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# solares hill

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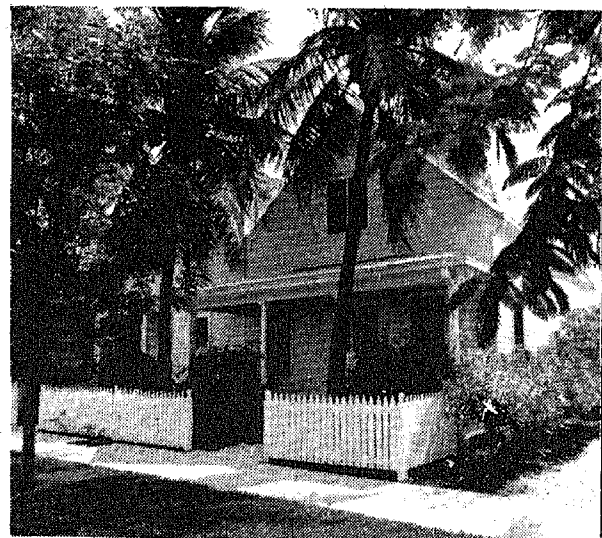


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## EDITORIAL

Congratulations are in order for the organizers and artists involved in this, the first, Key West Theatre Festival. With a shoestring budget they have managed to put together a theatre-goers' feast ranging from luscious one act appetizers to an operatic entree.

Shining local talent is working alongside nationally recognized artists to create an incredible celebration of the performing arts. Now that the festival has proven itself, there is no doubt that next year's event — with the help of \$45,000 in TDC funding — will be recognized as the place to go for good theatre in autumn.

Organizers of Key West Theatre Festival said they hoped that this festival would draw "upscale" tourists during one of the lowest business months of the season.

As the 90's roar on, "upscale" seems a more fleeting concept, an imaginary relic from a bygone decade. And it's a concept that Key West will have to come to terms with. Ideally, every business in Key West would like to attract the elusive "upscale" visitor: the one who won't blink an eye spending \$300 a night for lodging, the one who won't blanch at a \$40

dinner entree or a \$75 boat ticket.

But the reality is that Key West is a middle class destination. There are worse things. This designation means only that we appeal to the tourist who must consider budget to some degree when traveling. It means we appeal to the likes of families looking south for a break from colder climes.


It also means that we have a larger market to draw from than if we were appealing only to the financially elite.

So, while we keep a bead on that illustrious chimera, the "upscale" tourist, let's not overlook our true lifeblood: the middle class. Our quest for the elite can give us an overview, a plan that includes our diverse culture and history. Acknowledging the droves of folks who come here on limited pocketbooks will keep our feet entrenched in reality.

The two needn't be at odds. We must still pursue much-needed facelifts, like the enhancement of Mallory Square and the revitalization of the Bight. But it also means embracing family-oriented attractions that would give our tax base an infusion.


--Alyson Simmons

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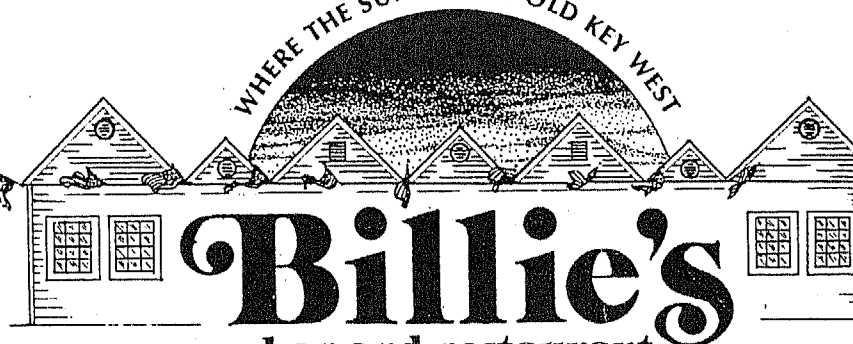
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<p><b>10</b> <b>Monkey Tom</b> He says his muse comes from the Mad Dog. Local collectors say it's genius.</p> 	<p><b>14</b> <b>Bagels in Paradise</b> Sometimes the best things in life make it down to the Southernmost point.</p> <p><b>6</b> <b>Tourism After Andrew</b> The TDC launches an emergency campaign at the end of its fiscal year.</p> <p><b>9</b> <b>The Strand will Rise Again</b> After numerous incarnations, the historic theater becomes home to a museum like no other in Key West.</p> <p><b>4</b> <b>Communications Crisis?</b> When Andrew was threatening to wipe the Keys off the map, where was the Emergency Broadcast System? There were holes in the plan that went beyond evacuation problems.</p>	<p><b>ALSO. . . . .</b></p> <p>Houseboat Row. . . . . 8</p> <p>FOX's New Show. . . . . 16</p> <p>Denise Crosby. . . . . 18</p> <p>Community Notes. . . . . 20</p> <p>510 Greene. . . . . 22</p> <p>Island Economics. . . . . 24</p> <p>Art Circle. . . . . 26</p> <p>Art Notes. . . . . 28</p> <p>Art Calendar. . . . . 29</p> <p>Gigs. . . . . 30</p> <p>Almanac. . . . . 31</p> <p>Grits, Grunts &amp; Gruyere. . . 32</p> <p>Restaurant Directory. . . . . 33</p> <p>Keys Calendar. . . . . 36</p>
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# Communications Crisis?

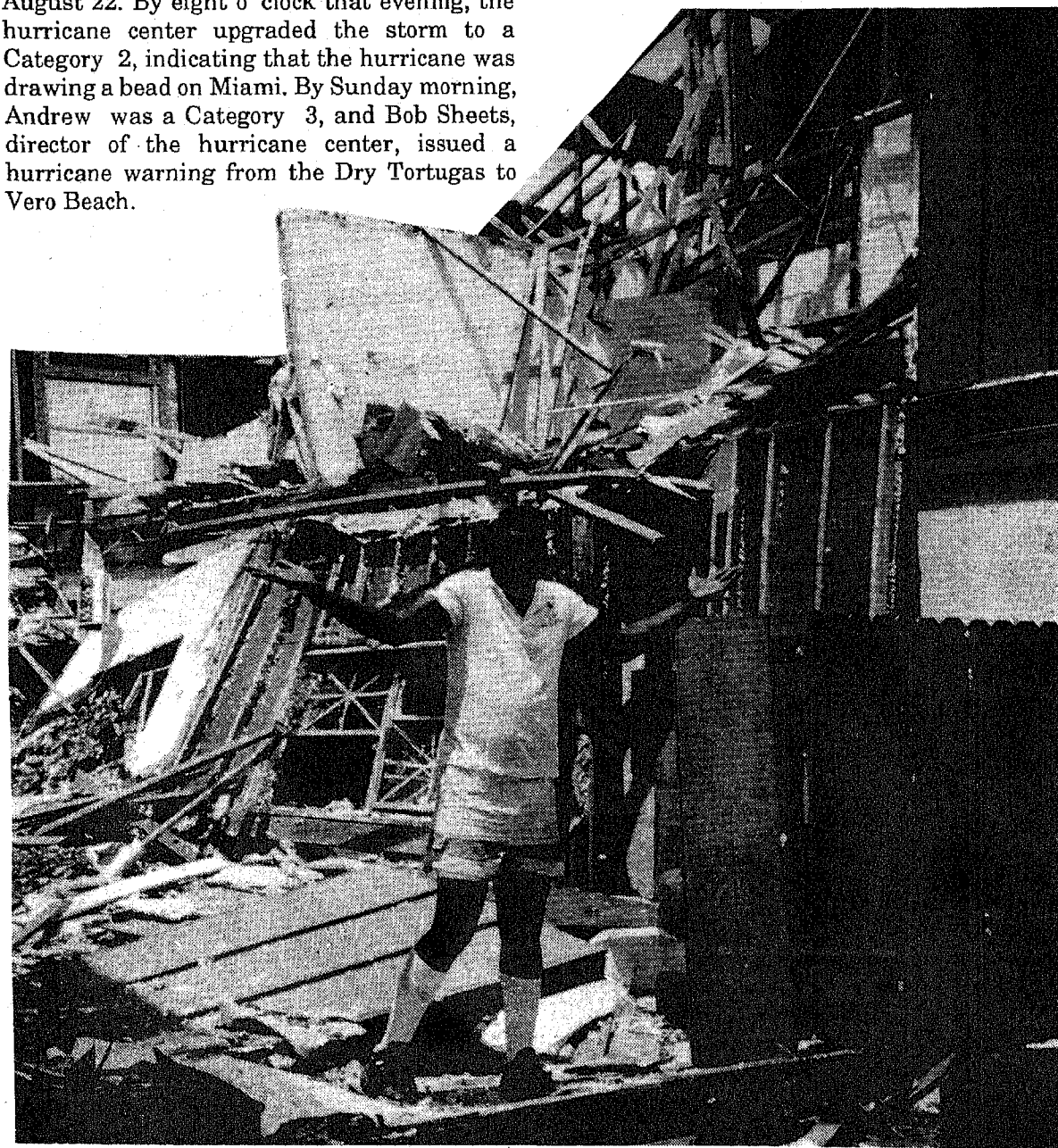
Andrew is still raising questions

by Jack Lawson

From the beginning, Hurricane Andrew was a no-win situation for Key West. Luckily it missed. But County Commissioner Doug Jones says he found out just how bad it might have been at 6 a.m. that Sunday morning.

"County Administrator Tom Brown called me to say that the worst case scenario has happened. He said 'the hurricane is coming into Dade. And we can't evacuate the Lower Keys.'"

The storm's assault on south Florida last month was hardly a surprise. The National Weather Service in Coral Gables tracked the storm as it approached the Bahamas, transforming Tropical Storm Andrew to Hurricane Andrew on Saturday morning, August 22. By eight o'clock that evening, the hurricane center upgraded the storm to a Category 2, indicating that the hurricane was drawing a bead on Miami. By Sunday morning, Andrew was a Category 3, and Bob Sheets, director of the hurricane center, issued a hurricane warning from the Dry Tortugas to Vero Beach.



HOMESTEAD RESIDENT returns to the devastation the day after Andrew.

By early afternoon, Governor Lawton Chiles had sent a three-page fax to President Bush. Chiles notified the White House that he anticipated twelve Florida counties might be under a state of emergency when the storm hit. He requested federal aid.

"This will be the most severe storm to strike Florida since the 1935 hurricane. Property damage throughout southern Florida can be expected to be in the billions of dollars."

"I have determined that this incident is of such severity and magnitude that effective local response is beyond the capabilities of the state and affected local governments, and that supplemental federal assistance is necessary. We may call on you for assistance from active duty military personnel. Medical personnel, security, supplies and various support services may be necessary."

Sunday night, Sheets pinpointed landfall to within a half-mile of the Turkey Point nuclear plant. Inland, only an academy award performance by Bryan Norcross, NBC's weather forecaster, kept people in Dade informed. He's credited with saving many lives before the storm hit at 5:05 a.m.

Not so in the Keys.

According to Jones, the county evacuation plan simply didn't work. He blames Billy Wagner, director of Monroe County Emergency Management for the failure.

"I think Billy's a hell of a nice guy," Jones said. "But one of these days he's going to kill all of us."

"He came back Sunday from a couple of days in Coral Gables (at the NHC), and claimed he was burned out. If Tom Brown hadn't taken charge of the EOC (Emergency Operations Center) in Marathon, we would have been in even worse shape."

But the Keys were mostly spared. Hurricane Andrew maintained a laser straight course across south Dade and the Everglades, until it exited into the Gulf of Mexico south of Naples. In addition to considerable damage on north Key Largo, Brown said he received urgent request for aid from Homestead and Florida City early Monday morning.

"We were on the telephone with Chiles at 10:00 a.m. urging (him) to notify FEMA and the American Red Cross. 'Hey, we got a major disaster (in Dade.) Get in here, and get in here now,'" Brown said. "But somebody dropped the ball."

Had the storm veered just a degree to the south, it would have raked Monroe County from Key Largo to Key West. Most residents in the Upper and Middle Keys evacuated successfully. But tens of thousands of people in Key West and the Lower Keys would have been isolated on low-lying islands, vulnerable and unprepared to endure the onslaught of a storm that's acknowledged to be the greatest natural disaster in American history.

What happened?

"There's simply not enough notification time under the present evacuation plan," said George Kundtz, president of the Florida Keys Citizens' Coalition, and a vocal critic of development. Kundtz blames over-construction for impossibly clogged roads.

"I tried to talk to Billy Wagner about the plan, but he wouldn't talk to me. He's impossible to get on the phone. Earl Cheal (Commissioner, District 4) then ordered Wagner to appear in his office. We discussed the flaws in the plan, but all Wagner said was 'these will be in the next (version of the) plan.'"

Billy Wagner couldn't be reached for comment. But Tom Brown's version of the preparations for Hurricane Andrew differ markedly from Jones' and Kundtz' accounts.

"I think we had good communication with the state... the governor's office and FEMA," Brown said, admitting that public notification hadn't been what he hoped for.

"Sheriff deputies were in the county, announcing evacuation in the Middle and Upper Keys. If the Key West police weren't, it's



ANDREW CLEANUP: the Keys could have been there.

another example of poor coordination. But don't forget we were evicted from the federal building in June. We had a fully functional EOC down there."

Communications from the EOC to the Lower Keys was spotty to non-existent. Eighteen people interviewed at random in the city all said they heard nothing on local radio about the emergency; a few remembered occasional updates of the storm's position and intensity. There were intermittent references to evacuation areas and times, "too vague and unconvincing to persuade me," said Tom Gannon, a restaurant worker. "I watched Miami television."

Even less impressed was Ernst Bacher, general manager of the Key West Hyatt. He had a hotel full of guests.

"There was really nothing on the radio," Bacher said. "The best information I got was from the National Weather Forecast Office at the Key West Airport. I literally went over there many times Sunday, trying to fly my guests out -- even charter a plane," he said. "We got most of our people out eventually, but there was no direct communication (with us) to evacuate people and employees."

Florida's Department of Community Affairs, is charged with emergency management everywhere in the state. When it released its manual of hurricane coordinating procedures in May of 1991, it designated WKIZ-AM and WEOW-FM to function as emergency broadcast stations.

The system didn't work.

Todd Swofford, operations manager of the two stations says that the EBS equipment is automatic, and "It never activated. We've had a lot of questions whether EBS would work."

Swofford said the stations test the broadcast equipment every six months. "No one ever questioned if it would really work. Instead, we relied on broadcasting from NOAA radar (recorded forecasts) and wire copy from Associated Press."

Brown said he wasn't surprised.

"I don't put a lot of faith in the Emergency Broadcast System. We don't have it integrated into our plan. It's federal, and on a state level, it's never worked."

When the next hurricane menaces the Keys, Brown claims a communication and

evacuation plan developed by a task force headed by Admiral Nick Gee, commander of the Navy's Caribbean fleet, can utilize military communications and other equipment to aid in evacuation and relief.

"JTF-4 (the task force) has developed a coordinated communications program which will integrate the Navy and Coast Guard with cities and counties. We'll all be on the same program, all linked into one coordinated communication program, both pre- and post-storm."

The plan is more than a mere communications outline. JTF-4 created a comprehensive, step-by-step outline of what must be done -- and by whom -- as a hurricane approaches; and what is needed afterwards. Many officials are hoping that the seven-page document will replace the much-criticized FEMA plan. The plan cannot be legally activated by anyone other than the president, because constitutional restrictions prohibit any military commander from operating autonomously within the United States.

Captain Jim Smith, commander of the Key West Coast Guard Station, says people now realize how serious the storm was. He believes that the time has come for a cooperative approach to emergency management.

"We welcome this joint effort. We're in the business of helping people. Hurricane Andrew was the first event to show the Keys utter destruction," Smith said. "A hurricane is inhuman. It has no conscience. It just tears up everything in its path."

"And we have to be ready for the next one," he said.

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# Tourism After Andrew

The TDC's continuing quest for Key West's lifeblood

by Alyson Simmons

This month people around the world will be hearing the slogan "Let's go to the REAL Florida, let's go to the Florida Keys!" This is the new chant of the Monroe County Tourist Development Council's 1993 ad campaign, as

they strive to draw millions of tourist dollars to the Keys.

In the world travel market the U.S. is the most popular travel destination, according to a recent American Express poll. And Florida will see as much as 21.5% of those travelers in the coming year. The TDC plans to lure them through advertising and by funding special

events.

A slow economy enhanced by a near miss with Andrew has focused scrutiny on the issue of tourism in the keys. As a result, eyes have turned to the TDC.

The TDC's response to Andrew-slowed tourism was quick if not unanimously popular. Within days USA Today carried a quarter page ad informing people that Key West was "The Real Florida that Andrew didn't visit." An emergency meeting of the board appropriated \$29,000 for immediate advertising. The money contracted a billboard on the Broward/Dade County line, bought three ads in travel trade magazines, and created highway rack cards for distribution throughout the state.

