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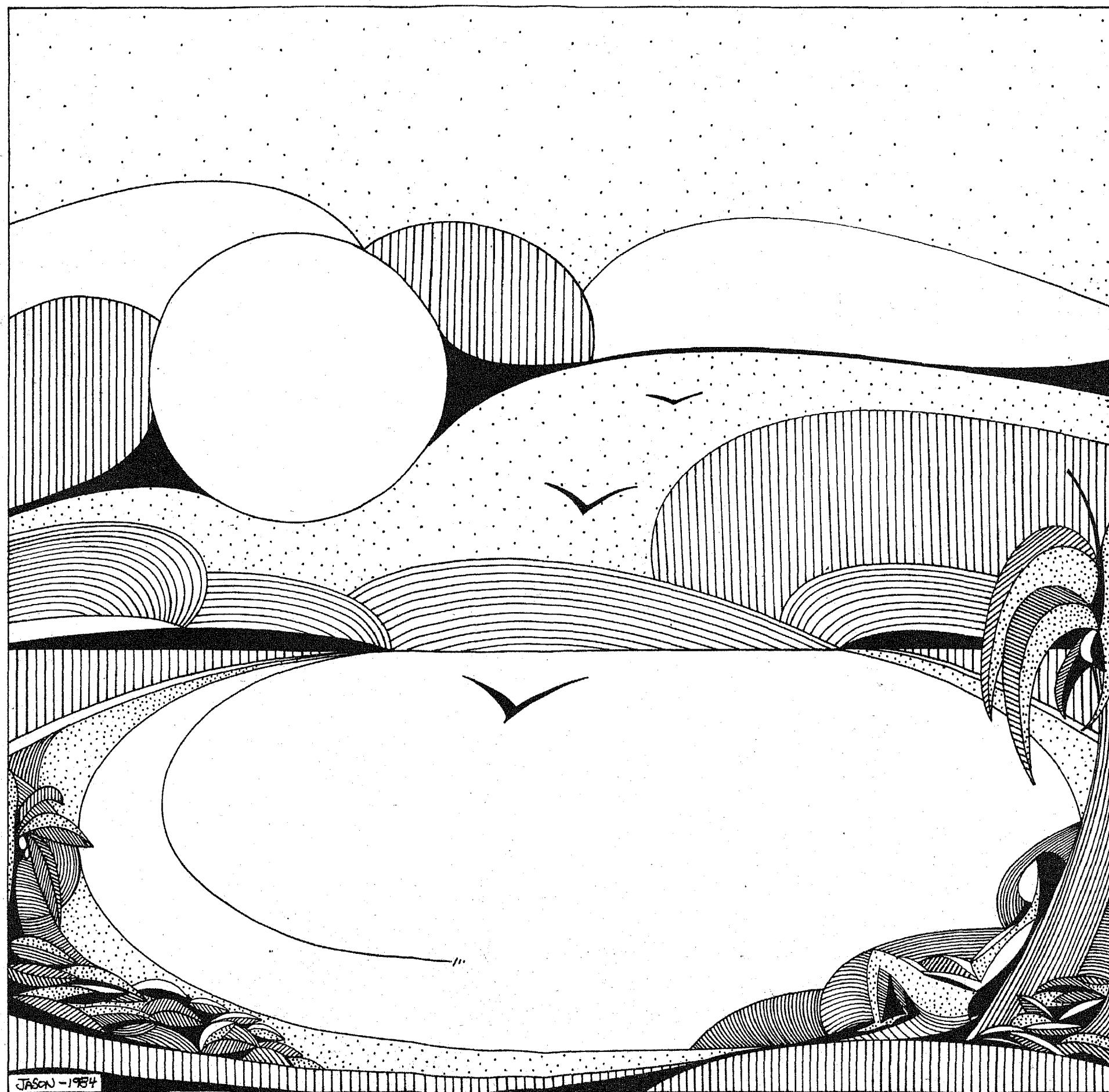
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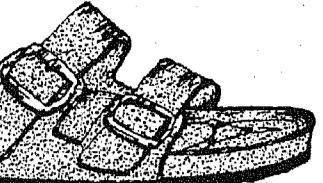
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VOL. XII, No. 5

KEY WEST, FL

MAY 1984





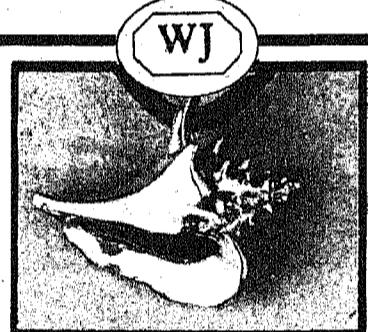
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FROM THE EDITOR

HELLO -

IN AN UPDATED version of the popular movie "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" which starred Jimmy Stewart as a young reformer, our local Mr. Smith - Gordon Smith - made a flying trip to the Capitol early Monday, April 30. Save Our Neighborhood (S.O.N.) representatives led by President Gordon Smith, talked to Deputy Undersecretary Steve Larkin of H.U.D. and, one hour later, H.U.D. Secretary, Sam Pierce agreed with Smith that the \$1.3 million U.D.A.G. grant application for the Sand Beach Project had many unresolved questions and should be carried over until August to allow those questions to be answered. Smith later briefed Congressional aides on the many questionable aspects of the project. We - that is, the many, many who oppose this project in its present state - owe Gordon Smith a great big thanks.

IN EARLIER NEWS the Administrative Appeals of Save Our Neighborhood (S.O.N.) and Pat Green against the Old Island Restoration Commission (O.I.R.C.) for granting final approval to the Sands without seeing the final permits and against members of the Building Dept. for issuing a building permit to the Sands in the face of City moratoriums on height and projects with over 20 living units, were originally scheduled for April 9. The hearings were postponed when Mayor Heyman received a letter from the Florida Department of Community Affairs dated April 6 raising number of questions about the project and asking that the appeal be delayed until the questions were answered. The meeting was rescheduled for April 19. However, City Manager Joel Koford didn't mail his reply to the questions raised by D.C.A. until April 18 and on April 19 Mayor Heyman received a hand delivered letter from the D.C.A. to all the Commissioners asking that they be given more time to study Koford's letter and requesting another delay. At the hearing that evening, Mayor Heyman ruled that the hearing would again be postponed, whereupon three members of the Commission, Joe Balbontin, Jimmy Mira and Emma Cates, by a three to two vote, overruled the Mayor and decided to proceed with the hearing.

THE CASES WERE presented by Attorney Henry Morganstern for S.O.N. and Pat Green, and by Michael Halpern for Austin Laber.

The inevitable happened and, after two hours of hearings which were highlighted by Commissioner George Halloran's spirited and cogent attack on the project, the Commission voted three to two to deny the appeals. Again Balbontin, Mira and Cates voted to deny and Heyman and Halloran voted against denial.

ON APRIL 25, Morganstern filed law-suits in Circuit Court by Pat Green and S.O.N. against the City officials, the Commissioners and the O.I.R.C., seeking an injunction against Austin Laber, cancellation of the building permit, a trial to prevent conveyance of the alley without referendum, and other relief. The case has been assigned to Judge Ignatious Lester.

THERE WAS A WONDERFUL party at Martello to celebrate the opening of the Mario Sanchez room. It is a superb room and Key West has the right to be very proud of it. The community is indebted to Margo Golan for her extraordinary efforts to help bring this about.

THE LOWER KEYS FRIENDS of Animals, Inc. announces the "Be Kind to Animals Week" will be from May 6 to May 12. The organization sponsors low-cost spaying of animals and financial assistance to owners who can not afford spaying. It assists in other pet-related activities including emergency treatment for injured animals until owners are located, finding lost animals, finding homes for strays, preventing cruelty and improving conditions at the Monroe County Animal Shelter. The group is a non-profit, all volunteer organization and welcomes donations and volunteer members. For further information, write P.O. Box 333, Key West or call 296-8682.

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EDITORIAL CONSULTANT.....BILL WESTRAY
ART DIRECTION.....SOLARES HILL DESIGN GROUP

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John Young: Youth Will Be Served

by BUD JACOBSON

IF YOU HAD ever tried to call the young people in Key West to the barricades in the late 1960s and early '70s, one of the leaders, and first up, shouting for action NOW would have been John Young. He was a fiery and controversial figure, in the forefront of the political storms swirling through Key West in the years of Vietnam, Nixon, George McGovern and the youth movement.

"THOSE YEARS WHEN we were all going crazy over the war, the draft, Woodstock, Nixon and when young people seemed to be coming apart, were among the most challenging of my life; every day was new, great and interesting," Young commented recently.

THE NATIONWIDE ERUPTION of anti-war sentiment and its breakup of many old values led to hundreds of thousands of young people hitting the road. Many were escaping the strictures of home and family, authority figures, schools; many were ducking the draft and others were just drifting with the emotional tide. You could tell them by their bearded faces, flowers twined in long flowing hair, bare feet, grubby old blue jeans and bandana headbands, guitars and backpacks loaded with all their worldly belongings.

KEY WEST, AT that time, was being "discovered" by the youth.

They arrived in legions and with them came the tensions, sharply defined between the Old Establishment and the New Movement.

"In Key West," Young said, "the trouble was it was a small town, tightly confined; there was no place for these young people to meet their friends, trade information, read a newspaper, play a game of chess or have a cup of coffee with members of their own generation."

THIS SAME PROBLEM was seen by a number of Young's friends who agreed it was time for a newspaper addressed to the youth and their travails; it was time to form a chapter of the ACLU to help the kids with their civil rights; it was time for a friendly coffeehouse.

Gathered together and reviewing the problem were Young; Bill Huckle, who was just starting to crank up the "first edition" of SOLARES HILL; lawyer Shelly Rothman who was the chief organizer behind the chapter of the ACLU, assisted by ecologist Stan Becker, and later by Bill Westray and Gil Ryder. The third side of the triangle was the coffeehouse and Young said "there we got the idea behind Crazy Ophelia's, a sandwich and social center for the youth."

IN NOVEMBER 1971, stocked with coffee, sandwiches, tables, chairs, newspapers and magazines, Young, Villate and Santana opened Crazy Ophelia's in a modest manner.

Little did they know but they were opening the doors on what was to become one of the hottest spots in town - politically combustible and socially controversial.

It fast became a home-away-from-home for the runaways, the hippie bunch, the protesters. At the same time, Crazy Ophelia's became one of the best known fund-raising centers in the city, attracting top talent in show biz from Broadway to Hollywood.

"But we had to have money to get moving," Young said.

IN THAT DEPARTMENT, it turned out they had some generous financial

angels," not the least of whom was the late Sen. John M. Spottswood who, on more than one occasion, came to their aid. He was also of invaluable help with his vast knowledge of the local political ropes. Others included an old friend of John's from Nantucket, Fran Howard; businessmen Peter Fell, Gary Neumann and of quiet help, too, was the late city commissioner Henry B. Lee III.

"THERE WERE SO many, it's hard to remember them all. We wanted to be a useful part of the community and I think, in our way, we were. We co-operated with the police, too, in many ways, and there were some members of the force who really helped us, too."

Crazy Ophelia's parents, Young, Villate and Santana, operated in a loose and easy fashion and seemed to complement each other. Young was the public relations spark plug, moving with ease through the social and political maze in the city; Villate, from a well-liked local family and with a flair for keeping the business on the ground; Santana with his youth and "street smarts."

WHEN YOU WALKED into Crazy Ophelia's you found a large, barnlike room which Young had rigged with one of the finest stereo sound systems in town and to it he brought his big collection of classical and pop music. The sound system was hooked up to a mike on the bandstand, at the right, for live entertainment on the weekends, and for their many community speakers. In the rear, a series of old tables held the hand-some espresso machine; around the rest of the big room were oddly matched old tables and chairs for the customers.

SANDWICHES AND COFFEE and soft drinks and lots of "pure yogurt, not that commercial junk," were available at rock-bottom prices.

"We stayed away from beer and wine because we didn't need any hassling."

But as a matter of fact, the level of hassling of the young people who drifted into town on their thumbs, or in playfully decorated old school houses and converted pickup trucks with houses nailed on the rear platform, was increasing.

CRAZY OPHIE'S WAS soon in the thick of the youth movement. They tried to keep the strays off the street and out of trouble and to do this they gave them music and entertainment, and special programs aimed at education and information.

Immensely popular fund-raisers were

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State Attorney to Confer With Group on Gamble Issue

Monroe Grand Jury Clears Commissioner

Gamble files suit for loitering case

Young sues Gamble, city for \$100,000

Voter registration bulletin handout is city law violation

CONCH Party Influence Immeasurable

Gamble's action rapped

Possible violation of city charter cited

Party to Go to Court Over Harassment

Merchant Arrested For Sidewalk Sign

Loitering Charges Killed; Judge Urges Law's Rewrite

Placard Urged Vote Signup

Key West Commissioner Charged With Loitering

staged (the proceeds kept the doors open) and prominently featured, a number of times, was the then-rocketing pop singer and guitarist, Jimmy Buffett, with his lively ballads and sassy lyrics. Buffett, at this time, was living much of the year in Key West. Another popular star at Ophie's was Gove Scrivener and his songs.

THE OUTSTANDING EVENT of that winter season, though, Young recalls, was the performance by Buck Whittemore and Jack Lowe, famed New York duo pianists.

"We called it a street concert, but it was more than that," Young said. "With the help of a bunch of the kids, they moved in their beautiful black grand pianos, set them up back to back, and it was something. It was the celebration of a big, happy family."

THE TWO MEN played all night to deafening applause and standing ovations. The young kids brought their tiny children and their dogs and cats. Dogs nestled comfortably under the pianos, children nestled on the laps of their parents or crawled around.

After it was over and only the echoes remained, Lowe said: "This was one of the greatest shows of my life and something I'll never forget."

CRAZY OPHIE'S ALSO sponsored well-attended seminars for the young people. Lawyers, doctors and community leaders took part in these talks. The lawyers explained their civil rights, their responsibilities, the legalistics of bail-bonding and urged them to register at the election office in the courthouse and get out and vote when the time came.

Doctors held seminars on communicable diseases, and other fascinating topics, and advised the kids where to go for free clinical help. In those days, with the so-called sex revolution just blossoming, the doctors' lectures drew the largest crowds.

"WE BRANCHED OUT a little, too, by trying to get some of the kids interested in careers, especially those they might find attractive here like boating, commercial fishing, that sort of thing."

One of the best liked of the lecturers was the late Dr. Emory Lowe Pierce, a native Conch from a distinguished family and a recognized authority in marine biology. "E. Lowe," as he was known fondly by his friends and family, delivered bright and interesting talks on the Keys and the waters around them, and the possibilities for small businesses here.

IT WASN'T ALL sweetness and light, however, for the partners at Crazy Ophie's. They had a potent enemy only a few hundred feet away, at the corner of Duval and Southard, the late City Commissioner Bill Gamble.

Gamble did not take kindly to the view of straggling houng people, the hard-core hippies with their unwashed hair and scruffy clothes, only a few doors from his handsomely maintained establishment. There was a loitering and vagrancy ordinance on the books at city hall and Gamble, according to Young, fashioned it into the wedge he would use to get the kids off the streets and out of Key West. Police started sweeping the area, particularly at night, nabbing kids and tossing them in the city cooler by the dozen.

THE WAR WAS ON. Gamble glared at the kids and saw disorderly gangs of misbegotten hooligans, communists and surly revolutionaries, liberally salted with anarchists and carriers of unmentionable social disease.

Down the street, Young and company waved the banner for the youth and civil rights.

THE SKIRMISHES BLEW up into

(The local vagrancy ordinance was eventually taken off the books as a result of ACLU lawsuits.)

"THE NEXT MOVE came," Young said, "when we (Crazy Ophie's) placed a sign on the sidewalk urging voter registration." By then, the local chapter of the ACLU was taking an active part in defending the kids, based mainly on violation of their constitutional rights.

"I was arrested for having a sign on a public street and taken to jail in handcuffs," Young said, taking a deep breath and smiling as he recalled the day.

ACLU MEMBER BILL Westray bonded him out. Now the hitch in the case, and made to order for the ACLU, was "selective enforcement" of the ordinance. "There were lots of other signs

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Book Review

by EDMOND THOMAS

FINAL REPORTS: Personal Reflections on Politics and History in Our Time
by Richard Rovere.
Foreword by Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr.
Doubleday. 244 pages. \$16.95

RICHARD ROVERE, THE detached and skeptical Washington correspondent of the *New Yorker* for thirty years, recognized his preference for sprint writing, rather than marathon, consoling himself with a saying he attributes to the Reverend Sydney Smith - "Give me a short book on an inescapable subject." His "Final Reports" is just that: a brief 244 pages into which he has compressed his urbane and penetrating comments on American politics from the leftist thirties through three wars and eight presidents. If this book were a good German wine, its label would include the key word, "auslese," indicating the pick of the harvest, set aside for later processing.

ROVERE STARTS HIS autobiographical reflections with a review of his

"speculative roots," which left him with "no ethnicity to embrace, no tradition to reject." His father was French, a successful electrical engineer, born in Lyons; his mother British colonial, from Jamaica. After an undistinguished New York boyhood school record he was graduated from Bard College in 1937 and discovered himself to be an ardent Socialist. In his junior year he had decided to become a Communist, "because the Communists seemed...to be working harder than the Socialists..." But he was only lukewarm about that and was bored by the sacred writings of Lenin, Marx and Engels, about in that order. It was not until he had spent the winter of 1937 as chore boy on the hardscrabble farm of Granville Hicks in upstate New York that Rovere became seriously involved with the American Communists. Hicks got him a job on the *New Masses*, and he toiled there under tedious party discipline until the Hitler-Stalin pact was made known to the world on August 24, 1939, "an event as stunning and consequential as Pearl Harbor" to Rovere. He left the *New Masses* and Communism, trying to understand how he had been suckered and how he had succumbed himself about the true nature of the movement. It was especially painful to realize that in the Spanish civil war, the side he had supported

and for which his friends had fought and died, "was hardly less brutal and oppressive than the fascists, that both sides had been manipulated by totalitarian governments."

CURIOUSLY, ROVERE, THEN all of 25, felt "disturbed, but not greatly, by the Moscow trials and other evidences of repression and tyranny in Soviet life." He would not allow himself "to be deflected from working for socialism here by evidence of injustice in another society..." Alfred Kazin, a Brownsville (Brooklyn) friend and contemporary with intimate, family knowledge of the Moscow trial defendants, "put flesh and blood on these disembodied figures" for Rovere, who was "not only greatly instructed but shamed into a kind of intellectual responsibility" that he had lacked.

AFTER BRIEF HITCHES with *The Nation* and *Common Sense* Rovere realized that although he was still interested in politics he was "interested more in writing than in any particular subject." And like many writers of his generation he wanted to write for *The New Yorker*, which seemed "the best magazine in America, perhaps the best in the English language." An article on Tom Dewey ("The Man in the Blue Serge Suit"), published in

Harper's, finally got him the assignment he wanted with *The New Yorker*. He was twenty-nine.

had no obligation to "cover" anything. It "did have an obligation to be

grace and distinction, for the next thirty years. He found the congressional hearings much more productive than the debates, and one pleasant day in May of 1949 he heard a noisy but otherwise obscure young senator from Wisconsin, Joseph McCarthy, disrupting one of these hearings. Rovere followed him to his office, but after an hour or two learned nothing except that he was "in the presence of a con artist of considerable talent. A few months later that talent was everywhere on display, and remained so for a run of four years." Indeed, Rovere was perhaps the first correspondent to spot at the beginning what was later described as "McCarthyism" and to make the appropriate comments, to be developed ten years later into the basic text on the subject, "Senator Joe McCarthy."

FOR ANYONE INTERESTED in the current political zoo, "Final Reports" will provide instruction, some solace, perspective and much warm entertainment. From the bachelor sage of Dupont Circle, Ben Cohen, a key Roosevelt counselor, Rovere learned "to see the object as in itself it really is," and to focus this perception on most of the influential personalities of the capitol until the end of the seventies. There is a long and searching section on the Republican power wielders, Taft and Vandenburg. And on John Foster Dulles, Eisenhower's Secretary of State: "...if there was one figure in public life for whom I had an instinctive dislike and distrust - apart from transparent demagogues and frauds like Joe McCarthy and Richard Nixon - it was John Foster Dulles, whose capacity for duplicity was as great as his ambition and as repellent as his piety." A one-sentence comment on Eisenhower's last year as president strikes parallel with Reagan: "The economy was stagnating, but to Eisenhower this was natural law - as it had



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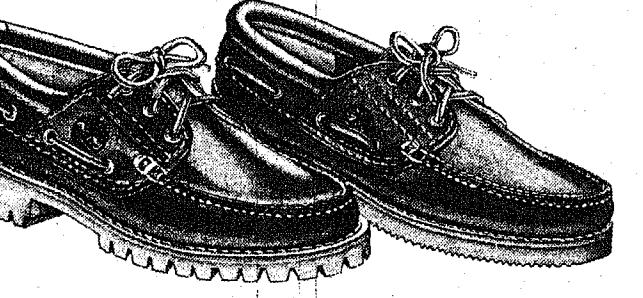


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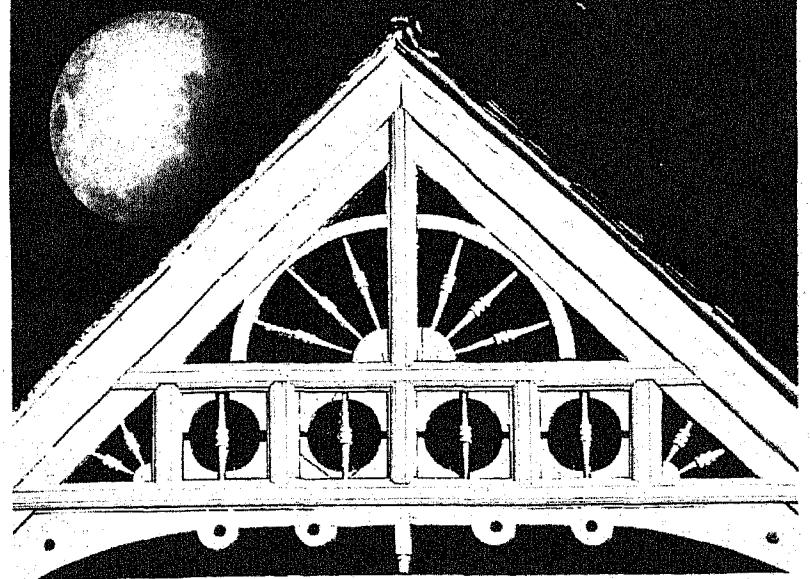
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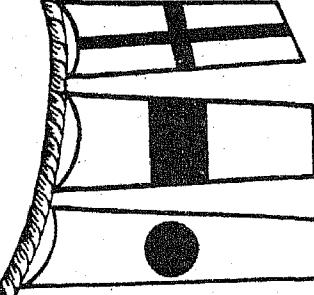


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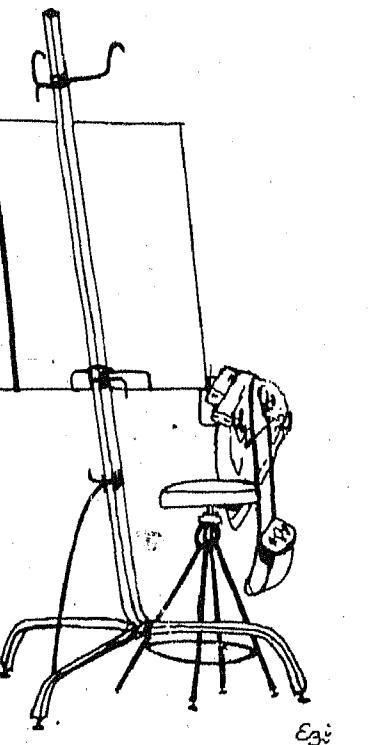
thus been explained to me by the bankers, the automobile men, and the soft-drink barons he thought of as master economists because they had taken so much out of the economy..." Of Kennedy: "No President since Lincoln has begun a term with problems as grave and as numerous and as bleak in terms of available solutions as those Kennedy has faced in his first two years." And: "There is no doubt that Kennedy's systematic cultivation of the intellectuals is one of the things that sets his administration apart from all previous ones."

