspaper stories accusing the Coast Guard of allowing boats to sink, and complaints of the many boardings carried on these days. A short time ago I was reminded of what the main occupation of the Coast Guard is -- saving lives, an occupation the Key West Coast Guard carries on marvelously.

Recently, I was sailing up the Keys with my husband, our two young sons and a friend in *Sundancer*, our 30-foot trimaran. By nightfall the northerly wind that had come up earlier in the day had strengthened. It was blowing too hard for us to beat into Key West. Our boat carries only a small outboard engine that we use when there is no wind and the sea is flat. Tacking against a strong head wind and big seas we make little progress. So with shortened sail we decided to sit out the storm and move slowly toward Marathon.

The night was long and tiring with only the children getting much sleep. The waves were vast and close together. Also there was a lot of shipping. However, we'd had much worse nights in more severe conditions so we were not at all worried -- merely cold and exhausted. As daybreak came we lost sight of the light on American Shoal we had been watching. Daybreak dawned grey with the seas towering above us, breaking white water in every direction. We had listened to the weather forecast the night before that had said the winds and seas would decrease -- what was this?

STUART, MY HUSBAND, was at the helm; Alex, our young friend, was bailing out the pontoons; and I was down below about to make breakfast for our two little boys. Albie is 5 and Thomas is 2, and they both love bad weather when their boat becomes their personal roller coaster. Suddenly I heard a roaring sound. I turned toward Stuart as what seemed to be about 40 tons of water broke over the boat, filling the cockpit and causing the whole boat to shudder as the force of water smashed us down violently on the sea below. The water emptied out of the cockpit and Alex went on deck to check the pontoon.

"Drop the sails," he yelled, urgency in his voice. We lowered the sails and Stuart went forward to where Alex was trying to bail out the pontoons. "Call for help," he screamed. "The pontoon is wide open, everything has broken off."

"U.S. Coast Guard, Key West," I called over the radio, shaking; after 16 years of sailing it was the first time I'd had to call for help. I was relieved as the efficient voice of the Coast Guard radio operator answered us. It was comforting to know she could hear us as our batteries were low. We charge our batteries with a solar panel, but the lack of sunshine did not help them.

"Are you in immediate danger?" she asked. I repeated the question to Stuart and

Alex, as I thought that maybe with the sails down we could deal with the damage.

Stuart shouted back incredulously, "You want to look? We could go over with another like that."

"U.S. Coast Guard Key West, yes, we are in immediate danger and I have two young children on board."

"Stand by."

THE NEXT HOUR passed with agonizing slowness. We all donned our life jackets and I attached the children to me with a safety harness. The only problem with this was it limited my movements and each time I needed to go outside I would have to unhook them from me and then worry we might capsize while I was away from them.

The problem was establishing our position. We navigate with a sextant and in normal circumstances we were sure enough of our position to head into shore until we picked up a landmark or got a sun or moon sight. We were now drifting with no sails and so I could only give an estimated position based on the light we had been watching before daybreak. The Coast Guard station in Key West was receiving a very broken up transmission from us, so at this point a motor boat, *Monkey Business*, broke in. They were receiving me loud and clear and were where we estimated ourselves to be. Excited someone might be close, Stuart set off some flares. Out of all our flares, some of them brand new, only 30% worked and none of those were seen.

We next tried to establish our position by the large ships we could see passing, none of whom answered my calls. The Coast Guard radio operator moved our communication onto Channel 16, which is the emergency calling channel that all shipping is supposed to monitor, and asked all shipping to look out for us. Despite this, three large ships that we clearly described and were within a couple of miles of us did not seem to be listening.

THE RADIO OPERATOR managed, while efficiently eliciting information, to make me feel confident they would find us. She told us a helicopter was coming from Miami that had radio direction-finding capability. At each moment we felt the boat would capsize. As we entered the second hour I began to worry that perhaps they would not find us. We suddenly seemed so small; despite being so close to land, so alone. We had turned on our EPIRB, a safety device that sends off a signal that can be picked up by aircraft.

*Monkey Business* was still looking for us. I tried to make some oatmeal for the children as they'd had nothing to eat and I needed something to take my attention away from the radio. However, the pot was thrown off the stove, covering everything with lukewarm oatmeal as we helplessly rolled around in the waves. We tried turning downwind so we might have more control but as we gathered speed we took on



A Coast Guard vessel, recognizable from afar by its bold red stripe, is a welcomed sight to distressed boaters who find themselves at nature's mercy during stormy conditions in and around the Keys.

even more water and large pieces of wood could be seen floating away.

After about an hour and a half we heard the helicopter pilot on the radio. With me counting slowly from 1 to 10 and back they located us. "They're here." Stuart's shout had relief in it this time. I rushed on out to the cockpit, hauling the children with me. Hovering above us we saw the white and red Coast Guard and the grey Navy helicopters. I heard the radio crackle so off

we rushed back down below, the children still attached.

"How are you doing? Can you hang on?"

"How long? Can you take my children off, my baby doesn't swim."

NOW HELP WAS so close I was throwing words out; we seemed so fragile and the children so helpless. The helicopter pilot let me know that this had been his

intention and that they were going to lower a basket. Stuart was to catch the line hanging from the basket and hold it steady while we got the children in. Back out on deck the task seemed infinitely harder than it had on the radio.

The helicopter lowered the basket and tried to come close as we corkscrewed around. They realized that the conditions plus our rigging would make the plan impossible. As he told me this on the radio

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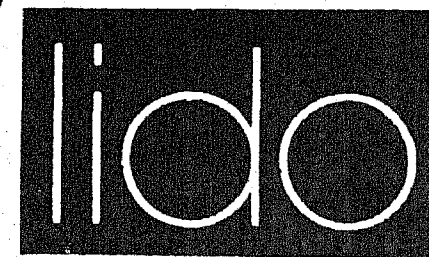
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he also assured me that if the boat should capsize they would have us out of the water within seconds.