In a recent speech during a Hotel/Motel Association meeting, Samuel "Mickey" Feiner, mayor of Key Colony Beach and chairman of the TDC, commented on their response to the hurricane. As soon as possible, he said, public relations information was "sent out. Unfortunately, you must realize that — to the press — the disaster was the main news, and as a result, the conditions in the keys got limited space.

"The TDC office, as soon as information was available, started feeding daily reports on local conditions. Certainly we learned lessons, and plans must be in place to cope with a similar situation in the future. It is vital that we set aside a reserve fund that is untouchable except for a disaster. As it happened, we were at the end of our budget year and as a result limited funds were available for a large-scale promotional effort."

The slow economy has been trickier to deal with, but the new \$9 million budget will attempt to strengthen local economy through tourism while reflecting spending restraints mandated by reduced funding. The budget itself is almost 15% less than last year's; the cuts are evenly distributed throughout the plethora of events and campaigns funded by these tax dollars.

The money used to draw tourists into the keys is generated solely through bed taxes paid by those self same tourists. According to Feiner, a "two penny" tax was established in 1981 in Key West for advertising. In its first year, the tax generated approximately \$700,000. In 1984 the tax was expanded to include all of the keys, and in 1986 the third penny program was added.

Monroe County tourists pay an 11% lodging tax when they stay in the keys. A

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**4 times as many as died in the entire Vietnam War.**

Number of recommendations for immediate action made by the President's AIDS Commission:  
**30**

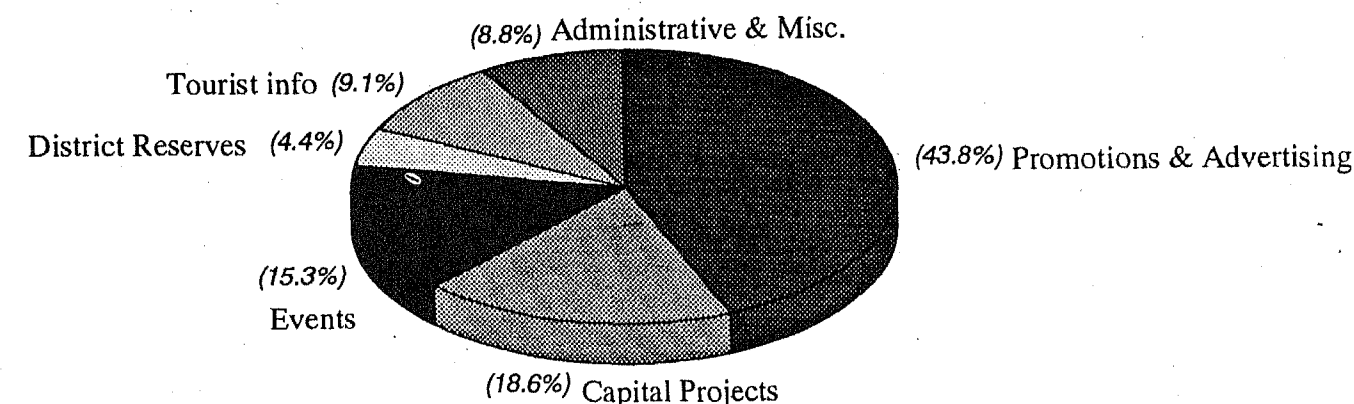
Number of those recommendations instituted by the President:  
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## TDC'S \$9-MILLION PIE



The Board of County Commissioners and the Monroe County Tourist Development Council (TDC) have approved a budget of more than \$9 million for the 1993 fiscal year. Although there is relatively little variance from last year's budget in line items, the overall revenues and appropriations are almost 15% less than 1992.

Lower revenues do not seem to stem from bed taxes — the sole tax funding for the TDC — but by the combination of lower interest rates and a smaller reserve or balance forward from last year.

The \$9 million is divided into five major categories in the new budget.

By far the largest slice of the pie (just over \$4 million) goes to promotion and advertising. This figure is about 18% less than the \$4.9 million allocated last year to encourage people to "Just let go in the Keys." The 1993 promotional plans include a new ad campaign as well as an increased push toward international markets. The new program is slated to begin October 1st.

Capital projects take the next hunk of funding, accounting for \$1.7 million. Last year's budget set aside \$2.3 million, nearly 28% more than is slated for this year.

Special events account for \$1.4 million of the 1993 budget. Among the events winning the support of the TDC are Fantasy Fest, Key West's Christmas by the Sea, and the Island Music Festival in Islamorada.

Although some individual event funding has been reduced, reserves for district allocations have been expanded. Last year the individual districts had only \$15,949 in reserve; this year nearly \$400,000 will be set aside.

Tourist information services eat up the bulk of the remaining funds at \$830,000: a figure just about equal to the 1992 allocation.

A.S.

breakdown shows that 7% of that figure is state sales tax, but 1% of that is an infrastructure tax that is used solely within Monroe County to pay for the new jail and other county needs.

The next 3% of that total lodging tax is earmarked for the TDC. Two thirds of this goes directly to the TDC itself, while the other third is distributed to the various districts according to the percentage of taxes they generate.

The last 1% of the bed tax is distributed by the board of county commissioners. Half is distributed into the general fund while the other half goes to the land trust.

"I think the public at large," says Feiner, "and the county, possibly, have lost track that the county is getting 2% of the tourist tax. (The county) should dispel the rumors that the tourist contributes nothing for county services."

The Monroe County TDC, one of over 30

county tourism councils and visitors bureaus in the state of Florida, acts primarily as an advisory council to the county commissioners. In addition, on-going market research is conducted by the TDC to review the efficiency of their various programs. This research ranges from guest and exit surveys to a study of the organization of other tourist development councils throughout the state.

Still, as long as there are different interests in the keys, there will be a dispute whether the county should fund the quest for tourist dollars. In the meantime, local government has designed an effective, if sometimes fallible method of expanding tourism to the keys: an arm of county government that is funded by tourism and answerable to officials that we elect.

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# The Continuing Row Over Houseboat Row

by Judi Bradford

The houseboaters were last seen offshore—barely offshore—at Houseboat Row, celebrating what Michael Barnes, attorney for the group, called a "little victory." With champagne and Budweiser they commemorated a milestone in their struggle to remain tied to the docks they have called home for more than thirty-five years. The reason? Ginny Stone, the Key West City Attorney, says that the city does not have the authority to evict the Row residents.

## The City Attorney

Stone was not amused by the celebration. "If I were Mr. Barnes," she said, "I would take my victories where I could find them."

Once construction is completed on new liveaboard docks at the city marina in Garrison Bight, the Row residents will be given a 30-day notice to move there, according to the management agreement between houseboater and the city, said Stone. Resident of the houseboats, however, intend to refuse relocation.

The Department of Natural Resources is the owner of the bay bottom property where Houseboat Row is located. Currently, the city is managing the property for DNR, but the management agreement expires when the Bight construction is completed and Houseboat Row has been given notice of its readiness.

"Whether DNR will pursue eviction of the bay bottom squatters or leave it to the City is unknown," says Stone.

## Department of Natural Resources

John Costigan of the DNR agrees with Stone's agenda but, beyond that, he says: "I'm not sure how this is going to occur. There will be litigation, that's for sure," but he acknowledged it could be resolved amicably, as well.

"It's not necessarily bad to live on boats," he conceded, "but you can't do it without regulation. We (DNR) are the owners of the property and we're concerned about water quality, regulated anchoring, utilities and services, taxes, etc." Costigan was unable to answer, however, why these issues could not be addressed without moving the Houseboat Row

residents.

Costigan acknowledges that this is a difficult issue. "Uprooting people is not your fondest thing to do. We will give notice. We're not going to spring anything on anyone. I personally will listen to anyone who may have a solution."

Neither the DNR nor the City Attorney had an answer for the question of creating a regulated mooring field at the Houseboat Row/Cow Key Channel location. The city is making application to DNR to manage a mooring field off Fleming Key, but no one seems to know how that site was selected. Key West mayor Dennis Wardlow claims DNR made the decision. DNR says it was between the city and DER. The city attorney says she has no information on that.

## Key West Mayor

Mayor Wardlow, who initiated the objection to Houseboat Row in his first term of office and renewed it this term, says, "There are no hidden agendas, no condos, no nothing."

"The property is being restored back to its natural environment," says Wardlow. He lists transforming Mt. Trashmore into a park and cleaning up Key West Bight as further efforts to reclaim nature. "We're going to clean up everywhere."

Each side of the issue is busy gathering precedents for probable litigation. The houseboat occupants are pursuing their rights within the city. They are subject to Key West laws and ordinances but are not allowed to vote. Although city limits are considered to project 600 yards offshore for some purposes, the right to participate in city elections does not extend beyond dry land in the current interpretation.

## Irony

Key West has become a high rent island. A retail clerk making \$6 an hour can pay as much renting a modest two-bedroom apartment for a year as he or she would pay to buy a reasonable live-aboard vessel. After that, the boat expenses are reduced to dockage. The city marina at Garrison Bight, which unfortunately boasts a two-year waiting list, currently charges \$4.79 a foot for live-aboards. That calculates out to \$201.18 per month for a 42-foot vessel. Traditionally, municipal marinas are functional and affordable.

In a city surrounded by water, there is only one public marina—and it doesn't have a pump-out station for marine sewage. Plans are in the works to finally correct the sewage problem so that they can enforce water quality issues. There has only recently been a legitimate dinghy dock for harbor vessels. For boats elsewhere around the island, it's every sailor for himself.

With taxes and utility fees approaching tidal wave heights for landlubbers, there seems to be an archetypal jealousy of their amphibious neighbors. DNR's Costigan says "There will be no free rides. We disagree with free living."

Key West has a reputation for being "laid-back". It was earned two decades ago when shrimpers and gays, Cubans and anglos, tourists and conchs coexisted in a "live-and-let-live" atmosphere that honored independence and recognized eccentricity with fondness. Perhaps we are witnessing the end of an era.

# The Strand Will Rise Again

Believe it or Not!

by J.D. Dooley

In recent years the Strand theater, located on the 500 block of Duval Street, seems to be one of those cursed buildings that dooms its occupants to failure. Discos, bars and night clubs have come and gone. None with the ability to pass the Duval Street economic stress test. It is not an uncommon phenomena, urban movie houses across the nation have suffered the same fate as suburban multi-plexes have kidnapped entire movie audiences. The downtown theaters were forced into showing dollar movies, stage performances, or left to languish until they are cleared to make way for a parking garage. Like a phoenix with the bends the Strand has risen mightily only to die a violent death time and again. But now another project is in the making for the once grand theater. Believe It Or Not, it's those purveyors of the peculiar from Ripley's.

A Ripley's Believe It Or Not! franchise is completing details for the purchase of the circa 1920 theater which is destined to become number eighteen in the chain of museums famous for showcasing oddities from around the world.

Complete with shrunken heads and wax reproductions of the worlds tallest man, the odditoriums have sprung up in tourist locations from Canada to California and Australia to England. Ever find yourself wandering around Yongin-Gun Kyonggi-do Korea with nothing to do? Check out the Ripley's museum there. To the folks at Ripley's, Key West seems the perfect location to peddle their weird wares.

The Ripley's Museum has received the blessing of the Historic and Architectural Review Commission (HARC) for the building and its use and now plans to close on the purchase by early November. The museum should be open by the end of January 1993.

The approved plans call for no changes to the Strand's facade. The only real changes planned thus far is to the STRAND sign above the marquee. The attraction has received HARC approval to replace the letters with their own, provided that the same style of lettering is used. Architecturally, the new sign should not alter the historical design of the building.

Still, some are worried that the attraction will further add to the honky tonk atmosphere on Duval St. An atmosphere that many are now trying to avoid.

Steve Walker, a real estate broker working with the Ripley's museum owners said that the building will be renovated throughout without changing the external appearance.

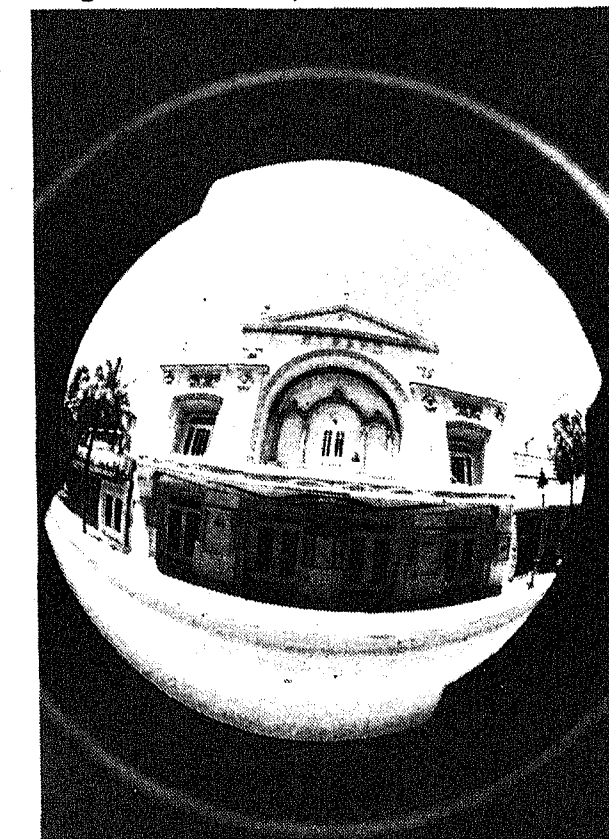
"I have heard negative feedback from some locals," Walker said. "People have said that it will be tacky and that is not the case. We are going to keep the outside of the building exactly the same. So from that standpoint, if you don't like it and don't want to go in, it won't effect you, the worst you will see is a beautiful building brought back to life on the outside."

Key West City Commissioner Joe Pais, who has never seen a Ripley's museum, believes that there is a need for more family

entertainment.

"As long as they abide by HARC guidelines on signs and building appearance, I have no problem with what they do inside," Pais said. "No one that I have seen over the past 11 years has been able to adequately fill that space. It is a wonderful space for a project this size. It certainly will add another dimension to Duval St."

"We believe that once the locals see it and go through it they won't have that tacky image in their minds," Walker said. "It will be



LIKE A PHOENIX WITH THE BENDS the Strand has risen mightily only to die a violent death time and again.

done professionally with techniques developed for Disney World and Universal Studios by ex-Disney employed 'Imagineers.' It will be very high tech and different from anything else in Key West. The Strand is such a beautiful building that it doesn't need to be changed. We believe that this will be a solid attraction that will upgrade Duval St.

"We won't use OPCs or hawkers to lure customers off of the street," Walker said. "We won't do anything that will bug or insult locals or tourists."

"It's the type of thing that the city has never had before and things that are new people tend to challenge or they are afraid of," Pais explained. "We should be thinking of things that are diverse on Duval St. and welcome them in."

The diversity began when Robert Leroy Ripley, the museum's founder, was born on Christmas day in 1893. Perhaps his unusual birth date helped fuel his forty year quest to catalogue the worlds most unusual rites, rituals and trappings.

Those who have never visited a Ripley's Believe It Or Not museum may be familiar with the Sunday comics cartoon version originally penned by Ripley himself.

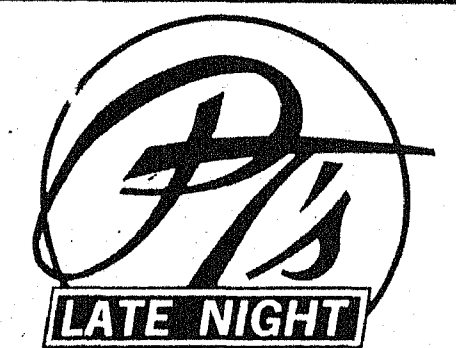
According to a biography furnished by Walker, Ripley published his first drawing in Life magazine when he was fourteen years old. He began his collection of odd facts and feats while a cartoonist for the New York Globe newspaper in 1918. Based on unusual athletic achievements, the submission was entitled "Champs and Chumps." As the story goes, his editor wanted a title that reflected the incredible nature of the sporting achievements and it was changed to Believe It Or Not! -- exclamation point and all.

During his career, Ripley visited 198 countries including North Africa, New Zealand, Tibet, New Guinea and Russia. His journeys totaled 15,000 miles by air, 8000 by ship and over 1000 by camel, donkey and horse. His early cartoons from those journeys were first published in book form by Simon and Schuster in 1929. If all the Ripley's books ever published were stacked one upon the other they would be over one hundred times as tall as the Empire State Building -- Believe It Or Not!

Ripley continued to travel and collect the rarities until his death in 1945 at the age of 55. A memorial to him has been erected in his hometown of Santa Rosa California in the church where his family worshipped every Sunday. The church itself was constructed from a single giant redwood tree -- Believe It Or Not!

One thing you can believe is that purchasing and renovating the Strand will not be cheap. The Ripley's franchise is paying \$1.2 million to buy the building and plans to spend another \$800,000 in renovations. The sets will be built in Orlando and shipped to Key West. There are plans for two sections of the museum dedicated to Key West which will spotlight the writers, pirates and history of the town.

The Key West museum will be open from approximately 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. depending on demand. The admission price is not certain but should fall well under the \$10 mark (the Orlando admission price is \$8 for an adult) with plans for a locals discount. A small gift shop is also in the works complete with one hour photo finishing so that people can have their film developed while they are touring the museum which takes between one and two hours.