"FINAL REPORTS" ALSO includes journeys and escapes - to Africa as a Peace Corps observer; to Abidjan, where "There must be more fine marble in the Presidential Palace than in all of Washington... and beyond the marble, mud, mud, mud." To West Germany, on a CIA-sponsored tour with a glittering literary entourage. To New Mexico for the Ford Foundation to check the facts for an antipoverty project in Rio Arriba County, "...somewhat larger than Connecticut (and) one of the most backward, poverty-ridden, and aggrieved sections of the United States."

ONE MORE PROJECT, "Waist Deep in the Big Muddy," a Viet Nam project, was swept away by the swift march of events: the Tet offensive, the killings of Robert Kennedy and Martin Luther King, the retirement of President Johnson from politics or at least from presidential contention. The penultimate book, "Arrivals and Departures," a family memoir, published in 1978, was as non-political as Rovere could make it. Physical pain, from a malignant lesion on his neck and unsuccessful surgery to correct it, had been constant since 1975 and it was increasing.

IN 1977, ROVERE came to Key West to begin "Final Reports," and to fix on paper the "disordered, ungainly, and

furtive elements of (his) life." Working in great pain and with head in traction, Rovere concludes his testament with pain-filled brief journal entries on Confinement... Boredom... Sleep... and with a warm and graceful Farewell to his nurses during the lost fifteen-week struggle: "...My purpose is simply to say that the members of the nursing staff... have almost without exception seemed to me able, generous, and a pleasure to be with in difficult times - times when overwork has often been the rule." The reader of "Final Reports" will feel much the same way about Richard Rovere.




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Major Disappointment

WHEN MAJOR SAID he opposed security at city hall, he was speaking clearly out of turn. Of course, I'm sure that Major sees it differently. I didn't get the chance to ask him, however, because Major refused to talk with me. "You'll never get an interview with me," he said. So, perhaps we can anticipate some possible responses.

MAJOR MIGHT SAY that he has consistently brought out the question of security for city workers, specifically at the city annex, and that gives him the right to speak on the issue. If Major was so concerned about security at the annex, he could have done something about it by working with Cates instead of against her. So if that is his response, I can answer with one word: Humbug!

SHAME ON YOU, Emery. Cates confronted Major with the same standard followed by every other public official: limit your public comments to areas within your purview. We didn't hear the chairman of the Old Island Restoration Commission commenting on the issue. We didn't hear the chairman of the Code Enforcement Board comment. And there was no reason for the chairman of the Civil Service Board to

comment. MAJOR HIMSELF ONCE argued that governmental leaders must stick to their own areas of expertise. He was speaking in favor of keeping city department heads under the authority of Civil Service, not the city manager. He argued that the department heads know more about their own areas than the city manager. Major used the police department as an example. He said that the city would become unsafe in an instant if a city

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manager decided to whimsically reassign police officers without consulting the chief. Well, what's good for the city manager should be good for the Civil Service Board chairman.

WHEN MAJOR SAID he was speaking clearly out of turn. Of course, I'm sure that Major sees it differently. I didn't get the chance to ask him, however, because Major refused to talk with me. "You'll never get an interview with me," he said. So, perhaps we can anticipate some possible responses.

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HE MIGHT SAY that most of the city employees at city hall fall under the jurisdiction of Civil Service and that gives him the authority to speak on the issue. Funny, however, that Major prides himself as the great protector of the rights of city employees. What about the right to

**PREVAILING
WINDS:
COMMENTARY** by ALDEN SOLOVY

be free from physical harassment or the fear of public abuse? If Major was speaking out on security as a concerned Civil Service Board chairman, he came out on the wrong side. So if this is his response I will

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then repeat: Humbug!

MAJOR MIGHT SAY that he was speaking out as a private citizen, not as a board chairman. Again, Humbug! How many private citizens do you know who can get their opinions on the radio news, or in the Herald's Keys section, or the front page of the Citizen? Can you call up a reporter with an opinion and get an instant headline? No. Major's comments were in the press precisely because he is a public official. He is not a private citizen. Period. He is a public official no matter what the issue.

A PUBLIC OFFICIAL must know what to say and how to say it. In this case, Major had no right to comment about security for city hall. But on that same point, Commissioner Cates used a loaded phrase, "Know your place" has typically meant "Stay down, black man." Cates is guilty of picking the wrong phrase. She should have known better. However, Major took that phrase out of context and blew it out of proportion. Cates told Major to know his place as chairman of the Civil Service Board, and not to speak out on issues out of his domain. Her comments, in context, had absolutely

nothing to do with race or racism. The comments were about city government. So when Major cries out racism in this case, he is accusing falsely.

WORSE STILL THAN the false accusations is the sham perpetrated on the Black community by one of its own leaders. First, charges of racism should not be taken lightly. They fan the flames of anger and mistrust. So when a public figure abuses his access to the press to yell "racism" when none exists, he does everyone a disservice. Second, false charges of racism make it harder for some people in the white community to accept the true charges of racism, like neglect in Bahama Village and a poor city affirmative action record. Third, there are so many instances of personal and institutional racism in this town that the work to improve the situation should not be distracted by false charges.

Along with his charge of racism, Major demanded an apology from Cates. Cates, however, did not relent. She did not make a racial slur, so she felt no need to apologize. But then, what about an apology from Major?

* * * * *

Footnote: I just thought of one

more response Major might have to my commentary. He might call me a racist. Well, here I go again. Emery, Humbug!



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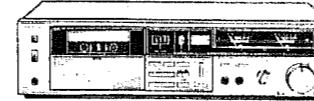
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BY GEORGE HOUTTE

I WAS SITTIN' in Herbie's, in Marathon, a while back, just nursin' a beer. I only had enough scratch for a few more and couldn't leave, 'cause it was rainin' and I don't have any wheels, when Fat Frank, from Frank and Mary's, enters and spots me right off. "Hey," he yells, "I been lookin' for ya."

"SO?" I SAY. You'd never want to encourage Fat Frank 'cause he'd never leave. He owned Frank and Mary's and it was just a coincidence that his name was Frank when he bought the place from the agin' Frank and Mary. The place is overgrown with hollies and you'd never known it's back there if it wasn't for the sign out front. So now, even though the sign still says, "FRANK AND MARY'S," most of us I als call it Fat Frank's. There are some cabins, he rented out a few boats, and took parties out when the dolphin were runnin'. The dolphin catcher to end all dolphin catchers. If he wasn't so fat we probably would have called him Dolphin Frank.

HERBIE'S IS REALLY crowded, which

I failed to mention, figurin' you'd know that, 'cause when it's rainin' in Marathon, I aint lookin' for a weed line... You know the tower on my boat?" I nod yes. "Well, I'm up there alone. My party is in the little bit of shade under it. I put the glasses up to my eyes and what do I see but what looks like about a mile of square grouper, just bobbin' around out there. Geez! I think quick and make a slow circle away from it, 'cause I know they can't see it from down there. Funny thing, but the first thing I think of is you, bein' out of work and all since the end of the crawfish season."

"Why me?" I say. "I don't even smoke that crap."

"JUST LISTEN... SO I cut the motor and restart it a couple of times and then yell down to my party, 'We're goin' back in 'cause there must be water in the gas.' So I give them their money back when we get in, say, 'I'm sorry,' and here I am."

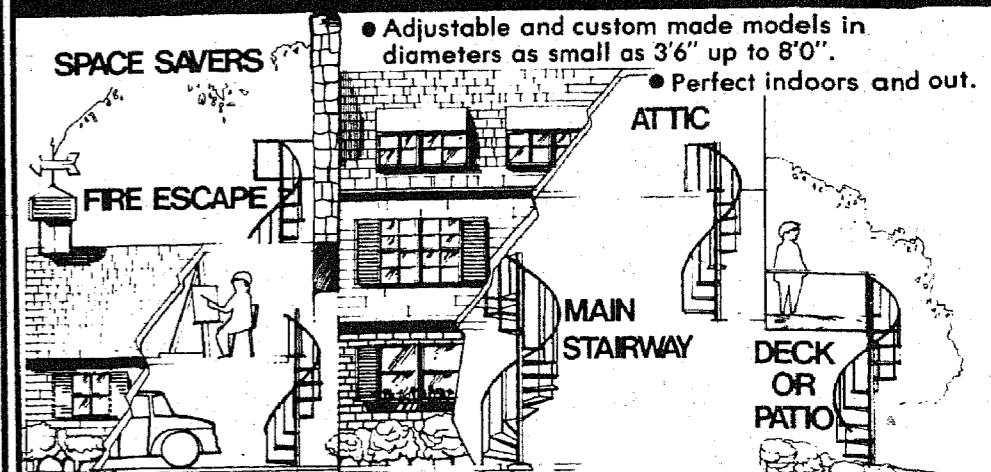
"So?"
"Well, you've got the keys to Eddie's lobster boat. We go out, load up the marijuana, and sell it."

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the fifty if I had it," I say.
"Don't worry about it. That's not what I want to talk to you about." So I crack the window a bit, feelin' like I'm in a bowl of turned chowder.

"TODAY, I GOT a party out," he says, "an' I'm lookin' for a weed line... You know the tower on my boat?" I nod yes. "Well, I'm up there alone. My party is in the little bit of shade under it. I put the glasses up to my eyes and what do I see but what looks like about a mile of square grouper, just bobbin' around out there. Geez! I think quick and make a slow circle away from it, 'cause I know they can't see it from down there. Funny thing, but the first thing I think of is you, bein' out of work and all since the end of the crawfish season."

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"So?"
"Well, you've got the keys to Eddie's lobster boat. We go out, load up the marijuana, and sell it."

We unload the stuff for a fraction of what it's worth and we'll end up makin' at least fifty grand."

"If you think I'd take out Eddie's boat, after he trusted me to watch it while he's on vacation, you're crazy. And furthermore, it's rainin' like hell," I say, and close the window a hair 'cause I'm gettin' wet.

"It's not rainin' once you get a few miles out... Hey! You can buy a boat and be your own boss."

FAT FRANK IS not one to be denied, and the smell of dead crab and bad cut bait is getting to me. "Ya, and the Coasties'll catch us and we'll end up doin' time."

"No way. There's nobody out there today on account of all the rain here. All we got to do is go out there and load up. If anybody catches us we'll say we were goin' to bring it in to the Coast Guard station, like good citizens. ...Look, after we're loaded we'll come in after dark. There's no moon now and tonight it'll be blacker than smut... You get Eddie's boat and bring her over to my dock and I'll fix her up... Come on, this is the opportunity of a lifetime. You said you wanted to own your own boat."

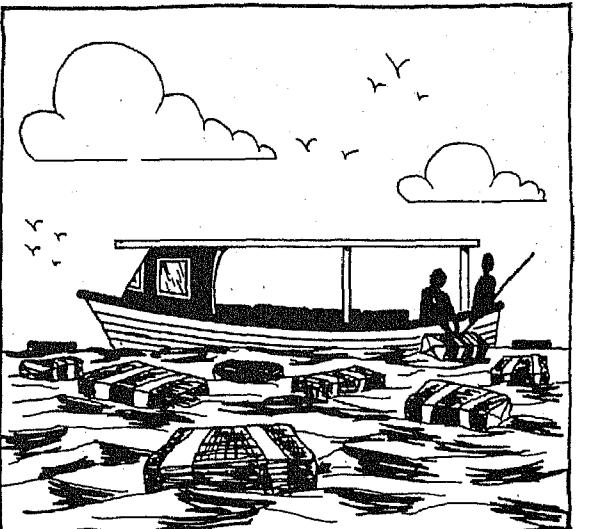
WELL, I DON'T know if it was the smell that dulled my senses, but I finally agreed. "Okay, I'll do it," I say, already havin' qualms. I could just see Eddie's reaction if he got wind of it, 'cause I'd seen Eddie in action once.

So, off we went through a couple of rain squalls. After a few miles out toward the stream, it cleared, just as Fat Frank said it would.

WE STARTED SNAGGIN' bales of pot and stackin' them on the boat. Eddie's is a typical lobster trap boat, about forty feet long, a twelve foot beam, a big Cat' diesel, and a pilot house jammed right up on the bow, leaving a lot of deck space aft for hauling traps. This area we stacked

right up to the bottom of an awnin' as we worked our way through the mass of floatin' bales.

I thought I'd die when a boat came



the help of radar, right up to Fat Frank's dock.

Except for the "NO VACANCY" sign flashing out front on U.S. 1, the place looked deserted. I was tired from loading bales, about as tired as I've ever been, and the thought of carryin' these into the cabin depressed me no end.

Fat Frank got us a six-pack from his quarters, without which we never would have made it.

IT STOPPED RAININ', and by two o'clock in the mornin' we had two of the tourist cabins filled up right to the front doors.

I still had to go back around to the other side of Vaca Key, via under the Seven Mile Bridge. Before I shoved off I hosed down every scrap and straw of marijuana over the side. I took off my shoes and clothes and shook them out. "Well, what do you think, Frank?"

Fat Frank smiled. "You're as clean as a whistle."

AS SOON AS I cleared the bridge to the Gulf side of the island, I hear the whoop whoop of a picket boat coming up full bore on my stern. They flashed a light and came alongside of me. I eased back and let her idle along at slow speed. "Where are you headed," someone called out as the light flashed around the deck.

"Johnson's fish house docks," I yell back.

They dropped astern of me and I gave her about three-quarter throttle. They tailed me right up to the dock, then tied up outboard of me. Two young Coasties climbed over from the picket boat. One of them shined a light in my face.

"HEY!" I SAY. He lowered the light. "Is this your boat?"

"No, it belongs to the man I work for, Eddie Cribbs."

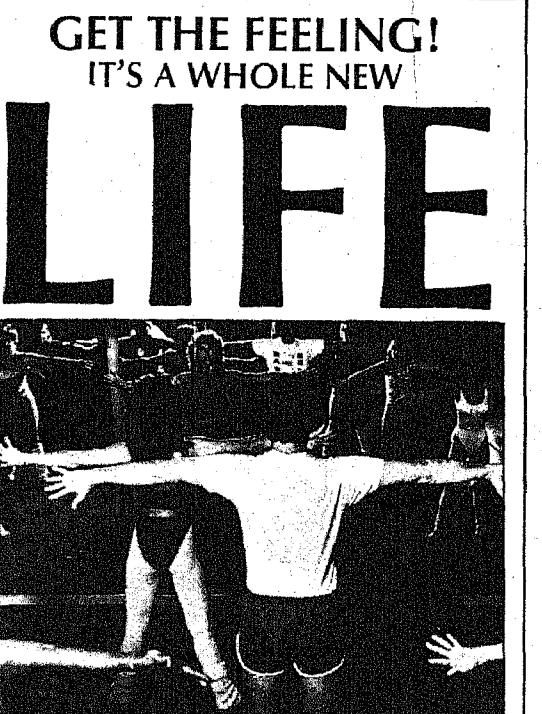
at us from out in the stream, makin' a bunch of knots. I was hopin' it would veer off but it hung right in there. Two Latin males yelled, "Ay yi yi," as they roared by us, then swung around and loaded their twenty-foot Sea Craft with bales. They waved as soon as they were loaded and headed for shore.

WELL, WHEN WE were loaded I sailed around in a circle about a mile in diameter waiting for dark. We saw a few boats on the horizon. One of them appeared to be heading our way so I altered course for a while, then started circling again.

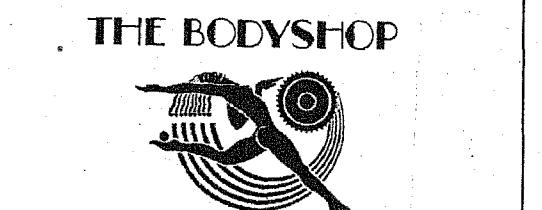
The wind picked up after dark, and the mass of bad weather moved toward us as we plowed in with our load.

"This is great," Fat Frank says, "everybody will be holed up."

AND LIKE FRANK said, it was darker than smut. We picked our way, with



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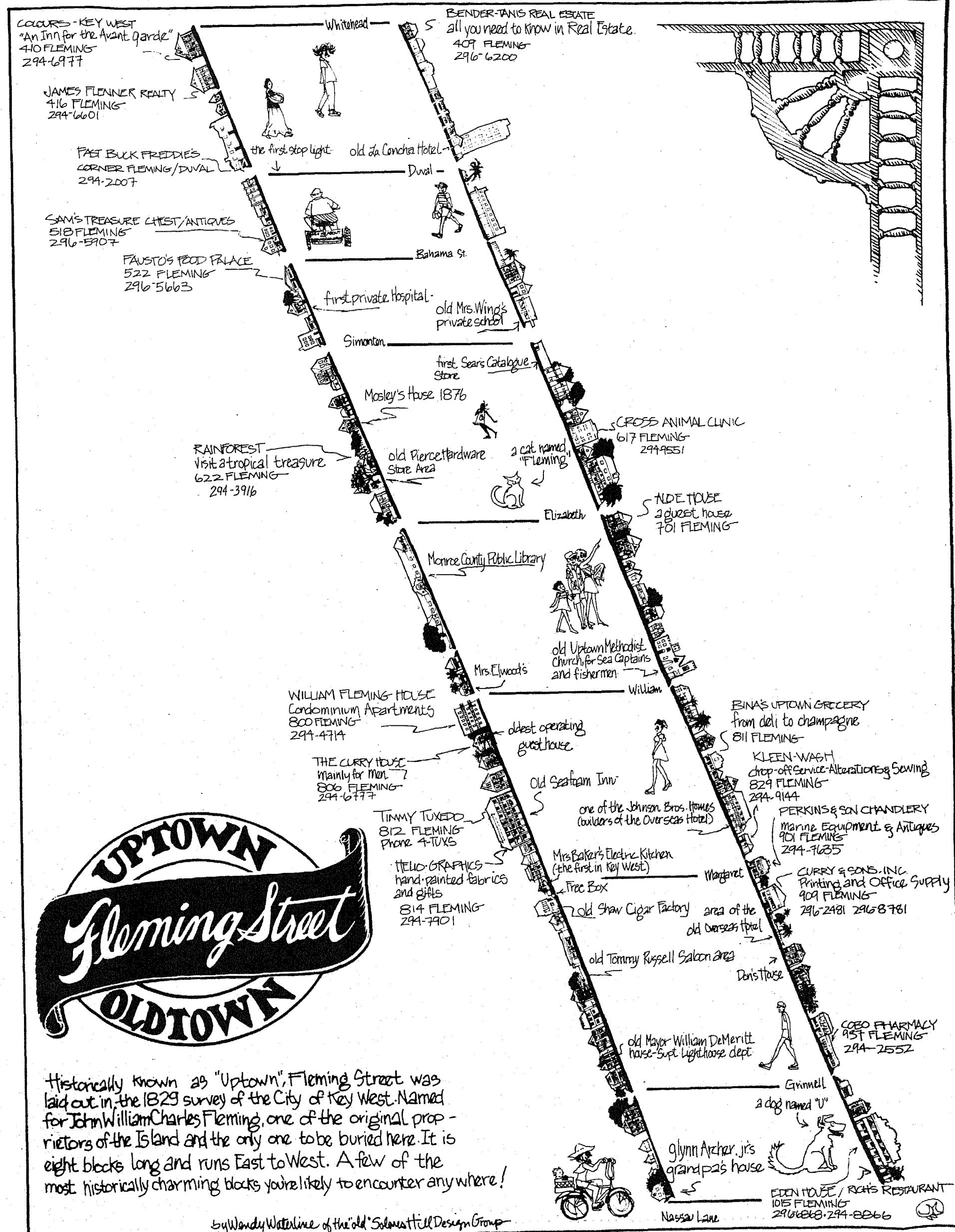
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"Where were you coming from?"
"The other side of the Island. I was visiting my girl friend," I say.

SO THEY SEARCHED her from stem to stern, and when they lifted the engine hatch, which is almost a three-man job, I didn't lift a finger to help them.

"Adios," I say, as they jump back on their boat.

"Yuh," the one with the flashlight says. "Take care."

I waited 'til they cleared the end of the channel before I locked up. Fat Frank flashed the lights of his truck as I came off the dock. He cranked the motor as I walked over. "I just put a closed for repairs sign out front of my place," he says.

THE NEXT DAY I awoke stiffer than the first week of football practice and groaned over to Herbie's, to sit on a stool and sip beer, financed from an advance from Fat Frank. They'd just opened and I was the only one in the place. Fat Frank said he'd meet me here after conferrin' with Little Ray, a guy I knew just to nod to who, Fat Frank said, was a connoisseur of pot, among other unsavory things. Little Ray was to evaluate a sample of our find.

AFTER I DOWN a few, he comes bargin' in, lookin' like a happy elephant, and plants his massive rear on the stool next to mine. He speaks low, and stops whenever the clinkin' of glasses and rattlin' of silver and other things cease, in the kitchen beyond the bar.

"Little Ray says it looks like Colombian, and that its value is about two sixty a pound, in bales, and from the measurements I give him on the bales, he says they sound like fifty pound bales, but they could vary. He

says they wrap some up to a hundred pounds, but I know these are not that heavy, 'cause soakin' wet, we couldn't have carried them."

WHILE HE'S TALKIN', I been figurin'. "That should make a bale worth about a hundred and twenty-five dollars."

Fat Frank almost falls off his chair, laughin'. "That's not two dollars and sixty a pound, it's two hundred and sixty dollars a pound. A bale is worth over twelve thousand and we got two hundred of them."

I choke up a little. "That's over two million dollars." My hand starts shakin', splashin' beer out of the glass. "Geez!"

Fat Frank says, "Little Ray says, for two percent of the sale, he'll put us on to somebody who'll buy it. But it may take a while 'cause this person is out of town."

FROM THEN ON, either me or Fat Frank is parked on a chair at the rear window of his cottage, with this semi-automatic carbine he brought back from Viet Nam, watchin' the two cabins loaded with marijuana. I feel right at home here, being a squirrel shooter since I'm nine years old.

About ten days later, Little Ray comes up with an offer. A certain party will give us sixty thousand as a down payment for a hundred bales, and five hundred thousand when he comes back for the other hundred bales. Well, this is a lot less than two million, so Fat Frank tells Little Ray he'll have to discuss it with his partners.

LATER, FAT FRANK says to me, "We can get more than that!"

I say, "We were hoping to make fifty grand when we started, remember? ...So if we never see them again, we

still got the sixty thousand and the other hundred bales."

"But it's worth two million," Fat Frank says.

"It's only worth what someone will pay for it, Frank."

"That's the goin' price, two hundred and sixty a pound, and I think we should hold out."

I KNOW THERE'S no arguing with him, so I shrug. "Okay, it's your show, Frank."

"Okay. I'm gonna make them a counter-offer of a hundred thousand down and nine hundred thousand when they pick up the other hundred bales."

SOHE DID, and Fat Frank comes back all aglow. "It's a deal. They're goin' to pick up the first batch the day after tomorrow. Me and Little Ray have to be there when they load up. They don't know about you, so you're gonna be at the window with the carbine in case they get rough."

TWO DAYS LATER, late in the afternoon, a furniture van with "THE MIDDLE KEYS WHOLESALE FURNITURE SUPPLY" in large letters on its side, backs up to one of the cabins loaded with marijuana. A big old Buick with North Carolina tags comes in a few moments later, with four tough-lookin' Latins in it. Two to one, I figure. Six of them and three of us.

FAT FRANK SHAKES hands with one of them after Little Ray introduces us. This Latin pulls out an envelope and hands it to Fat Frank while the others have been openin' the rear door of the van. This van looks big enough to load the whole two hundred bales. The driver remained at the

...so if we never see them again, we

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wheel. Little Ray and Fat Frank sit in the two aluminum and plastic chairs on the cabin porch, counting out the supposed hundred thousand in small bills.

Well, these Latins form a line and start passing out these bales, *mag expedita*, and have the cabin empty, about the time Fat Frank and Little Ray finish counting the bills. The driver gets out of the van, comes back alongside it and joins the group.

FAT FRANK IS all smiles as he talks to the one who handed him the envelope, when the van driver whips out this long pistol, with a silencer on it, and lets Fat Frank have it, right in the face. He shoots Little Ray in the back as Little Ray turns to leap off the porch. He shoots Fat Frank in the head again,

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then leans over Little Ray and puts one in his head. I hardly heard the pop of the pistol through the open window. I just froze and watched four of them struggle with Fat Frank as they carried him over and dropped him in the trunk of the old Buick. One of the others picked up Little Ray and dropped him in with Fat Frank, but they couldn't get the trunk closed, so they put Little Ray in the back seat. They moved the van to the other cabin and started loading.