Back out on deck I heard Stuart announce the arrival of a Navy Hydrofoil. Little Thomas was ecstatic. Watching helicopters and big ships has always been one of his favorite occupations, so having them all so close was a dream come true.

ONCE MORE I was back on the radio -- what was happening? They were awaiting the arrival of a 41-foot Coast Guard launch to take us off. The last five to ten minutes stretched out, so close and so anxious. At last it appeared and then we realized that to get off one boat rolling around and falling off 15-foot waves and onto another doing the same was not going to be easy. They came in close as Alex held Thomas out. One of their crew grabbed him then fell back before coming back to grab Albie.

Next I was plucked off our boat and entered the small accommodation of the launch where our boys were sitting silently -- no longer looking joyful as the reality of leaving their home was dawning on them. Soon Alex and Stuart appeared but stayed outside and a boarding party was placed on our boat carting a large pump.

We set off with our boat in tow. The boarding party was using our radio and down below I could hear the exchanges.

"Bad structural damage ... we don't think she'll make it ..."

"Well try, it's their home ..."  
"... She's breaking up ... We can't save her."

THE CHILDREN WERE sitting quietly, holding my hands.

"What do you want to salvage?" we were asked as the Skipper explained the situation. Visions of our home: happy times, Thomas' birth on board.

"My photo album," was all I could say between tears.

WE DISCOVERED THIS launch was not usually sent offshore but the 110-foot catamaran *Shearwater* was further north, going to the aid of a vessel on fire. That situation being under control, they were on route to our position. The launch crew had done all they could to save our boat but were not equipped. The seas were enormous and it was very uncomfortable.

After conversation with the *Shearwater* it was decided that we should transfer and that the *Shearwater* should put its own boarding party on our boat along with two large floatation bags from the launch. Moving from the launch to the *Shearwater* was less dramatic than the move from our boat, though I had a tense moment when my hand slipped from the hand of one of the sailors hauling me up. I slid down between the two boats. In seconds two others rushed and hauled me shaking onto the deck. I entered a door and there were my boys, looking around at their new environment. Immediately we were given what we wanted to drink. Friendly crew members stopped to talk to us, to assure us they were going to save our boat.

We were struck by the friendly yet efficient atmosphere in the ship and felt better. As we started moving we looked out and saw our boat struggling to stay afloat. She was now being towed downwind and was riding the waves well. Little Thomas had not said a word since leaving our boat so I picked him up and let him see his home following behind. His face broke into a smile and he started to become his usual monstrous self, racing around and investigating everything.

The doctor came to make sure we were suffering no ill effects which, thankfully, we were not. The skipper, Lt. Russell, came to tell us what was happening, to make sure we were being looked after and to tell us we could take the boys to look around the ship if we so wished. Being fed and entertained, we quickly recovered from the nightmares of the morning.

SUDDENLY WE FELT the motion of the ship change as we altered course to take the seas abeam. Bells started ringing and the crew began rushing about, putting on their life jackets. We knew something bad must be happening but wanted to keep out of the way. When all the crew had departed I looked out the window. My heart dropped down to my stomach -- *Sundancer* was on her side, one pontoon totally submerged and each wave threatening to capsize her.

The Coast Guard had their inflatable in the water and there was much activity. One of the young boarding party was putting up the main sail. We discovered later that he had never sailed but thought the wind could

be used to bring the starboard pontoon up and he was right.

Finally, after installing another pump and rearranging the flotation bags, they felt they had it under control and, satisfied, returned to the interior of the ship. The skipper explained what had happened and told us he had known that would be the critical part of the voyage, but after bringing her so far he wasn't going to lose her within sight of Key West.

THE CHILDREN AND I sat in the bridge as we went up the main channel while Stuart and Alex remained below learning all about the ship from the chief engineer. The children were thrilled as they checked out all the navigational instruments. Needing to make a decision about where to put us, the skipper consulted his boarding party.

"Extensive structural damage, large holes in both pontoons and water entering the main hull," was how they summed up her state. Not good news, but we were just so thankful to have our home and all our possessions, even if they were wet. Stuart and Alex returned to *Sundancer* and the launch again took up the tow and took us in to the lee of Christmas Tree Island. The *Shearwater's* inflatable then took us over to bring her closer into the beach. At this point a local man, Jib, appeared and used his Boston Whaler to take us behind a wreck to a protected spot where we could sit on the sandy bottom.

I had waited aboard the *Shearwater* until our boat was secured and then the inflatable took us on over. As the children went to sleep, Stuart and I talked about how lucky we were to be there safe and in our own home. What a wonderful job the Coast Guard had done. After dropping us off they were off out again on another call.

How upsetting it must be for members of the Coast Guard people, their families and loved ones to hear criticism of them when daily they risk their lives for other people. In the future any inconvenience I might suffer due to the Coast Guard's safety checks or boardings will not bother me as I know that when it is important they are there for us all.

FROM THE ARCHIVE

by Bud Jacobson



County Commission has a friend. In 1951, President Harry S. Truman took up the gavel at a Monroe County Commission meeting in the courthouse. Such days of glory the Commission hasn't seen since. "The Boss knew how to run a meeting," said Mayor Gerald Saunders (left). "And how," echoed Commissioner Joe Allen (next to Truman) while Commissioner Harry Harris listened. Commissioners Frank Bentley and Clarence Higgs missed out. (Photo courtesy Commissioner Wm. "Billy" Freeman.)