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# Monkey Tom

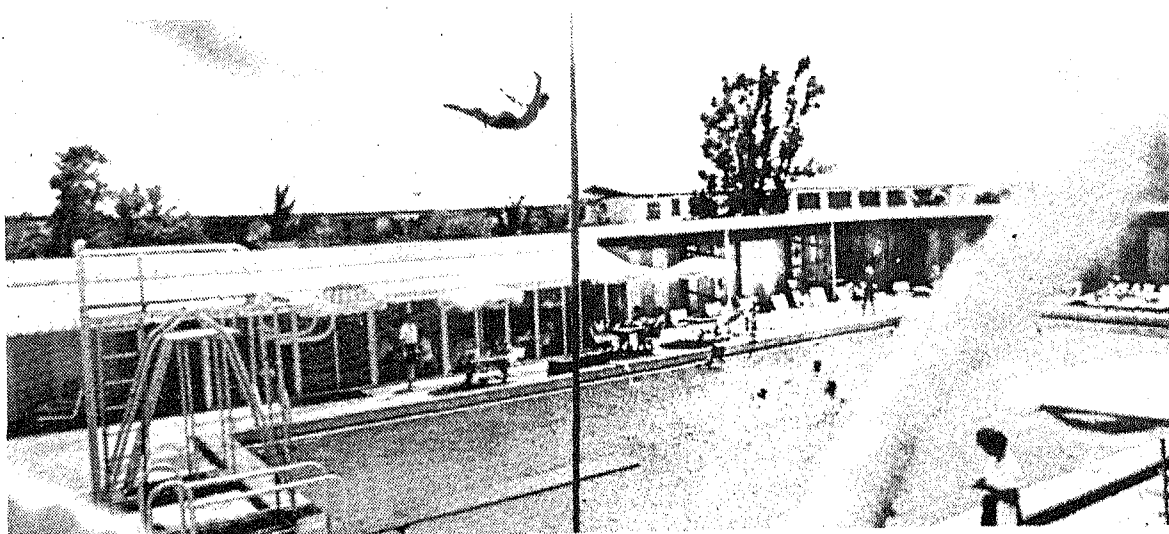
## The Pirate Artist draws from the School of Innocence

by Robin Shanley

The pirate artist sat in the door of his studio. His paints were arranged about him, his canvas, a discarded fish crate. Thunder rumbled far on the horizon, a squall was breezing in, but he wasn't worried. He had his place fixed up pretty good. It was a small cabana, just big enough for a good sized bed, but the plywood walls would keep the wind out. Through the open windows coiled thick vines of green and yellow elephant ear. Palm fronds rustled over shelves of broken tape recorders, radios, headsets—a renegade Radio Shack showroom. Someone at a thrift shop had thrown them away. He saved them. Three dead phones hung by their cords. He was going to paint one red, in case the president called.

He was always painting something. Once he painted his pet corn snake with the red and yellow bands of its poisonous coral cousin. That was a good one. It really shook the tourists up, wrapped around his arm. It escaped one day, perhaps bored with show biz. Now the empty cage sits by a hollow mahogany stump that's framed in sparkly gold sequins. It contains the bones of a cat that had been killed by dogs. It was a beautiful friend and, with bleach and artistic arrangement, he memorialized the feline. There were larger bones hung over the gate, powerful ju ju, to help with the painting. There were generic cigarettes, cheapest from the gas station and, earlier, a mayonnaise sandwich that would have to do. The most important stuff, however, was in the ice chest, cold and inspirational. He poured some out as a raindrop plunked on a leaf

COURTESY OF THE KEY WESTER RESORT



PORTAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A YOUNG DIVER: Monkey Tom goes airborne to impress an earth-bound audience. Before coming to Key West, he was a junior Olympic Diver and COMNAV 4 champion of the U.S. Naval Forces in Japan. Tom admits that the only diving he does these days is if he falls off a roof.

and the time was right for another Monkey Tom original.

During his career, Thomas Lee Forshier has committed art in many studios. One of them was on Christmas Tree Island, years ago, when it was a thriving colony of social castaways. That was, until a desperado named Mexican Joe was tied to a tree and tortured, and finally killed for stealing cases of beer, "They dropped him in the water with cement blocks tied to his feet." The police seized this opportunity to sweep the island clean. They, "trashed my whole place. Everything I had. They took all the sugar, flour, my dive gear, poured it in one big pile."

Before the crackdown, however, he

would paint among the Australian pines, then "plan the swim out" into Key West, to avoid the swift currents. He'd put floats on his paintings and tow them into shore with his pet monkey Igor either riding on the art or Tom's head.

Igor was a squirrel monkey Tom had bought when he managed the pool at the old Key West. That was in the sixties and Tom was twenty-five. The hotel gave him a room, free food and drink. With the monkey there lived a pet seagull, with one wing, an iguana "and a whole buncha scorpions." The guests loved Tom. There was something else he did to "impress the people." It was done on the high dive board where he would do a "back flip, come back on the board, then do a half twist, then do a back two and a half."

The Key West interlude ended when Igor took sick. There were too many trips to the vet and the bars downtown. "That's when all the Conch boys liked to beat up on the Navy guys. I was clean shaven then and the (Conch) girl was real friendly. They beat me up pretty bad."

When Igor died Tom's mother came down to help out. "I was all beat up and we lived in a place behind (what was) the old Nasty Nancy's. I had her selling T-shirts, y'know, seconds, for two dollars. I'd use a, y'know, magic marker and draw motorcycles and stuff."

After that, he lived by the Simonton Street beach, where Mel Fisher "had some kind of mooring" for a floating treasure ship. There was a huge toothed gear there, held up by its shaft. Tom covered it with an awning and moved in. He tied his boat there and things were pretty good until, "the Cubans came from Mariel, building cardboard houses and everything and the cops came down heavy."

He once lived in a shrimp boat wheelhouse that had been pulled out of the water by the old fuel docks. It was his office and studio with a "refrigerator full of beer." Then,

the Half Shell Raw Bar wanted it to lend some authenticity to its new decor. "They took my house," says Tom, so he went over and threatened to "blow the place out." The wheelhouse remains, but its probably safe to say Tom is 86'ed from eating it raw forever.

He remembers cleaning the tar from the benches that were once under the Caroline/Margaret Street shelter. The mess was put there by parties wanting to upgrade the neighborhood. Too many dirtbags and winos hiding from the sun and unsettling the tourists. When the tar didn't work, the city simply removed the benches.

Now he's hiding out in the cabana, deep in the trees and bushes of Stock Island. Although he behaves himself more these days it's probably still a precarious homestead. The headlines have lately been fanning the good citizens into a crusade to clean up the "squalid" conditions of that ambitious key.

Even living in a boat is chancy these days. "I used to love boats but you can't even do anything on a boat now. You gotta have enough equipment to sink the boat almost."

Monkey Tom carries himself with an air of rough refinement. All the frayed edges seem serene and appropriate. The beard is long and unkempt but the clothes are clean. On his left hand is tattooed an important symbol of his—the black widow spider. Up the arm is an age-blackened "something from the Navy." On the right bicep—an eagle. He sees himself as "ugly and old" but "still alive" and able to "ride to Key West on a bicycle." He has no beer belly but that may be from not knowing where his next meal is coming from. But, he still "has it good." His roof doesn't leak, and his dogs, Maxi, the pup and the black shepherd giant, Buddy, love him. Burt, the land crab, however, can sometimes be hostile. For the most part, animals are drawn to him. It's "the people" he can't get along with.

This was true even back in Illinois where, "the people were mean" and his mother was "then trying to get me locked up in a nuthouse." She's worked in one twelve years and "thought everyone belonged there." Anyway, he was talking to a girl in a bar:

"I'm going to Florida."

"Where?" she asked.

"I dunno. Homestead. That sounds like a good place."

"Take me."



MIKE WOLPERT/BEACH PHOTOS

From the Rusty Anchor collection.

When they got to Homestead it was raining.

"I went to sleep, she was driving and when I woke up, I was on the Seven Mile Bridge." They hit Key West, expecting hula girls, but instead, for six dollars, "got a room and a six pack" at the old Gill hotel.

The receptionist asked: "You're the one lookin' for the job, right?"

"That's me," he said, not believing his luck.

There was a hurricane warning and his first job in Key West was boarding up windows.

The girl eventually went home to marry "a farmer. I shoulda kept her. She was real pretty with long dark hair." He wishes he could "get the girls" he had as a lifeguard. Tom has a great romantic soft spot for the female of the species. His paintings hardly ever feature a woman because, "they come out ugly."

He was once married to a seventeen-year old girl but their union lasted only six months. In his great despondency and talent for pouring anything down his throat he drank a can of what he thought was battery acid. He

wanted to end it all. Only it wasn't battery acid, it was fiberglass hardener. In front of horrified friends and bystanders he plunged into the waters by City Electric. By the time they fished him out and pumped his stomach at the hospital he'd known, "the answer to every question that's ever been asked. I was very happy." It was a revelation of sorts.

Then there was the girl, who, in anger, ran back to Tom's bedroom an squirted all his paints in the sheets. Tom came home later, drunk as usual, and crawled in. He woke up the next morning as colorful as an artist's palette.

Another woman lived with Tom for five years in a houseboat. She watched him paint until he urged her to try her hand at it. He started her on backgrounds then encouraged her to do seascapes. "You know how to do it," he said. "Just sign my name to it."

Today, she's on her own and you can hardly tell her work from Tom's. She signs her own name now and they're very good. Only "she doesn't do my weird stuff. Just little palm trees and stuff."

Tom tells a good story. His voice is coarse but softspoken, coming in the halting cadences of the street. He's not afraid to portray himself the fool and is disarmingly honest. His eyes are bright in their nests of lines and wrinkles. Even those who feel he's a disgrace grudgingly admit he's "a pirate."

All this could qualify Monkey Tom for Key West "character-hood." They are in short supply these days and we could use the patronizing adjectives like "salty," "quirky," or, god forbid, "colorful." What transcends all this hype, however, is his ability to grind out blazing works of art.

Whereas the trained, self-conscious artist cannot ignore the art of his predecessors, nor his contemporaries, the innocent or naive works as if he were the first man alive. . . it (naive

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art) has no past and no future, it captures 'now' and freezes it forever.

"Innocent Art"

David Larkin

Anything serves as his canvas; a boat's towing block, the side of a building, a coconut. Inspiration flows from many sources; a woman, smugglers, the grain God put in the wood. But most importantly, the main creative interstate, the propitious demon, is the purple catalyst—MD 20/20, MAD DOG, high octane wine. Without this, the "weird stuff" will not visit. There are other sweet vices; hunger and lack of cigarettes are also great motivators, but the life and art support system comes in a bottle.

On a typical day he will sell his work at the bars for ten, twelve dollars. In more critical time he will let them go for smokes or a can of bug spray. This is survival art. Tom's always one painting away from the mangroves. His bread and butter work is the ubiquitous shrimp boat silhouetted against a lurid sunset with a lobster trap or treasure chest washed up on the beach. Malcolm, the crane, usually stands guard nearby.

"I'd like to do the ones that take more time but I'm usually broke so I gotta do things like that. I've gotta get wine and cigarettes."

His only formal training was when he went to "a place in Monticello, Indiana. I won this thing with a picture of a waterfall. The only thing we did in that school was sniff glue and

squeeze each other until we passed out. Lotta girls up there. Fun but I didn't ever paint a picture all the time I was there."

He's done work on black velvet before but doubts his ability to do renditions of Elvis or bullfighters.

"No, I can't do pretty. I can do ugly."

The professional has to master a technique in order to free himself, the innocent is born free.

David Larkin

It seems preposterous to apply the term Innocent or Naive to the work of a man who's been banned from almost every bar in Key West, usually for pitching bottles at the bartender; a man who snorts ether and sets his beard on fire for photographic effect. This does, however, seem to be the closest definition of his school of art. His favorite artist is the man, "who has the handlebar moustache. You know, the famous one."

While Salvadore Dali and the Surrealists are apparent in Tom's liberal use of symbols, a more revealing influence might be found in the thriving psychedelic art scene of the sixties. When Tom hit Key West the love generation was painting their houses in day glo acrylics, decorating their rooms with black light posters and ingesting dangerous amounts of hallucinogens. It was a great rainbow explosion of democratic creativity. This is hard to imagine in the nineties when HARC and the culture police tell you how to paint your house and what color, but it's true.

Like many artists Tom possesses a sensory idiosyncrasy. He's color blind. When they tested him in the Navy he could only find four out of eighteen colors. He thought they were kidding about the missing ones. It's not that he doesn't see colors, but he sees them differently than the rest of us. The effect of seeing a number of his works on display is not unlike seeing the reef for the first time on mushrooms. The colors blast themselves into the back of your brain.

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If you admire proper perspectives or delight in realism, a Monkey Tom is probably not for you. But, if you want to see something that crawls from the bottom of a bottle of Mad Dog, wild and howling onto the canvas, then you might appreciate some of Tom's visions. . . his "ugly" ones.

There is one seascape, done in pinball colors, where a solitary lighthouse shines its lonely beacon on a giant floating MD 20/20 bottle, while on the other side a sailing ship is sinking on the reef. It's salvation and damnation, life and destruction, all in one enigmatic vision.

In other works, demon faces float by smiling, while sharks swim below. In another a dagger is thrust through the eye of a leering Neptune, exiting out a nostril. A sacred third eye shines serenely in the forehead. On the dagger's handle Tom has pasted a label from the ole Mad Dog. He saves all his labels and is getting quite a stack. His bicycle frame is a collage of them. When asked what he's thinking of when he paints these terrifying dreams he replies:

"I think a lot when I'm painting, but I don't think about painting. I don't know, it just comes out."

His first painting ever sold came at the old Nightbeat Lounge, where he'd clean up and paint a new picture for each band playing. He was working on a "tunnel going somewhere with a spider at the end of it when somebody asked, 'How much do you want for it?' (pause) 'I'll do some more of that.'"


For someone so extensively displayed it's hard to believe Tom is just barely making it these days. He is a man of great strengths and formidable weaknesses and much has been his fault. Any bar that's been around long enough to matter has a Monkey Tom somewhere. He's on trucks, signs, fences, bail bond offices—anywhere someone will give him something to keep the show going. He once painted all the walls of Stew's bar for a place to drink and sleep. When the joint was closed down someone went in and cut all the walls down and hauled them away. To this day no one knows where they went, but that has to be the ultimate artistic compliment.

At the Rusty Anchor there's a bidding war going on between two girls who work there. They snatch up whatever Tom brings in, then take the works up to Geiger Key Marina where they sell it (at a lovely profit) to two gentlemen who very much appreciate Tom's DT visions.

When we went up to photograph their outstanding collections, Tom came along. He'd

never been to Geiger Key before. Everyone was honored. As he posed amidst his impromptu gallery, his fans changed into their good clothes and combed their hair to be photographed next to him. They brought him beers (no wine available). The dogs put their heads in his lap and, yes, the pretty girls were there. The manager lured him up there just in time for Hurricane Andrew. While the force five nightmare was considering the Keys, Tom was painting his portrait for last month's Solares Hill cover.

He's back now and maybe you can catch him just right at Rusty Anchor -- what's left of the shrimp docks -- or with his buddies passing a bottle around. On Saturdays he'll be at the free food table eating a sandwich. The church picks Tom up for services but for now he "just likes to listen." The pull of the free life, the song of the wine and the grand snatches of art, where a shrimp boat forever pulls a fluorescent wake, are still too strong.

Monkey Tom and the writer would like to offer a thousand thanks to the following who went above and beyond the call of duty to make this article possible. Everyone who donated access and enthusiasm to Tom's work. The Key Wester for digging into their archives. Teddy Z. for general direction and background on the Sixties. Barbie and everyone at the Rusty Anchor for getting us together and baked potatoes. The Key West Baptist Temple, the Cubby Hole and the Fudge Cycle Shop for the patently Christian act of feeding the homeless and hungry, even though many are not saints. 