BEFORE LEAVING THROUGH the front entrance, I wiped my prints off the carbine with the bedspread. I walked about a block or so to the Sunoco station on U.S. 1 and made a call. In a few minutes two Monroe County cars blocked the entrance to Frank and Mary's, with a Highway Patrol car joining moments later.

I walked the few miles to Eddie's house, where I room, and went to bed.

A FEW DAYS later when I went into Herbie's for a beer, they were still talking about the shoot-out down at Fat Frank's. Two of the Latins were killed, two wounded, and two of them taken prisoner.

There were more angles offered as to how Fat Frank got all that marijuana, him having such a small boat and all.

Someone even asked me what I thought. "Maybe he had some help," I say. "Who knows?"

SO TOMORROW EDDIE gets back from his vacation and we start cleaning and repairing traps, a job I don't take kindly to, but what the hell, maybe this season I'll make enough to make a down payment on my own boat.

FIRST FEDERAL URGES ALL TO VOICE CONCERN OVER FEDERAL DEFICIT

FIRST FEDERAL of the Florida Keys President, Robert A. Dion, today urged everyone to write their congressman and senators and demand that action be taken now to end the mounting federal deficits. He said if individual letters could not be written, anyone can come into any First Federal office and sign a petition voicing concern about the problem.

Dion pointed out that current deficits of \$200 billion annually are rising, and if they are not dealt with and stopped, the way of life as we know it will be seriously impaired.

"CONGRESS AND THE Administration have to quit bickering and roll up their sleeves and go to work on this (the deficit). One party has to quit blaming the other. It doesn't matter any more who caused it, because it's been happening for many, many years. It just so happens it caught up with us in the 1980's. What matters is how it was caused and what to do to stop it once and for all", said Dion.

Today's national debt is figured at \$1.4 trillion and the annual interest costs on that debt alone are \$130 billion. The interest costs are actually rising at a rate faster than the debt itself.

LARGER AND LARGER government borrowing to fund the deficit will "crowd out" private borrowers, according to Dion. Loss of confidence in the U.S. economy could cause foreign investors to pull capital out, worsening the credit squeeze. Finally, interest costs alone could rise to where the government would be unable to finance them and would have to "print" money, leading to hyper-inflation.

"If that happens, we'll be in an economic mess that may never be solved. The deficit problem is very real and the financial well-being of all Americans is threatened. I cannot say enough how important it is for citizens to fully take immediate action to stop the problem," said Dion.

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effective - at least to the extent that practically every American (and many non-Americans) over the age of ten know the names of the candidates and will have chosen a favorite long before November.

THE PRESIDENTIAL campaign soaps are a good thing inasmuch as they cause a large segment of the American voters to maintain an interest in one part of their government, at least until election day.

As we get closer to Election Day, we will find ourselves targets of rhetoric concerning the presidential candidates. Every sneeze or trip to the bathroom by a presidential candidate will somehow be worked up into exciting headline material.

LIVING RELATIVES of the candidates will be drawn out of the woodwork and the dead will be resurrected to be glorified or vilified for our entertainment.

Presidential campaigns have become long-drawn-out soap operas, with the same hypnotic effect as commercial soaps. Presidential campaign soap operas are very

THREE COUNTY COMMISSION seats are up for election or re-election this coming November. Each of us should now be taking a very close look at the three incumbents.

We should be carefully studying their past actions.

Was the removal of Commissioner Harvey as Mayor a wise and well considered decision or was it immature spite work on the part of other Commissioners? Was the selection of Commissioner Sorenson as Mayor a wise move, improving the dignity and public image of the County Commission? Have the incumbents, in your opinion, made satisfactory decisions in their appointments to the Zoning Board and the Board of Adjustment? Do you even know who serves on the Code Enforcement Board? The Commission seats now held by Commissioners Harvey, Hernandez, and Sorenson are open for election this year. Do you wish to return any or all of them to office? Why, or why not? What non-incumbents would you like to see running for any or all of these offices?

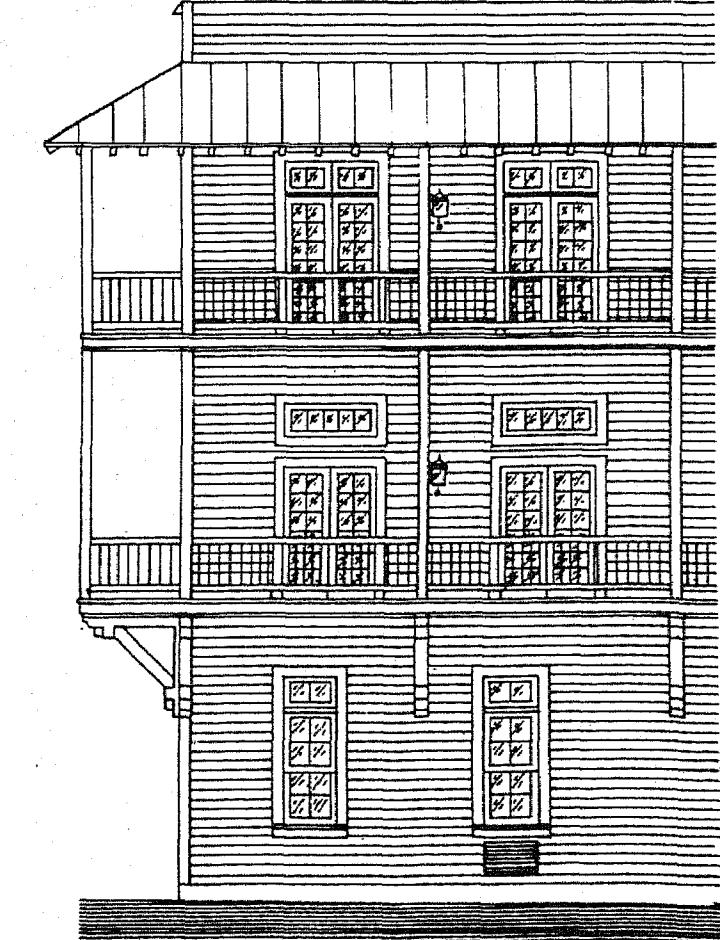
DO YOU REALLY KNOW the position of any County Commission candidate, incumbent or not, concerning housing development in the Keys? What is your position on housing development in the Keys? Which candidate

WILLIAM FLEMING HOUSE

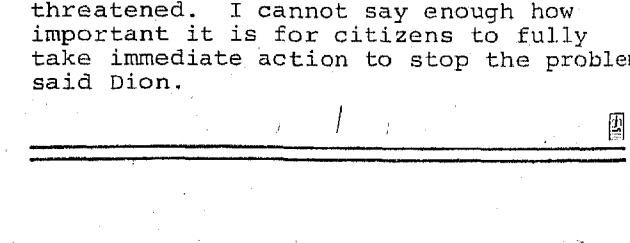
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comes nearest to sincerely agreeing with your ideals? Will that candidate, if elected, stand fast or will he or she be cowed by lawyers and vote against your best interests?

THESE ARE MATTERS to be given very serious consideration - now - not on some future "Candidates Night," when time is short, speakers nervous and trying hard to "be all things to all people."

The horrid fears of "Great Depression" and "Nuclear Holocaust" may never be realized, but "Uncontrolled Development" (look around you at all the Keys) is here and now. The plans are made, the bulldozers are working or waiting in the wings.

THE COUNTY COMMISSION has the power and the authority to protect us from the ravages of the "Development Holocaust" but that protection will never materialize until and unless the voters take it upon themselves to elect Commissioners who are ready, willing and able to give that protection, who will not behave like timid mice when some lawyer says, "We'll sue."

DUE TO THE presidential election, there will be an upsurge in registration drives and "Get out and vote" activities, with most of the effort directed toward the election of one or the other of the final presidential candidates.

Those spending their time, energy and money on national elections should be respected for the work they do, but, at the same time, we should realize that those honorable efforts are obscuring our very important local elections.

NATIONAL ELECTIONS are extremely important to all of us. Those whom we elect, not only to the presidency, but to the Congress, may well be instrumental in leading us to peace and prosperity or to the horrors and devastation of war. Surely, we all recognize the vital importance of choosing wisely in national elections.

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KEYWEST'S PREMIERE ENTERTAINMENT SPOT — SCHEDULE FOR MAY

SATURDAY, MAY 5: GATO BARBIER

SUNDAY, MAY 6 AND 13: SONS OF CREATION (REGGAE)

SATURDAY, MAY 12: BREAK DANCING CONTEST (PRIZES!)

MONDAY, MAY 14: ORLANDO MALE REVIEW (LADIES' NIGHT)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16: THE BAND, PERFORMING "BIG PINK", RAG MAMA RAG", AND "THE NIGHT THEY DROVE OLD DIXIE DOWN"

SUNDAY, MAY 20, FIRST LATIN SHOW, "JOSE JOSE"

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WHY, THEN, should we spend our time and energy learning about our candidates for local office? If, while you are reading this, all the Florida Keys sank beneath the sea, taking about 60,000 residents with them, it would not be a matter of vital importance to America as a whole, and, probably, inconsequential to the world in general. After all, in America, we kill 50,000 people a year with automobiles and who cares?

However, we care what happens to us. Since there is little likelihood of the Keys suddenly slipping beneath the waves with all on board, perhaps we can pay some attention to local government and the serious local problems that confront us.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT should be recognized as the County Commission and the City Commissions within the County. These are the legislative bodies that make the rules controlling our behavior and the environment in which we live.

Other parts of government are also very necessary and very important - the courts and police, etc., but - it's the legislative bodies that write the rules that affect our lives and our surroundings every day. We should all take a tremendous interest in the individuals elected to serve on those Commissions.

WE CANNOT FOREVER run to Tallahassee for protection. We must learn to protect ourselves through our County Commission. By making sure that we have five commissioners who can do the job and who will do the job.

THE DEPARTMENT of Community Affairs recently issued a multi-paged document, partially entitled "Principles for Guiding Development." Various citizens studied the document and responded in writing. One citizen discovered a major flaw in this document and wrote as follows:

"THE CONCEPT OUTLINED in the document before

me is completely acceptable; however, it would be the acme of naivete on my part if I did not comment on the statement appearing on page 3: 'To effectively and equitably accomplish such purposes these rules should be implemented by local governments through (existing) administrative processes consistent with the comprehensive plan. These processes (should) shall be strengthened to the end that local government is able to achieve the purposes herein stated without the continuation of the designation of area of critical state concern. All existing rights of private property should be preserved in accordance with the constitution of the State of Florida and the United States.'

"That one statement completely emasculates the entire document, leaving us with what is simply another version of 'Alice in Wonderland.'

"EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE processes are, beyond question, the root of all the evils that beset the Keys. These processes should not be strengthened, but rather eliminated, and new, ironclad procedures should be established.

"Local government, obviously and historically, has had no desire to 'achieve the purposes herein stated'.

"LOCAL GOVERNMENT has shown, beyond question, that it firmly and sincerely believes that what, in my opinion, is totally destructive development, is excellent constructive, economic progress for the Keys. Local government cannot conceive of anything more beautiful than covering the Keys with monstrous tenement houses and multilane highways.

"I would question whose lawyers will interpret the Constitution of the State of Florida and the United States concerning the 'existing rights of private property'.

"MR. PATTISON, I submit that the statement I find objectionable completely nullifies the otherwise totally acceptable body of the document before me, leaving us exactly where we were, with the developers going through their histrionic battles with government red tape and ultimately doing as they damned well intended to in the first place." (The signature is omitted to save the signer harassment.)

THE LETTER indicates what many believe, that even with the State getting involved, the developers are ultimately in control. Only the County Commission can slow down the juggernaut and this underscores the importance of having strong commissioners.

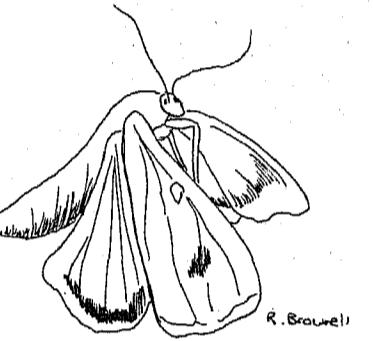
THINK ALSO ABOUT your financial contributions to the campaign funds of your favorite local candidates.

Try to recognize an unpleasant fact of political life: Elections are not won - they are purchased. The candidates who can spend the most money on advertising, parties, cookouts, etc., have a decided edge over the candidate with insufficient funds.

TO GIVE AN EXAMPLE, let's say we have in Monroe County two well-known politicians. To preserve their anonymity, let's just call them Willy and Billy. Willy and Billy are greatly respected for their honesty, integrity, ability and their public and private behavior. Therefore, they should be unbeatable in an election, right?

Wrong! A completely unknown candidate could easily defeat Willy or Billy simply by outspending them by fifty thousand dollars.

THINK ABOUT ALL these factors during the summer - not in November.



DAYDREAMING..of MORVERN (Scotland)

Far from Scotland, in these tropic isles,
When heat mirages shimmer on the sea,
Sometimes the mangroves fade and vanish
And memories of Morvern come to me.

Snow is soft upon the mountain tops
Mist flows gently through the glen
Bright waterfalls splash down the rocks
And I remember Morvern then.

Cool breezes blow and rain clouds drift
Over ferns and heather in the glen
The waters of the Sound shine silver
And I remember Morvern then.

Streams run sparkling on the stones
Hidden in the shadows of the glen
Where the red deer shyly drinks
And I remember Morvern then.

I see the old stone bridge at Salachan
The still black pool deep in the glen
Where the road is lost, almost forgotten
And I remember Morvern then.

I hear the gulls cry sadly overhead
Cold rain is falling in the glen
The trees are dark, the vision fades....
The sun, the Keys,...and I'm back here again.

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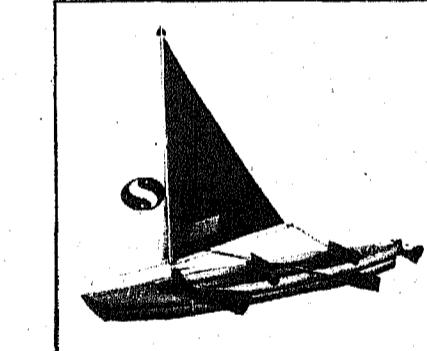


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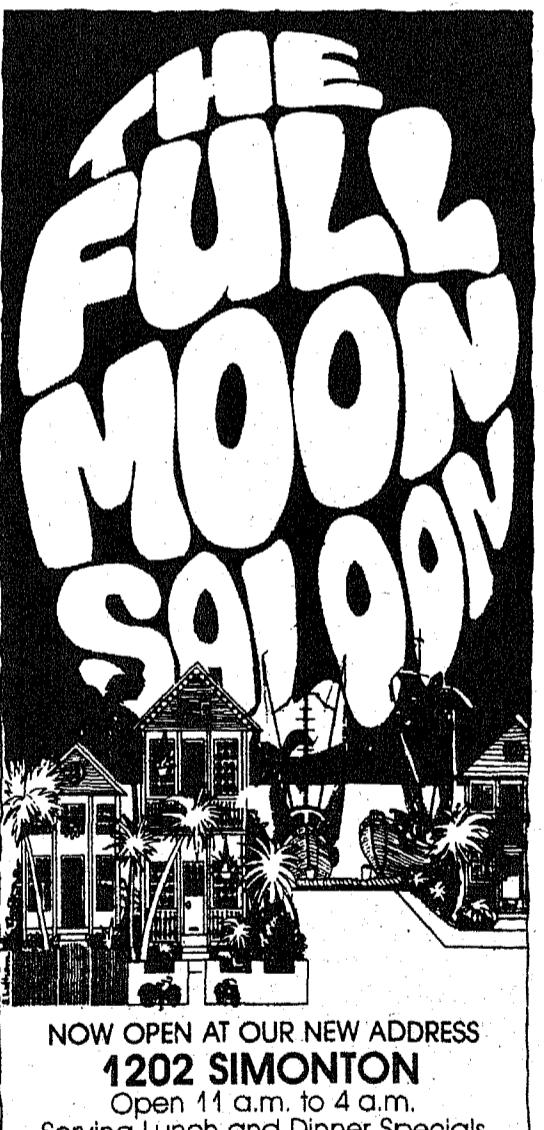
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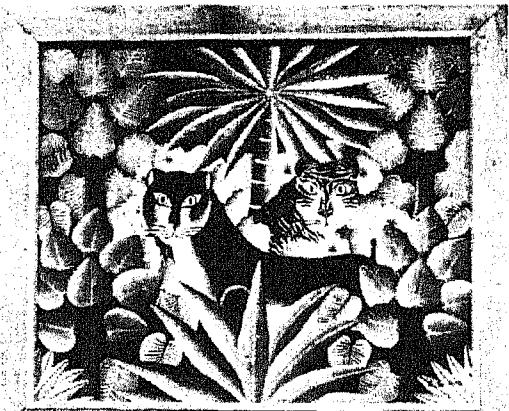
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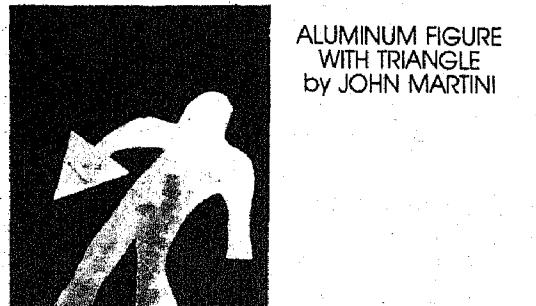
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* * * * *

GET OVER TO Lucky Gallery before the 5th if you like photography: Fibben is the local boy, also Cardenas, Hatfield, Hawkins, Laessig and Lefcort. The 9th of May a one-man by popular Florida hyper-real - watercolorist Walter Rockwood Ferris of Miami Lakes Crackers' dinner club fame, or see Coconut Grove's Bistro. Large, real, unwatercolor-like.

and I conclude everyone is right; paintings either join your decor or lick it; or they are it, with overtones of childhood, first love and greed.

BUY A PAINTING this May.

* * * * *

BARON: Jack and Bob are on the college's Far East Tour until the end of May, leaving gallery-sitter Richard Garland glued to their phone, so make rendez-vous 294-3629. 802 Truman.

MOIRA is taking her first holiday in five years, though I don't envy her. She's moving. Next season she'll have air conditioning and a brand new address with no restaurant next door. While relocating Moira may sublet me La Chapelle's nude (see Solares Hill last month).

OVER AT FARRINGTONS, 711 Duval, Ned emphasizes frames, frames on woodcuts by Frank Albion and Mario Sanchez and for May particularly, Skipper (Van der Linden) watercolours.

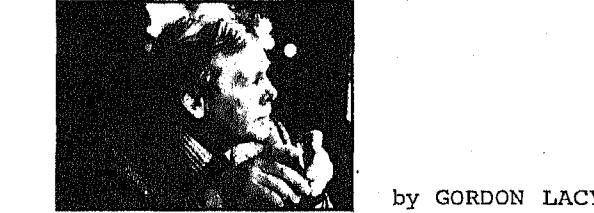
* * * * *

I COULDN'T GET any star billing out of East Martello, but was assured that from May 1st - 24th Florida Keys Watercolor Society is showing guess-what. This is a beautiful out-of-town museum

LACY GALLERY frankly needs money and is launching a price war for May on imported contemporary silkscreens and lithos. Top quality for peanuts, or at least Paris prices of two and three years ago. Hurry on down, you can practically write your own deal. No trade-ins, but we do finance. Whitehead and Petronia, except Sundays.

As for "those" legs, yes Claire will be in shorts all month long.

* * * * *



by GORDON LACY

X-RATED: Guilberte Sweeney, Art Modern Gallery at 516 Amelia, has sculpted an ex-voto that will never see the inside of any church I know, and boxes of asparagus, asparagusses?? Asparagi? Aren't they asparagi? What? Why, they're, they're... eek!

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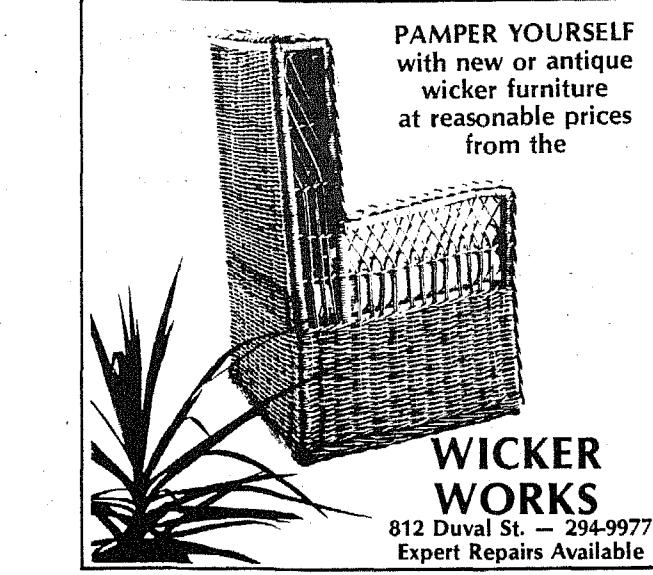
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IN THE 800 BLOCK of Duval, first Jordan's will show his stock of modern lithographs all summer, plus great dinners hour 6:30 P.M. amid Key West's glamorous in-set. Then Karen's Artists Warehouse. Watch it, she'll frame you, and next door Claud and Carole's Croissants de France because his chocolate cake belongs in any art column. His croissants do too, but by now everyone knows them.

* * * * *

AT 600 FRANCES, the Haitian's 2-day November sale for the benefit of Wesley House was such a staggering Macy's base-ment success that Ruth's repeating it: a spring cleaning sale, dates to be announced, for the gallery's benefit this time. Dudley will be in Mexico, but says most works will be reduced and one whole room at 50% off, so the locals will have a chance to stock up.

* * * * *

THE GINGERBREAD is switching to summer rhythm in May, opening Wednesday through Sunday, featuring its stable: Kiraly, Franke, Terry, Biondi, Van Eno, Salinaro, Hays, Hatchett, Clemons, Shaw, and again Terry because I have a thing about her.

Fred Gros, 901 Duval, is settling into the Wednesday-Sunday routine too. From April 27 - 18 May his show is called Artists Make Faces, featuring portraits by Fred himself, Hal Moore, masks and pastels by Laurie Tanner, Craig Kraft of Minneapolis, Stuart Vaughan - portraits of friends - and a brand new self port-

rait by Alice Terry that I hear is extraordinary and makes a visit here mandatory. This is Fred's first show on a theme and he is planning a series. After the 18th of May, his stable of artists.

My particular item of the month is to be found at Fred's: Ron Van Balens's multicolored 6 foot stepladder that in one easy motion folds into a pole. irresistible.

I AM VERY GLAD to announce that the directors of the Founders' Society, TWFAC, have had the glorious good sense to elect Mary Goodwin to the board. Mary is an artist and a perfectionist and her qualities will upgrade Key West on all fronts.

SANDFORD OF SIGN of Sandford on Simonton across from the post office was hand painting an industrial sized canvas awning when I popped in the other day, mauve and green. She's a painter who has turned to fabrics; silks, cottons, from scarves to cushions to dresses, nothing daunts Sandford. She's enthusiasm itself and delighted to show visitors her atelier.

This month's artistic hurrahs to La Te Da's decor for Easter day's wild low down elegant do-it-yourself maaad tea dancing orgy. Just plain great. Effort pays.

BETTY WILLIAMS is commendable for

her efforts on behalf of the old peoples Hospice, a good buffet donated by almost every thinkable restaurant in minute quantities. I guess they felt you eat less as you age. Not the case. Let us hope the auction brought in lots of dollars. I was sure the man in front of us in the roast beef line was a protesting vegetarian. He wouldn't advance. But I tuned in and he was saying, and loudly, "I write under the name of J.D. Swift and I am a pro-euthanasia agitator." That should wow 'em back in the Hospice...



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her efforts on behalf of the old peoples Hospice, a good buffet donated by almost every thinkable restaurant in minute quantities. I guess they felt you eat less as you age. Not the case. Let us hope the auction brought in lots of dollars. I was sure the man in front of us in the roast beef line was a protesting vegetarian. He wouldn't advance. But I tuned in and he was saying, and loudly, "I write under the name of J.D. Swift and I am a pro-euthanasia agitator." That should wow 'em back in the Hospice...

* * * * *

GUILD HALL GALLERY, 614 Duval, is literally a guild owned and operated by twelve (God, there go my Sundays) artists with look! No boss. The word over there is 3 new "dynamic media": Ralph Freer - wood sculpture, Adolf Gucinski - photographs and Judi Bradford, who also reigns at Lizard Licks in Key Lime Square and is into soft sculpture.