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# Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

In recent weeks the Tourist Development Council has become a controversial issue, and it should be.

The tax paying citizens of Key West and Monroe County have learned that the structure of the TDC is so complex and arcane that its own members are confused as to who approves or vetoes the movement of public funds.

We have learned that 100 percent of the first two cents of the tourist tax dollar (\$2.9 million in 1987) is spent on advertising, promotion, and the administration of that advertising and promotion, despite the current state statute that clearly states these public funds may also be used for beach improvement, maintenance and renourishment, as well as for other community measures which support tourism.

We have learned that more than 50 percent of the \$2.9 million is "farmed" to a Miami advertising agency and that at least \$100,000 is "farmed" to a Miami public relations firm. Another \$145,000 is placed in a TDC reserve.

We have learned that the TDC has a contract with Keys Advertising and Marketing for administration of that advertising and promotion. Sandra Higgs is both executive director of the TDC and owner of Keys Advertising and Marketing. A new three-year contract which would increase her payments, and which was to take effect April 16, 1988, has been delayed for 60 days to allow the citizens of Key West and Monroe County to hold a public hearing to permit citizen input on the expenditures of these public funds.

There are many issues that need to be addressed concerning the present allocation of the \$2.9 million and the apparent conflicts of interest. Perhaps we should also consider restructuring the TDC.

The remaining public funds are spent on the advertising and promotion of festivals and attractions such as Fantasy Fest and Festival of the Continents.

Most disturbing is the lack of cost efficiency of our public funds, especially the hundreds of thousands of dollars being spent on agency commissions, salaries and expense accounts. The "farming" of public funds to Miami advertising agencies and public relations firms shatter cost efficiency.

The Solares Hill Design Group has stated that out-of-town firms charge five to ten times local prices, can't be bothered with small details, and can't respond quickly to the changes and reworking needed by local business. Solares Hill Design Group is the most respected firm in Monroe County, yet they were unaware of any public bids being offered by the TDC. Why?

We feel that a certain percentage of these public funds should be spent to promote our hardworking community theater groups, the sidewalk arts festival, Children's Day at Bayview Park, Buskerfest and other

meaningful city and county efforts.

Another portion of the public funds should be allocated for advertising and promotion. The "agency of record" should be chosen through public bidding (within Monroe County).

Tourism is our main industry, and we have to exert all of our skills and abilities to make sure that our visitors want to come back. As Key West City Commissioner Jimmy Weekley has stated, "a satisfied customer is the best advertising and costs us nothing." When you advertise Key West as a small tropical island, its beaches and shoreline should be one of the selling points of that advertising.

Let's create a strong tourist economy we can all be proud of, and not the greed-filled, quick-buck scheme it has apparently become. It is now time for the citizens of Key West and Monroe County to demand that our city and county governments place the best interests of the entire community above those of the few self-serving, politically influential individuals who presently pull the strings.

A public hearing will truly reveal the changing needs of Monroe County.

A.C. Weinstein  
Billy Lowe  
Executive Directors of the Committee to Improve Our Tourist Economy (CITE)  
Key West

Dear Editor:

Ray Pace's article "The Quality of Tourists: Are We Attracting the Wrong Crowd?" in *Solares Hill*, March 88, misses the point entirely. I have been in Key West a number of times in the last 15 years or so and the city has changed so much, that I promised myself never to return because it is such a letdown now.

Ask yourself: Why do people want to come to Key West? The answer: To find a relaxed, antique town with a wonderful climate where you can see arts and crafts thrive, and where you can slip into the last century and enjoy shops with unique and beautiful merchandise.

Instead you now find a perpetual traffic jam, garish neon signs, shops with sleazy merchandise -- mostly T-shirts -- loud radios crashing and banging and incredibly overpriced food and lodging.

I understand that many products and foods must be brought into Key West from other parts of the country, and I am willing to pay a little extra, but the gouging and extra taxes are getting to be ridiculous.

What quality tourist would want to come here? It's like a carnival! You have everything but a shooting gallery! Now you are talking of raising the tourist tax! You are committing suicide!

If you want to have high quality visitors, show them a high quality town. Encourage artists and craftspeople by giving them financial help. Cut down on condos, that is not what people come to see. Give help toward proper restoration of old buildings. Allow live-aboard boats near town. Anyone who owns a boat has money to spend, and it gives the town a romantic atmosphere.

Just provide quality and you won't have to advertise so much. Key West will spread by word of mouth in no time.

Thank you for letting me tell the other side of it.

Lori Corey  
Fort Lauderdale

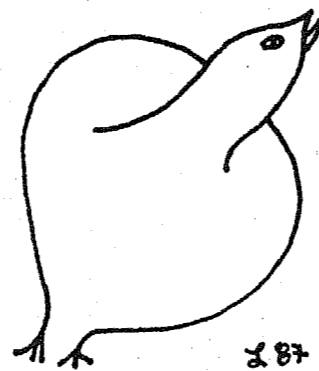
Dear Editor:

As President of the Key West Garden Club, I would like to protest the suggested removal of the sea wall in front of West Martello Towers, a brick Civil War fort on the National Register of Historic Places, and the Key West Garden Center.

I suppose that in the eyes of some, this wall, when built, was probably not a "perfect" prototype, but it is there now and through the years has done an excellent job of keeping ocean damage away from our fort walls and garden center. Furthermore, the number of swimmers and sun bathers who utilize the area between the sea wall and fort supports the retention of this area, both for continued public use and our protection.