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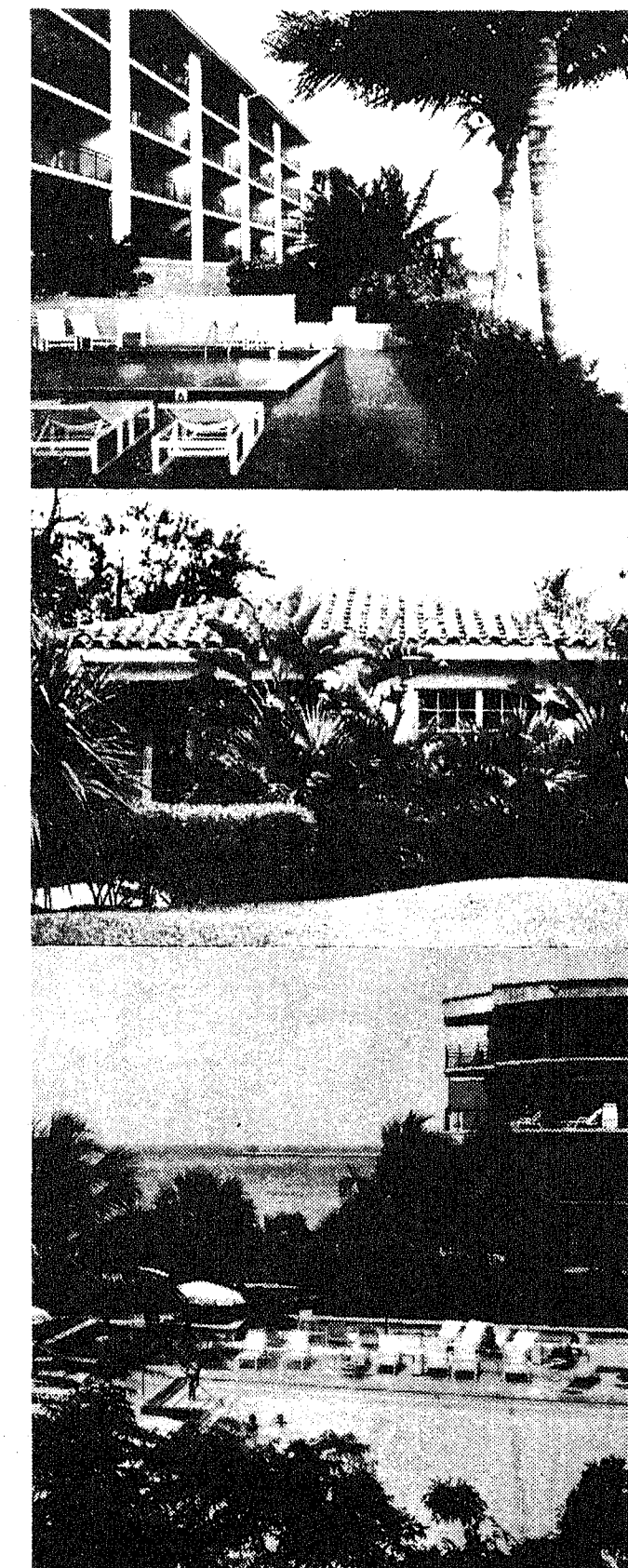
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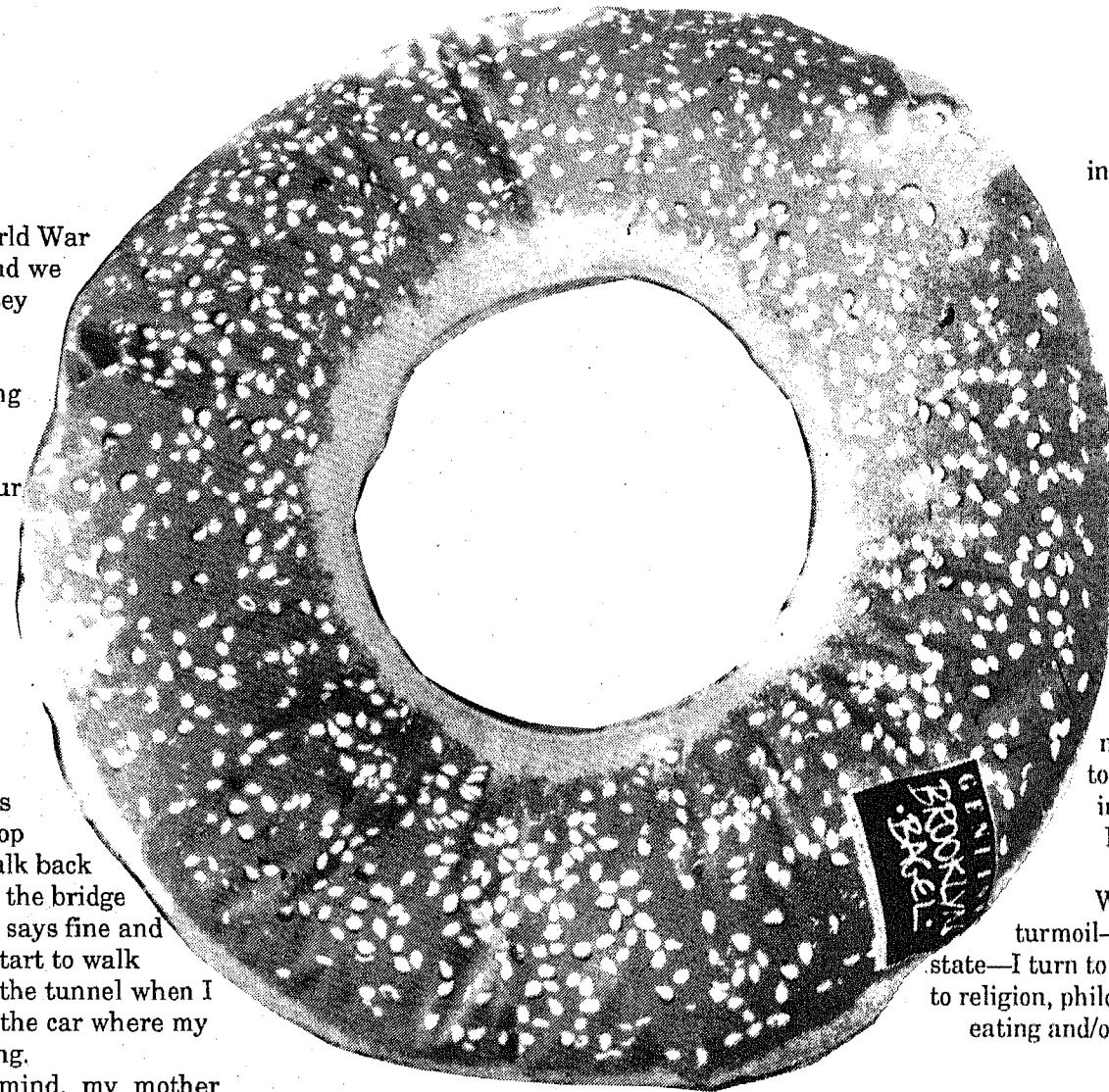
## COVER STORY

by David Kaufell

It's shortly after World War II, late on a winter's night and we are driving back to New Jersey through the eerie, neon-lit Holland Tunnel in the huge vintage Packard after visiting family in New York. I am way in the back—this was a big car—wrapped in a fake fur blanket, complaining about New Jersey, wishing I could live with my exotic cousins (Barry's street name was Fish and he charged friends two Camels each to play on his pool table) in romantic Brooklyn.

My father—big hat, big cigar, big diamond on his pinky—teasingly offers to stop the car and tells me I can walk back through the tunnel and over the bridge to the cousins. I say fine. He says fine and stops the car. I get out and start to walk toward the gaping mouth of the tunnel when I suddenly stop and return to the car where my father and mother are waiting.

You changed your mind, my mother says. I did not, I answer with dignity. I forgot the bagels. I take the bag from the Pitkin Avenue bakery, about face and start to march. A few moments later my father, tickled by his five-year-old son's rebellion, grabs me in his arms, gives me a kiss and deposits me back in the yawning rear compartment of the Packard. Grateful but humiliated, I salve my emotional wounds by—what else?—eating bagels. The story of my life.



inedible (the pastrami tastes like it comes out of a rusty can), and they bicker endlessly. We take to buying dozens of bagels at a time for freezing, preparing for the inevitable, which arrives a few months after they began.

We are desolate. Back to making bagel runs up to Fort Lauderdale and Miami and trying to decide whether or not to open our own bagel shop ("CopaCaBagel") on Duval Street, always deciding not to because no one wants to get up at four in the morning and make bagels though I volunteer to be the maitre d'hotel on weekends.

Whenever I am in emotional turmoil—not exactly an unexplored state—I turn to bagels the way others turn to religion, philosophy, step aerobics, binge eating and/or Freudian psychoanalysis.

There were bagels aplenty in Philadelphia where I went to college, though Philadelphians are more amused than I am with the novelty bagel: Kelly green on St. Patrick's Day; valentine-shaped on you know when. Not so New York, where I went to graduate school (another two years, can you beat it?—this from the relatives who held I was spoiled beyond redemption).

New York is the undisputed bagel capital of the civilized world, and one can find, with little or no effort, every example of bagel existent from your plain, crusty, hell-on-the-teeth, heaven-in-the-tummy basic real bagel (no cinnamon or raisins here) to the Russian black-all-the-way bagel coated with onions, poppy and sesame seeds, weighing in at a good quarter of a pound, shmeared with butter or cream cheese. My mouth is watering as I write.

# Bagels In Paradise

Cut to a number of years later when we are living in the paradisaical southernmost city, Key West, happy in Eden. There's only one little worm. No deli. No bagels. I'm reduced to Lender's and I'm miserable. Then a couple of guys come down from New Jersey and rent a former gas station out on the boulevard and put

up a sign that says bagels. Against all odds they're delicious, chewy, a little tough and downright satis-fying. Unfortunately, the guys have zero business sense, their other food is

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You can imagine how disconcerting it was to wake up one day and find that I was not only in the U.S. Army but that I was stationed in southwestern Georgia in a place where they lather their hamburgers with mayonnaise (I gag just thinking about it) and serve something that looks suspiciously like a Hostess frosted concoction when one orders a Danish pastry.

Bagels at the time (and maybe still) were unheard of.

On weekends when I could manage a pass, I would drive a couple of hours north to Atlanta where there was a deli which carried not only bagels but decent chopped liver and cheese danish that did not look or taste like cardboard and sugared Velveeta. I loved the drive, the carrot of a bagel with cream cheese egging me on through the little towns that dotted the way. (None was more interesting than a place called Gay, Georgia, which possessed a post office particularly popular at Christmas time when those of a non-mainstream sexual persuasion would travel from far and wide to mail their Christmas greetings so they would be postmarked with the village name.)

The delight in the trip and the bagels ended, however, when civil rights demonstrators stormed in one Saturday morning protesting (with cause, I suspect) the deli management's hiring policy by urinating on the counters. I don't know whether it was political empathy or undue sensitivity, but somehow the bagels, not to mention the chicken soup, never tasted right again.

When I learned that my parents were driving to Miami Beach for their annual winter hegira, I arranged my leave to coincide with their trip. My father, unused to military ways, arrived in the pre-dawn dark (I was to start my leave after roll call) much too early and parked in the center of the company yard. Imagine everyone's surprise (not least of which was my own) to find, when we had been told to fall out that we had fallen out around a brand new skipper-blue Cadillac Eldorado convertible with gold wheels, gold grill and a gold Continental kit. As dawn broke, mother, nervous lest the air conditioning escape—the humidity could be something awful in southwestern Georgia —

electronically lowered her window a centimeter and asked for the once-silent, towering and smoldering Sergeant Major LaVerne Gentry "to please tell David Kaufell to make it snappy because his parents are waiting for him and we don't have all day."

Fretting about what Manichean torture Sergeant Major Gentry—an old enemy—would have in store for me when I returned, my mother sought to distract me by unwrapping a half-yard of silver foil and handing me a bagel with strawberry jelly seeping out. It's a day old, she told me, but it will suffice until we get to Miami. Mother knew, bless her heart.

After the Army, I managed to get an apartment around the corner from the Bagel Chateau on Third Avenue. These were not real bagels, I'm sorry to have to report, but the sort of Upper East Side roll-like concoctions that managed, just, to pass. I had to search elsewhere for the real thing.

But there were moments when the Bagel Chateau had to suffice. The night of the big blackout in New York, when '21' was serving steak sandwiches by candlelight, I was begging the unsympathetic Bagel Chateau management for half a dozen bagels. "I can't tell if I'm giving you salt, rye or plain. Why don't you go home and light a couple of candles?"

In the end Louis gave me a dozen bagels and told me he'd put it on my tab. We spent the blackout eating dry bagels and drinking warm Coke by candlelight with the elevator man who couldn't get home to Queens.

Lately there is the aroma of change in the crystalline Keys air. At last a Chinese take-out cum home delivery—Wok on Wheels—has established itself. The vegetables are crisp, the chow mein is nice and familiar, and the brown sauce is satisfyingly rich.

Even better, from my point of view, is the Bleeker Street Bagelry. So we're casing the new shopping center with the colossal Winn-Dixie and the disaster of a parking lot early last fall when we see a sign that says "Bagels Coming." Lynn and Jackson (our eleven-year-old) get all

Solares Hill • Oct. 1 - Oct. 21, 1992 • Page 15  
excited, but I remind them of the bagel shop now defunct in Santa Fe and all the other faux bagel shops purveying rolls that look like bagels we have ever been seduced by. Lynn says there's someone in there and maybe they'll listen to reason.

She puts her head in the shop and asks the sleepy-eyed fellow painting the walls a moderate pink if he's going to be selling real bagels. He says yeah, they're going to be the best bagels money can buy. Lynn replies that the best bagels that money can buy come from a little shop on Elmora Avenue in Elizabeth, New Jersey. He says he comes from Elizabeth, New Jersey and should know.

Well, so do I. I put my head in the shop and say, Leo. Leo says, David. We graduated together from the all boys and now-defunct Thomas Jefferson High School in Elizabeth, New Jersey a hundred years ago. He swears on his word of honor that the bagels are going to be genuine and so they are, along with the chopped liver, the rugalach and the white fish.

Nor are we worried that tomorrow the Bleeker Street Bagelry will be gone, a figment of someone's imagination. Leo has a hard business head and two of his five children—the beauteous Monique and Janine—are running the place nicely and business is, knock on wood, real good.

So now I can face just about any trial late middle age has in store for me with equanimity. That soothing soporific panacea for all my ailments, the bagel, is at hand.

David A. Kaufell's new novel, *The Fat Boy Murders*, is being published next summer.

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# "KEY WEST" IN KEY WEST

TELEVISION COMES TO PARADISE

by Lee Irby

Let's say you wake up one day and your life becomes grist for a new television series. No self-help literature yet exists to attenuate that trauma. There are no support groups in which to express the feelings of diminishment brought on by the thought that you are now so transparent, even Fox can fictionalize your adulthood.

By now, every citizen in Key West must know that a television series is being taped right here. Strangely enough, the title is "Key West."

The premise: young man--Seamus--wins the New Jersey lottery, moves to Key West to write for a small local paper while pursuing lofty literary goals. So far, so good. Compared to the usual dross produced by Hollywood Philistine, this story line is of Nobel quality.

One problem: such a person, in theory, already exists. C'est moi. Yours truly. City reporter and aspiring writer with the rejection notices to prove it. And the I-am-deeply-perplexed glasses. And the paper cuts.

Jennifer Tilley, the show's ingenue, has recently complained of the title. "It sounds like an Aaron Spelling production," she said. Apparently, the original selection, "Sex and Politics at the End of the World," was more to her liking.



KEY WEST'S NEWEST RAG: Fox Television's vision of a Key West newspaper.

Aaron Spelling produced "Charlie's Angels." One must assume that, in network television, there are gradations of quality too fine for the average viewer to discern.

Like other tourists, the TV show came here with predisposed notions. They were ready to perpetuate the same Key West myths that were fodder for many 1970's "burn-out" novels. Maybe then, in that decade, cheap rents and the closure of the Navy base engendered the anything-goes atmosphere which long-time residents swear reigned on the island. Smugglers, free to float without fear of Coast Guard interference, refugees, drop-outs, Vietnam vets, shrimpers. In 1974, 90% of Duval Street was closed. But twenty years has passed, and these myths bear closer inspection.

Myth #1. "Laid back atmosphere." People who live here work. Being "laid back" often comes as a function of exhaustion. If you don't work, you either live on a boat or on the street.

One job doesn't always cut it, either. The rents are high and so are the bills. But that's not good TV.

Myth #2. "Party Town." Again, if you work two or three jobs, party time gets whittled down to a shift beer at dawn. Then it's up and at 'em. Vacationers, of course, drink to excess to forget their routinized hells awaiting them at home. Sure, there are plenty of hard-core people here, but the days of smuggling are long gone. This is really a military installation. The gay community, once the real source of any Key West style, is in mourning.

Myth #3. "Hemingway." The young protagonist of "Key West" is infatuated with the great author whose reputation for virility has spawned an entire subculture that shows no signs of abating. It will be interesting to see if the show chooses to lampoon Hemingway-worship or instead fuel it with the half-truths that have come to obscure the bearded one.

The harsh truth is that Kafka and Faulkner, both contemporaries of Hemingway, have had far more impact on world literature. But their

lives, prosaic existences in comparison, weren't the stuff of drama. No one goes to Prague to visit the monolithic insurance company building where Kafka toiled, or to Oxford, Mississippi, to sit on a porch and drink rye whiskey.

Not to say Key West is bereft of characters. But "Key West" will be severely limited by the strictures of commercial television, which outlaws nudity and most cursing. So the hard edges of the island will be blunted and rendered PG, and ultimately bankrupt.

Not to say the show won't have sex. It will have plenty of implied sex. Word is that Jennifer Tilley's character beds down everyone in town except Captain Tony.

Not to say the show won't have Captain Tony. He plays himself on an episode. Sources close to the ex-mayor say that he had a problem with his dialogue--he wanted to speak like himself, but was told to follow the script.

Okay, the show strains credulity, but, being lenient, we'll accept the blind editor and the pet crocodile "with a mind of its own."