* * * * *

MICHAEL Haykin's show is long over: the melody lingers on...

* * * * *

AND KEY WEST's First Lady of Art, Marion Stevens, is in Europe, back for Red Barn's 26 May "Show Biz Ball." She's checking up her health, checking out artists and museums. She's preparing a big benefit bash on June 10th for Key West/ Haiti Aids Research featuring "Some of the Best of Haiti."



THE GREAT GRANT CAPER

by ALDEN SOLOVY

WILL THE CONSTRUCTION of a cruise port at Mallory Square - and the subsequent arrival of large cruise ships - "change scenic views or vistas from existing residential areas or public lands or roads?"

That is one of several questions posed to the City of Key West in its application for a \$750,000 Community Development Block Grant to build a cruise port at Mallory Square. And if you answered "yes" to that question, you disagreed with the city. The grant - authored by Bob Bensko, city grants writer, and signed by Richard Heyman, mayor - claims that there will be no changes in scenic views from

public lands. Never mind that the view of the Gulf is scenic. Never mind that Mallory Square is public land. Never mind that this is one of the most popular places for seeing the Gulf.

THE WHOLE THING is rather confusing, really, and includes several misrepresentations and oddities. For example: - The document unanimously approved by the city commission was less than one-quarter the total grant application. At a meeting January 30th, the commission approved an 18-page application. The application which was submitted was more than 80 pages long.

- The application which the com-

mission approved stated that the cruise port construction WOULD change a scenic view from public land. However, the final application sent to the state claims that the new cruise port would NOT change a scenic view.

- One section of the application, titled Private Housing Market Fair Housing Action Plan, stated that the city "successfully acquired large Environmental Protection Agency grants to build a sewage treatment plant." Grants? What grants have we received?

- That same section touts the city's Resource Recovery Facility. The grant application states: "The city has, in the past year, with U.S. Navy assistance, constructed a Resource Recovery Facility to process solid waste and recover a reusable resource soil. The development of this facility will not only relieve environmental constraints to expansion in housing and industry, but will provide valuable fill soil material for this island city." In reality, that facility never worked properly. In fact, it is no longer used by the city. It was constructed long before "the past year," and current plans call for selling the equipment.

- The application claims that the city is helping low- and moderate-income families through support for affordable housing on the surplus Navy land to be developed by the Redevelopment Agency. However, current R.D.A. plans call for no low-income housing on the property. (There are plans for moderate-income housing.) The city commission has not addressed this issue recently.

- Two public hearings were held on the proposed application, with both advertised in the Key West Citizen. Yet, the city's first advertisement failed to mention that the grant applications under consideration would include a cruise port at Mallory Square.

- The application asks the city: "Will this affect use of a recreational area?" The city answered "no." In

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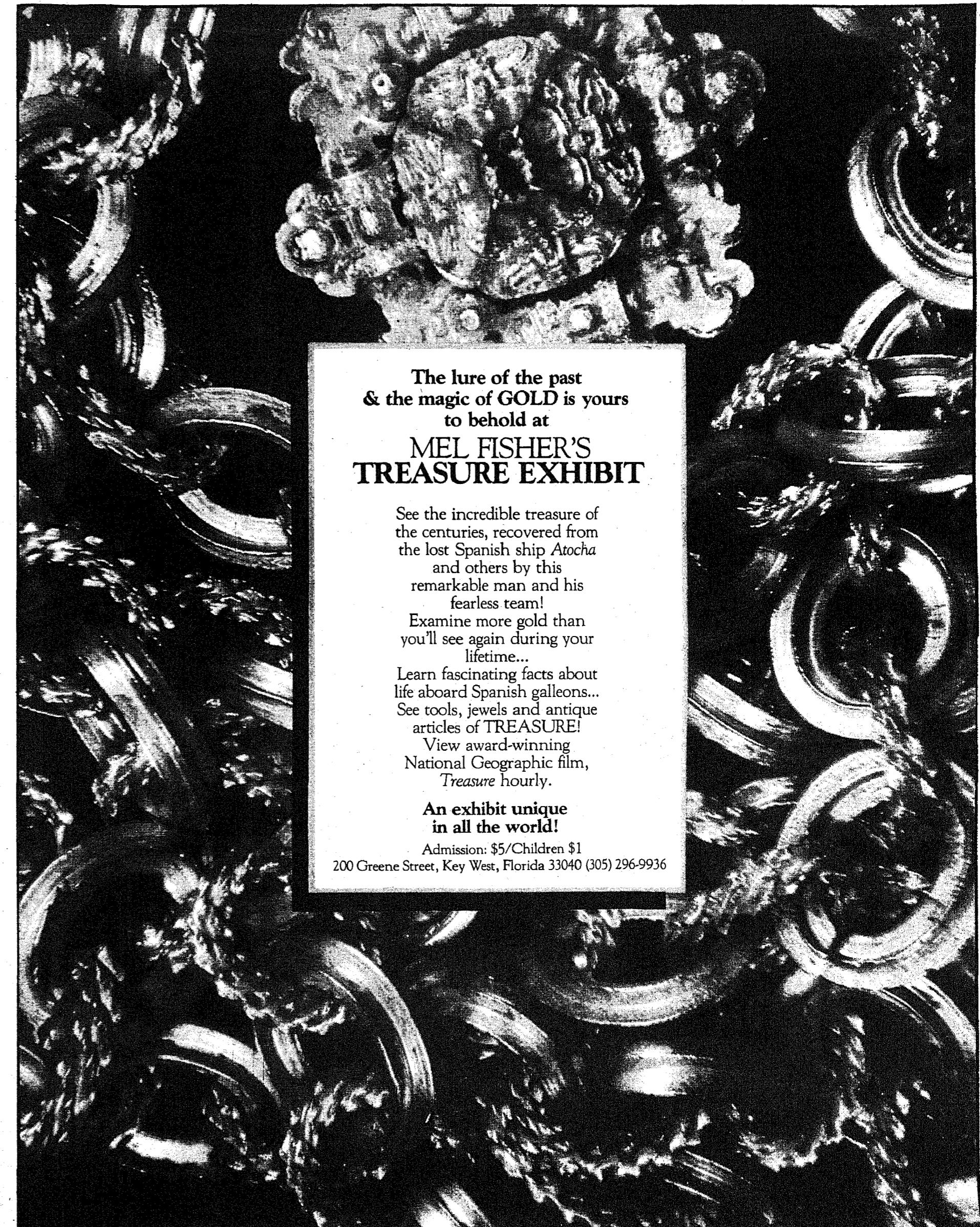
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support of that answer, the application includes a letter from the Bahama Cruise Line which plans to send the S/S *Bermuda Star* as well as the S/S *Vera Cruz* into Key West. The letter states that "the company agrees to depart from Mallory Dock 45 minutes prior to sunset as stipulated by the dock master." The statement, however, confirms that the Mallory Square sunset activities will become subordinate to the cruise ship and departure. (The statement also affirms that the view from Mallory Square will be altered by the cruise ships.)

THE KEY WEST Cultural Preservation Society, led by Karen and Richard Bertocci, has spearheaded quiet campaign to bring these points before Bensko, the mayor, and many top state officials who will be deciding on this grant. Among those who have received either visits or letters from the Bertoccis are: Gov. Bob Graham, Lt. Gov. Wayne Mixon, the state Department of Community Affairs, the Monroe County State Attorney's Office, Bensko, and Heyman. "We're for the cruise ships," said Richard Bertocci. "It's a nice alternative to coming to Key West by car. But we don't think enough consideration has been given either to this application or to other possibilities for cruise ship dockage."

THE BERTOCCIS WERE angered by the lack of information made available to them before the second public hearing. Karen explained that she made repeated trips to see Bensko, Roy Grant, the federal programs coordinator; and Josephine Parker, the city clerk. She was finally able to get a copy of this proposal at the library hours before the hearing. "We were denied participation," Karen said. "I went many times looking for information and was turned away."

MEANWHILE, COMMISSIONER GEORGE Halloran, who voted for the cruise ship grant, has sent a memo to the mayor and other commissioners questioning why the commission did not have the entire grant application for consideration and raising some of the same concerns as the Bertoccis. "The completed copy, provided to us a week after the submission deadline, has been changed in at least one instance from the copy we voted on. This was done without the authorization of the commission," Halloran wrote. He added, "If I had to vote on this application today, I would vote no."

STRANGEST OF ALL on this application, comes the answer to this question: "Will the overall project significantly affect existing public services and facilities?" Let's see:

a 25,000 ton cruise ship will dock at Mallory Square; new facilities will have to be built, like a customs area, a storage area, and a Buggybus Depot (for Conch Tour Trains or the Old Town Trolley) because the contract with Ed Swift's company states "the City shall designate a depot area immediately adjacent to the landing site of cruise ships or their tenders on City-owned property"; and there has been no impact study on the sale of literally hundreds of thousands of gallons of water to the ships. Will that significantly affect Mallory Square, a public property zoned for general public use? Well, you guessed it, the city says "no."

Editor's note: On April 18 the Florida Department of Commerce sent a letter to the City of Key West approving the Mallory Dock grant application. The full \$750,000 was awarded to the city. Mayor Richard Heyman said that the dock construction will begin as soon as possible with completion slated for October or November. Heyman said "Key West is high on the list of (state) priorities" and he expects the state to approve similar grants in the future.

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WHOSE WERE THE BONES ON THE ISLE OF BONES?

by RICHARD MARSH

HERE IS a new twist to the stories of how Key West got its Spanish name of Cayo Hueso -- the Isle of Bones: a novel by H. Warner Munn called *Merlin's Godson* (Ballantine, 1976).

AFTER THE fall of King Arthur, Merlin the Wizard and a British-Roman centurion flee the Saxon invasion, sailing for the Blessed Isle that Brandon of Ireland had discovered. They find it and tarry awhile among the natives, who call their home Cubanacan. It is Cuba.

Merlin and the centurion venture to Alata -- North America -- unite the eastern Indian tribes into the Longhouse of the Five Nations, ally them with the Azteca of the southwest, and drive the hated Mias (Mayas) from power. Merlin dies, and the centurion is accepted by the natives as a god. He writes an account of his adventures, seals it in a bronze cylinder, and sends his son Gwalchmai -- Merlin's godson -- to inform the emperor of Rome of the kingdom the centurion has conquered in his name. It is 616, 40 years after the fall of the Roman Empire, which news has not reached

the ears of the centurion.

GWLCHMAI sails from the mouth of the Misconzebe (Mississippi) and follows the Florida coast, landing at an unnamed island (which turns out to be Key West) to hunt and take on water. Fishlike creatures, more than animal but not human, with webbed, clawed feet, slaughter the entire crew except Gwalchmai. Using a magic spell and powder of Merlin's, Gwalchmai exterminates the creatures, known as Piasa to the Indians. Their bones and the bones of Gwalchmai's crew litter the island. In the struggle the bronze cylinder is lost.

"After the hurricane which swept Key West almost bare," Munn's narrative goes, "a cylinder of bronze, green with verdigris and thinned by the years, was dug out from coral and debris by a veteran engaged in the work of reconstruction." The cylinder is taken to a museum and opened. The story is read and commented upon. The finder explains to the museum curator how Key West got its name.

When the Spaniards discovered the island, it was covered with skeletons

where a battle had been fought. So many were there that they called it Cayo de los Huesos (Island of the Bones), which was Englished as Key West. Suppose that those bones were the remains of the ship's crew, sent with the message..."

THEY SPECULATE on Gwalchmai's fate, which they will never know, since "that was a thousand years ago," Munn knows, though, that Gwalchmai's further adventures make up the rest of *Merlin's Godson* and a 1974 book called *Merlin's Ring*.

The first part of the book was published serially in *Wierd Tales* in 1939, so the finding of the bronze cylinder in Key West may have been inspired by the Labor Day hurricane of 1935. But that hurricane spared Key West and found its way into literature as the hurricane which washed over Matecumbe Key and swept "800" people out to sea, according to the story told to Johnny Rocco in Maxwell Anderson's play (later a movie) *Key Largo*.

OF ALL THE hurricanes that wreaked destruction on Key West -- 1835, 1844, 1846, 1909, 1910, 1919, 1948 -- the only one that matches Munn's, "which swept Key West almost bare," was the "Great Hurricane" of 1846, the most destructive in the town's history, when "the town was, in a great measure, washed away!", according

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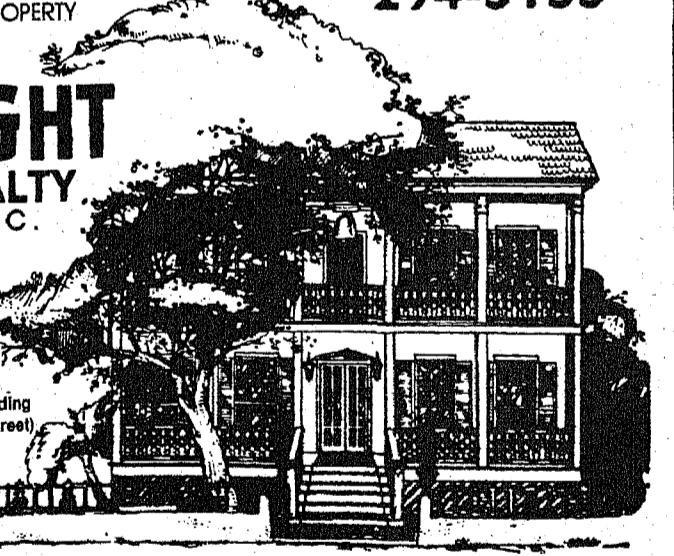
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to James Fenimore Cooper's novel JACK TIER OR THE FLORIDA REEF (1848). Munn has moved the hurricane up 90 years.

ACCORDING TO Betty Bruce, curator of the Florida Room of the Monroe County Library, the story of the finding of a large number of bones on the island is only an unsubstantiated legend, carried on in the records as hearsay. No primary written accounts of the bones have been found. If there were a large number of bones, they would most likely be the result of an epidemic. More romantic theorists like to think of a last stand by the Calusas, slaughtered by Seminoles who were pushed from the mainland of Florida by the incursion of European settlers.

If there were no bones, where does Key West's name come from? How about Cayo Oeste (literally Key West), another early name for the island? Oeste (west) sounds more like West than hueso (bone) does, and is a more natural name for the westernmost key in the chain.

BUT SUCH an unexciting derivation will never sell books and titillate tourists. Key West will remain the Isle of Bones, and we romantics and arm-chair swashbucklers will continue to hear in our imaginations the battle cries of the Seminoles and the death shrieks of the Calusas, unmuted by the intervening centuries and the lack of evidence.



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It started to rain just after midnight, like Buckets of water it fell from the sky, The lightning was flashing, the thunder would follow The wind kept a howling its cry.

The house moved a little, it shivered each time The water like walls hit the sides I layed in bed listening to noises I heard Half asleep, but awake, so alive.

By half light of dawn I dressed and departed, the Warmth and the comfort of home. I got on my bicycle, rode through the puddles And felt all the raindrops alone.

When I reached my boat I started the pump, The water was over my shins The day was beginning, the clouds raced away, the rain soon became just a mist.

As the sun rose up higher, its great ball of Glory, soon dried all the skies over head And a new day was christened and cleansed By the rain drops, as nature got up from its bed.

by Jimmie Joe Gibson

In the dawn dreary dark in the space before sun a dragonfly beats on my screen,

trapped between uneasy pale walls and morning.

Not sleeping,

I have waited, empty,

for the stubborn signs of day:

a sky less gray,

the smell of fresh bread, sweet,

from the bakery up the street.

by Carol Shaughnessy

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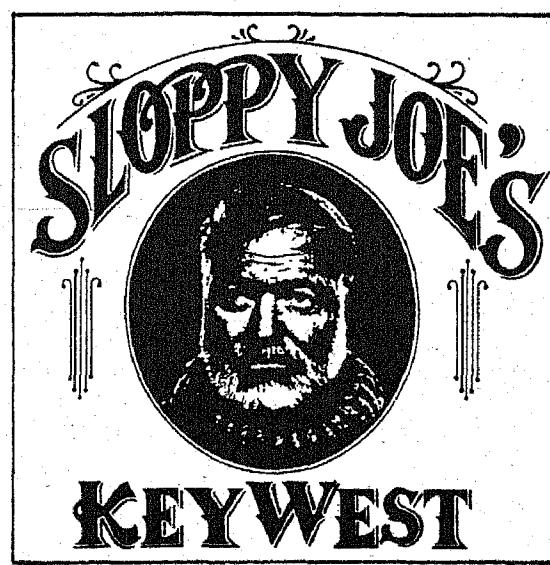
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Louis Knowles

by PHOEBE REDNER COAN

LOUIS KNOWLES, WHO describes himself as a "Black Conch islander," was born into the Key West scene of 1936. He has brought into the light a new energy born of the freedom inner strength and faith can manifest.

Louis remembers himself as a "late bloomer." This was in part due to a childhood spent as a weak, skinny and sickly kid other kids picked on. "Even if the temperature got slightly cooler, I could feel it, especially in my feet. If it rained, I got sick," he remembers.

THIS WAS PROBABLY a predisposition he inherited from his mother, who has always had a condition of weak legs. Mary Symonette has seen many doctors over the years, but without cure. The past 12 years she has been bedridden. Louis, who visits her daily, remarked, "It seems like she's been sick for 100 years."

HIS FATHER'S ABSENCE during his childhood made Louis feel a great responsibility for his mother. Charles Knowles, a minister, preaches in the churches of Miami nowadays. Years back, his church on Elizabeth Street rang with the singing and the praising of the Lord. Louis took the good and has reconciled what was not so good with that influence.

"MY BELIEF IN the Lord is a mainstay. I let him direct me. He takes care of me and never gives me more than I can handle."

Louis has thought of himself as a loner. However, his boss Captain Tony, mentioned, with a twinkle in his eye, "Ask him about his love life."

To go on with the chronology of Louis' life, from the 7th grade on, he ran away many times from truant

officers. "It was easy. They couldn't catch me. Besides, I just got beat up too many times in school for being such a bag of bones...But, I survived!"



Photo by Jeffrey Cardenas

education he missed. "I used to go off in a corner with a dictionary and teach myself. I'm not that dumb and not that smart."

AT 9 AND 10 his life on the streets turned to petty theft. The family needed food, and it was up to him to get it.

His pilfering, however, resulted in his having to do a stint in reform school. He, an astoundingly honest person, does not mind telling all about it.

As a prisoner he reformed after the sobering experience of being locked up with those who "hated Blacks bad. Some of us got the whip for fighting back." This was at Marianna, Florida. When winters there got cold, his feet got frostbitten. He resolved at that time not to allow such circumstances again.

HE HELPS THOSE in need whenever he can today, whether it be distributing gifts to children at Christmas, or turkeys at Thanksgiving.

We talk in the dim, early morning light of Captain Tony's while he works cleaning up the bar. It is his work. He has done this work since '59. He also cleans at other spots around town, and without complaint. He's "cleaned up his act," as well.

HE CONTINUES HIS story of a young man who seven to eight years ago ended up with a bleeding ulcer and other physical impairments, due to the rigors of down town life.

Pulling himself up with the old determination was not so simple. But, Louis did it. He picked up his life like a rough stone he could polish. This was a creative act - re-creation. He transformed weaknesses into strengths, and shed his negative mode of living.

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He had first spent years at the Old Anchor Inn, run by the well-loved couple, Bud and Dorothy MacArthur. "I always ended up working for real generous people. It was a good experience. There was a spirit there that I became part of, and there were many interesting personalities to know."

HE RECALLS A young Jimmy Buffett at the time who was on the scene and part of that spirit.

Louis enjoys popular music, and admits a fondness still for the songs of Bob Dylan. "He's always telling you something." The one song he especially relates to is: "Like A Rolling Stone."

AFTER THE ANCHOR days, Louis worked for Ted Axelrod and John Hopkins at the General Store - an emporium of imported gifts that never ceased to delight Key West. Louis did the stock work there. He and Ted were good friends and once they both entertained jazz singer Nina Simone. "We drank wine and talked way into the wee hours at Baptist Lane," Louis fondly recalls.

TED HAD MET her in New York and invited her to Key West. "What a beautiful lady! She was very down to earth."

She autographed her album for him and gave him a meaningful big kiss he never forgot.

Louis also worked for Marion Stevens and Morgan Bird, who ran the Oldest Bar which became Captain Tony's.

"When I got the bar, I inherited Louis with it," Tony tells. "We never had a working relationship. We have always been just good friends. I've spent more time with him than with all my wives."

"TONY'S ONE HELLUVA good guy. He'd give me tubs of fish to pass out to people in the project. All the little things he does for me is more than the money. He makes me feel like one of the family. He's a very nice, self-made guy like myself." Louis fell prey to the celebrated magnetism of Key West party life, and when the drinking and "worrying" caught up with Louis, he made the big decision to quit the booze, and change his diet to a more healthful one. He began to experience a wonderful transformation taking hold of his life.

"I NEVER REALIZED life could be so wonderful," he states.

Now Louis is into health foods and vitamins and tries, without being pushy about it, to pass the good word along. "I feel like I could live to be 100."

Like a musical chant he tells me: "Take your vitamin C. Take your ginseng." He also recommends papaya enzyme and aloe after meals from time to time to "keep you percolating!"

"I TOOK OFF my head and blew the cobwebs out," he explains.

"I've prayed to the Lord to help me stay well. I asked for the strength to rebuild my body."

His talent lies not only in his skill at shooting pool or cooking (his hobbies), but in his ability to convey a sense of delight with a life that he is attuning to life-giving, rather than death-oriented, forces.

HE LOVES HAVING friends (especially female ones), and claims he "likes everyone. People always liked me. They helped me a lot."

"I feel I'm one of the chosen ones - I'm blessed! I just feel lucky. I live a pretty good life."

"The state of love today is wonderful - beautiful. You should try to get all the love you can in your life."

LOUIS AGREES THAT it's the "glue of love" that keeps us all together. "It's our ability to give love and accept it that matters in life. It's why we're here, but you need to love yourself first," he says.

He has a smile that radiates from the inside out. The magic has won, it tells you...the good magic is victorious.

"I took my head off and blew the cobwebs out."

here: random acts of violence against innocent people. Heyman has called for the police to begin enforcing the city's curfew law, already on the books, which requires youths aged 17 and under to be in their homes after 10 p.m. Heyman said that a small group of boys, 13 to 15 years old, have perpetrated most of the random violence. They strike, he said, usually between 10:30 p.m. and midnight, often in unrenovated areas of Old Town.

BUT THE INCIDENT also supports the statements of Police Chief Larry Rodriguez, who said that there really is no pattern to the violence.

Rodriguez said there are some aggravated assaults which seem to be perpetrated by youths for no apparent reason, but there are others which are directly related to thefts or to other crimes. And he said there is no evidence that a gang of youths is responsible.

THE ATTACKS HAVE become somewhat of a political football, with the mayor sending memos to the police chief requesting information and action to stop the assaults, and the police chief insistently seeking ways to refute the mayor's claims.

In John's case, the attack was purely random, with no provocation and no warning. He was faced with a lone attacker, not a group, and his impression was that an adult wielded the hatchet which struck him down.

"TO SAY THAT there is a gang of young people preying on people is just not true," Rodriguez said. When the mayor called for renewed enforcement of the curfew law, Rodriguez said he would need more officers and preferably a juvenile justice division to do the job. As the current law applies, the police chief explained, officers could only escort the youths home with a stern lecture.