A proposition to alter the present wall is frightening. We approve the Monroe County Engineer's suggestion that "rip-rap" be added in front of the existing sea wall to produce a more natural and effective energy attenuator. We would like to see the present sea wall retained all the way to the intersection at the White Street Pier, for the continued safety of both fort walls and plant life in the Key West Garden Center.

Martha Lorimer  
President  
Key West Garden Club



## For a Pet

Here we are,  
in our silence,  
eye to eye,  
bearing witness  
to the last look  
of eternity's steady stare,  
lost with each goodbye.  
We, together, know  
how this world is made:  
no mark no word,  
no stone or prayer.  
Our very bones  
let go their body's care  
and forget that body's name  
when that name called  
those bones home.

The life we lose  
or the love our lives would save  
would look long, look far,  
while all hopes fade  
in finding some clock's tick  
that can stop this time's change  
or, by its pick, pick, pick,  
dig no grave.  
Cradled in the careful depths  
in all of my power's arms,  
what deep need do you see  
in back there  
behind my gaze?  
Look at me!  
Look at me!

by Kirby Congdon

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Continued from Page 29

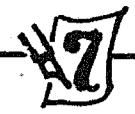
Untitled

by Patrick Nolan

I once travelled into the dark night  
of my soul --  
my soul darkened by oppression,  
my soul stained black by  
boredom, routine, and lack of exploration,  
my soul whose hope was dying

I once travelled into the dark night  
of my soul --  
and found that my hope - the light  
found in all souls - was failing  
my flame was being blown out by  
the cold winds of oppression, I shielded  
the flame and breathed spontaneously into it and it burned again

I found the blackness that lived within  
my soul --  
and I nurtured the light of hope  
and love I watched the flame  
and like arrows did the brilliant  
rays of hope slay the darkness  
that dwelt within my soul.



LOVE TO MEET A GIRL

by H.S.

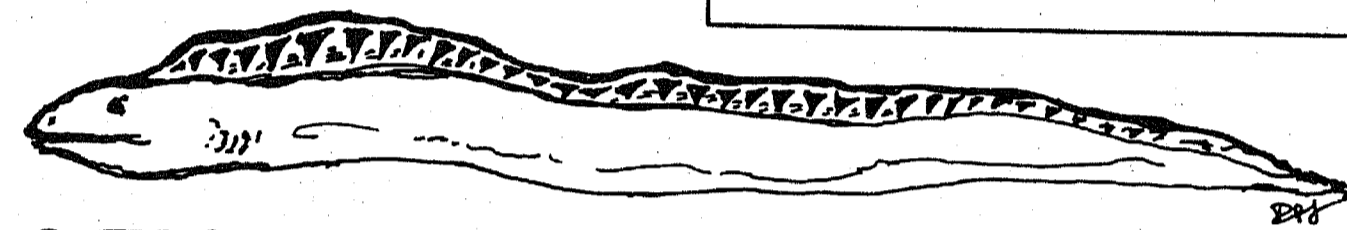
HOW DO I LOVE THEE ...

LOVE TO MEET A GIRL  
ABOUT AS SWEET AS SUMMER TURNING INTO SPRING  
WALKING DOWN THE STREET  
LIKE A BIRD IN THE WIND  
PASSING THE DAY  
FLYING AWAY  
SINGING A SONG, AS FREE AS THE MORNING  
AND LOVELY

TAKE HER IN MY ARMS AND PICK HER UP  
SWINGIN' HER HIGH ABOVE THE GROUND  
HUGGING EACH OTHER AS HARD AS WE CAN  
LAUGHING WITH ME  
LAUGHING AS WE  
FALL IN THE GRASS, ALONE AT LAST  
KISSING

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THAT WOULD LOVE TO MEET A BOY  
SOMEONE LIKE ME


... HOW DO I LOVE THEE  
LET ME COUNT THE WAYS.



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Demise

Continued from Page 14

"Ivy, you ought to take this seriously. It could happen to you. You could just drop dead some day." He rose to his feet, threw down his napkin and started from the room.

"I'm going to get a dog," Harold said and left the room.

"Don't rush," Ivy called after him. "I'm not planning to die tomorrow.

Despite her attempt to be light, she shivered at the thought of death.

HAROLD BEGAN HIS regimen of long leisurely walks the following morning, rising at five am. Ivy got up at seven, uncertain of when her husband had left, and went to put on the coffee. She then retrieved the newspaper from the front porch and scanned the front page while the coffee perked.

"There!" she exclaimed aloud. "The *Elmwood Morning Journal* did it again. You can tell which side they're on in this screen writers' strike." She got up to turn off the coffee, mumbling the entire time. "Maybe some people have minds of their own, but a lot don't and they just wait to be told what to think and the *Elmwood Morning Journal* tells them. Pooh, pooh, and double-pooh!"

She poured her coffee, returned to the table and turned to the second section. She could not have said what made her read the obituaries, but read them she did.

"OH, MY GOD!" Her hands began to shake as she read. "Greenstone, Harold Francis, age 65, of heart attack." It's

impossible. They've made a horrible mistake.

Ivy went to the phone and dialed the number of the newspaper. Just then Harold came in. A chill passed through Ivy and she glanced around uneasily wondering if a door had been opened.

"Morning, dear," he called out as he passed her on the way to the kitchen. "That walk was a good idea. I feel wonderful." Ivy paid no attention.

"*Elmwood Morning Journal*," a voice said in her ear.

"Oh, there's been a terrible mistake. This is Mrs. Harold Greenstone calling. You say my husband's dead, but he's not

dead. He's just out taking a walk and ..."  
"One moment, please," the voice said.