Until we meet Cody. Cody is the "surfing, philosophizing sheriff who teaches aerobics to convicts on the beach."

What? A surfing sheriff? Where does he surf? In the wake of yachts? I have a sense of humor and I like David Lynch as much as the next guy, but the creation of Cody, the aerobics instructor/ sheriff, is asking too much of any marginally educated human being. What kind of drugs do people in Hollywood consume, anyway?

The show's producers have gone out of their way to hire locals. Joy Hawkins of the Red Barn got a part, and all the extras have been "locals." The real locals, of course, live in Ocala or in Bahama Village, but I haven't noticed too many scenes being filmed in or around Nelson English Park.

There is a dred-locked character, though. I saw him while they were filming at Mallory Square. The "hurricane" episode. He was affecting a down-islander accent and warning people of the coming peril. My first impression was: I wonder if they'll ever have a scene in which he and Seamus light up a big, fat joint, and then worry if some cop on a bike will drive by, smell the odor, and bust them. But hey--Key West is laid back, right?

Seamus will be uncovering corruption in local politics. Now that ought to be interesting. Maybe they'll have a Montenay episode, and Seamus and George Halloran can stand on top of Mount Trashmore and howl at the winds. Or maybe Tom Webster can guest star as the local police chief who gets his buddy to hire him and then insert various clauses in his contract that eventually cost taxpayers thousands of dollars. Nah! Too unrealistic. No one'd buy that one.

The show is expected to pump some \$6 million into the local economy, according to some reports. Not to mention the numerous hours of free advertising on Fox.

But the key words to many in the tourist industry are "up" and "scale." No studies exist that suggest a causal link between network television and the vacationing habits of upper middle class people. Will this show help attract the kind of people who browse in art galleries, pay \$200 a night for a room, and charter boats? Or maybe, just maybe, will it appeal to young, dissolute, hip folks who'd rather slum it and buy a t-shirt at Sloppy Joe's? Stay tuned, as they say.

The show opens on October 27.

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## COMMUNITY NOTES



John Kreul of Mariner Outboard presents Team Grand Champion Award to (left to right) Capt. Harry Spear, Tucker Frederickson and Jim Boker.

## S.I.A.M. is a Success

The Third Annual Mariner Outboards S.I.A.M. Tournament held in September, had its best year ever with a record-setting 65 releases of bonefish, permit and tarpon. The tournament is the first leg of the 1992 Redbone Celebrity Tournament Series: a trilogy of all-release tournaments to raise funds to fight and

cure cystic fibrosis. The remaining dates of the '92 series are the Zebco MotorGuide/Baybone in Key Biscayne on October 20-22 and The Mercury Outboards/Redbone in Islamorada on November 6-8. There are still a few angler spots open for these tournaments. For more information, call 305-664-2002.

## Guitar Relaxation Technique Workshop

Here's a great opportunity for guitarists to improve their playing. Classical guitarist Matthew Jampol will be teaching a workshop based on his principles of hand movement and relaxation he developed from 15 years of playing. Workshops will meet at the newly renovated Coffee Mill Cultural Center at 916 Pohalski Street (behind the Truman and White Chevron) Saturdays from noon to 1:30 p.m. Classes cost \$10 each. For more information, call 296-7961.

## Giving Furry Friends A Helping Hand

The folks with Lower Keys Friends of Animals have been busy since Hurricane Andrew, aiding in the animal relief

effort in the Homestead area. Key West members gathered donated food and medical supplies from local merchants and friends and made numerous trips to the affected area, helping out in anyway they could once they were there. Lower Keys Friends of Animals is a totally volunteer non-profit organization financed solely by contributions. For more information, contact P.O. Box 1043, Key West, FL 33041.

## Mental Illness Awareness Week

The week of October 4-10 has been nationally designated as Mental Illness Awareness Week by Congress. A proclamation to that effect will be issued by the Key West City Commission at their meeting on October 6. During the week NAMI (National Alliance of the Mentally Ill) Affiliates, such as the Key West Alliance for the Mentally Ill (KWAMI) are launching a campaign to reach out to families individuals suffering from illnesses such as schizophrenia and manic depression. KWAMI holds monthly meetings at the Care Center for Mental Health, 1204 4th Street at 7:30 p.m. on

the fourth Monday of each month. Everyone is invited to attend. For more information, call 294-4875.

## CES 1992-93 Budget Approved

The Utility Board unanimously approved City Electric System's \$45 million budget last month. The new budget is about 2.7 percent less than last year's budget. Robert Padron, general manager, explained that the budget is based on a no-growth scenario. It anticipates a decrease in kilowatt hour sales; it includes a \$2.2 million transfer from the rate stabilization fund; it reflects a decrease in staff; and it does not require any rate increases. Padron also informed the board that CES has filed a claim with FEMA to recoup the cost of labor and materials associated with storm preparation and recovery and for the differential cost of using local generation instead of purchasing power over the timeline.

## Drop-Off Points for Hurricane Relief

Monroe County Social Services will assist in collecting donations of food and clothing for South Dade County hurricane victims. Items can be brought to the Senior Center located in the Armory Building at 600 White Street and the Social Service office at 1315 Whitehead Street between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.

## Bahamian Relief Effort

Food, water, infant and medical supplies are desperately needed for the Bahamian Relief Effort. Collections are being made at the old Winn Dixie in Searstown. In lieu of donating goods, funds may be donated to the United Way specified for Bahamian Relief. For more information, call Carolyn Cash at 294-3207 or Gordon Smith at 294-1073.

## Prepping for Fantasy Fest

Entry applications are now being accepted for the colorful climax of Fantasy Fest '92—The Twilight Fantasy Parade on October 31. Fees are \$100 for motorized floats, non-motorized floats and non-profit organizations. Entry is free for Fantasy Fest commercial sponsors, walkers and groups. Official entry forms are available at the Festival Headquarters, 812 Southard Street in the Old Harris School. Deadline for entry is October 9.

## More Fantasy Fest Scoop

WTVJ-Channel 4 meteorologist Bryan Norcross—the hurricane hero—has been chosen to be Grand Marshall of the 1992 Fantasy Fest Grand Parade. "I wouldn't mess Fantasy Fest," says Norcross, "and it's extraordinarily special to be there this year and be Grand Marshall. I'm going to use my newfound influence with Mother Nature to try and make sure that the weather is perfect for the parade." The Grand Marshall traditionally leads the parade as it winds up Duval Street. The parade will cap off the celebration on October 31—Halloween night.

Correction: We mistakenly identified Patricia Pepper, Director of Housing and Community Development, as the daughter of the legendary Claude Pepper. Actually, Claude Pepper had no children. Sorry for the mistake!

## COMMUNITY NOTES

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# 510 GREENE STREET

by Lee Irby

## Legal Sausage

There is an old maxim that applies to the hours of debate and wrangling surrounding the city commission's passage of the so-called "t-shirt" ordinance. Namely, you don't want to see how sausage or laws are made.

By an acrimonious 3-2 vote, the commissioners enacted an ordinance that prohibits "adult entertainment businesses, discount jewelry stores, electronics/camera stores and t-shirt shops" from locating within 200 feet of a similar business. The ordinance underwent four separate readings and every conceivable source weighed in with a comment.

Commissioner Pais, echoing sentiments expressed by many Duval Street store owners, insisted that the heart of the ordinance was "to create diversity on Duval Street." Supporters of the ordinance cited the proliferation of t-shirt shops on lower Duval Street as evidence that such a measure was required. The spirit of the historic district was imperiled, Pais said.

"Other communities are taking control of their main streets," he explained. "So should we. That's what zoning's for."

Commissioner Weekley sponsored the legislation and modeled it after a similar effort in New Orleans. City Attorney Ginny Stone provided some legal defense for such a restrictive ordinance, but most of the measure is legally untested.

The commission did act to head off a possible lawsuit. Shops that have been in continuous operation for 7 years would be grandfathered in and allowed to move their stores, if desired, to within 200 feet of another one. This gesture was in response to the persistent complaints of t-shirt mogul Chandur Gidwani, who said that many well-meaning store owners would be in jeopardy of going out of business.

"Landlords could kick them out, and then they'd have no protection," he said. "This law is discriminatory. Some of us have been there since when Duval Street was dead."

Mayor Wardlow and Commissioner Bethel both voted against the ordinance. They based their disapproval on the concept of free enterprise. "We can't do this without infringing on people's property rights," Wardlow said.

"This law is discriminatory," Bethel argued. "What version of Duval Street do they

want? I can remember a lot of different kinds."

Bethel buttressed his stance by referring to a TDC exit survey (see below) which listed Duval Street as the 3rd most popular attraction. "If it's not broke, why fix it?" he asked.

It's obvious that this move, along with the effort to oust OPC's and mobile vendors, is another installment in the commission's series to upscale Margarita-ville. But Martini-on-the-Rocksville doesn't have the same ring, does it?

Duval Street is currently home to a Dansk outlet, a Birkenstock store, Fast Buck Freddie's, Winter Sun, Greenpeace, Swept Away, Boheem, Lido's, H.R. Chittum's, Rick's, Sloppy Joe's, bookstores, restaurants, art galleries, and some rather tasteless purveyors of cheap junk. Diversity is at hand.

The real culprits in this saga are the landlords who own the property and charge \$5,000 to \$6,000 per month on top of key deposits of \$100,000, according to one t-shirt store owner who wished to remain nameless. "And they kick you out if they can get more," he said.

Unless the rents come down, there will be no diversity on Duval Street.

A better question is, why didn't the commission spend close to twenty hours trying to find a way to clean up North Roosevelt Boulevard, the one true Key West Blight?

## No Exit

Like characters in Sartre's play, the Tourist Development Council has tried to divine the motivation behind visitor behavior via an

exit survey. Its results were presented to the commission on September 8.

The survey asked numerous questions about the features and accommodations, length of stay, likes and dislikes, and ranked the answers by percentile.

The most interesting result was the questions over who, exactly, visits the island, since the "upscale" trend seems to lurk behind every commission move.

Drum roll, please. The majority (56.9%) are between the ages of 26 and 45 and almost half (45.2%) earn between \$21,000 and \$61,000. Almost as many made less than \$20,000 (5.5%) as made over \$100,000 (8.6%). In other words, the middle of the middle class.

Mostly (64%) they stay in hotels or motels. They preferred snorkeling, the beach, and diving (30.4%) to shopping, dining, and art galleries (10.4%). They also really liked the historic atmosphere, friendliness, and Duval Street atmosphere (45%). Atmosphere is free, by the way. So is being friendly.

Conclusion: like most people who aren't rich and are on vacation, our visitors are happiest when the old wallet stays in the pocket.

What was the thing most people were dissatisfied with? Value for the price (15.2%). Of course, once we get rid of the t-shirt shops, the rich people will come. Right?

## What is a Bollard?

A bollard is a nautical pylon that has engendered ill-will between those who favor giving Mallory Square a facelift and the nightly sunset entertainers who feel threatened by the proposed design.

On September 22, architect Jose Gonzalez presented the final plans for the Mallory Square project, which the commission voted unanimously to endorse in concept. The proposed plan is slated to take five years and carry a \$4 million price tag.

The design transfers parking away from the sprawling parking lot into a single-deck garage next to the Ocean Key House. Attendants would be replaced by meters.

Gonzalez's plan also includes landscaping as well as a make-over for the Jan McArt Theater. The focal point is a 35-foot tower near the pier that would become a noted landmark.

The plan proposes using bollards to divide the pier into halves. The waterfront side would be for strollers, while the entertainers would be moved back from their traditional spot. The pier would double in size, to sixty feet.

After many sunset denizens objected, Harry Powell suggested the use of trees or some other partitioning device. Gonzalez defended the bollards as historically germane to the project.

Powell also balked at the pricetag. "It's a bit much," he said. Currently, the City has planned to spend \$7.5 million of infrastructure sales tax revenue to fix up both Mallory Square and Key West Blight.

The City insists that both moves will produce additional revenues. But with Montenay and Truman Annex ringing in people's ears, such moves may prove to be politically costly as well.

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## ISLAND ECONOMICS

**Dawn Petscher**, Vice President of **First National Bank of the Florida Keys**, recently celebrated 15 years of employment with the bank. Petscher began working for First National Bank soon after its opening in 1977. She has worked in just about every capacity, from teller to operations and data processing and was promoted to Vice President in 1990 at the Marathon Shores office.



PROMOTED: Dawn Petscher of First National Bank of the Florida Keys.

The brother and sister team of **Dr. Jonathan Meyers** and **Dr. Corey Myers** announce the opening of the **Chiropractic Health Center of Key West** at 1209 Truman Avenue. Both Meyers are graduates of Rutgers University and Life Chiropractic College and are licensed in several states plus certified in physical therapy. They invite everyone to come in and learn about the benefits of chiropractic health through a complimentary consultation. The center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and emergency service is available if necessary. For more information, call 294-2285.

**Thomas A. Guenther** of Bavaria, Germany announces the purchase of **Audio Video International** at 1436 Kennedy Drive. The store is the only authorized dealer for a/d/s and specializes in custom installation of audio and video equipment for the home, car and marine. Guenther came to Key West last February, fell in love with the area and decided to stay. Another Key West love story! Call 294-4018.

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## ISLAND ECONOMICS



AUDIO VIDEO INTERNATIONAL: Thomas A. Guenther, owner and President, and Pat Toppi, Vice President.

Russell will conduct HIV counseling and community outreach through the asymptomatic clinic at dePoo Hospital, the jail system and civic organizations.

**Gene Moody** owner-broker of **Greg O'Berry, Inc. Real Estate** says the company is growing so fast that it's time for them to reinvest and expand in Key West. The company is in the process of developing a state-of-the-art real estate complex at 701 Caroline Street which should be ready by mid-December. The 3400 square foot complex will house 37 offices for Greg O' Berry staff and sales associates and boost a new 40-telephone line system from AT&T. The cost of the redevelopment is estimated at \$700,000 and will be financed by First State Bank.

Wondering what happened to Duval Books & Cards? Well it moved to 538 Truman Avenue (near Eckerd's) and has been renamed **Blue Heron Books**. Owner Stan Siegel said the move was necessary to expand on sections that had a lot of local request. The new location offers increased sections in reference, gay/lesbian, local authors, poetry, fishing, women's studies plus French and German titles. The store will begin carrying magazines and the Sunday New York Times in the near future. Other additions currently in the works are a locals lending library and a book discussion club. Call 296-3508.

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# ART CIRCLE • BY JUDI BRADFORD

## TINAFISH

She denies murdering fish. "They come to me dead," says TINAFISH (all caps--no confidence problem here).

Tina Lutz, as the artist is known to her friends and neighbors, practices gyotaku: the Japanese art form of fish printing in which fish are coated with acrylic paints or inks and applied to rice paper or fabric. The paint offsets onto the fabric or paper in the pattern of the fish's surface textures. The result is a record of an actual, formerly living fish.

TINAFISH gets her subjects from a keys tropical fish wholesaler who diverts his casualties her way. She also receives some marine critters that get caught in commercial fishermen's nets--an octopus was one of these recent "net losses." To get the most use out of them, her freezer becomes a studio tool. Thus a loss becomes a profit.

"It's the American Dream," she says. "A little paint and a dead fish and I have an art business. I don't have to wait tables."

Holy mackerel, you might say. However, before everyone rushes out and slaps a latex-dipped grunt on a roll of butcher paper, it's worth knowing that there are several fathoms of art training floating the TINAFISH enterprise.

Lutz prides herself on being a Southern artist. "It's important to me," she says. She wants the world to know there's more to the southern heritage than poverty, humidity and rednecks. Her background is in Memphis, Florida and Mississippi, where she attended the University of Southern Mississippi and took an undergraduate degree in graphic communications. She studied further in Italy

and Colorado.

The printing of fish was learned locally from Odie Kramer after Lutz read about the woman's expertise in a local newspaper. After instruction from Kramer, Lutz did more research on her own. In the three and a half years she has been working with the medium, she has printed thousands of fish on paper and on T-shirts, napkins and aprons.

Although her favorite material is t-shirt fabric, her most striking work is the collection of mixed media collages that combine the fish prints with Lutz's energetic graphic talents. This is where ancient tradition combines with contemporary design in bold colors and varying textures.

"My artwork wasn't saying anything," Lutz explains. "I wanted to have a conversation through the pieces. I think that is important for the artist to do." Thus began a series she calls "Handle with Care" that featured the fish prints overlaid on local navigational charts with graphic treatments of the nearby reefs. Some are enhanced with design studies she recently discovered from a college course in Chinese painting.

The next evolutionary phase--"Fish are Driving Me Bananas"--creates a duet with the ever-present piscine motif and bananas. Now THERE'S a great tropic topic--hog snappers and hog bananas.