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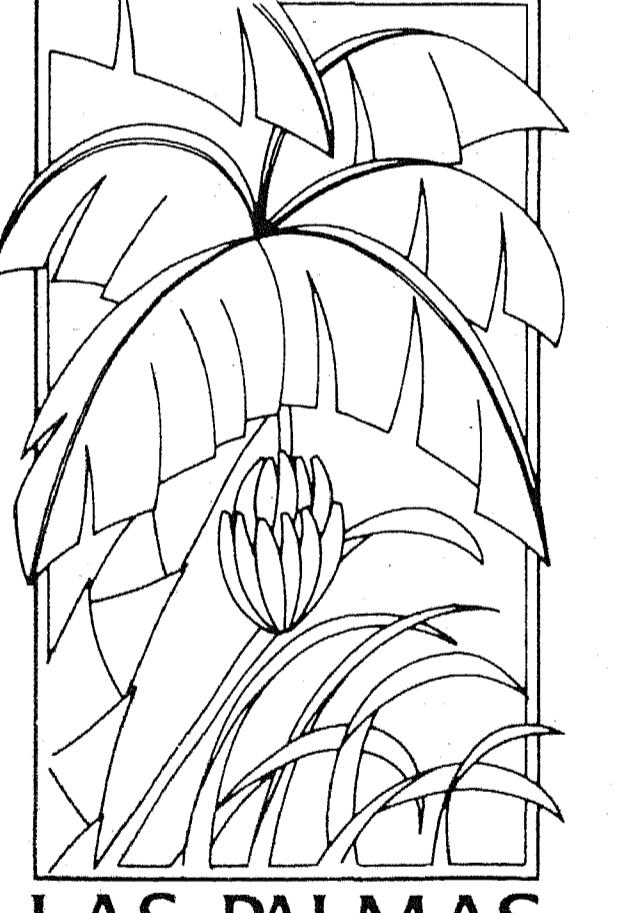
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VIOLENCE

by ALDEN SOLOVY

JOHN WALKED HOME quickly. It was early yet, only about 8:30 p.m., and he had walked these streets for 12 years. Still there was no need to invite trouble.

As John crossed the intersection of Elizabeth and Caroline streets, moving from shadow to light to shadow again, one of the shadows somehow personified. An attacker silently moved out of the shadow and, without a word, without a threat, struck John on the head with a hatchet.

"WHEN PEOPLE ASK me about it, I describe it as the work of a guerrilla terrorist, like someone jumping out of the bush to slit your throat and disappear into the night," he said.

John didn't see the attack coming. He was given no warning.

"No one ever spoke to me. No one ever touched me. I was simply hit with the hatchet and left alone."

MIRACULOUSLY, JOHN WAS not knocked out. "I didn't pass out and I didn't fall, but I lost my vision. I felt my way around and collapsed on somebody's front porch."

John, not his real name, asked for anonymity in fear that his attacker might seek him out once his name became publicized. That's understandable: John was quite literally left to die. He had a depressed skull fracture. A brain operation was necessary - part of the bone in his forehead was removed, and his sight still isn't back to normal. He faces yet another operation to have a plate put in his head.

THE INCIDENT POINTS up what Mayor Richard Heyman calls a growing problem

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"YOU'RE GOING TO have a police officer who's paid \$17,000 or \$18,000 per year providing a taxi service and other areas of the city will go unprotected," Rodriguez said.

He added, "I would hate to think that the only answer would be to lock them up [the youths] at 8 or 9 o'clock at night, especially since it hasn't been proven what age groups are committing these assaults."

YET THERE ARE many cases which fit Heyman's description of a small gang of youths attacking passers-by.

There is the case of Bill, who also asked that his real name not be used.

Bill was riding his bicycle down Solares Hill toward the cemetery. As he slowed down at the intersection of William Street and Windsor Lane, three boys ran up beside him carrying baseball bats.

"THEY CAME UP from behind and just surprised me," Bill was hit on the leg. "They were trying to hit me on the head," he said. "As I slowed down at the intersection, they were right behind me clobbering me." He said the kids ran off after the attack. Bill's leg was bleeding.

Then there's the case of a man

who was attacked by youths riding mopeds. Gals were driving the mopeds, and the guys sitting on the back punched pedestrians as they rode by.

"I WAS RIDING my bicycle along Duval, when three mopeds drove by. They came along punching and kicking," said Mike who also asked that his real name not be used.

After the second moped drove by, Mike explained, he decided to check behind him for more attackers. He saw the third moped and lashed out at the attacker calling the youth a coward. At the next corner, the three youths were waiting for him.

"I HAD TO fight three at once. One guy was doing most of the fighting and I tried to punch him but nothing was connecting for me. I grabbed onto him because I'm not a fighter. I hung on and sunk my teeth into his neck. I bit him several times. As we rolled on the ground, I was kicked by the others."

THE GALS, MIKE said, were encouraging the guys to violence. "One was saying, 'Kick him, he's a fag.' I'll never forget the way she said that."

That outburst does not seem sur-

prising to many of the victims. To some, the random violence is really not-so-random. Some victims see the attacks as hatred against gays taken to an extreme.

"IT WAS DEFINITELY anti-gay," said Mike. "How they pegged me out as being one I don't know."

Bill agreed, stating that the attack on him seemed motivated by anti-gay sentiment.

Mayor Heyman said that the violence is not targeted against any one group, but said that it probably started out as anti-gay and then spilled over to more random attacks against anyone on the street. "Some of the attacks are against the gay community, some are not," he said.

RODRIGUEZ ALSO RECOGNIZES that homosexuals have been specifically targeted in some assaults. "This has been going on for a long time. People got beat up when I was young. In those days it wasn't the tourists or the so-called gays, it was the military people who were getting beat up," he said.

STILL, THE POLICE chief is hesitant to limit the victims of the violence solely to the gay population,

just as he maintains that the attackers' ages cannot yet be pegged. Currently, the police department is working on determining the ages of those who commit assaults, the locations of the crimes, and the types of victims to see if there is a pattern as Heyman asserts. "We are concentrating on an effort to see if we can establish a pattern," Rodriguez said. "I have a couple of men working specifically on the problem."

TO HEYMAN, HOWEVER, the answer is already clear. "It's a very small group who's causing this. We have to isolate them and bring them to task."

Both Heyman and Rodriguez agree that there are many assaults which go totally unreported. The unreported crimes take their toll on police efforts to establish a pattern or to catch the assailants, the police chief said. The mayor said that without more documentation, he cannot successfully press for more police attention to the problem.

"IT STYMIES MY efforts," said Heyman. "We have to have documentation to prove these things are happening."

Rodriguez said, "We don't have a crystal ball. If these people don't make reports and help us out, we have no way of solving this problem." He said that those who don't report at-

tacks are allowing the perpetrators to go free and possibly attack again. "Not only are you not helping, but you're committing a disservice."

JOHN SAID THAT many people, especially gays, don't report the incidents because they are convinced the police do not care and won't help. He said that he tried to contact a police officer several times to give more information, but the calls were never returned. He eventually gave up.

BUT MIKE SAID he found the police to be helpful and sympathetic. "They listened to me when I went down to the station. They were kind. They tried to help me out. I don't think they were being discriminatory."

Rodriguez said he urges anyone who's been attacked in the past year to report the crime, especially if they got a good look at the assailant.

"Come in and look at the mug books," Rodriguez said. "It's never too late to say, 'Hey, this is the person who beat me up.' It's never too late to get involved."

BOTH HEYMAN AND Rodriguez agree on one more point: people need not fear to walk the streets at night.

"It's as safe here as it is in any city," Heyman said. "I don't think that it's rampant. What we're seeing are isolated cases."

Said Rodriguez: "Just like any other place, there are people going around hurting people because they like to hurt people, but our streets are safe. I would say that people do not need to be afraid. A lot of people come in here saying they feel safe on the streets."

THE POLICE CHIEF added that some safe walking tips should be followed. Walk on lighted, busy streets. Stay away from dark streets where attackers might hide. Don't go into areas you're not familiar with at night. If possible, don't walk alone. Don't provoke others or respond to someone else's provocation.

STILL, THE POLICE chief said that locals and tourists alike need not fear the streets. "For everyone who's molested or assaulted, there must be hundreds who aren't bothered."

John is unconvinced. "I'm not well anymore. The first day after the attack they didn't think I'd live."

John doesn't go out anymore, even during the day. "I've got a hole in my head because of the attack. Hitting it, bumping it, knocking it, could actually kill me." John said that, in one way, he got off lucky. He didn't die the day after the attack. He said he will not test out that luck again.

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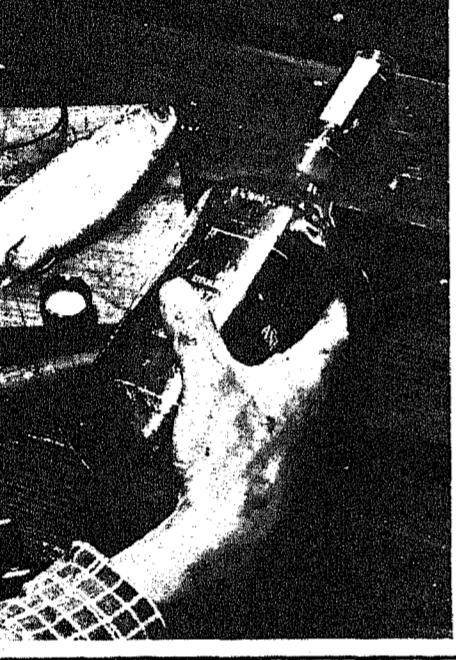
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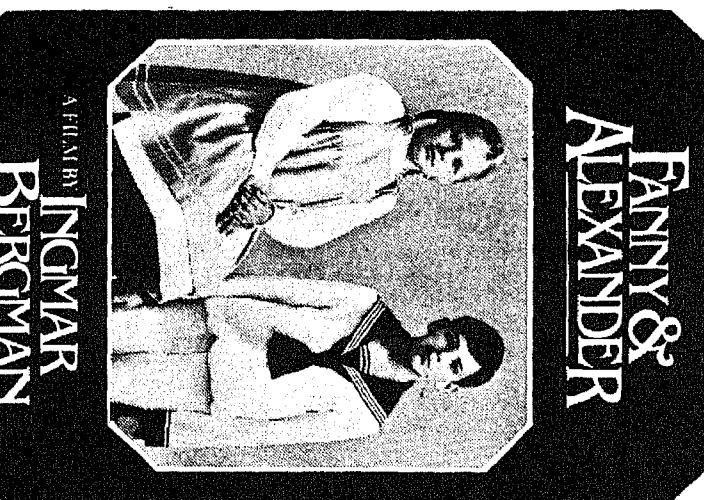


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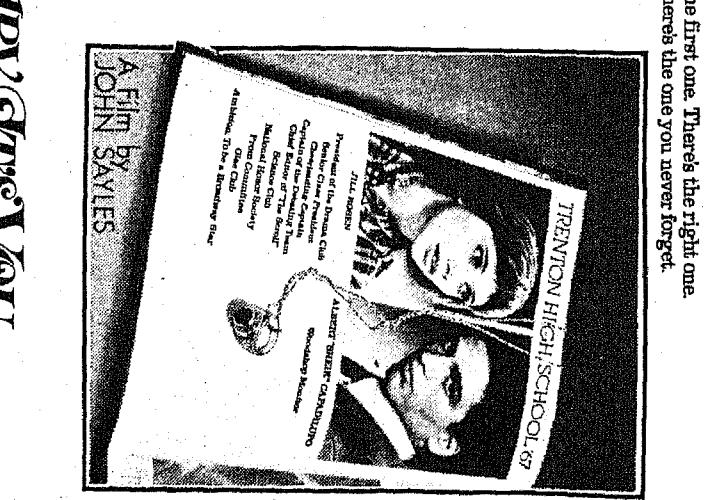
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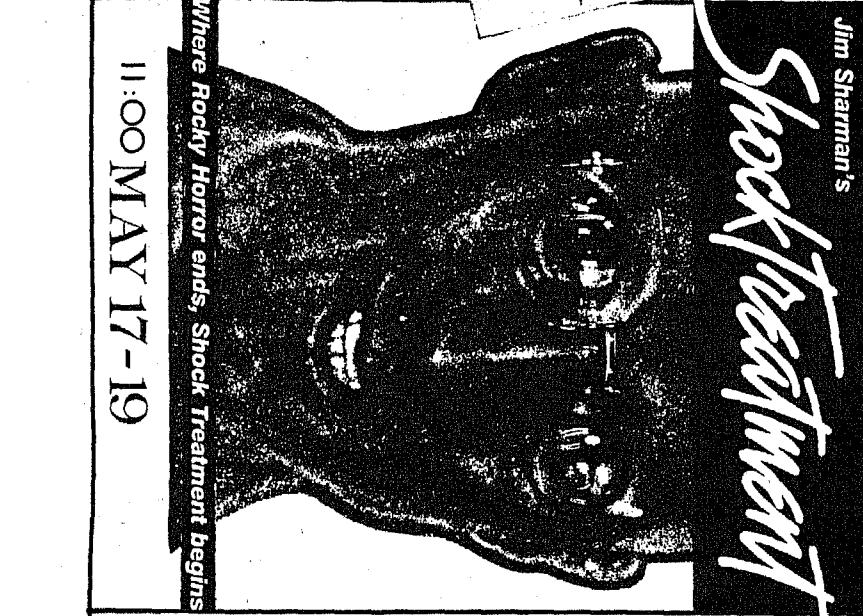
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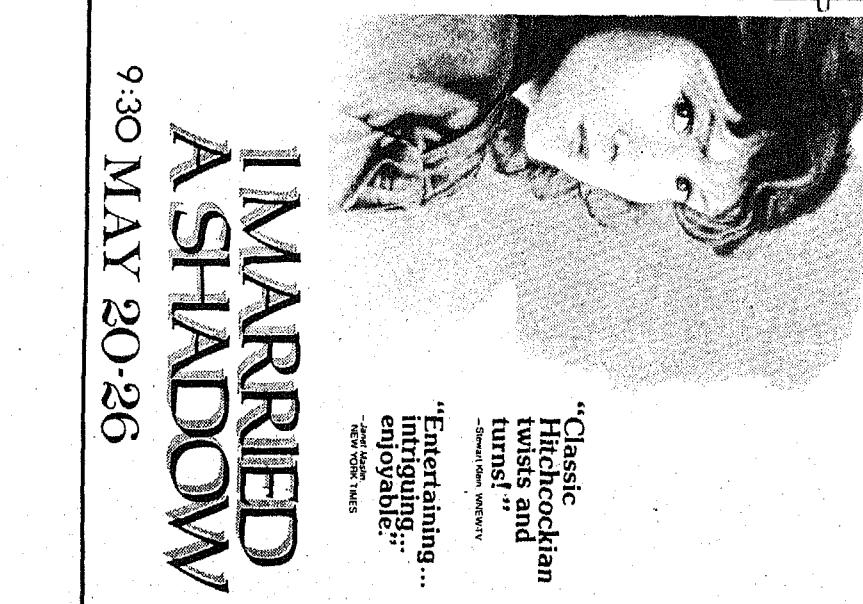
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and took a long look deep inside.
"Nothing in this one!" I shouted.

"NOTHING, huh?" Charley answered.

"NOT A THING," I said as I made my way back to the boat and jumped on board. Charley put the engine in reverse and gave it the throttle. The old boat didn't move. Charley gave it a little more juice. We still didn't move. Charley let out a few cuss words, then gave the engine full reverse. The old vessel shook and rattled and a lot of water was splashing up off the stern but the boat, like an old stubborn mule, didn't budge. We were jammed hard on the rock-like coral. The tide moving out of the channel toward the ocean had pushed our old craft much further onto the coral than Charley had intended it to go - and the tide was getting stronger.

A Misadventure

by GERALD SEMLER

A NUMBER OF years back a good friend of mine bought an old beatup lobster boat. Although the craft could still be considered seaworthy, it had definitely seen its best days. My friend, Charley, a fairly experienced sailor, was really anxious to get started in the lobster business. He was having some lobster traps built, complete with lines and buoys, but they were not quite ready yet.

Now Charley came up with an idea that he thought would be a fun way to catch lobster and prove to be a bit profitable also.

"LET'S GO LOOK for cans," he said to me that one bright sunny morning down at the docks on Stock Island where he kept his boat. "Cans" were discarded 55 gallon metal drums with large holes cut into them that had been tossed overboard here and there in shallow water by the local islanders. After a period of time these rusting barrels would become the home of those famed delicious crawfish and frequently the poor beasts would pack themselves in so full that they would become easy prey for just about anyone who happened across them.

IT WAS ABOUT 10 o'clock that morning when we chugged out of the Atlantic side of Boca Chica to look for "cans." We were just rounding Stock Island and passing the tip of the old Boca Chica beach when we spotted a barrel in the clear shallow water at the edge of the channel. Charley cut the boat's engine and aimed the nose of the bow onto the coral bank that ran along the channel's edge to temporarily hold the old craft while I jumped over the side to investigate the can which both of us were sure was busting with spiny lobster. I waded up to the container - half its side was rusted away -

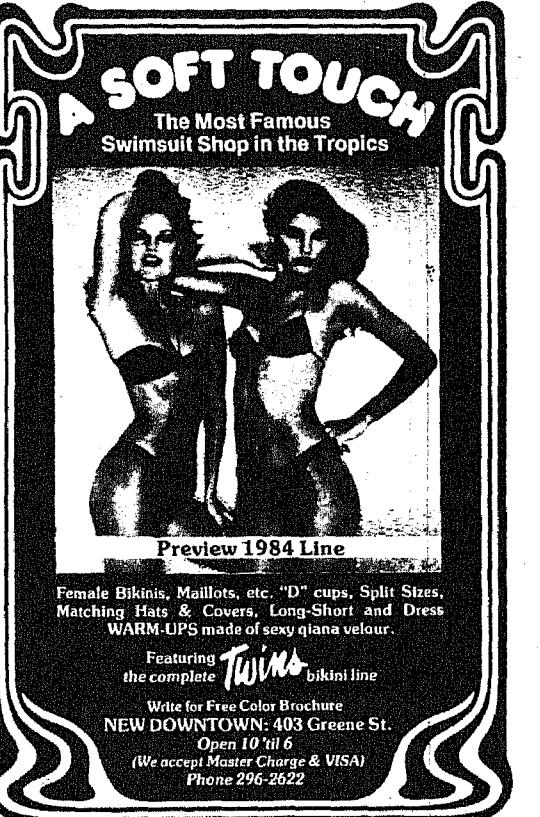
"WHY DON'T YOU jump over and push against the bow while I give it the gas," Charley said.

"Good idea," I thought. Anything to get out of there. I leaped back over the side and put my shoulder on the bow and strained. Charley gave it full reverse. Nothing. "Again!" Still nothing. Not an inch.

IT WAS JUST ABOUT then that a small runabout with a large outboard on its stern happened by and its young skipper was quite willing to give us a hand. We attached a line and the little boat ran up the channel. The line stretched tight. I pushed on the bow. Charley gave the engine the throttle. Nothing happened. The runabout was just too small to be of any real help but we kept trying. It was not long before a larger boat, a cabin cruiser, cruised by, saw what was going on and offered us assistance.

We had it made now, two boats pulling, me straining on the bow, and Charley giving it the gas.

EVERYBODY WAS READY. The towing lines were drawn tight. Everyone did his thing. Still the old vessel didn't budge. The



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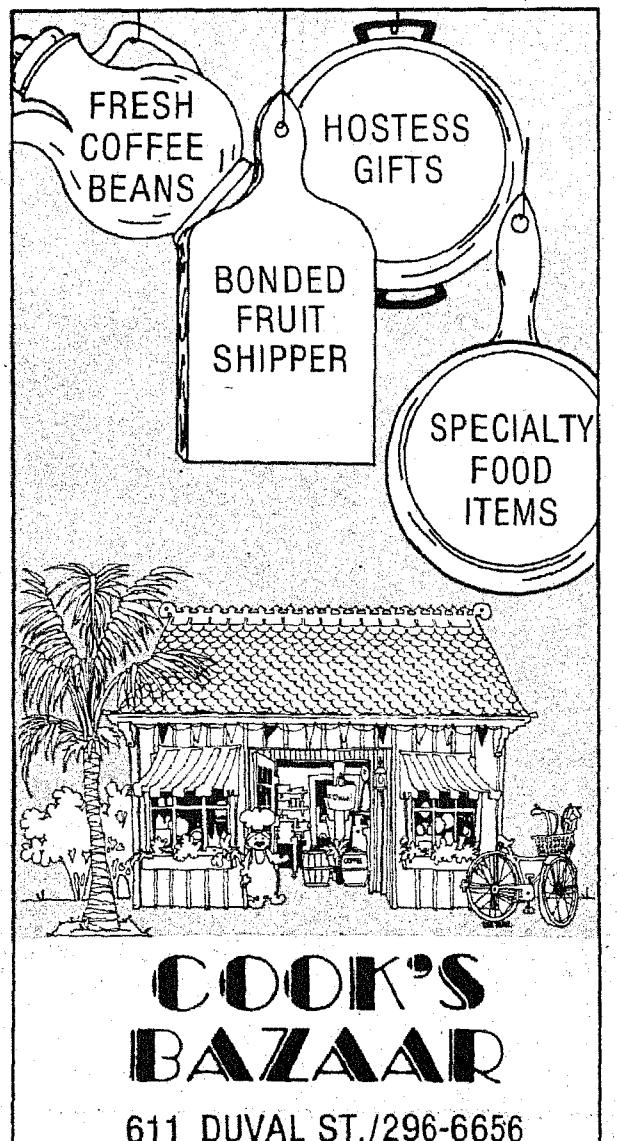
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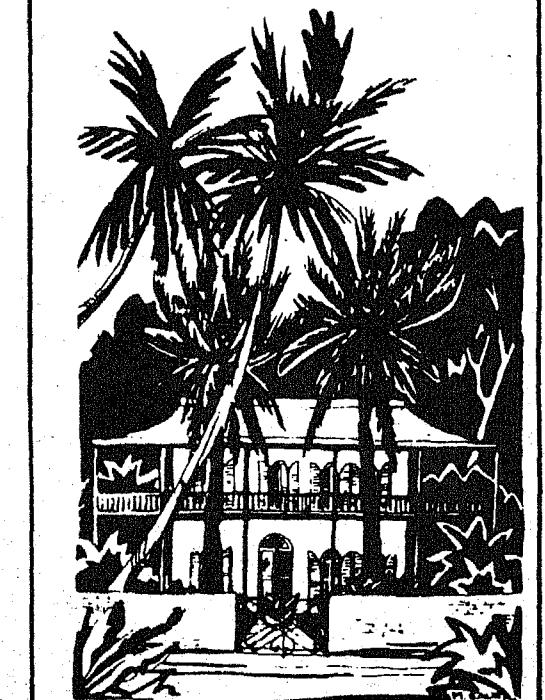


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cabin cruiser began to pull harder against the outgoing tide. Harder. Then unexpectedly the taut rope snapped. What we needed was a stronger, heavier line. I found a few yards of heavy rope after searching in the storage area in the bow and the people in the cabin cruiser had a good length of yellow poly line. We tied them together and tried again.

The small runabout with the big outboard and the cabin cruiser with the heavy rope attached began to pull again. I was standing in the water at the bow, straining, and Charley was at the throttle - cussing.

IT WAS ABOUT this time when a handful of young Navy men who had been swimming at the old Boca Chica beach must have noticed everything that was going on and were brave enough or crazy enough to swim about three-quarters of a mile across the channel in that strong current.

Well, they all made it all right. The four young Navy men - out of breath - crawled up on the coral bank and everybody found himself a comfortable spot around the bow to push.

The lines from the little runabout and the larger cabin cruiser went taut again; they were pulling hard. Me and the U.S. Navy had our shoulders against the bow - pushing. And Charley had the throttle in full reverse - saying things that were unprintable.

THE OLD BOAT shook. It rattled. The water coming out the stern was churning white...we felt a slight movement.

"Let's go again!" Everyone did his thing.

Then, just as easy as you please, that stubborn old boat slid like hot butter back into the channel.

EVERYBODY let out a cheer and a big grin spread over Charley's face. In fact he was so happy he wasn't paying too much attention to what was going on and as the towing lines slackened Charley's boat took a sharp turn for shallow water once again. When it looked like the craft was about to settle broadside on the flats once more, Charley recovered just in time and nosed

her out toward the center of the channel.

WE THANKED those people in the runabout and the cabin cruiser and they went on their way. The Navy boys scrambled aboard and we gave them a ride back to the beach on the other side of the channel. They jumped off and we continued happily out the channel once again.

We planned to head out away, then make a turn to get out of the direct flow of the current and cruise slowly (and this time more carefully), along the edge of shallower water. We never did make that turn.

AS WE PROGRESSED into deeper water the engine began to sputter. The old motor coughed a few more times and stopped. While we drifted further with the strong current, Charley managed to start the engine several times but it only ran a moment or so and these attempts only succeeded in pushing us farther out from land into deeper water. The old engine coughed, rumbled and choked a few more times, then finally it died altogether. We were drifting dead in the water. Very quickly Stock Island and the beach at Boca Chica were becoming the distant horizon. We decided to throw the anchor before the old crate took a notion to drift to Cuba. The anchor took hold, and we sat quietly in the bright morning sun as the waves lapped gently against the sides of the boat. It was a beautiful day. The sky was a bright blue and the sun reflected off a blue-green sea. It was really kind of nice and peaceful. There were no boats around and none on the horizon.