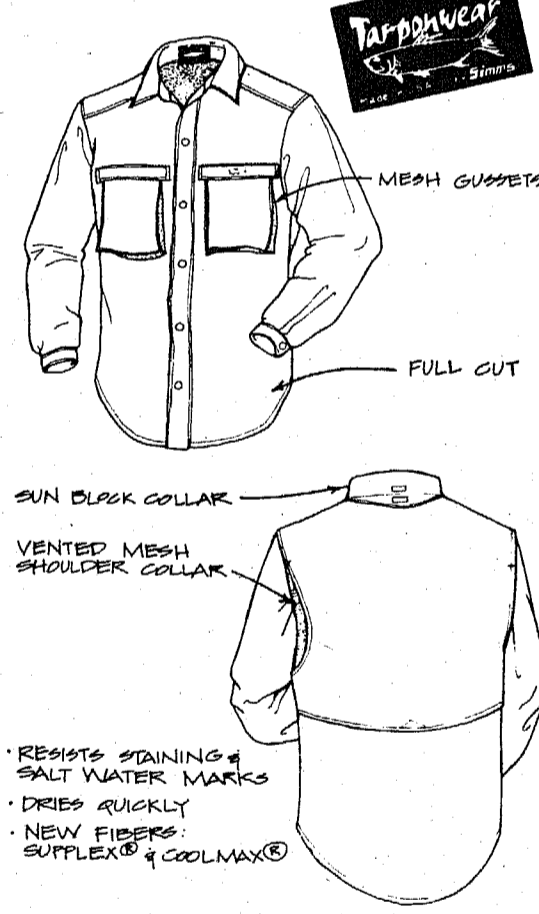
HAROLD CAME BACK into the room. "Who're you calling, Ivy?" Ivy did not reply. Then,

"Bill Jacobs, City Desk."  
"Oh, Mr. Jacobs, this is Mrs. Harold Greenstone. You reported my husband's death and he's not dead."

"Of course I'm not dead, Ivy," Harold said. "I'm standing right here."  
"How do you know?" Jacobs asked, simultaneous with Harold's words.

"How do I know?" Ivy echoed hysterically. "Because I know. That's how I know. He's out taking a walk. He takes

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*Solares Hill Design Group*

long walks in the morning. He's not dead. You must print a rescindment right away." Oh, dear God, Ivy thought, that's not even a word. I must calm down, my heart's pounding. I must get a dog.

"Mrs. Greenstone, please calm down. First of all, this newspaper does not make mistakes of such a serious nature. Have you been notified by the police?"

"Oh, you ass!" Ivy gasped. She never used language like that. "If I'd been notified by the police, I wouldn't be calling you."

"Mrs. Greenstone," Jacobs said. "It does not help for you to use vituperative language of that sort. I'll connect you with

Miss Larsen, the lady who does our obit page."

Ivy was put on hold. Again she felt the strange shiver she had experienced earlier. Harold moved closer to her.

"Who're you talking to, Ivy?" He peered more closely at her. "Ivy, what's the matter? You don't look well."

IVY LOOKED AROUND nervously. "I must have left something open," she said aloud.

A voice came on the line. "Janet Larsen. May I help you?" The tone was low and sugary.

"Oh, Miss Larsen. Yes. This is Mrs.

Harold Greenstone. My husband's death is reported in your obituaries. I don't know where you got the information, but it's wrong. He's not dead. He's out for a walk."

"I am not, Ivy," Harold interjected. "I'm right here."

"Just a moment, Mrs. Greenstone," Miss Larsen oozed. "I'll check."

"What's to check?" Ivy screamed to a dead line. "He's not dead."

"No, I'm not dead and I'm not out walking, Ivy. I'm right here. Have you gone crazy?" Harold positioned himself right in front of her. Her stunned gaze went right through him. What's wrong with her, Harold pondered. She can't seem to see me. My God, she's gone blind, she's gone deaf. What's happened to her?"

"Mrs. Greenstone?" Miss Larsen was back on the line. Just as Harold reached out to touch his wife, she turned toward the wall.

"Yes. Have you found out something?"

"Well, all I know, Mrs. Greenstone, is this copy was put in my box sometime yesterday. I believe it was telephoned in."

"Don't you ever double-check these things? It isn't even complete. There's no mention of survivors or place of services."

THERE WAS A PAUSE, then the sound of a throat being cleared.

"Well, I did think it a bit strange, but we were about to go to press and the *Elmwood Morning Journal* ..."

"Yes, I know. Never makes mistakes of a serious nature. Well, let me tell you ..."

"Mrs. Greenstone, I'll call you back as soon as I receive further news." The click sounded final to Ivy. She rose tiredly and went back to the dining room. She looked over her shoulder as if she felt she were being followed. Then she picked up her cup and went to refill it. Harold followed her.

"Ivy, please speak to me. Are you mad at me about something? I didn't mean to snap at you before." There was no answer and when Ivy reached the kitchen and stopped by the coffeepot, Harold touched her on the shoulder. He could feel her shoulder, the same plump, firm shoulder he knew so well, but she didn't seem to be able to feel him. She was unaware of his presence. Harold turned dejectedly and went to sit down at the table.

"Maybe I am dead," he thought, "but I can't be. Christ, this is like something from the Twilight Zone. But it can't be happening. Things like this don't happen."

Ivy returned to the table and sat down. She was pale and her hand shook as she lifted her cup.

"How can Harold be dead?" she said aloud. Harold did not try to communicate, but sat watching her. "Someone would have called if he'd been in an accident. It says heart attack." She looked down at the notice again. "Someone must have noticed or how else could it have gotten in the paper? And how did it get in so soon?" All these unanswered questions floated in the air. Harold wished he could answer them, but even if he could, he thought, how could he tell her?

Harold rushed over to her just as she slumped to the floor. She looked up and saw him.