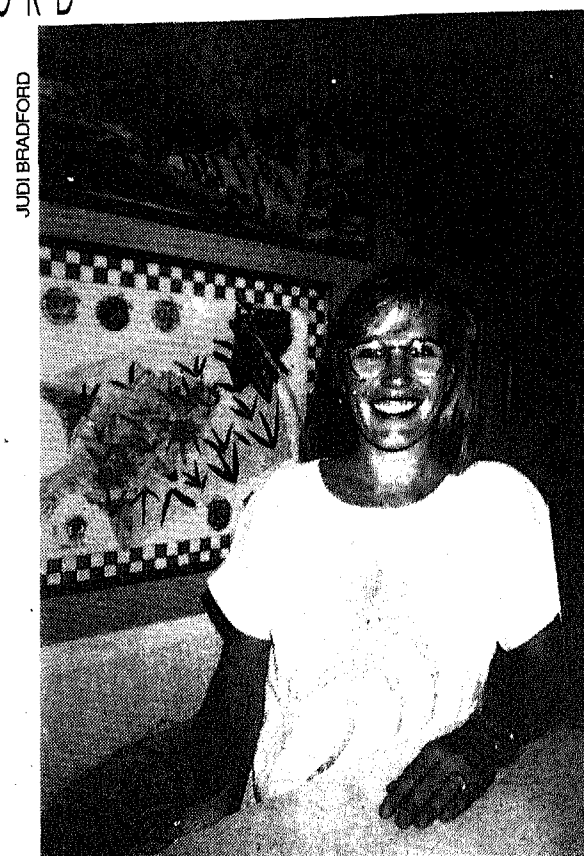
"I love Cuban hog bananas" says Lutz with a nod. "They're really cool."

She's right, they are, especially when mixed with local snapper, vibrant colors, interesting repetitive patterns and lettering and served up on a visual platter of torn corrugated cardboard. "I love cardboard--it's warmth, its texture." She worries about its acidic nature which prevents it from being an archival material. "I work with that as well as I can." Some things were meant to be temporary.

A recent piece, "Final Destination" deals with her thoughts and concerns about Key West as a "t-shirt city." Currently there is a series influenced by Hurricane Andrew.

While the South has been an influence, the Orient also has had its way with Lutz. Her interest in the far east is long-standing, evidenced by her use Chinese designs and her respect for the Japanese traditions associated with gyotaku. She observes, for instance, the guidelines for placement of the fish--none should face downward or bad luck will wash over us.

Her signature is a "chop," actually a pair of chops. Originally it was her self-designed



TINAFISH displays her work at Island Arts. stamp, a logo using her initials. Beside it, the ultimate signature, her thumb print. A friend travelling to Japan brought her back a chop from that island country. It translates TINAFISH into stylized Japanese kenji, or glyph.

Her work is found at Island Arts on Duval, an artists' cooperative. It is displayed against a brilliant turquoise wall that warns of the color treatment we're in for here. Timidity does not apply.

Like all artists, however, it is not a case of one-stop selling. Lutz explores the merchandising landscape with a practiced eye. Her minor in college was marketing and she has invested plenty of time in advertising illustration and design.

Last May her napkins and aprons turned up in Food and Wine magazine. It was a small mention, but it initiated a steady trickle of orders that goes a long way toward mitigating the summer doldrums in the sales market here. Not only that, it provided nationwide exposure. "TINAFISH has certainly travelled a lot more than Tina Lutz has," says Lutz. "It's gone to Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Washington state, Maine, Montana, the midwest." TINAFISH has created a vibrant art form that provides a connecting monofilament between ancient tradition and real, everyday life. A welcome tie in a modern world that seems sometimes to have cut us adrift. With this light gauge test line, TINAFISH has been able to reel in a steadily growing group of admirers.

"It's a whole lot of fun and I'm having a lot of fun doing it," says Tina. And we're having a lot of fun watching.

## ART & CULTURE NOTES

### Harbor Pilots at Audubon House

"A Family of Harbor Pilots" is the current exhibit at the Audubon House. Photographs and articles from the Geigers, whose family home the Audubon House is, relate a history of Key West harbor pilots spanning 170 years. Capt. John Huling Geiger was the first pilot in Key West, navigating for Commodore Porter.

His two sons were Capt. John Henry Geiger and Capt. William Geiger, his grandson Capt. Joshua Bunce Smith and great grandson Capt. William Bradford Smith. Edwin E. Crusoe IV, a descendant of the Smith branch of the family, is our current chief harbor pilot today. see this interesting bit of island history at the Audubon House, 205 Whitehead Street, 294-2116. Hours: Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission \$5, children under six free, AAA discount.

### Marine Art

The Key West Maritime Historical Society is sponsoring a show of marine paintings, photography and sculpture at the Florida Keys Community College Library Gallery beginning October 16.

The show will feature images of interest to romantics, tech-nauts and art lovers as it presents the many aspects of the sea from different perspectives.

Local marine painters Sandford Birdsey, Robert Kennedy, David Harrison Wright, Herbert Foote, and William Muir will contribute work as well as sculptor Michael "White" Bassett and photographers Sharon Wells and Jay Wetzel.

Of special interest to those of you out there who love ship models, will be a display of such locally crafted vessels by Ben Gallagher, Tom Noeker and Kyle Wickware.

### Citadel Renewal

East Martello Art and Historical Society has received a grant of \$120,000 from the State of Florida Historical Resources Division to restore the citadel on their grounds. The structure will be stabilized and a new roof put on in construction that will begin soon and continue through December.

### Fostering Cultural Diversity

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is holding its 46th National Preservation Conference in Miami next month. Its theme is "Fostering Appreciation for Cultural Diversity".

The ever expanding variety of America's ethnic components was developed as an issue at the previous conference. This gathering will explore methods to preserve the amalgam of influences in our communities.

At its closing a special tour of Key West, coordinated by East Martello director Susan Olsen, will bring participants to our island October 11 and 12. Preservationists from all over the country will be attending and getting an insider's view of Key West's rich history.

### Artists Hall of Fame

The Florida Division of Cultural Affairs is accepting nominations for the Florida Artists Hall of Fame. If you wish to propose an outstanding artist for this honor, contact the Division of Cultural Affairs, The Capitol, Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250.

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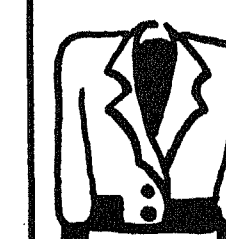


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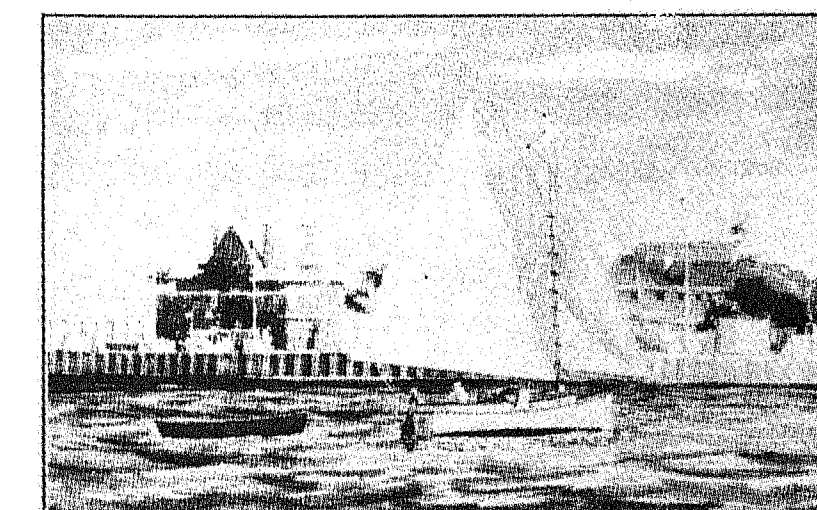
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## FEMA and Historic Preservation

The Historic Preservation News reported in September that FEMA has been working with the National Trust on hazard-mitigation of historic structures. The guidelines will include assessment and emergency preparedness plans as well as methods of recovery. The report will be available later this year, no doubt with footnotes from Hurricane Andrew.

A long-time favorite for creative ceramics and tiles and hand-painted designer clothing, Pandemonium is expanding its merchandise to include exotic gift items that will drive you wild. Partner/designer Valerie Hoh is back from a summer of travel during which she kept her eyes open for wonderful things from all over that she could bring to Key West.

A completely new interior will be the background for the new work from national and international sources. There's always something new going on at Pandemonium, in the 700 block of Duval.

A new and exotic addition to the Key West mystique. Self-described as an interpretive multimedia artistic journey, it is part pure art and part enigma. It is an environment created by the proprietress Geraldine O. Lloyd, reflecting her interpretation of life in terms of Greek female deities as archetypes.

There are items (antique and otherwise) for sale and a variety of artistic services available, including portraits, commissioned sculpture and lifestyle enhancements. The incredible ensemble can also be reserved for private groups. Manana-style hours are 9-11 p.m. on Fridays or by appointment.

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

**Kudu Gallery of Tribal Arts** • Tribal rugs and kilims. African art, collector's textiles, jewelry. Also ethnic musical instruments, tapestries and toys. Open by chance or by appointment during off-season. 1208 Duval St. 294-3771.

**Lane Gallery** • Closed for vacation until October 20.  
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**Great Southern Gallery •** Jeff Nancarvis whimsical sculptures. New Dick Moody trompe l'œil tile paintings. New works by Carrie Disrude. Daily, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 910 Duval St. 294-6660.

**254 Hall Gallery •** Eighteen keys artists in a cooperative featuring the island's widest variety of arts and fine crafts. Daily, 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. and often later. 614 Duval St. 296-6076.

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**Harrison Gallery •** Wood sculptures by Helen Harrison. Also Andre Henocque, Alan Tidball, Marc Caren and others. Daily, noon to 5:30 p.m. except Sunday and Monday. Ring the bell. 825 White St. 294 0609.

**High Tide •** Oil paintings and prints with local flavor and also local artists. Affordable prices from \$5 to \$300. Packing and shipping available. Daily, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. 826 Duval St. 293-0331.

**Island Arts •** Artist cooperative and consignment shop with a unique selection of local arts, crafts and painted objects. Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, noon to 6 p.m. until season. 1128 Duval Street. 292-9909.

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# Gillis

by Christine Naughton

## Gillis Is Back In Town

A couple of months ago, there was a distinct buzz in Key West's musical hive. A little good-natured grumbling among the guitar playing ranks, chirps of joyful anticipation from the canaries: Did you hear? Gillis is back in town.

Michael Gillis, world-class guitarist, made Key West his home for a few years in the 1980s while he continued his career of session work and live appearances with major artists. Stevie Wonder, Carmen McRae, Louis Bellson, James Brown, Gladys Knight and the Pips and a slew of others are not just names in the liner notes of Gillis' album collection, but folks with whom he has shared concert stages and recording studios, traded musical lines and licks, jammed 'til the break of dawn. Since relocating his family to Naples a few years ago, Gillis has maintained his ties to our island, and enjoys performing here whenever his schedule permits.

"Yeah," you say, "but can he play?"

"Can he play?" I say, "What planet are you from?" Then I send you packing to the Holiday Inn La Concha's Rainbow Room restaurant.

There you will hear Michael Gillis in solo jazz performance: just a guy on a stool playing a hollow-bodied electric Gibson. If there be heavenly music in paradise, this be it.

Glancing around the room, smiling at folks, nonchalant as if his hands were detached from his head, Gillis explores the structure of a tune as if to show us why the composer chose



There is more than technical mastery and professional experience at work here: a resident muse in the soul, perhaps.

each change; how beautiful the progression through those changes can be.

Invariably beginning each piece with a perfectly phrased run through the head, Gillis then allows his eloquent musical statements to develop and grow through his improvised choruses, sometimes opening gradually like flower petals, sometimes bursting out like sudden fireworks.

This guitarist, who also plays acoustic and electric bass, draws from an apparently infinite arsenal of chord inversions and substitutions, scales, rhythmic variations and wickedly fine-honed chops. The surprise in Gillis' renditions is his fluidity, accuracy, and sheer tastefulness. He seems never to utilize dissonance or harshness, but goes straight for the honey every time. Ear candy, indeed.

There is more than technical mastery and professional experience at work here: a resident muse in the soul, perhaps. Witness Gillis' presentation of a gem like "But Beautiful." He doesn't stress the flatted fifths in Van Heusen's gorgeous composition, but offers each one gently, coaxing the ear to reach out a little to receive it. Without the benefit of Burke's lyrics, Gillis conveys all the bittersweet emotion contained in the heart of the tune.

Michael Gillis performs in the Rainbow Room, Wednesdays through Saturdays during the sunset hours, 5:30 to 9 p.m. He also can be heard with fine jazz pianist Dave Burns at Conchabamba, up Duval Street a piece, on Friday and Saturday nights, beginning at 9:30 p.m. And he appears often in Skipper Kripitz's Tincture of Time jazz groupings on Wednesday nights at the Pier House.



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**October 1 - October 22**

Whatever else Fantasy Fest may mean to however many folks—and the number must be infinite, given the range of comments from Key West residents and visitors—the street theater extravaganza marks the turning of the seasons in this southernmost isle as surely as apple cider and the first frost tell Yankees its time to put up the storm windows and light the woodstove. For as Fantasy Fest and its little brother Halloween show up on the late October schedule, the days and nights here are touched with first fragile evidence of change.

Change from the lockstep weeks of summer that follow each upon the other with a somnolent sameness in temperature ranges (pretty hot), humidity (high) and wind direction (soft and southerly), change from long days and short nights, change even in the way we measure time... all of this change and more is served up by October, with the helpings increasingly generous as the month moves along.

We were told that this change is on the way during September's final weeks. Even casual observers must have been aware of the barn swallows and tree swallows swooping over the ample puddles that gathered by the roadsides after those thundering September showers. Warblers, too, twittered and darted in the shrubbery, the first of their tiny breed to arrive from places like Maine where the first frost has already come and gone. One observer reports a northern parula warbler, an early sighting for this regular Key West winter resident, but not an unlikely one, given the early cold snaps up north.

Soon the first hawks—kestrels and broadwings among them—will circle. Soon daily temperatures will drop consistently, building averages that are at least two degrees lower than they were in September, with some nights cooling to as low as the seventies. Prevailing winds will shift as the month advances, backing more and more from the southeast to the northeast. And sometime during October's first splendid half, the tentative beginnings of an infant cold front will generate tendrils of drier, cooler air from the northwest and north. Like

Fantasy Fest, that first "front" (in quotes because it is seldom a proper front by meteorological standards) quickens steps, pulses and smiles. It is, perhaps, one of this island's most awaited and welcomed natural acts.

Other early October events include a first-quarter moon on the third that leads into a full moon on the eleventh; that will wane until the twenty-fifth when a new moon brings with her an end to daylight savings time. That is another of October's certain signs that change rules the month. Tides, however, if you discount the new moon of September's last days—are generally well behaved with manageable highs and lows surging a bit around the full moon's arrival and departure.

But such is the zest of this month in these latitudes that even the consistently shorter days and longer nights are scarcely noticed. This happy ignorance of approaching winter, this beginning—as opposed to the ending of summer so lamented further north—is uniquely a southernmost occurrence, ranked high on a list of good reasons to be here. And there is another, for on the fifteenth, the stone crab season reopens and claws, both succulent and pricey, will return to Key West menus, just as crab trap buoys will return to Key West waters, sharing what appears to be increasingly limited mooring space with the first of sloops, tugs, barges, yachts, cutters, houseboats, yawls, ketches, schooners and unclassifiables that are called home by their liveboards. For there is no such thing as a free lunch: as the weather becomes all that October implies, those who

Solares Hill • Oct. 1 - Oct. 21, 1992 • Page 31

follow the best of the sun come to Key West, by water as well as by road and sky.

On the flats, change comes more slowly. Just as it took longer for water temperatures to catch up with the air, it also takes longer for that water to cool. Thus bonefish and permit linger through these early October weeks. Even a few tarpon can still be found, smaller fish, but a joy to behold nonetheless. I have two superlative fish stories on hold, which I promise will show up in this space in our next, that being just 21 days from now when Solares Hill begins its twice-a-month publication schedule: one more October benefit. It's just a great month to be here.

*The Almanac is written for Solares Hill by John Cole, with much help from Capt. Bill Somers of the charter sloop Relevance, author and publisher of the Key West tide tables; flat fishing guides Capt. Gil Drake and Capt. Jeffrey Cardenas; the Florida Keys Audubon Society; the meteorologists at the Key West National Weather Service at the Key West Airport; the National Marine Fisheries Service; Thomas J. Wilmers, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service biologist; and others who generously provide insights and information. Any errors, however, are the author's and his alone.*

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## Who Can You Believe?