"IF ANYONE is looking at us from land they probably think we picked this spot to go fishing," I said. Charley didn't say anything; he had just taken the engine cover off, his head was down in there and he was cussing under his breath.

By early afternoon Charley had tired of fooling with the engine and he was washing down the deck with buckets of seawater and throwing away junk he had found in the bunk area near the bow. Finally his nervous

energy ran out and he sat down on the rail of the boat near the steering wheel. I had been sitting at the stern and looking down into the water with heavy eyelids. The hot sun had made me drowsy. There was really nothing we could do except wait for a passing boat - we didn't have a radio to call for help.

AS I GAZED DOWN into the crystal clear water something passed beneath the boat that opened my half shut eyes. It was a shark. In fact there were several sharks. A school of five or six sharks, light grey in color and four to five feet long moved menacingly back and forth through the shadow of our boat.

To break the boredom and help pass the time we decided to try to catch one. We rigged up a line and found a few soggy shiners at the bottom of the ice in the fish box. By the time we found what we needed the sharks had swam away, but we figured they were still around. I slipped the bait on the hook and tossed the line in. The sun was really hot now and I could feel the sweat rolling down my forehead as I waited for the line to sink and something to happen. A short time passed and I was about to doze off again when my line jerked hard.

"HE'S GOT IT!" I said. Charley was standing over on the other side, his line lay limp in the water.

"Pull it hard!" he shouted.

"I want to give him plenty of slack", I answered. "You watch, he'll hook himself."

THE LINE TIGHTENED, then it shot away from the boat. I fed the fish more line and it kept going. Then, all of a sudden, a big five foot barracuda broke the surface and leaped wildly in the air, coming down with a tremendous splash. I started pulling fast on the handline, but the 'cuda had changed direction and was coming back - rushing the boat! I couldn't pull fast enough to keep the line tight. The torpedo-like fish shot back under the boat gaining

enough slack in the line to free the hook. I jerked the line out of the water and the

THE BARRACUDA WAS gone. The sharks were gone too. Everything was quiet again. Still, there were no other boats in sight.

It was late afternoon now, the sun had worked its way across the sky and was drifting slowly towards the west. I looked out over the open water. There were areas of dark blue where it was deep, with patches of grasses that reflected pale green and streaks of yellow where the shallow sand banks were. I noticed a couple of large spotted manta rays glide peacefully by near the surface.

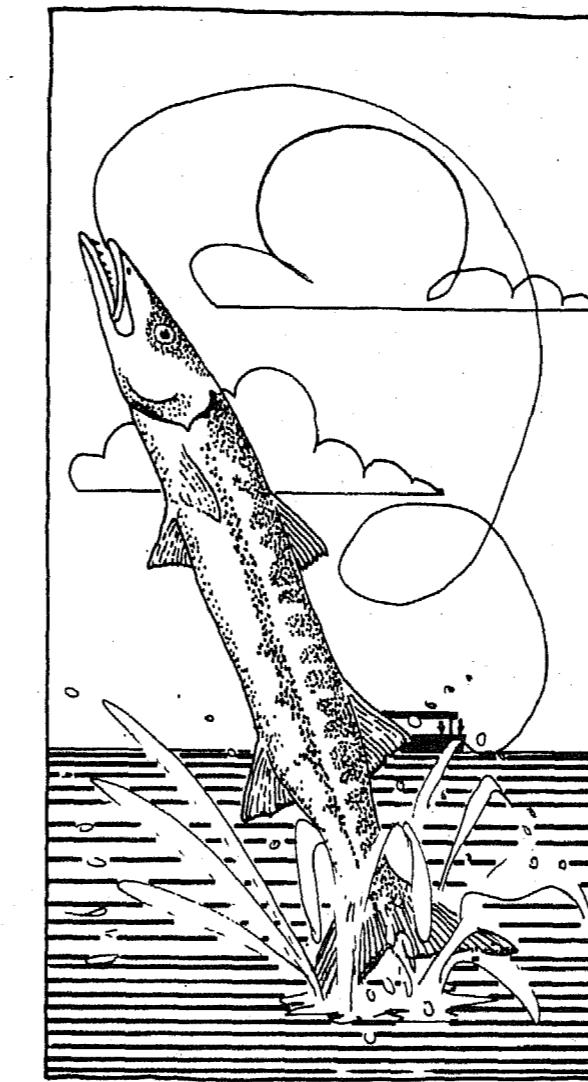
"No go!" Charley said.

"No ando, no ando," I said. "Motor roto; broke."

"Ahh, no good. OK," Manolo said. He tossed us the end of a coil of rope. We tied on and after a little maneuvering we worked the anchor loose from the bottom. Manolo's little boat jerked out in front of us and our old tub, reluctant at first, was forced to follow.

I SAT ON THE BOW and watched as the sun settled on the far horizon. The sea was dark now and the swells seemed larger. I watched as the tow line stretched tight between the two boats. The tow rope slackened, then fell beneath the waves. I watched the heavy line repeat this movement, tightening and slackening, rising and falling, again and again. We were heading back in.

Our misadventure was almost over. We had run aground on a coral bank, lost engine power and drifted with the outgoing tide, bobbed helplessly for hours in the hot tropical sun, were eyed by a school of sharks, and rescued twice. Through all that we didn't get any lobsters, but it didn't end all that badly - we were on our way home.



empty hook flashed in the sun.

"I TOLD YOU to pull hard, you would have hooked him good," Charley said. "He's gone now."

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Editorial

BY BILL WESTRAY

WE HAD occasion in the last week to listen to presentations by Lane Kendig and Charles Siemon, Monroe County planning consultants, as to their work and timetable for completing the new Monroe County Growth Management Plan. These professional consultants along with various other subcontracted planning specialists, as well as the county planning staff under Jeff Doyle and Jerry Annis, will be carrying on intensive reviews and update of the County Comprehensive Plan elements, and preparation of a new Land Use Plan and Map, that will guide and regulate future growth in Monroe County.

A FEW YEARS ago, Kermit Lewin and Hank Weinkam, after reviewing and summarizing all of the major development projects in process along with the old existing platted but dormant subdivisions, concluded that if there were a total buildout of all these projects, Monroe County population would increase to well over 300,000 persons, a four or fivefold increase. Obviously, the County infrastructure - roads, electricity, waste disposal, even water - could not support such a massive increase. The result was that the County Commission declared a moratorium on any more new development projects, until the current studies could be completed, and until the capacity of the county to support future growth could be determined.

THE CURRENT EFFORTS of the combined planning staffs, which includes resident planners from the Florida Department of Community Affairs under Charles

Pattison, are directed at the objectives of determining the capacities and future needs of the public service facilities. More particularly, they are directed at determining what and where the sensitive

pounds), upland areas (tropical hardwood hammocks, cactus hammocks, pinelands, sand dunes, beaches), endangered and threatened species habitats (American Crocodile, Key Deer, Eagle, Wood Rat,

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natural environmental systems are located, what level of protection is required to protect the systems, and particularly, what revisions to land use concepts and guidelines need to be installed through zoning changes, zoning rollbacks, and simple rigid enforcement of existing laws, rules and guidelines.

SOME OF THE natural systems that are being closely looked at are protection of the aquatic environment (beaches, clear water, coral reefs, seagrass beds, shallow flats, fish nurseries), the wetlands (mangroves, transition strips, fresh and salt water marshes and im-

etc.). Review of old Plat Books in the Clerks Office reveals that many old subdivisions were subdivisions in name only. They were created during previous land booms with little regard for the wetlands, hammocks, beaches, dunes, wildlife habitat, etc., that today we regard as critical areas, suitable for only limited, low intensity use if at all. Protecting these areas is vital to protecting our tourist oriented economy. IF WE DESTROY THE NATURAL SYSTEM, CLEAN AIR, AND CLEAR WATER THAT PEOPLE COME HERE TO ENJOY, WE WILL DESTROY THE BASIC ELEMENT OF OUR TOURIST ECONOMY. We can't



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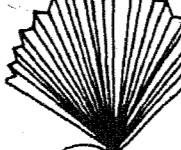
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DURING LANE Kendig's presentation at a recent Chamber of Commerce meeting in Key West, one of the lawyers in the audience kept pressing Lane to answer the question of how present property owners would be compensated for reduced expected use of their privately-owned lands under the "inverse condemnation" principle. Lane explained that they didn't ever expect to resort to condemnation proceedings in land protection and acquisition. State, federal and private foundation funds have been made available for negotiated purchase of wildlife refuge lands and considerable acreage has already been acquired by this method. It was felt that there where rollback of land use might occur because of lack of timely development by owners, entitlement to compensation because of such reduced use would NOT result. Owners are entitled to SOME constructive use of their land, but are NOT guaranteed the right to fill wetlands and build the largest type

condominium or time share projects, or other intensive uses. In many cases speculative purchasers bought marginal or sensitive lands of questionable development potential; they had no guarantee that they would be entitled to gross profit, nor even protected against major loss in such investments.

THE PLANNERS expect to have draft plans ready to review and hearings in late June or July, and expect to have an approved Growth Management Plan in place by late October this year. We applaud and support their efforts, and hope that this round of planning activity will lead to a long range plan that will guide and protect the quality of life and economic health of our county for the next decade.

The planners will be preparing and circulating regular newsletters on their progress and interested persons may be placed on the mailing list by calling or sending their name and address to Patricia Wrenn, Monroe County

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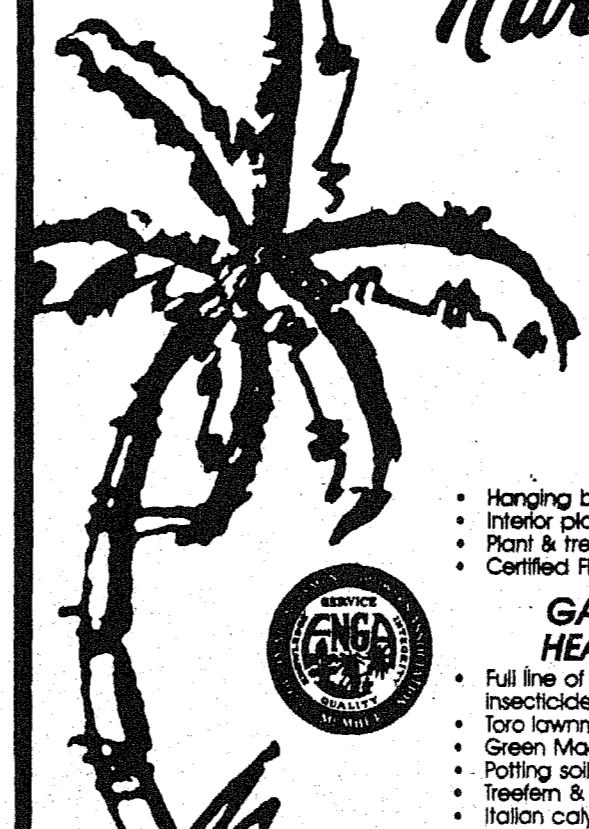
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CHILDREN'S EASTER DAY

BAYVIEW PARK was once again alive with happy children and their parents enjoying yet another "Children's Easter Day." It took a combination of 4,000 colored eggs, live rabbits, decorated hats and more than 3,500 children but it was a great and glorious afternoon in the sunshine. Sponsored by First Federal of the Florida Keys, Burger King and Old Town Trolley, "Children's Easter Day" enables families to partake in fun activities together.

TO START OFF the afternoon of activities there was the "decorated hat parade." Children of all ages created works of art from ordinary hats. This year the grand prize winner was Jimmy McElain with his creation "Captain Candy," a hat covered with multi-colored jellybeans. Little "Brandon" with his creation "Mr. Easter Bunny" came in second. And little "Cassandra" came in third with her "Easter Day" hat.

Then it was into the egg hunt. First Federal of the Florida Keys took on this particular event dividing it into four divisions. Eggs were hidden everywhere but the many children hunting for eggs found them all. There were eggs filled with prizes and hard boiled eggs, and to the surprise of a chosen few, there were eggs filled with money. Prizes were awarded for the child finding the most eggs in his or her division.

MEANWHILE, the judges were having a difficult time deciding just who should be awarded the prizes for the "best decorated eggs". Some of the winners are as follows: Heather Jeffries, Sonny Ray Benson, Mandy Sequira, Loren Craig, Desiree Blais, Karen Beal, Doyle Miller, Tina Warren, Jennifer Lee, with the Over-



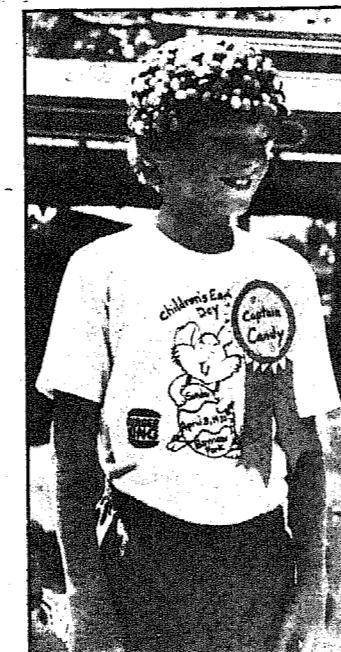
The winners

all Grand Winner Niko Keonane and her egg "Princess Di." The Best Decorated Egg Contest was organized by Wesley House; their staff was responsible for the fine participation in this year's event.

IT WAS NOW TIME for the "World's Great Rabbit Race." The people from Burger King worked on this event, organizing the "heats" so that rabbits could be qualified for this thrilling event. Tension mounted, rabbits were made ready, it was time for the starting whistle!

Following the first qualification races these were the trainers with rabbits who qualified for the final race: Lori Waite, Donna Brown, Kim Phillips, Ed Swift III; Amanda Horan. They prepared their rabbits for the final award winning heat, they were off...stopping, starting, washing their little faces, driving their trainers mad...

DONNA BROWN and her rabbit "Rapid" were declared the "World's Most Rapid"



Last year's winner - Jimmy McElain, once again won the best decorated hat contest.

BAYVIEW PARK was a happy place for families to enjoy a beautiful sunny Easter Day together.



Praying to win in the Best Decorated Hat Contest for children's Easter Day.

PHOTOS BY JEFFREY CARDENAS



Donna Brown and her rabbit "Rapid," grand prize winner of the "World's Great Rabbit Race."

Rabbit," and awarded the many prizes which accompany this great honor. The prizes include a trip on the Old Town Trolley for the Student's class, lunch at Burger King, a tour of First Federal, a Coleco Vision, and the "World's Largest Easter Rabbit," filled with all kinds of games and prizes for each member of the Drama Club at Key West High School, on whose behalf Donna was racing the rabbit.

THIS WAS NOT the end of the afternoon. There were still run-offs in the "Egg Toss" and the "Egg Roll." The "Egg Toss" was under the guidance of St. Mary's Home School Association, with the "Egg Roll" under the direction of Grace Lutheran School.

Throughout the afternoon there were booths with food, games, fun for all. These many booths were operated for fund raising on behalf of the following organizations: Marine Bulldog Cheerleaders, St. Mary's Home School Association, Grace Lutheran School, KWHS Conchette Boosters, Lady Conch's of KWHS, Interact of KWHS, Pledge Sisters, Girl Scout Troops; Wesley House, Drama Club of KWHS, MIHS Seniors, Morgan Cheerleaders - just to name a few.



What better way to have the rabbit race begin than with "Mr. Rabbit" doing the honors.



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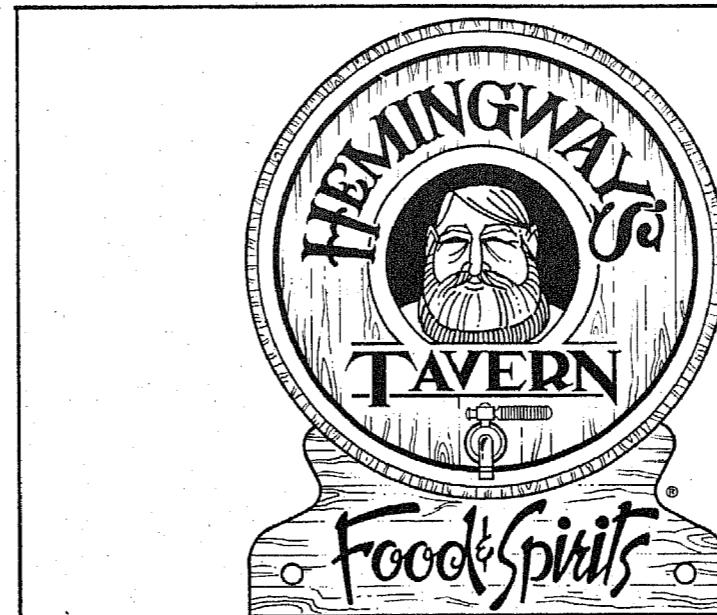
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Ann Irvine's black ink drawings of four different landmarks in Old Town reproduced on no iron, poly/cotton placemats. With grey embroidered edging, these 13"X 19" mats are accompanied by jet black napkins.

Old Town Set(s) @ \$35.00 ppd
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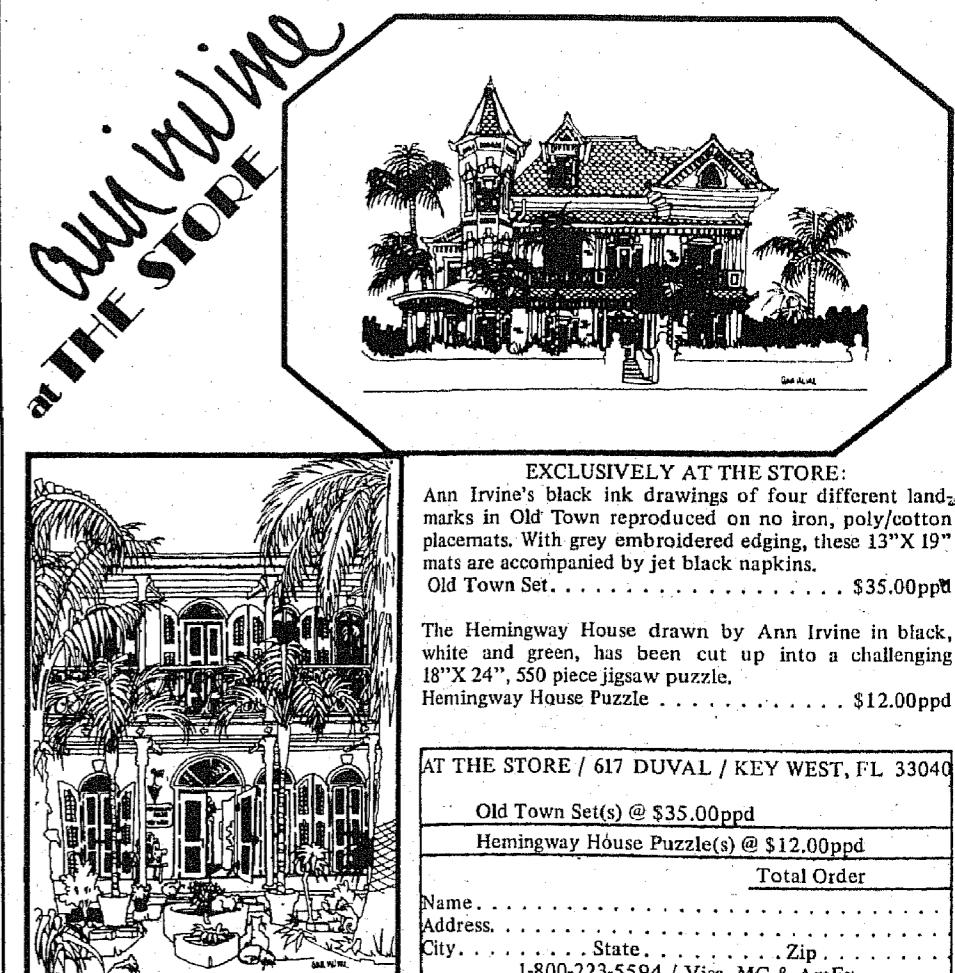
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Portrait of the Month



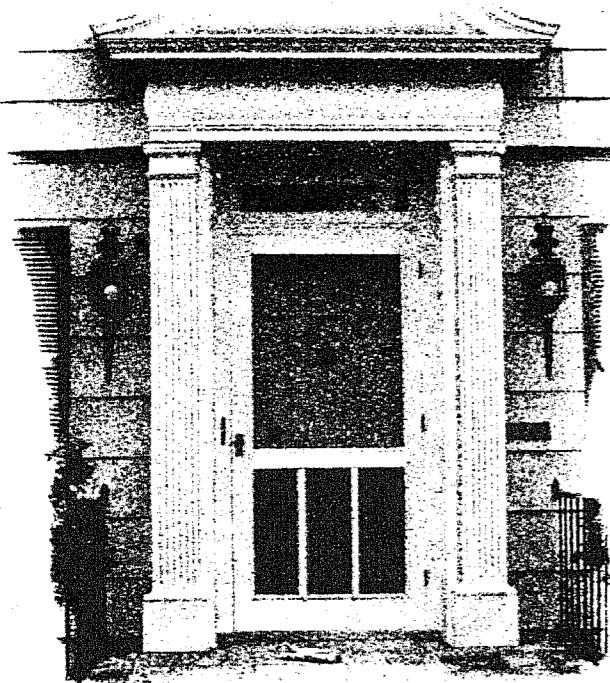
Kim Ferguson

Award Winning Photography by Joan Strunk

Luani Plaza

294-9455

MOST PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS AREN'T IN INSTITUTIONS.



THEY LIVE NEXT DOOR.

Behind one out of every three doors in America is a person with some form of mental illness. Someone who is suffering. And often those who love them suffer, too.

Open the door to help.

Someone knows how you feel. Someone can make you feel better. Open the door to help. Call your Mental Health Association.

1-800-432-6423

many people who are not receiving the care they need. The Council for Understanding Mental Illnesses estimates that some 19 million Americans with mental health related problems do not seek any kind of counseling, treatment or other mental health services," he noted. "Increased awareness of mental illness and mental health care can assist in breaking down some of this reluctance to request help. Community mental health centers offer prevention and education programs which contribute to public understanding and encourage people to take advantage of the services they need," he said.

"THERE IS A wide range of mental health resources in this area, and, during Mental Health Month, we urge everyone to familiarize themselves with all the available services."

THE MENTAL HEALTH CARE Center provides counseling and therapy in the following areas: individual, group, marital, child, and family therapy as well as alcohol and substance services.

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

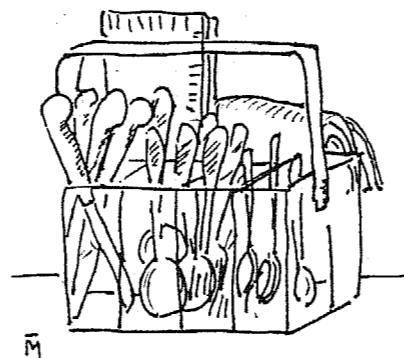
MENTAL HEALTH CARE CENTER OF THE LOWER KEYS, INC. "COMMUNITY CARE FOR A CARING COMMUNITY" DURING MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

THE MENTAL HEALTH Care Center of the Lower Keys, Inc. has joined with the other 630 members of the National Council of Community Mental Health Centers and mental health agencies nationwide in observing May as Mental Health Month. Along with other community mental health centers, the Mental Health Care Center is using the theme "Community Care for a Caring Community" to emphasize its unique role in the mental health care system.