"Oh, Harold," she gasped. "They've done it. They've killed me."

Harold shook from a sudden chill at the instant Ivy died. He picked up the dangling telephone.

"Hello? This is Harold Greenstone."

"Oh, yes, Mr. Greenstone," said the syrupy voice. "And how are you feeling?"

THE PHONE RANG. Ivy jumped up and ran to the other room.

"Hello? Hello?" She realized her voice was much too loud.

"Mrs. Greenstone? This is Janet Larsen at the *Elmwood Morning Journal*." There was a pause.

"Yes? Have you found out anything?"

"Uh ... Mrs. Greenstone, I'm sorry to have to tell you that we made a grave error."

"I told you that, didn't I?" Ivy screamed.

"How could you make such a mistake?"

"Mrs. Greenstone, I have no idea how it happened or who made the mistake. It isn't Mr. Greenstone who died." She stressed the title word. "It should have read, 'Greenstone, Ivy Walker, age 63, of heart attack.' Mrs. Greenstone is survived by ..."

But Ivy heard no more. She dropped the phone and clutched at her throat, gasping for breath. Then one hand went to her side.

### Occidental Proverbs

It's easy to be tolerant once you realize that God didn't make everyone as perfect as He made you.

Good neighbors live in every area -- for those who are themselves good neighbors.

Old age comes with the years -- maturity only with wisdom.

Greed is as natural to humans as hunger, thirst, and sexual urges.

Most of us have all the natural urges -- the differences are only in degree.

Wealth is a hard burden to carry -- most of us would like to be heavy-laden.

"A rose by any other name might smell as sweet," but the Big Apple smelled a lot better when it was Knickerbocker City.

by Gil Ryder

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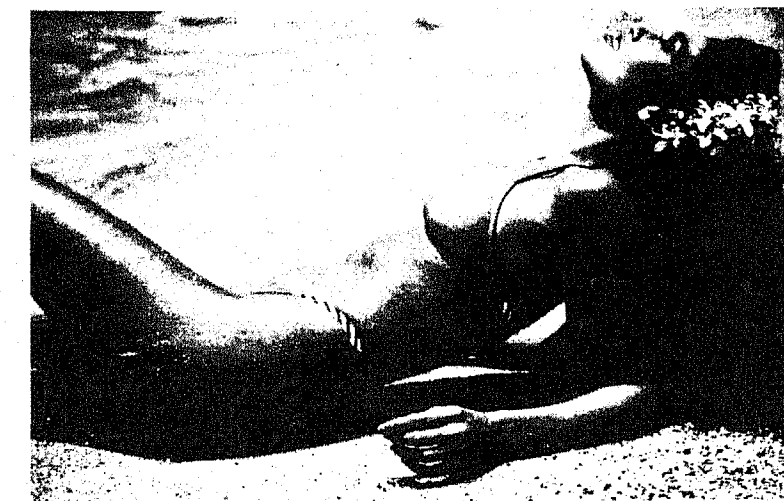
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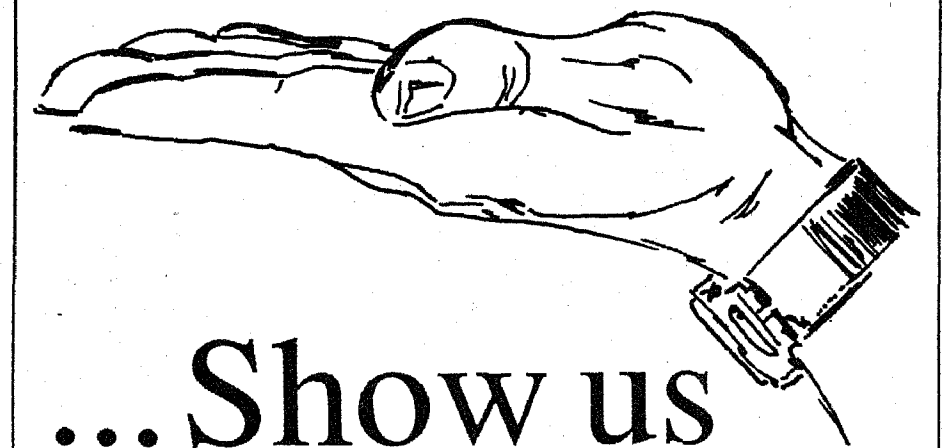
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# Florida Keys and Key West Calendar of Events

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

May, 1988

## SPECIAL EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS

- 5&6 Greenpeace to Host Booksigning and Interviews with Richard O'Barry, author of *Behind the Dolphin Smile*. For info call 296-4442.
- 6 Montessori Children's School Annual Fundraiser \$50 tax-deductible donation. Fabulous prizes, drawing at East Martello Towers, 9:30 PM. Ticket outlets: Bob Chango, Margaritaville, Waterfront Market and Montessori Children's School.
- 7 5th Annual Founders Society Derby Day Mock horse race, mint juleps, raffles, luncheon, booths and viewing of Kentucky Derby. Pier House, Duval St., 2 PM till ?
- 8 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
- 14 Charity Trike Races Fundraising event to benefit local children's charities, Holiday Isle Resort, MM 84, Islamorada, 1 PM till ?
- 21 Annual Underwater Concert has been postponed until Saturday, July 9. For info call 872-2411. See the June issue of Solares Hill for details.
- 21 Mayor's Ball to Benefit the Festival of the Continents Awards ceremony, food, dancing, casino games at the Pier House, 7:30 PM till ? For info and reservations call 296-5882.
- 21 Seventh Annual Seafood Festival and Craft Race See "Watersports & Tournaments".