**John Stormont's opponent in the November 3rd. election:**

Ran on a pro-development platform in 1984

John Stormont beat her pro-growth opponent in November, 1984

Ran on a pro-development platform in 1988

Lost to John Stormont in November, 1988

**She now claims being "endorsed by the people"  
The "people" turn out to be developers and PACs**

1988 ( total campaign )	Mary Kay	John Stormont
Developers	46 gave \$12,742.00	3 gave \$1,100.00
Political Action Committee (PAC)	8 gave \$3, 563.00	0 gave \$1,000.00
"People" contributions	60 gave \$8,120.00	236 gave \$21,066.00
Personal loans	\$1,700.00	\$1,950.00
1992 ( thru August 27, 1992 )	Mary Kay	John Stormont
Developers	2 gave \$625.00	0 gave \$0.00
Political Action Committees (PAC)	2 gave \$929.00	0 gave \$0.00
"People" contributions	60 gave \$2,200.00	161 gave \$12,259.00
Personal loans	\$3,040.00	\$350.00

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## GRITS, GRUNTS &amp; GRUYERE • WITH JEANNE McCLOW

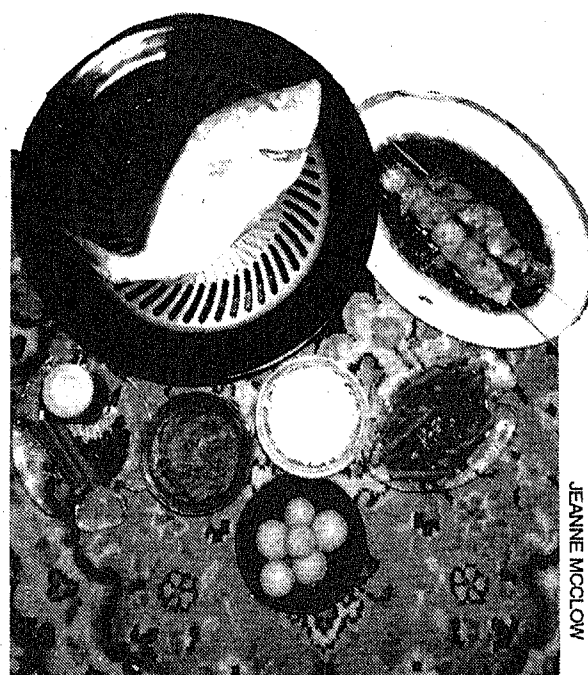
The time has come to try to explain why this known peripatetic and lover of all that is exotic has not once felt the urge to dust off those traveling bag since arriving in Key West almost a half-dozen years ago.

Actually, several factors have contributed to keeping me so content, not the least of which has been the environment itself. It quickly proved to be so different from that of the urban North from whence I came that I found South Florida every bit as intriguing as most of the foreign countries I have visited.

Just in terms of physical characteristics alone, the region fascinates because so many of its most alluring features can—and do—turn out to be as deadly as they are beautiful—the sun, the weather, the mangroves and reefs, much of the plant and marine life, and, most of all, the waters themselves.

As for the people who fill the boundaries, many refuse to succumb to the great American melting pot. From all points of view, this enhances South Florida's mystique, but from the standpoint of the culinarian, it has been the primary factor responsible for turning the area into the country's newest "food Paradise."

There is more to this fascination than the bringing together of the relatively unexplored Caribbean cuisines with subtropical Florida (with the result having been dubbed "Floribbean.") People are discovering the wonderful fruits and vegetables unique to our subtropical climates.



AN ISLAND TREAT: Liven seafood dishes with the help of local fruits and exotic spices.

## Exotic & Easy -- Every Day!

I take great delight in being able to put together a salad of boniato and chayote for friends from afar or sending north some mango chutney to eat on bread that I made with my own Cuban bananas and homegrown coconuts. I love travelling with a bag of Key limes to pass out along the way.

Certainly I have enjoyed the exotic fare I have sampled around the world, but I don't miss it. There is so much to discover in my own backyard.

This is not to say, however, that I will ever prefer, say, a plate of colorless local fish served with rice and beans and a bowl of yuc over some all-American unadorned microwaved chicken, boiled potatoes, and overcooked lima beans. Regardless of its origins, simple food can still be plenty boring. Thus, for my palate's sake, I make a point to find easy ways to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary quickly.

For example, I had for dinner last night

leftover Cornish hen and rice with green beans. The hen was already tasty with the chived mustard butter I had slipped under the skin before I roasted it, and I had even made a sauce by adding white wine to the pan juices and reducing the whole a bit. So, except for warming it up, my entrée was ready.

When I bought the beans I had envisioned combining them with a ripe mango. I puréed the fruit and added about 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar, a scant 1/4 cup sugar, and a tablespoon each of fresh grated ginger and sherry. After heating it a bit, I took out some for the beans and froze the rest for another day.

As for the rice, I didn't want to introduce any more new flavors, so I settled on stir-frying it with scallions, garlic, and, for crunch, almonds.

For tonight, I am marinating some pork cubes in teriyaki sauce to create one of my all-time favorites: an Indonesian satay. I will thread the cubed meat on skewers, cook them on my no-mess stovetop grill, and serve them with a spicy peanut sauce I keep on hand.

There are, of course, many ways to enhance flavors of foods. One of the most fashionable these days is by means of a spice rub. Inspired by African and Middle Eastern recipes of old, these call for combining such intense aromatics as cumin, cardamom, turmeric, cinnamon, anise, allspice, and dried hot peppers. The results can be mighty pungent, so spice rubs are usually reserved for red meats.

Another way to give flash and dash to a ho-hum dish is to add curry powder. Actually, this, too, is a blend of many spices and it is often also searingly hot. Such was not the case, though, before Columbus discovered the requisite hot peppers in the Caribbean. In any event, countless dishes too bland for many palates—those made with eggs or cream sauces, seafood or chicken or vegetables—can benefit from such treatment.

Yet another quick-and-easy road to the exotic and one that I especially like can be achieved through the use of tropical-fruit-based chutneys and relishes as glazes and toppings. The possibilities are limited only by the imagination. If you can let yours go, you, too, may find what an exciting and exotic "backyard" you have. ☐

## RESTAURANT DIRECTORY

**Antonia's Restaurant**, 15 Duval Street. Excellent Northern Italian cuisine in friendly, elegant atmosphere. Dinner served from 7 to 11 p.m. nightly. Visa, Mastercard. 294-6565.

**Asia Chinese Restaurant**, 221 Duval Street. Dine outdoors on our rooftop deck or backyard patio or in air conditioned comfort in Key West's newest Chinese Restaurant. Chef Ming from Hong Kong offers 20 years of experience in Far East Cuisines. Lunch specials from \$4.95 and a 20% locals discount (with id) for dine-in dinners. Open daily from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Carry out and free delivery available. Major credit cards accepted. 292-0090.

**Atlantic X Dinner Cruise/Casino**, at the Key West Seaport Elizabeth and Greene. Key West's best entertainment value. Dinner cruise includes a full buffet featuring salads, entrees, pasta and dessert, catered by a number of the finest local restaurants. Plus a Las Vegas style casino and continuous live entertainment. Sailing times are Sunday through Thursday, boarding at 5 p.m. and cruising from 6 to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, boarding at 6 p.m. and cruising from 7 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Reservations required. All major credit cards accepted. 292-1777.

**Bill's Key West Fish Market and Restaurant**, 2502 N. Roosevelt Boulevard. A local favorite serving the finest local seafood from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., daily. Tuesday through Thursday. all-you-can-eat fish or fried clams. Fish market open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. 296-5891.

**Camille's**, 703 1/2 Duval Street. A local restaurant with the casual Key West touch, serving high-quality fare for breakfast and lunch. Daily specials. Entrees are reasonably priced, made of only the finest ingredients and cooked to order. The Sunday Brunch has become a tradition for many locals. Open daily, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. 296-4811.

**Casablanca Café**, 900-904 Duval Street. A tropical inn serving imaginative Caribbean-style cuisine, fresh local seafood, stone crab claws (in season), shrimp, and such mainstays as prime rib, steaks and pasta. Dine in a lush, tropical setting. Also located on the grounds is **Bogart's Irish Pub**, which boasts the largest selection of imported and domestic beers on draft. Open at 6 p.m., daily. 296-0815.

**Crab Shack**, 908 Caroline Street across from Land's End Village. Fresh seafood served from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., daily. Peel-your-own spicy steamed shrimp every day. Widest variety of crab dishes on the island. We also cook your catch as you like it. For the landlubber, charcoal-broiled steak and prime rib. Blue plate specials nightly. Dine indoors and out. 294-9658.

**808 Duval**, Recommended by concierges and guest houses as the best "new" restaurant on Duval. Specializing in rack of lamb, Maine lobster, and stuffed swordfish served in an atmosphere of casual elegance where locals and tourists dine. Open seven days from 5 p.m. Air conditioned dining room—room or tropical courtyard. Major credit card accepted. 293-0006.

**El Loro Verde**, 404 Southard Street. More than a Mexican restaurant, El Loro Verde presents innovative yet authentic variations of both Mexican and Caribbean dishes. Popular for its cafe' atmosphere, El Loro Verde now features a full liquor bar in its new dining room. 296-7298.

**Flagler's**, Marriott's Casa Marina, Reynolds Street. Elegance, nostalgia, romance and an exquisite view of the Atlantic. Beautiful food in beautiful surroundings, blended into an extraordinary American dining experience. Featuring America's traditional recipes, including seafood and chargrilled steak. Serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. And a new Sunday brunch menu with a local discount. Live entertainment in Flagler's Bar. Reservations suggested. 296-3535.

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

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

**Jimmy Buffett's Margaritaville Café**, 500 Duval Street. Opens 11 a.m. for lunch, dinner, and late night rock and roll, starting at 10:30 p.m. Serving fresh seafood, meats, salads & Key West favorites: Conch chowder/fritters, squid rings and the famous Cheeseburger in Paradise. 292-1435.

**Larry's Ice Cream & Yogurt**, 1075 Duval Street within Duval Square. Open seven days: Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 11 a.m. to midnight. Truly gourmet ice cream in scrumptious flavors and fresh fruit frozen yogurt and ice cream. Experience a variety of treats inside and out including ice cream cakes and pies. 294-2301.

**Lighthouse Café**, 917 Duval Street. Specializing in wonderful Southern Italian and seafood dishes, served in a beautiful garden setting or cozy indoor dining room. Open for dinner 7 to 11 p.m. Reservations suggested. Diners Club, Visa. 296-7837.

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

**Mango's**, 700 Duval Street. Great island cuisine with a Caribbean flavor,

local seafood and vegetarian dishes. Daily hours are breakfast, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.; lunch, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Happy Hour, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. with tropical drinks and munchies; dinner, 6 p.m. til midnight. Outdoor seating right on Duval. Large inside dining room. All major credit cards. 292-4606.

**Mangrove Mama's**, mile marker 20 on Sugarloaf Key. Featuring natural and local seafood served in an old tyme Keys atmosphere. Dining inside in an old 1919 "Flagler building" or outside under the banana trees. Enjoy the wine bar with a large selection of wines by the glass. Open from 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. For dining reservations and entertainment schedule, call 745-3030.

**Perry's of the Florida Keys**, 3800 N. Roosevelt Blvd. and in Key Largo. Open seven days. Featuring local seafood, prime rib, salad bar, key lime pie. "Where friends meet to eat and drink." All major credit cards accepted. 294-8472.

**PT's Late Night Bar & Grill**, 920 Caroline Street. Number one locals spot. Large portions and small prices. Grilled dolphin, smoked baby back ribs, chicken, steak fajitas, best prime rib in town, fried alligator. Large screen TVs. Food served until 3 a.m., cocktails until 4 a.m. Visa and Mastercard. 296-4245.

**Rich's Café**, at the Eden House, 1015 Fleming Street. A relaxed tropical garden setting with outdoor specials; serving special German beer and wine. Brunch 8 a.m. until noon; dinner 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. daily. 296-1183.

**Rooftop Café**, 310 Front Street, in the heart of Old Town offering rooftop and indoor seating. Breakfast 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., lunch 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., daily. Dinner until 11 p.m. Live entertainment weekends. 294-2042.

**Savannah**, 915 Duval Street. Fine Southern home cooking featuring dixe delicatibles like mouth-watering fried chicken, cornbread, collard greens, fresh fish, and unbeatable mash potatoes. Dine in a grand old conch house or outside in a tropical garden setting. Open for dinner daily at 6:30 p.m. 296-6700.

**Shalom Key West**, 601 Duval Street (3 doors off Duval on Southard). Key West's only Glatt Kosher restaurant, specializing in vegetarian and authentic Middle Eastern delicacies as shawarma, babaganoush, felafel, shish kabob. Open daily from 10 a.m. to midnight. Closed Friday evening until Saturday at sundown. Call 294-3584.

**South Beach Seafood & Raw Bar**, on the beach at the ocean end of Duval Street. Fresh Key West Seafood, baby-back ribs, chicken, steak, oysters, clams, nightly specials. Serving beer and wine. Dine inside or outside on our beach deck. Open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. 294-2727.

**Stick & Stein Sports Rock Cafe**, North Roosevelt Blvd. in Key Plaza (next to K-Mart). Featuring an impressive selection of appetizers, salads, sandwiches, pizza and a variety of entrees from T-bone steak to shrimp in a basket at the best prices in town. Open daily for lunch, dinner and late night snacks. Pool and darts from 10 a.m. to 4 a.m. Major credit cards accepted. 296-3352.

**Tamarinds**, at Duval Square, 1021 Duval Street. Key West's newest café offers breakfast, lunch and dinner. Our menu features eggs, grilled seafood, fresh salads, sandwiches, burgers, soups and luscious desserts at affordable prices, presented in an innovative manner with a Caribbean flavor. Enjoy dining inside or outside in our relaxing oasis. Breakfast 8 to 11:30 a.m., lunch 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., dinner 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. Takeout available. 294-2809.

**TGI Fridays**, Overseas Market, North Roosevelt Drive. Fresh steaks, prime rib, burgers and seafood served from 11 a.m. to midnight, Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 2 a.m., Friday and Saturday. Full bar. All major credit cards. 296-4050.

**Turtle Kraals**, Land's End Village, foot of Margaret Street. Harbor view dining for lunch and dinner. Great hamburgers, seafood—check out the music. Visa/Mastercard. 294-2640.

**Viva Zapata**, 903 Duval Street. Traditional Mexican fare. Daily Southwestern specials. Enjoy our poolside dining. Open seven nights until 11:30 p.m. 296-3138.

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

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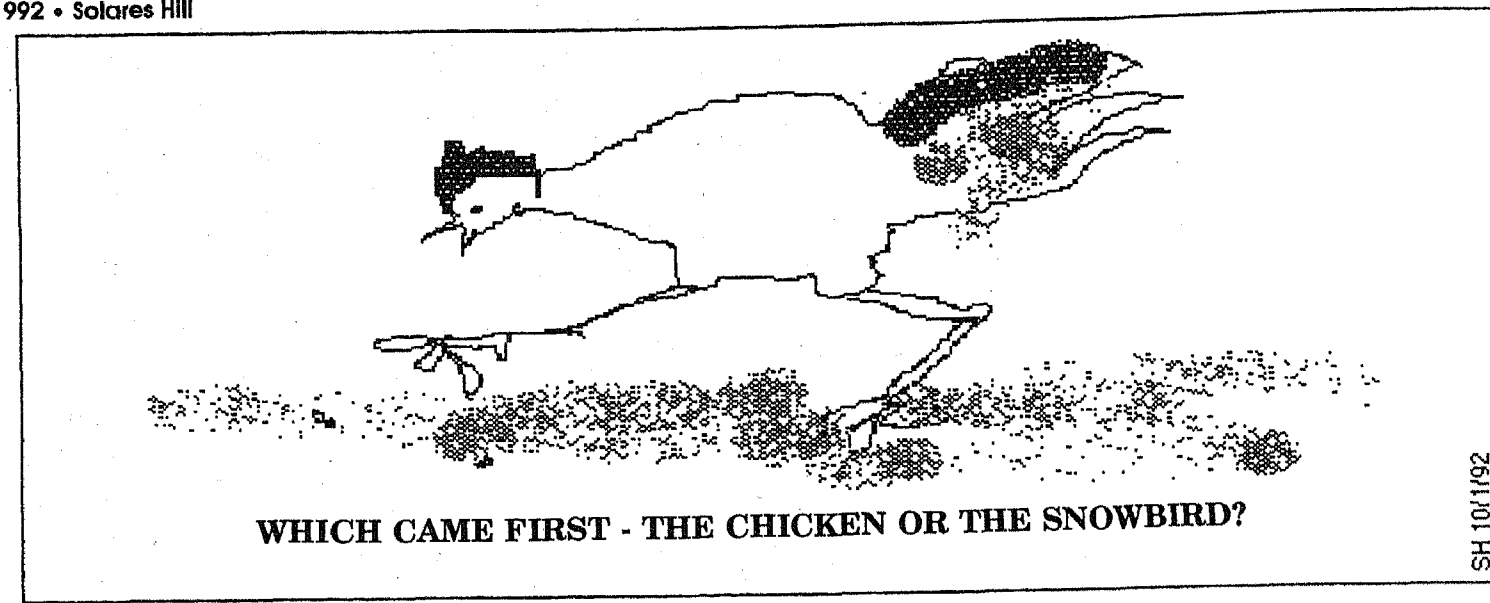
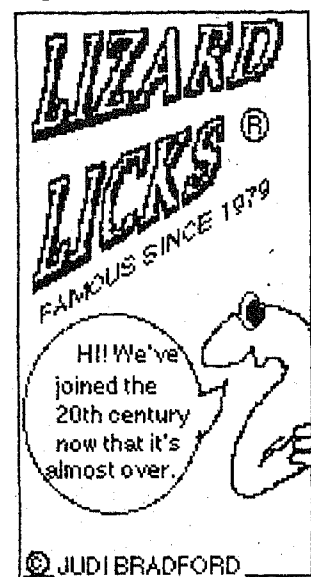
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## READERS WRITE

Dear Editor:

Thorns to the usually sensible Bob Blandford for his Free Press column of August 12, 1992. He allowed himself to be fooled by Jack London who used a time tested and proven confidence game method to try and sell his land use plan for even more high density overdevelopment. In order to gain confidence, London made some statements which are obviously true, such as how wrong it would be to develop the Everglades and the very high cost of overdevelopment. Having won the readers' confidence, London declared his plan to be moderate, even though it allows so much overdevelopment that many more thousands won't be able to evacuate to save their lives from a hurricane.