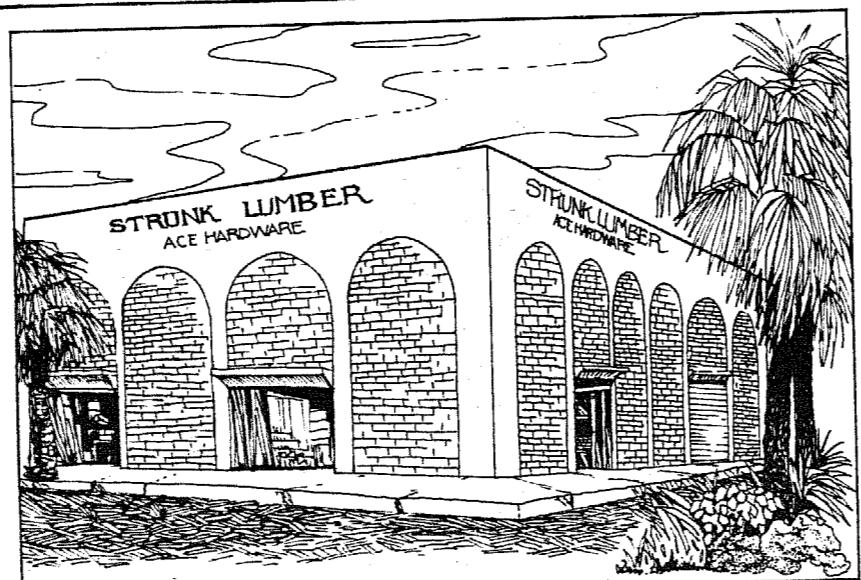
In commenting on the observance, Dr. Keith R. D'Amato, Center Director said, "Mental Health Month provides us the opportunity to focus public attention on the mental health needs of our community. The theme, 'Community Care for a Caring Community', reiterates our commitment to providing services in a community setting and recognizes the community's support for meeting the mental health needs of its citizens," he explained.

"THROUGH THEIR community mental health center, residents of Monroe County have access locally to services designed to promote mental 'wellness' and treat a variety of mental health related problems," D'Amato continued. "The Mental Health Care Center is part of a nationwide system of agencies delivering care at the local level. Although established just 20 years ago, this system provided services last year to an estimated 4.5 million Americans who otherwise might not have access to mental health care. We are very proud of that record.

"There are, however, still far too



M



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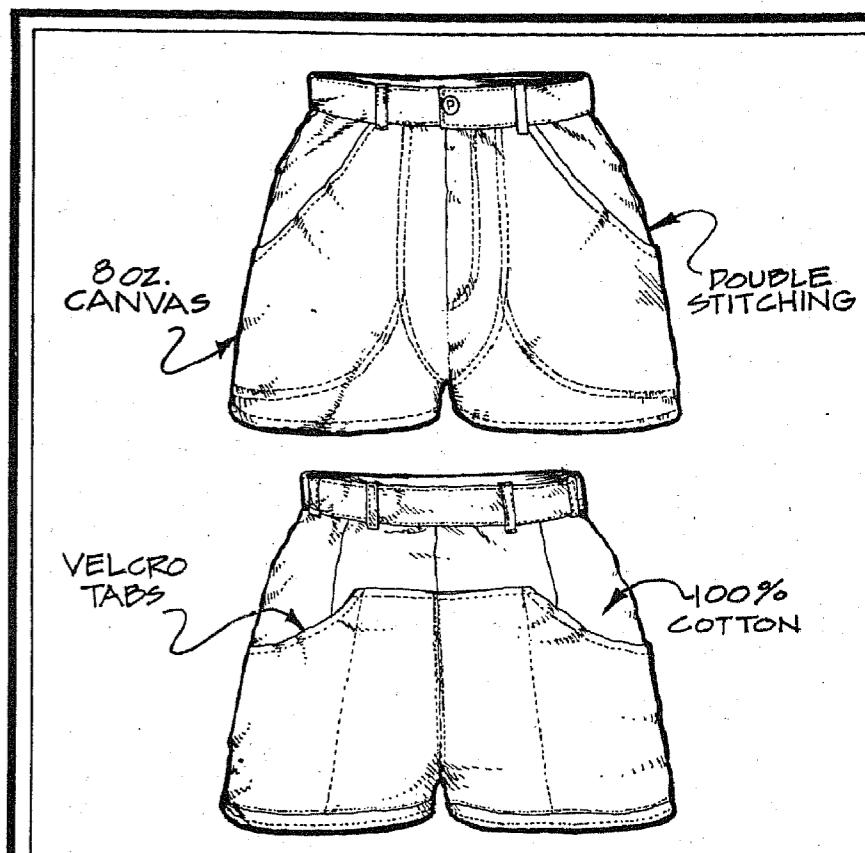
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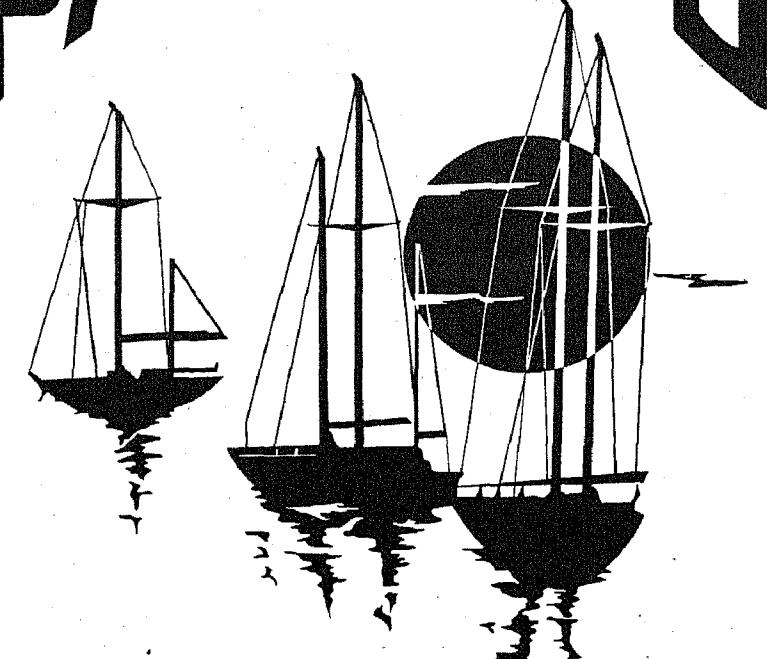


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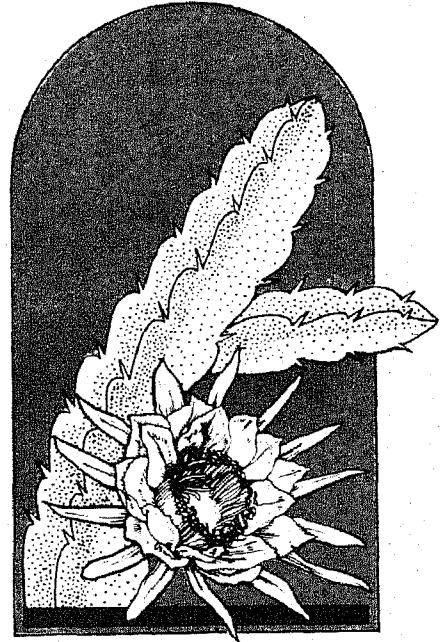
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- Pain between shoulder blades

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NEW PATIENTS SEEN
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THE STORM

In storm I watch the sea.
My soul is swept away in tow,
And spirit falls in rhythm with the waves.
My mind struggles to keep feet dry.
The thunder of the surf claims my thoughts,
And tide comes in to wash away my trail.

with feet no longer dry,
and water all around,
i am captured by the moon,
and go beyond the storm.

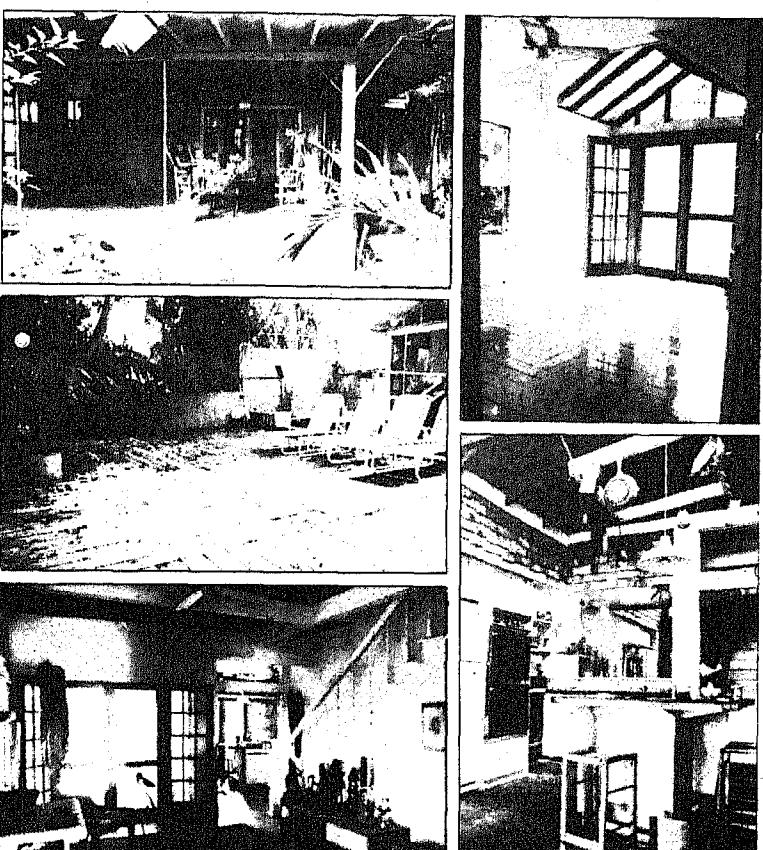
by Mufti

LAST NIGHT

the bike riders
went past me in the dark,
and I heard the
conversation
of shakes, rattles, and rolls
long after the voices
died away.

by Saffra Milano-Bourassa

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This four (4) bedroom, three (3) bath, approximately 1,838 square foot home on approximately 4,260 square foot lot, large patio area, second floor deck with garden access, three AC's, four fans, zoned C-1 Commercial. Call Rich Van Hout or Dana Sevens for appointment 296-7744

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— Jim Dishman, Director or Sales
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— Marc C. Thornburgh
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— Shirley Thaler
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THE OLD TOWN PIRATES
by AMI BRAZIEL AND ALDEN SOLOVY

IN KEY WEST WHERE we live there's a special police patrol just to track down bike law offenders. We call 'em The Old Town Pirates.

(Sung to the tune of "The Lincoln Park Pirates", by Steve Goodman)

THE OLD TOWN PIRATES

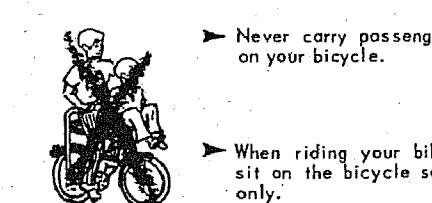
The street lamps are on in Old Town tonight, And tourists are out on the streets. The stores are all closing', Rodriguez is dozin', But the Bike Cops are out on the beat. "And there's more bikes than tickets to write," they cry, "But we've got fines for them all." So stop at each light, in Old Town tonight, Or be impounded at City Hall.

(CHORUS)

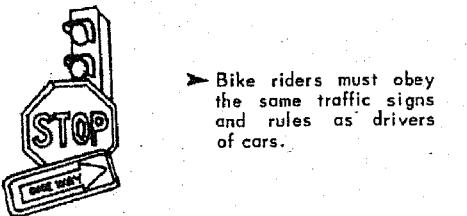
To me, Heave-Ho, the bikes they must go, The Old Town Pirates are we. Be it Schwinn or Raleigh, to us they're pure folly, So fork over and pay the fee. To me, Heave-Ho, the bikes they must go, We scour the streets of your town. If your bike's on the walk, scratch the smooth talk, Soon you'll be hoofin' around.

But seriously, the new bike rules are going to be enforced and here they are...Ed.

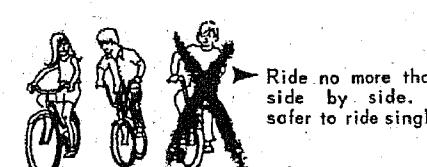
**Florida
Bicycle
Laws**



KNOW AND OBEY THESE BIKE LAWS:



Bike riders must obey the same traffic signs and rules as drivers of cars.



Ride on the right hand side of the roadway. Stay close to the curb. Use a bicycle path off the roadway when there is one.



Put a bell or horn on your bike, but not a siren or whistle.

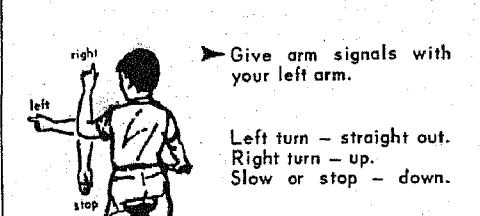


**Safety
Tips**

SAFE RIDING HABITS:
The bicyclist who has learned to ride safely has not only learned to obey the law but also has trained himself to observe the following safe practices.

- Keep your bicycle under control at all times, and obey all bike riding safety rules.
- Put a bell or horn on your bike, but not a siren or whistle.
- Do not zig-zag or weave in and out of traffic.
- Be sure your brakes are in good working order.
- Carry books and packages in racks or carriers.
- At busy intersections get off your bike and "walk" it across.
- Never ride your bike on the sidewalk within a business district.

Keep at least one hand on the handlebars.

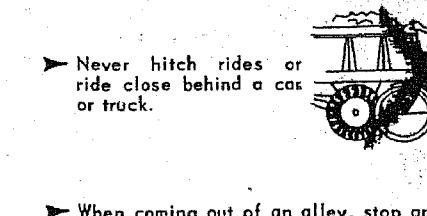


Give arm signals with your left arm.

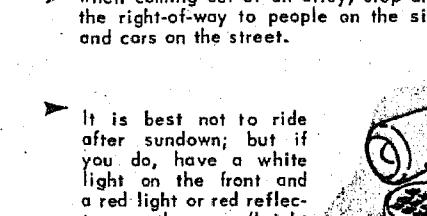
Left turn - straight out.

Right turn - up.

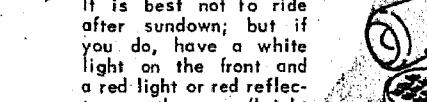
Slow or stop - down.



Never hitch rides or ride close behind a car or truck.



When coming out of an alley, stop and give the right-of-way to people on the sidewalk and cars on the street.



It is best not to ride after sundown; but if you do, have a white light on the front and a red light or red reflector on the rear (bright enough to be seen at a distance of 500 feet).

Stop signs are for bicycles as well as cars. Stop, look both ways, then, go ahead carefully.



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continued from page 62

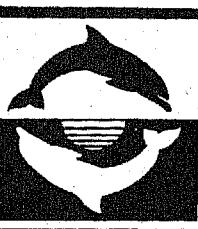
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Overeaters Anonymous: YMCA, Sigsbee Park, Thursdays 8:30 p.m.

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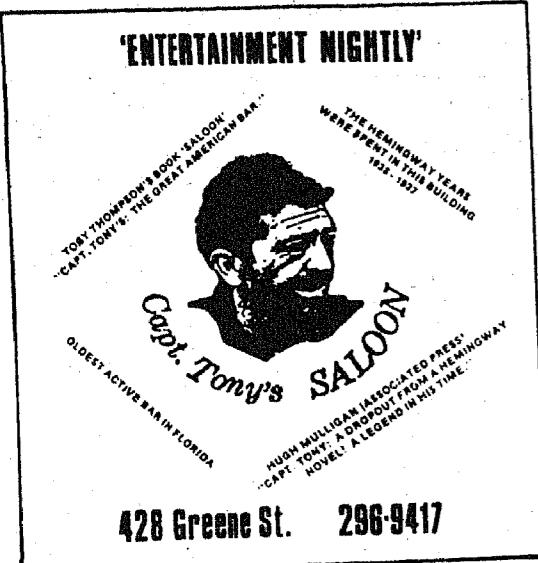


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OPEN HOUSE: TUESDAY, MAY 15TH, 6:30 TO 8:00 P.M.
(OR CALL FOR MORNING OBSERVATION APPOINTMENT)

**KEY WEST'S
HOROSCOPE**
BY EMMA CATES

Sun in Taurus, after 20 in Gemini.
Venus in Taurus, after 26 in Gemini.
Mercury in Aries, after 15 in Taurus.
Saturn in Scorpio, retrograde.
Jupiter in Capricorn, retrograde.
Mars in Scorpio, retrograde.

Uranus in Sagittarius, retrograde.
Neptune in Capricorn, retrograde.
Pluto in Scorpio, retrograding into
Libra on the 19th.
North Node in 8 degrees of Gemini.

THERE ARE TWO (2) New Moons in the month of May. On May 1 in 10 degrees of Taurus; on May 30 in 9 degrees of Gemini. The 12th house will be the sector of the Key West chart that will be receiving these configurations. There will be much behind the scenes activity. New information will come to light. On May 30 there will also be an annular-total eclipse. This is a powerful aspect that falls on the ascendant of the horoscope of Key West. New beginnings, fresh starts will be the order of the day.

OUR RULING PLANET, Saturn, is in retrograde motion in the sign of Scorpio. This planet will not go direct until July 13th. Saturn conjoining Mars in Scorpio until mid-August is a very strong combination. These planets are transiting the 6th house of the chart conjoining natal Mars and Jupiter. Violence, disagreements, quarrels, are the results of these configurations.

THE FULL MOON on May 15 in 24 degrees of Scorpio is the most potent full moon of the year. This will be an

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FOR THE MONTH OF MAY**

FOR OUR GAY COMMUNITY ...

CALENDAR OF REGULARLY SCHEDULED EVENTS

SUNDAY

Papillion - Tea By The Sea Dance 7-10 p.m.
#One Saloon - Movies
Copa - Cabaret Night
Copa - Complimentary Buffet
Metropolitan Community Church, 319 Duval
11 a.m.
La Te Da Tea Dance 4 p.m.
Lighthouse Court - Movie

MONDAY

#One Saloon - Movies
Old Plantation - Show night
Lighthouse Court - Movie

TUESDAY

#One Saloon - Movies
Club Key West - 1/2 price lockers 6-11 p.m.
Old Plantation - Wet Briefs Contest
Lighthouse Court - Movie
Island House - Steak Cookout 7-9 p.m.
Michaels (contest)

WEDNESDAY

One Saloon - Movies
La Te Da - Tea Dance 4 p.m.
Michaels - The Dating Game
Lighthouse Court - Movie
Copa - Dynasty - 8:30-12:00 free drinks

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

Island Circle Meeting - 8 p.m.
#One Saloon - Movies
Copa - Cabaret Night
Lighthouse Court - Movie
1114 Duval Video DJ Nite
Claire - "Sisters at Sea" Ladies Tea
5-8 p.m.

SATURDAY

#One Saloon - Movies
Lighthouse Court - Movie
Old Plantation - Amateur Strip Nite
Copa - Dancing



**tea by the sea
in key west**

EVERY Sunday

FROM 7 TO 10 p.m.

papillon
AT THE SHORES
SOUTH & SIMONTON ST./294-4387



**Key West International
Gay Film & Book Festival
June 12-16**

The Picture Show
620 Duval St. and
Outright Books
901-c Duval St. (Rear)

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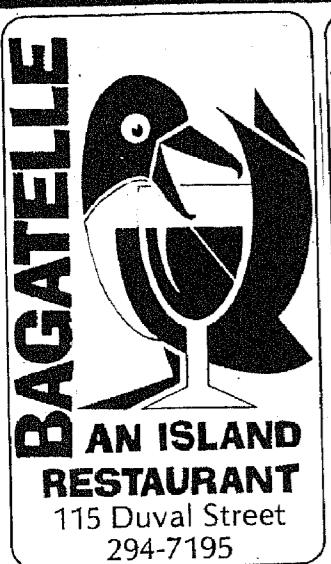
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BAR
Noon to 4 am

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EVENINGS: 10 PM - 2 AM

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THE JAMES MEYER BAND
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FROM FT. LAUDERDALE

MAY 2-3
FOOTLOOSE
JAZZ-ROCK

MAY 7-8
DOWNTOWN
RHYTHM AND BLUES
FROM B.C.

MAY 8-13, 16-19
THE XL'S
ROCK 'N ROLL
FROM ATLANTA

MAY 14-15
LITTLE SAINTS
ROCK 'N ROLL
FROM N. CAROLINA

MAY 20-22, 27-29
IKO + IKO
RHYTHM AND BLUES
FROM MIAMI

MAY 23-26, 30-31
THE BILL BLUE BAND
ROCK 'N ROLL
FROM RICHMOND, VA.

AFTERNOONS: 5 - 9 PM

MAY 12, 19, 26-28
JOEL NELSON
SOLO GUITARIST

MAY 8-9, 16-17, 20
MICHAEL & JOHN
MUSICAL DUO
FROM KODIAK, ALASKA

MAY 16-19, 23-26, 30-31
HOT SHANDY
COUNTRY-FOOLISH
FROM N. CAROLINA

MAY 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, 25-26
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AND PIANO (1-4 pm)

3-84

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Dining

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M.M. 10
BIG COPPIIT 2:84
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917 DUVAL, 296-7857 KEY WEST
LUNCH 11:30 - 2:30/DINNER 6:00 - 11:30
CLOSED SUNDAYS

in his voice? the inspector wondered. Butlers were known to have murderous tendencies.

"EXCUSE ME, MADAM," said Brown from the doorway. "Miss Rose has just returned."

"Send her in here, Brown, and do hurry with my libation. I am feeling a bit faint after all this undue excitement."

A moment later a young woman entered. She was blond, willowy and radiant. She became an immediate suspect for Grey, who trusted no women, and beautiful women even less.

"INSPECTOR, THIS IS my secretary, Miss Rose. My dear, this is the man from Scotland Yard who will find the villain for us."

"'Ow goes it, mytey?" greed Miss Rose cheerfully. The inspector was taken aback by the uncultured tones of the girl's voice. Very suspicious.

"I told the old dear not to put them Crimsons in the Green Room. I just knew sumpin' awful would 'appen to 'em."

MRS. OFFE-WHITE PROTESTED. "But my dear, where could I have put them. Surely not in the Blue Room. It's so dreary and besides, you know Henry prefers that room." She turned to the inspector. "I refer to my nephew, Henry Pinkney."

The inspector paled at mention of this name. Henry Pinkney, alias Henry the Pink, was a notorious Commie sympathizer, and highly suspect in off-track betting, laudanum pushing, and soliciting for the ladies of the evening. There was no pernicious deed to which Henry the Pink would not stoop. Being the scion of a prominent and wealthy family always precluded pressing of charges. Oh, how the Yard yearned to incarcerate this young devil!

"NOW, MADAM," SAID the inspector, turning to his notebook, "although I know it must be painful for you..."

"It'll be painful for Brown if he doesn't get here soon with my medicine. Brown!" she bellowed. The butler hurried in with a glass on a tray, but Miss Rose intercepted it, grabbed the glass and tossed down the

drink to the horror of Mrs. Offe-White.

"MISS ROSE!" "Now, dearie, you know you shouldn't drink spirits. The doctor said..."

"The doctor be damned! Brown, bring another glass."

THE INSPECTOR COUGHED discreetly to cover his discomfiture at this scene. "Now, Madam, if you please, I think we should begin with the whereabouts of everyone in the house at the time of the murders. I believe the doctor placed that time at approximately four o'clock this morning."

"That is correct, Inspector," said the lady. "And I can tell you that everyone was in his or her room." Grey wondered how she knew they had been, but decided to let that question pass for the moment.

"NOW, IF YOU could tell me, Madam..."

"Certainly. Lord and Lady Crimson, as you know, were in the Green Room. That's in the east wing. Miss Rose has the White Room which is in the west wing. Lovely room it is, too. So virginal." Miss Rose bestowed upon Grey a glance that was somewhat less than virginal. "Then of course Henry was in the Blue Room and I was in the Brown Room, also in the west wing. Sounds dreary, does it not, Inspector, but actually it's more of an ecru shade, quite peaceful. Then Mr. and Mrs. West..."

"AND WHO ARE they, Madam?" the inspector interrupted.

"Oh, haven't I mentioned the Wests? You must have heard of Thomas West. He's an M.P. and was so very instrumental in passing the Railroad Schedule Act in Commons. He makes the trains run on time." Mrs. Offe-White stated this proudly. "But the Wests couldn't have had anything to do with the murders because they were in the Rose Room which is in the east wing. Besides, they came down on the three-fifteen from Picadilly which is always late."

"OH!" CRIED THE lady in delight. "OH, BUT NOT 'arf so lyte as the

ten-oh-five from Westminster," Miss Rose interjected.

"Oh, how true, Miss Rose," the older woman agreed. "Really, the four-twenty-one from Paddington..."

"If we could get on!" The inspector cleared his throat. "Now about the servants..."

"OH, YOU NEEDN'T bother yourself about them, Inspector," Mrs. Offe-White declared. "The cook and her husband, the gardener, live in the gatehouse, not in this house, and Green and Brown have rooms behind the kitchen."

"Green?" inquired the inspector patiently.