## HEALTH & FITNESS

- Monroe County Comprehensive Health Improvement Program Offers weekly screening to detect cardiovascular problems, diabetes, lung, breast and cervical cancers. Residents will receive an EKG, chest X-ray, blood tests for cholesterol and lipids, glucose, hemoglobin, a urinalysis, blood pressure check, pap test for women, self-breast exam, colon-cancer check, health history and health-risk appraisal. Fee is nominal on a sliding scale of \$5 to \$40. For information or to make your appointment, call Lynne Stanley RNBSN, between 11 AM and noon or between 4 PM and 5 PM in Key West, 294-1021, in Marathon, 743-9456, and in Tavernier, 852-9216.
- 5 Free Community AIDS Forum Experts in AIDS-related fields will be represented on a panel. Audience participation invited. City Hall Chambers, 7:30 PM. For info call 294-8302.

- 9 Monthly Meeting of the Big Pine La Leche League Mothers and children welcomed, Big Pine Methodist Church, Key Deer Boulevard, 9:30 AM, FREE. Future meetings to be held on the second Monday of each month. For info call Joanne Singleton, 872-2861 or Janet Griffin, 294-8794.

## WATERSPORTS & TOURNAMENTS

- Maritime Historical Society Offers a program in *Traditional Rowing and Seamanship*. Participants meet every Tuesday and Thursday at Garrison Bight Marina, Key West or every Monday and Wednesday at Newfound Harbor, Little Torch Key. All meetings begin at 5:30 PM for about one hour. Annual dues are \$35. To join contact John Duke at 872-3526.
- Thru Nov. 30 Key West Fishing Tournament Anglers anywhere in the Lower Keys and Key West can enter their catch free of charge with no pre-registration required. Awards ceremonies in January, 1989. Winner need not be present. For more info call Capt. Bill Wickers at 294-9286 or Rita Pierce at 294-4676. Ed. Note: The May 11, 1988 issue of EKW will offer additional coverage.
- 6, 7, 8 World Class Anglers Tarpon Release Classic Experienced anglers using 20 lb. tackle or less compete for prizes, Marathon. For info call 743-6139.
- 11, 12, 13 Marathon International Tarpon Tournament Anglers in two divisions, light tackle and conventions compete for the largest catch in the waters extending from the east end of Long Key Bridge to the west end of Spanish Harbor Bridge. For info call 743-6139.
- 14 21st Annual Marathon Dolphin Scramble Entrants compete to be the first person to reach the Gulf Stream, catch a dolphin and return to the committee boat based at Scramble Headquarters, Sombbrero Resort and Lighthouse Marina. Winners in several categories including the "Youngest Angler to Catch a Fish" will be awarded trophies and prizes. MM 49, Marathon, 9:30 AM. For more info and entry forms call 743-6452, 743-4611 or 743-5417.
- 14,15 Key West Sailing Club Hosts the Newfound Harbor Race Boaters meet starting Saturday afternoon at rendezvous point, raft up overnight and race back to Key West on Sunday. Finishing point is Pier B at City Marina. Entries welcome. For info call Capt. John Smittle 745-2430.
- 28 Memorial Day Race sponsored by the Upper Keys Sailing Club. All PHRF cruising boats are invited for a fabulous day of sailing on Buttonwood Bay. For more info call 451-9972.

## VISUAL AND THEATRICAL ARTS

- Thru May 24 A Day in the Life of Key West ... Easter Sunday, 1988 Local photographers and artists exhibit the variety of expressions of the Easter celebration as found on our island. East Martello Museum, Daily, 9:30 AM-5:00 PM.
- 7-31 Installation Pieces Keys artists will transform the rooms in the lower East Martello Museum gallery with "Environments." Opening reception at 7 PM on May 7. Daily, 9:30 AM-5 PM.
- 7&8 Annual Students' Exhibit Works of local youths on display in the Citadel at East Martello Museum. The winning entries of the 2-day Art and History Fair will remain in place till the end of May. Daily, 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM.
- 4-29 The Nerd performed at the Red Barn Theatre, 319 Duval St., 8:30 PM curtain. For tickets call 296-9911.

## COMMUNITY INTEREST

Effective April 17, 1988, the two Catholic parishes in Key West, St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church and St. Bede's Mission, will be consolidated into one, St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church. All masses will be at St. Mary's. Mass Schedule: Saturday Vigil Mass, 6:00 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM (Bi-lingual). Confessions on Saturday, 4-5 PM.

The Key West Kiwanis Club, now in its 40th year serving our community, extends an open invitation to any adults who may wish to become members. For additional information contact Bill Baker at 294-5181.

Members of the Key West Garden Club met recently to organize a support group for the Key West Botanical Garden, the 11-acre parcel of land leased by the club, from the city. The public is invited to become charter members of the support group which meets again on Monday, May 23 in the Monroe County Library Auditorium on Fleming St. For more information or to join call 296-8823 or 294-3168.

Key West High School "Operation Graduation" An all-night celebration for students on the night of graduation on June 10 is planned and designed to offer a safe, drug- and alcohol-free party for our graduating seniors. Dancing, music, movies, games and lots of food will be offered to all our graduates. Funds, food, door prizes and chaperones are needed. For information and donations contact Omis Avant, Activities Director, 294-5212, ext. 229.

The Highway Beautification Committee meeting slated for May 10, will feature an address by Ken Vorce, South Dade Maintenance Engineer for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). The public is invited to attend. Marathon Library, MM 50, 1:00 PM.

Monroe County Dukakis Campaign for President Headquarters in Key West is located at 811 Whitehead Street. Gov. Dukakis' supporters are urged to call or drop by from 9 AM till 5 PM weekdays. Information, posters, bumper stickers and buttons are available. For more info visit headquarters or call 294-5505.