"MOLLY GREEN. SHE'S the downstairs maid. The upstairs maid lives in town with her poor widowed mother." Mrs. Offe-White blew her nose loudly into the lace handkerchief which was about to disintegrate.

"Hmm," mused the inspector. "Then there were no servants on the second floor last night to heed anyone's call for help."

"That's so," the lady nodded, "but if you are thinking that we had no protection during the night, you are not aware of Blue."

"BLUE?" "Blue is our Irish wolfhound. He sleeps in the..."

"Please, Madam, do not tell me that he sleeps in the Yellow Room."

"Oh, you amusing man!" ejaculated Mrs. Offe-White. "We don't have a Yellow Room and even if we did, Blue wouldn't sleep there. He despises anything of a yellow hue. Blue sleeps in the corridor."

INSPECTOR GREY BREATHED a sigh of relief.

"Let me see if I have this correct. You, Mrs. Offe-White, were in the Blue Room which is in..."

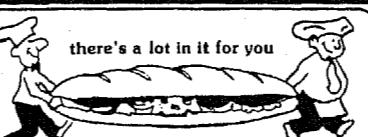
"No, no, no! Henry was in the Blue Room. I was in the Brown Room. The Blue Room is in the east wing."

"Ah, yes, of course. Henry the Pink was in the Blue Room..." He stopped in embarrassment at the slip of this epithet.

"OH!" CRIED THE lady in delight.

"OH, BUT NOT 'arf so lyte as the

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YOUR AD COULD BE HERE
YOUR AD COULD BE HERE

over your nephew's heinous behavior?"

"OH, NO, INSPECTOR," Mrs. Offe-White replied placidly. "You see, Henry has always been an embarrassment to the family. He was forever hounding me for money. And now finally he will receive his just deserts."

"I AM AFRAID, Madam, that it is too late," the inspector said, sadly. "Henry is on the high seas by now." "By no means, my dear man," the lady said with confidence. "You can still catch him."

"You mean..." "The eleven-forty-six, to wherever it goes, never leaves here until twelve-twenty-seven." She pointed to the clock on the mantel. "It is now twelve-sixteen. If you hurry, you can catch the eleven-forty-six and apprehend Henry the Pink."

THE INSPECTOR JUMPED up. "Madam, you have saved the Yard from great ignominy. How can I ever thank you?"

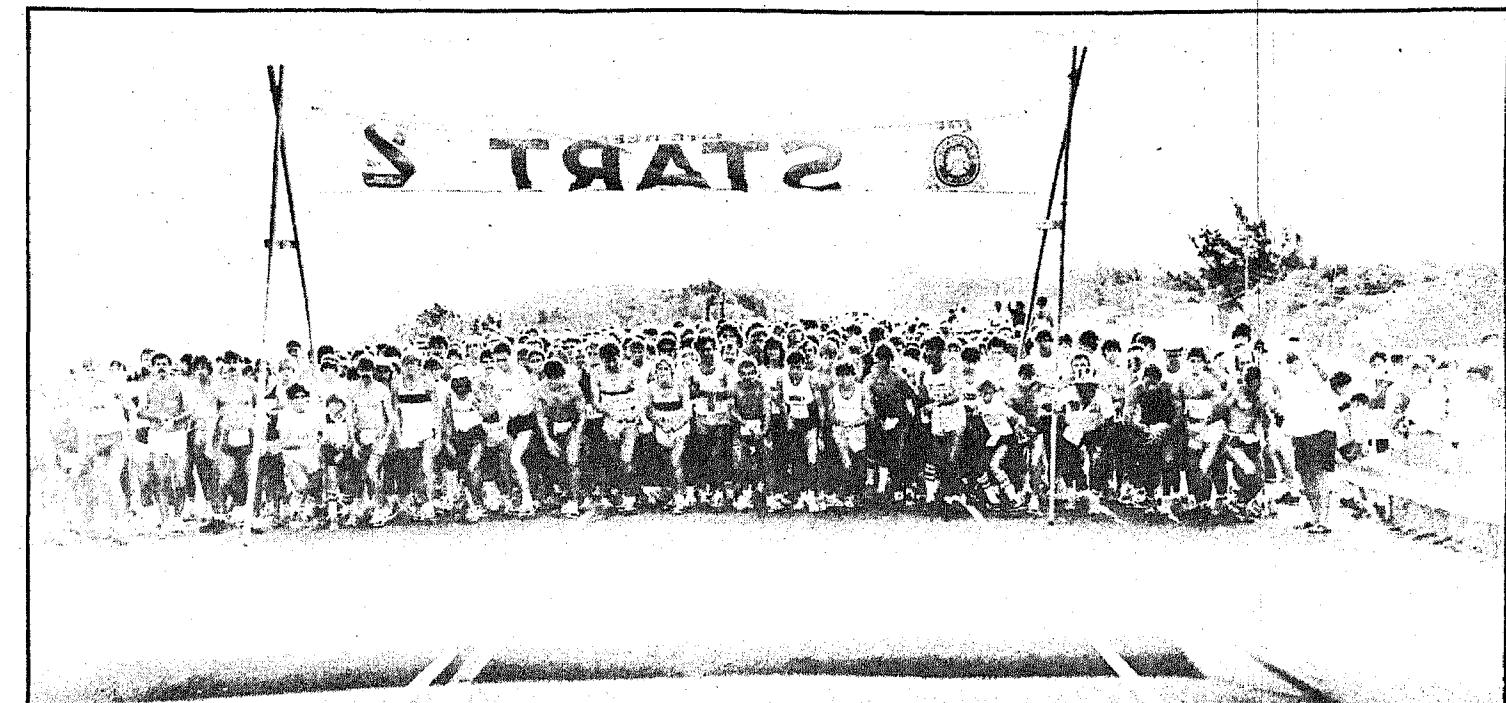
"By coming down some weekend, Inspector, and staying in the Gray Room," she said wistfully. "I have never been able to match a name with a room."

Inspector Grey grabbed his hat and dashed from the room. Mrs. Offe-White sighed.

"There goes a truly brave and dedicated man, Miss Rose."

"Cool!" said Miss Rose.

Solares hill display Classifieds



The Start



Climbing the hill

WHEN THE THIRD ANNUAL Seven-Mile Bridge Run began, more than 1500 competitors broke from the tense line-up at the starting line on Knights Key. Harry Vaughn of West Palm Beach won the race 33 minutes and 28.2 seconds later as he crossed the finish line on Windley Key.

The spectators cheered Vaughn and the other runners as each came off the bridge. The race had been good, but the cloudless sky gave no protection from the intense heat. Several runners suffered heat exhaustion and others were forced to a walking pace.



Less than a mile to go!

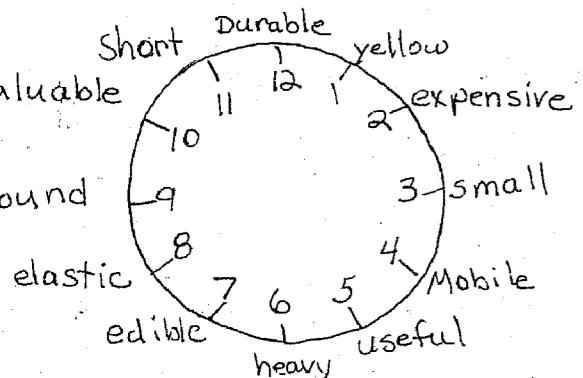
THE NEXT BIG LOCAL race is the Third Annual Run for the Conch Republic to be held in Key West. It is slated for 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 4th. The entry fee is \$7 and there will be a 10-kilometer run and a two-mile fun run. Registration forms will be available at The Letterman in Searstown Plaza.

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by Spectrum School

Different Circles



This exercise is designed to increase your ability to make connections between various objects that have certain qualities. You need 2 dice. Throw one die to identify the first quality, then throw a die to get the second quality. Now connect the two qualities and think of things that have them both.

Example: Mobile (4) Round (1) wheel, gear, ball, earth, tire, coin, snowball.

ummmmm~

Orange Banana Whizzzzz
(1 quart)
1 cup cold Milk, 2 medium to large oranges, peeled & cut into chunks.
1 large sliced banana, 2Tbs. honey
4 ice cubes. Put 1 cup milk & remaining ingredients in blender except ice. Cover and blend 1 minute on high. Add remaining milk & ice, blend for 30 seconds! Enjoy!

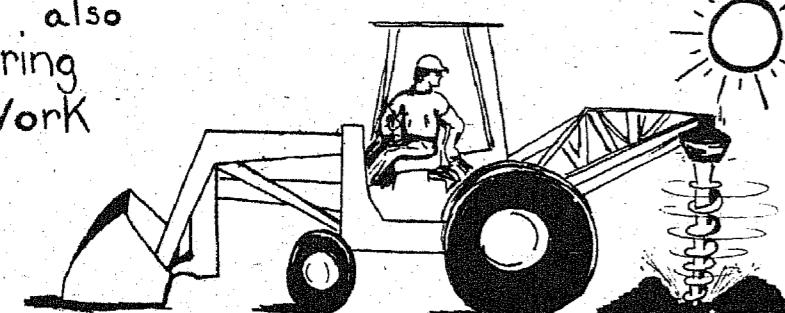
dog good ☺
Doodle here ↓ Odd
Up in smoke?
dad

When my mother was 4! I was 9. Now she is twice as old as I am. How old am I?



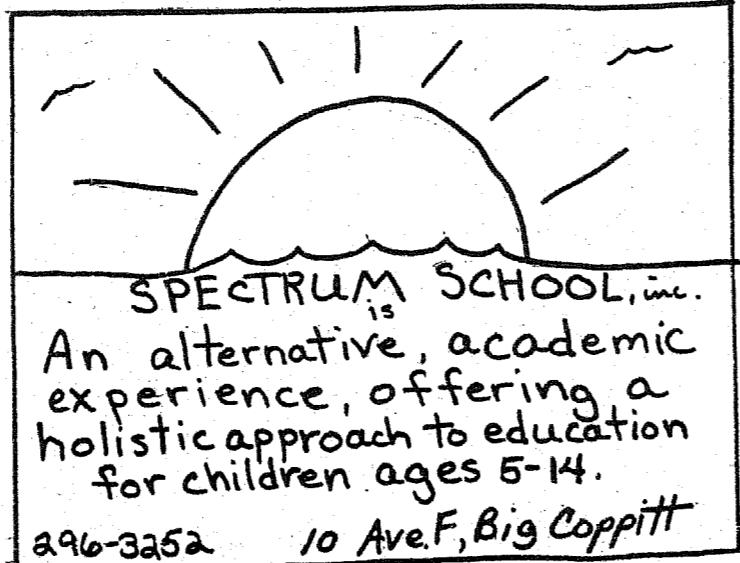
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Words of Wisdom

The key to everything is patience. You get the chicken by hatching the egg, not by smashing it.

Arnold Glasow

You cannot teach a person anything. You can only help him discover it within himself.

Baliko

When a person no longer confuses himself with the definition of himself others have given him, he at once becomes unique.

Alan Watts

copy the circles on a piece of paper as you need to form new words examples.

dog good ☺
Doodle here ↓ Odd
Up in smoke?
dad

If you see or smell smoke try to find the source.

Maybe something on the stove or in the oven is burning.

If you find the source, extinguish it if you can.

If you can't alert everyone and get out fast!

Remember STAY CALM!

ummmmm~

Orange Banana Whizzzzz
(1 quart)

1 cup cold Milk, 2 medium to large oranges, peeled & cut into chunks.

1 large sliced banana, 2Tbs. honey

4 ice cubes. Put 1 cup milk & remaining ingredients in blender except ice. Cover and blend 1 minute on high. Add remaining milk & ice, blend for 30 seconds! Enjoy!

ummmmm~

Remember STAY CALM!

How does soap make you clean?

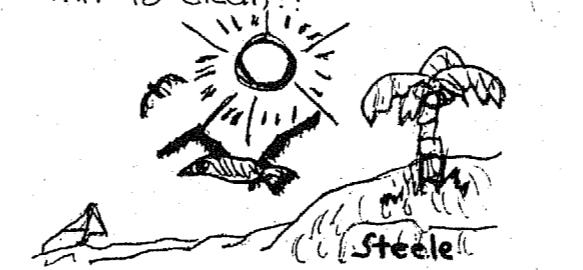


Sometimes it seems like a bother to use soap but soap really makes you cleaner than plain water does. This is why. There are many small hollows and valleys and there it sticks. Water running over the dirt pushes some of it out. A brush chips some of it out. But soap works differently. It pulls dirt away.

When you mix soap with water, wonderful things begin to happen.

The soap and water spread out and make bubbles. Each bubble is a little balloon with air inside and a thin skin of soap and water outside. When you make a lather, you are simply pumping air into the soapy water, blowing bubbles.

A soap bubble doesn't seem very strong, but it can pick up dirt. Soap bubbles act somewhat like magnets when they pick up dirt. They pull it away from your skin. Soapy lather has many bubbles in it, each one can pick up dirt. Then the rinse water carries dirt and bubbles away and your skin is clean!!



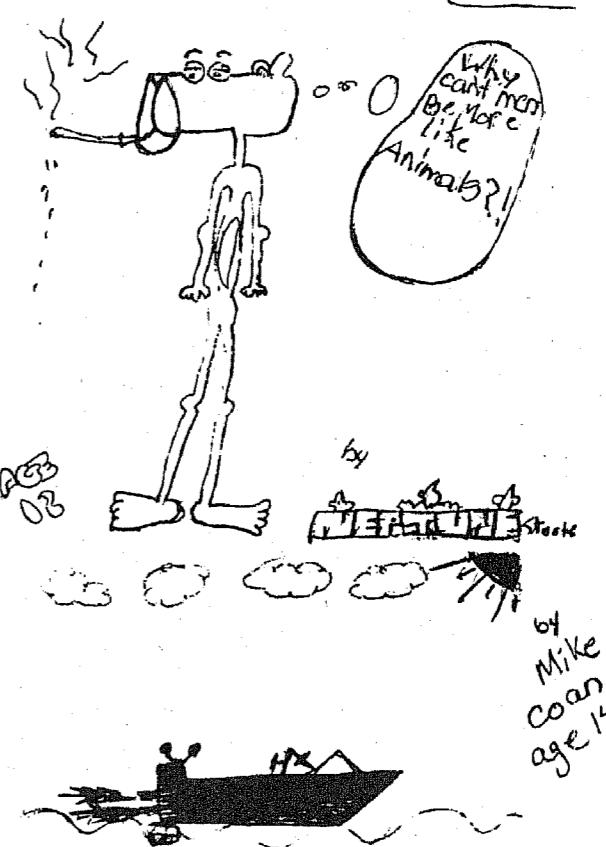
ummmmm~

Remember STAY CALM!



Abraham Lincoln

age 14
Spectrum School



Mike Coan age 14

Jobs
Make some money this summer. Here are some tips.

Before you can do a job, you've got to get it. You can get hired by answering an ad in the local newspaper or a notice on the bulletin board at laundry mats or laundries. Word of mouth publicity. Tell your friends, family, neighbors that you're looking for a job, and the kinds of things you'd like to do. The word gets around.

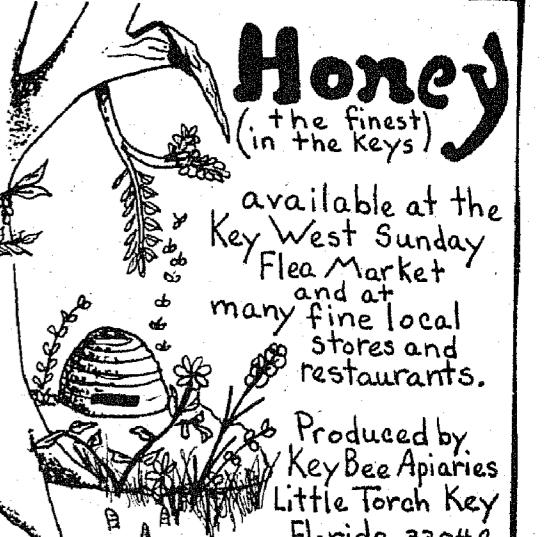
Written messages. Write your name, phone number, and what you do when you're available, and your rates on pieces of paper. If you can use a copy machine, make lots of copies. If not, keep the message short and sweet and write it out by hand. Hang them up in places like grocery stores, pet shops, churches, temples, apartment buildings, bulletin boards and schools. If you're artistic, make a poster instead with a picture on it to catch people's eye.

A Word Of Warning
Be very careful when you answer an ad, or when someone you don't know answers your ad. Find out about the person before you take the job. Don't go into a strange neighborhood or into a house without first taking a long and adult. Never take a car ride with a stranger. If you feel uncomfortable about the job, don't take it.

(Doing Your Things)

Babysitting
Plant Sitting
House Sitting
Pet Sitting
neighborhood gardener
Grow Plants, Sell them
Sell newspapers
Yard Sales
tutoring (math, trumpet, piano/guitar, English, etc.)
mowing lawns
running errands
Lily pads
Always Smile
Under
Eli
Carol
Cars
are
running
on
love

Remember
if you're
running errands
picking up laundry
washing dishes
house cleaning
or anything else
you'd like to do
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EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENTS

May Fair Childrens' Art Festival, 1-6P.M., May 6. Walker's Field. Dance performance, gymnastic exhibition, art show, Maypole Dance - all by children.

GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

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

Artist Warehouse: 814 Duval 294-7141. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon thru Sat. Featuring local artists and Karen Clemens. Framing shop also.

East Martello Gallery & Museum, 3500 S. Roosevelt Blvd., 296-3913. A "fort-museum" with some of the most interesting facts of Key West history and lore. 5/1 - 5/24 Florida Keys Watercolor Society Juried Show.

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

Fred Gros Gallery: 901 Duval, 294-9545 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Daily. Contemporary Art and Tribal Art.

Gingerbread Square Gallery: 910 Duval St., Information 296-8900. Appointments, 294-2165.

Guild Hall: 614 Duval St., 296-6076. Open 9:30 to 5:30 daily. Exhibiting an outstanding array of original art by Key West professionals Barbara Bauer, Judi Bradford, Ralph Freer, Adolph Guacinski, Ann Irvine, Fran Keschuk, Maxine McMullen, Wayne Pelke, Irma Quigley, Norma Renner, Naya Rydzewski, and Carolyn Seiler. Featuring oils, acrylics, watercolors, drawings, prints, porcelain, burnished sawdust-fired pottery, stoneware and other media.

Haitian Art Co.: 600 Frances St., 296-8932. Paintings of renowned Haitian artists including Ezene Domond, Jackson Lovinsky, etc. Open 7 days, 10-6.

Jordons Cafe & Art Gallery: 808 Duval, 296-5858 Open 7 evenings a week.

Key West Art Center: 301 Front St., 294-1241. Open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Exhibiting works of 90 artists throughout the Keys.

Lacy Gallery: 801 Whitehead St. Open 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. except Sundays. Imported contemporary art works and French antique porcelains and china.

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

Lucky St. Gallery: 322 Margaret St. 294-3973, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Daily. Watercolors by Walter Ferris, 4/10-4/31.

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

Perkins Chandlery: 901 Fleming Street, 294-7635. Showing the following artists: Rollin Barker, A.S.M.A.; Commander J.A. Cryer.

FILMS & LIBRARY EVENTS

MONROE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Fleming St. 294-8168. Children's Movies: Saturdays at 10 a.m. 5/12 The Sorcerer's Apprentice; Many Moons; A Boy, A Dog, and A Frog 5/19 The Red Balloon; Alphabet 5/26 The Golden Fish; Mole and Egg; The Gingerbread Man.

Adult Movies: 5/9 Sabrina; 5/16 I Am A Dancer; 5/23 Calypso's Search For Atlantis; 5/30 Monsters: Mysteries or Myths? No book reviews this month.



REGULAR EVENTS

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

BINGO: Starting 7:15 p.m. Thursday nights at Sugarloaf firehouse at mile marker 17.

COFFEE MILL: 915 Ashe St. 294-8072. There will be 2 free classes on Saturdays starting in March. They are Jewelry making for kids (ages 7 - 10) 2:30 - 3:30. African Dance for kids (ages 3 - 6) 3:30 - 4:30. All are welcome to attend. Poetry, 8 p.m. 1st and 3rd Sundays.

FLORIDA KEYS CHAPTER, AARP, No. 1351 Located in the Armory, Southard and White St., 294-4641 Ext. 361. Meetings 2nd Monday every month, 7:30 p.m.: Blood count from 6:15 to 7:15; Bingo Wednesday, 2 to 4 p.m.; duplicate bridge 7:30 p.m. Tuesday; Thursday 1:30 p.m.; Saturday, party bridge 1 p.m.

K.W. POETRY GUILD: 1st Sunday each month, 1120 Washington St. 8 p.m. 3rd Sunday each month 1125 United St. 2 p.m.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS: Friday night, 7:00 p.m., 2318 Fogarty Ave., 5th St. Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. If you have a drug problem, come to us.

CITY ELECTRIC UTILITY BOARD: meetings 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 5 p.m., Board Room, 930 Caroline.

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

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority: 4/12 2 p.m. South Florida Water Management District, West Palm Beach.

VFW AUXILIARY #6021, 2nd & 4th Sundays, Post Hall, 303 Emma St., 8 p.m.

Viet Nam Vets: Thursdays, 296-6843.

Bulimia Group: Call 4-HELP or 6-LINE

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

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

Child Abuse: Question, referrals, reporting information and general information. Call Barbara Hunt at F.K.M.H. 294-5531.

The Movement of Spiritual Inner Awareness, Tuesday nights, 8:30 p.m. 1005 Seminary Street. Tune in to your true self. Join us for one of the positive things happening in Key West. Call 294-6739.

Key West Womans Club, regular meetings 1st Tuesday of each month, 2:30 p.m. 319 Duval St.

Mail-a-book program, costs you only 29 cents, for mailing. Library, 4-8488.

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

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

Monroe County Commission: 476 Marathon Sub Courthouse 10 a.m.

The Lower Keys Property Owners Assoc. Located at the west end of the No Name Key bridge on Big Pine Key, bingo, every Wednesday, 6:00. Call 745-3613.

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

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

Key West Singles: For information call 296-3423.

Self Help

AL-ANON-MEETINGS IN KEY WEST
Sigsbee Park YMCA 296-6616, meets Tuesdays and Fridays at 8:30 p.m. AA meets same time. AL-ANON-Key West group St. Ann's Hall meets Mondays at 7 p.m. AA meets 8:30 p.m. AL-ANON-Memorial Group FKNH, 294-5531 ext. 3496, meets Wed. at 8:30 p.m. AA meets same time. AL-ANON-St. Bede's Group meets Thurs. 12:00 noon St. Bede's Catholic Church 2700 Flagler.

AIDS Screening Clinic, Saturday, April 7th. Call Beverly Smith for appointment 296-3048.

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

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

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

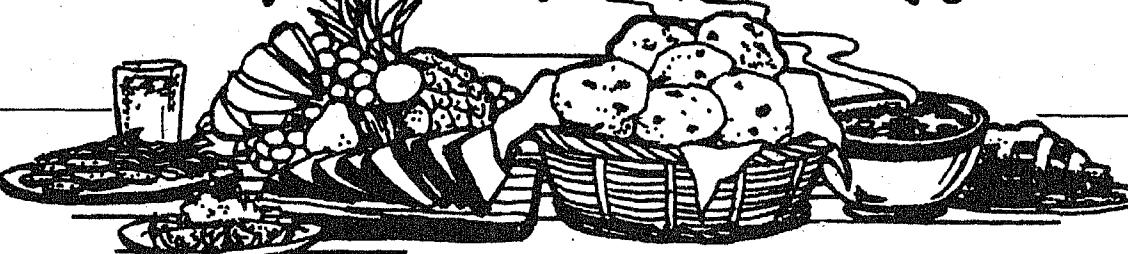
The new Chemical Dependency Treatment Program (for alcohol/drug abuse) opened June 1 and f.k.m.h. For information call 294-5531 ext. 3496.

La Leche League: Every 3rd Tuesday, M.M. 242, Summerland Key, 10 a.m. Call 745-2274.

Classes on the Ovulation Method of Fertility Awareness: Avoid or achieve pregnancy naturally. Instructor Registered Nurse certified by The Ovulation Method Teachers Association. For information, call 296-7214.

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THE EATERY



PRESENTS

SOMETHING NEW FOR LUNCH AT THE EATERY

Your choice:
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Hot Corned Beef*

INCLUDES CROCK OF VEGETABLE SOUP AND A BEVERAGE

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want to take you
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to our incredible
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