## EDUCATIONAL

- Monroe County Fine Arts Council 1988-89 Arts Recognition and Talent Search. "ARTS" is a national program to recognize the achievements of young artists in five categories and is coordinated by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts. Early applications must be postmarked no later than May 16, 1988. Regular application deadline is October 1, 1988. For information call the MCFAC office, 296-5000, ext. 357.
- Key West High School "Operation Graduation" An all-night celebration for students on the night of graduation on June 10 is planned and designed to offer a safe, drug- and alcohol-free party for our graduating seniors. Dancing, music, movies, games and lots of food will be offered to all our graduates. Funds, food, door prizes and chaperones are needed. For information and donations contact Omis Avant, Activities Director, 294-5212, ext. 229.
- Registration is now open for Mariner's Day Camp for kids ages 6 to 12 Three two-week long summer sessions are available with this non-profit organization starting June 27. For information contact John Vaslawski, 1088 Windsor Lane, in Key West, or call

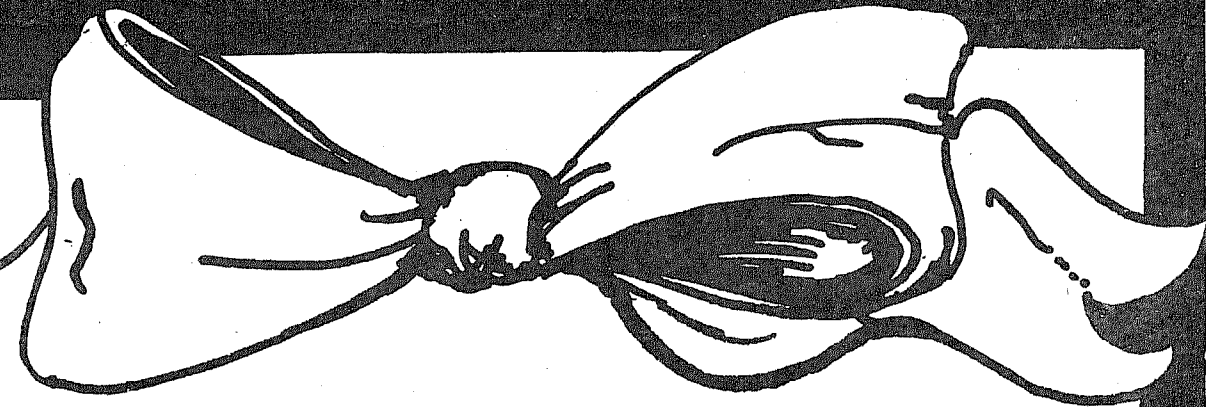
- 294-1031 or 294-1032.
- 9 Florida Keys Community College Summer term begins. A wide variety of interesting courses available. For info and registration call 296-9081, ext. 283.
- 13,14, 15 Underwater Archaeology for Sport Divers, a three-day workshop offered by Florida Keys Community College, Stock Island in the fundamentals of mapping and surveying techniques used on shipwreck sites. Fee includes lab, dive fees and required scuba gear. For info or to register contact the Atlantic Alliance, 292-1301.
- ALWAYS HAPPENING
- Mon. Friends of the Library Lecture Series, Key West Library. Call 294-8488 for information. Yoga Class, Coffee Mill Cultural Center, Key West. Call 296-9982.
- 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 PM. Pool & Dart Tournament, Big Pine Moose Lodge, Big Pine Key. 872-9313.
- Thurs. Preschool Story Hour, Key West Library, 9:30 AM, 294-8488. Key West Handprint Fashion Show, Casa Marina, Key West, 12:30 PM. Afterschool Activities, Key West Library, 3:30 PM. 294-8488. Card & Game Night, Senior Citizens Center, Big Pine Key. 745-3698.
- Fri. Key West Handprint Fashion Show, Hukilau, Key West. 12:30 PM.
- Sat. Family Films and Crafts, Key West Library, 10:00 AM. 294-8488.

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## Family and Health Services

<p><b>EMERGENCIES</b> 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</p> <p><b>EDUCATION</b> 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</p> <p><b>RECREATION</b> Boy Scouts ..... 745-3987 City of Key West Recreation Dept. . 294-3721 Girl Scouts ..... 745-3737 Monroe County Public Library. .... 294-8488</p> <p><b>CHILD ABUSE</b> Child Abuse Office, FKM ..... 294-5531 Child Protective Services, HRS ..... 294-9513 Child Protection Team, FKM ..... 294-5531 Coalition Against Child Abuse ..... 294-5531 Guardian Ad-Litem ..... 296-7518 Parenting Classes, FKM ..... 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</p>	<p><b>NAVY</b> Counseling &amp; 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</p> <p><b>DAY CARE</b> See Yellow Pages listing for day nurseries and child care.</p> <p><b>SOCIAL SERVICES</b> Big Brothers &amp; 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</p> <p><b>HEALTH</b> 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</p>	<p>Improved Pregnancy Outcome .... 294-1021 LaLeche Foundation ..... 745-2274 LaMaze ..... 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 &amp; Counseling ..... 296-7337 Up Front/Drug Information ... 1-800-432-8255 Well Baby/Medicaid Clinic ..... 294-1021 W.I.C. (Women, Infants &amp; Children) ..... 294-1021 AIDS Help, Inc. .... 296-6196</p> <p><b>MISCELLANEOUS</b> Adoptions ..... 294-9513 Birth Certificates ..... 294-1021 Family Resource Center, FKM ..... 294-5531 Foster Homes: Information &amp; 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</p>
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