Monroe County government polls show that in 1988, 75% and in 1989, 84% of the people want a moratorium rather than high taxes needed to pay for the needs of more development. Since that time we have learned how many thousands would be trapped in a hurricane. The County has refused to ask that question again in the surveys. Commissioner Cheal, a doctor of business administration with expertise in engineering management, found that millions of dollars could be saved with a moratorium. London and three other commissioners refused to consider the higher costs caused by London's plan. London accuses those who oppose his plan to be radical extremists.

The polls show that 84% want a land use plan to protect the environment. London's plan refused to consider the effect upon the environment. London's letter said how much better it is that we don't have the concrete coalition now. London, as a candidate, was endorsed by the contractors association and now his plan is approved by Bill Smith, Executive Secretary of the Contractors Association who speaks for 6% of the people. London accused the 84% of the people who oppose his plan for more overdevelopment to be radical extremists.

Roses to George Kundtz, Chairman of the Florida Keys Coalition, who first blew the whistle on London's confidence game. It is now quite apparent who the real concrete coalition radical extremist wolf is, in sheeps public official clothing. The London land use plan (supported by the three other concrete coalition commissioners with the exception of Cheal) is not only extreme and radical but it is illegal. The Florida Keys Citizens Coalition (FKCC) has taken legal action. The FKCC attorney is Tom Reese, of St. Petersburg, who is the most respected and experienced environmental land use law attorney in Florida.

Please support this last and only opportunity to save Keys lives and environment by sending your tax deductible contribution to Florida Keys Citizens Coalition, Inc., P.O. Box 510523, Key Colony Beach 33051-0523. For

more information, phone 305-743-7944.

Victor B. Anderson

Dear Editor:

Thanks to the recent letters in the media by George Kundtz. He showed us that Commissioner London made statements which are not true in trying to get the public to believe that he has a fair land use plan. We found that the county's own records show that London's land use plan allows so much more overdevelopment that 36,000 people will not be able to evacuate from a hurricane.

What makes London and three other Commissioners (with the exception of Cheal) so hell bent on allowing more overdevelopment which causes lives and environment to be lost and higher taxes? London says that those that oppose his plan for more overdevelopment are radicals. Most people I have talked to say the Keys have too many houses now.

Why would the Commissioners do this to us even though there are more homes on the market than ever before? Houses have been for sale for years and can't be sold. Those who would like to sell their homes and leave the Keys are trapped. We are stuck with the Commissioners high density, high pollution and high taxes. We are suffering a real hardship.

The Keys are so overdeveloped now that essential services such as sheriff, ambulance,

library, extension service and many others are being cut to control taxes and the quality of our life goes down. All because of overdevelopment.

Who are you working for, Commissioners?

The political process has failed and the DCA is allowing more of all this mess. Our only hope is to support the legal action by the Florida Keys Citizens Coalition, Inc., P.O. Box 510523, Key Colony Beach, FL 33051-0523 or phone (305) 743-7944.

Milton A. Chaffee  
Marathon, FL

Dear Editor:

I'm delighted to see Monkey Tom's work on the cover of the September edition.

Tom and I go way back to the old Anchor Inn days as good friends and drinkin' buddies. Come to think of it, the face of Andrew in Tom's interpretation resembles me on a few of those mornings at 7 a.m., waiting for the Anchor to open.

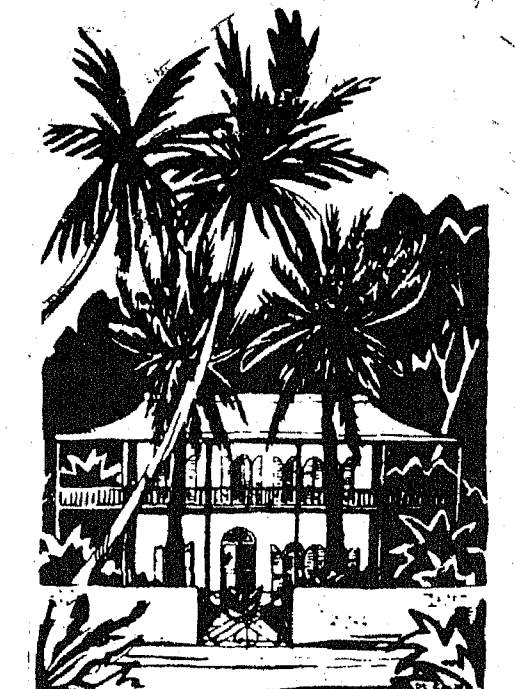
Well we all get older and mature—that is, we all get older. I don't know if Tom and I will ever get this maturity business straight.

I hope you will continue to use Tom's work a lot in the future. Aside from the fact that he has a unique talent which newcomers to town should be exposed to. He probably needs a six-pack!

Helen R. Chapman  
Key West

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- 9th Chamber of Commerce Trade Show,  
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- 11th Son's of Italy Columbus Day Festa,  
Bayview Park 5 - 7 p.m.
- 23rd "The Diva Made Me Do It"  
Drawing of winning raffle tickets  
at La Terraza 8:30 p.m.
- 24th Fantasy Fest '92 Coronation Ball  
Holiday Inn La Concha 9:00 p.m.
- 26th PREMIER of  
Haunted Hemingway House 8 p.m.
- 31st Fantasy Fest Twilight Grand Parade  
From the Mel Fisher Museum 7 p.m.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Events

**10/1-11/5 • Special Delivery / Childbirth Preparation Class** Thursdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Monroe County Public Health Unit In Key West. Call 296-9081, ext. 282.

**10/4 • Jack Holt Appreciation Day** 3 p.m. at the Tiki Bar of the Ramada Inn Key West. Featuring a jam session with local musicians and singers. Call Linda at 293-0095 for details.

**10/5 • AIDS Education for Healthcare Professionals** 6 to 10 p.m. at FKCC. Call 296-9081, ext. 282.

**10/5 • Key West Women Aglow Meeting** 6:30 p.m. at Gerald Adams Elementary School on Stock Island.

**10/7 • Lecture on Chiropractic Health** 7 p.m. every Wednesday during October at the Chiropractic Health Center, 1209 Truman Avenue. Call 294-2285.

**10/9-10/11 • Annual Women's Aglow Meeting** at the Radisson Hotel in Miami. Call Vick at 872-2848 for details.

**10/11 • Culture & Environment of the Florida Everglades**, a tour of the Everglades taught by Roland Fisch through-

out the fall. Call 292-9081, ext. 495.

**10/12 • CPR** for infants, adults and children from 6 to 10 p.m. at FKCC. Call 296-9081, ext. 282.

**10/21-11/18 • The Teller's Role in Financial Institutions**, a course taught by Mary Bradford Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Barnett Bank, 1010 Kennedy Drive. Call 292-9081, ext. 495.

**10/24 • Political Rally '92** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the C&S Bank in Marathon. Featuring food and fun for the whole family and a chance to meet the candidates and get educated on the issues.

**10/26 • Candidates Night** 7:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center (behind the Fire Station) on Key Deer Blvd., Big Pine Key. Featuring various candidates for local government offices in question/answer session.

## Entertainment

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

**The Bull & Whistle Bar** • Corner of Duval and Caroline Streets. Happy Hour at The Whistle, 5 to 9 p.m. daily.

**Captain Hornblower's** • 300 Front

Street. Jazz on the patio Thursday through Sunday. Call 294-4922.

**Captain Tony's Saloon** • 428 Greene Street. Call 294-1838.

**Club Havana** • The Pier House at 1 Duval Street. Call 296-4600.

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

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

**Flagler's at The Casa Marina** • 1500 Reynolds Street. Call 296-3535.

**Full Moon Saloon** • 1202 Simonton Street. Call 294-9090.

**Green Parrot** • 601 Whitehead. Call 296-6133.

**Harbour Light's Barrelhead Bar** • Garrison Bight Marina. Call 294-9343.

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

**Islander Restaurant** • 528 Front Street. Call 292-7659.

**Mango's** • 700 Duval Street. VooDoo at Mango's for the month of April. *Insomnia* with deejay Curtis Lee Friday nights; *Vision* On sound by London Loudboy Tony V Sat-

urday nights; *Meister Lee & phonic phind Utopia* Monday nights; *T.V. Rush into Liz's spaceship playground* Tuesday nights. Call 292-4606.

**Mangrove Mama's** • MM 20 Sugarloaf Key. *Tim McAlpine and Ron Sommer* jazz dinner every Friday night from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. *Sam Anderson* on guitar every Saturday from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Island dancing with *The Survivors* on the last Sunday of every month. Call 294-3030.

**Margaritaville Café** • 500 Duval Street. Live entertainment. Call 292-1435.

**Martha's** • S. Roosevelt Blvd (A1A). *Barbara Redfern*, Wednesday-Sunday 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Call 294-3466.

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

**Nick's Bar and Grill** • Hyatt Key West 601 Front Street. Call 296-9900.

**Nightfall** • The Reach at Simonton and the Beach. Featuring live entertainment Wednesday through Sunday nights 5 to 10 p.m. Closed Mondays. Call 296-5000.

**Ocean Club Lounge** • The Reach at Simonton and the Beach. Oceanside entertainment Wednesday and Thursday nights from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. with *Kirk Edwards. The Survivors* on Friday and Saturday. *Phil*

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*Sampson* on piano during Sunday Brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 296-5000.

**Pirate's Den** • 300 Front Street. Adult entertainment nightly, 8 p.m. to 4 a.m.

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

**Poinciana Lounge** • 3432 Duck Avenue. Call 294-6800.

**The Quay** • 12 Duval Street. Call 294-4446.

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

**Red's Place** • Corner of Duval and Caroline, behind The Bull. *The Carl Davis Group* plays blues-plus nightly from 9:30 to ?

**Rooftop Café** • 310 Front Street. Vocalists *Cathy Grier* or *Leanna Collins* alternating nightly either 3 to 9 p.m. or 9 p.m. to midnight. Call 294-2042.

**Sand Bar** • Beachside Bar and Grill at the Reach Resort, 1435 Simonton. Open from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., offering fresh grilled local fish, conch chowder, burgers, chicken and hot dogs. Monday Night Football! Call 296-5000.

**Schooner Wharf** • 202 William Street. Every Thursday jam session with 10 to 15 musicians. Every Sunday from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. songwriters group where local songwriters sing their latest. Call 292-9520.

**Sea Fox Lounge** • 2514 North Roosevelt Blvd. Happy hour with great food 5 to 7 p.m. Fridays and lites music from 7 to 11 p.m. Dance contest Friday and Saturday nights. Call 292-9700.

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

**Square One Restaurant** • Duval Square. *Joe Lowe* on piano Thursday-Saturday evenings. Call 296-4300.

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

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

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

**Turtle Kraals at Lands End Marina** • 1 Lands End Village. Call 294-2640.

**Two Friends Patio Restaurant** • 512 Front Street. Call 296-9212.

**Viva Zapata** • 903 Duval Street. Call 296-3138.

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

## Cultural

**10/4 • I Pagliacci** by Leoncavallo, a production by the Monroe County Fine Arts Council, 8 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Sheraton Key Largo. Call 296-5000, ext. 362.

**10/2-10/3, 10/28 • I Pagliacci** by Leoncavallo, a production by the Monroe County Fine Arts Council, 8 p.m. at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center. Call 296-5000, ext. 362.

## Meetings

**10/1 • Monroe County Planning Commission Meeting** 10 a.m. in the Key West Chapel.

**10/1 • Tree Committee Meeting**, 5 p.m. at Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**mittee Meeting** 1 p.m. in the Marathon Public Library. Call 292-4422.

**10/21 • Contractor's Board Meeting**, 2 p.m. at Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

**10/22 • Code Enforcement Meeting** 5 p.m. at Old City Hall. Call 292-8100.

## Ongoing

**Adult Children of Alcoholics** meets Mondays at 7 p.m., Tuesdays 5:30 p.m. and Thursdays 8:30 p.m. at Holy Innocents Church, 901 Flagler Avenue. Call 296-3286.

**"A Course in Miracles"** study group meets at the Crystal Loft, mile marker 29.7 on Big Pine, every Monday at 8 to 9 p.m. Call 872-9390.

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

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

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

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

**Bereavement Support Group**, ten-week closed group for anyone who has experienced the death of someone close. Meets Thursdays from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Free of cost. Call Charmaine Jordan at 294-8812.

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**Blood Pressure Screenings** (free) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week in the registration area of the emergency room of South Miami Hospital. Call 662-8118.

**Blue Moon Trader Art & Craft Market** every Saturday at mile marker 29.7 on Big Pine. Artists from throughout the Keys display and sell their wares. Call 872-8864.

**Breast Cancer Support Group** holds meetings at South Miami Hospital the fourth Tuesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Call 662-9611.

**Breezeswept Beach Estates Civic Association** holds meetings at 7 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the Youth Center of Big Pine Key Methodist Church. Call 872-2861.

**Cancer Support Group for Family Members** meets Thursdays from 4 to 5 p.m. in the 6th floor family lounge of the South Miami Hospital. Call 662-8196.

**Cancer Support Group for Cancer Patients** meets Tuesdays from 4 to 5 p.m. in the 6th floor family lounge of the South Miami Hospital. Call 662-8196.

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

**Children Problem Solving Group** for ages 8 to 12 years meets Thursdays from 3 to 4 p.m. and 4 to 5 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Childbirth Classes** begin monthly at Key West and Big Pine locations. Sponsored

by The March of Dimes and FKCC. The course is affordable for everyone. Call 296-9081, ext. 282.

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

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

**Community Education Series** dealing with the disease of addiction meets every Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon in the Tower Building of South Miami Hospital. Call 662-8118.

**Community Guitar Orchestra** meets in Key West at the Share School of Music on Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The Big Pine Group meets at the United Methodist Church on Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m. All guitar players are invited. Call 294-5299.

**Depression and Manic-Depression Group** meets 3 to 4:30 p.m. on the second Friday of each month at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

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

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

**Florida Right to Life** meets the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Key West Baptist Temple, 5727 Second Avenue, Stock Island. Call Patti Baldwin at 296-7337.

**Gurdjieff and Ouspensky Reading and Discussion Group** meets 7 p.m. every Monday at Unity Church, 3424 Duck Avenue. For information, call 292-4964.

**Helpline**, 24-hour Monroe County Crisis Intervention telephone service needs volunteers to answer phones. Training provided. Call 292-8445.

**HIV Support Group**, meets 6 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays at AIDS Help, Inc. 2700 Flagler activities center. Call 296-6196.

**Island Wellness** at 530 Simonton Street, offers regularly scheduled courses and activities. Monday: Daily R & R at noon; Tuesday: Tai Chi Ch'uan at 10 a.m. and Daily R & R at noon; Wednesday: Daily R & R; Thursday: Tai Chi Ch'uan at 10 a.m. and Daily R & R at noon; Friday: Daily R & R at noon; Sundays: alternating schedule. Call 296-7353 for details.

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

**Key West Community Band** meets in Key West High School Band Room Wednesdays from 7 to 9 p.m. Anyone who can play and read music is invited. Bring your own instrument. Call June MacArthur at 294-9329.

**Key West Garden Club Ramble Work Sessions** held every Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. until noon at the Garden Center (West Martello Tower). The public is invited. Call 294-3210.

**Key West Maritime Historical Society Traditional Rowing Program** meets every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. at the northside of Garrison Bight Marina on the 32' long boat *Wilhelmina*. Memberships cost \$10 per year for individuals and \$25 per year for families. Call Capt. John Duke at 292-7903 or 872-3536.

**Key West Rowing Club** meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. in their historic boathouse at the Land's End Marina. For membership information, call 292-7984.

**Key West Sports Car Club** meets at 8 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of every month in the back room of Wag's restaurant on N. Roosevelt Blvd.

**Kiss AA** (gay preferred) meets every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday at 8:30 p.m., plus every Tuesday at 6 p.m. at the rear of Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

**KWAMI (Key West Alliance for the Mentally Ill)** holds monthly meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Care Center for Mental Health, 4th Street and Patterson Avenue. Each meeting will feature a guest speaker or special program. No meeting scheduled for August. Call Helen at 294-4875 or Mary at 294-9905.

**KWAMI Come Back Club-Project Return**, a self-help social club where people with emotional disturbances and mental illnesses gather with KWAMI members. Group meets Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Peace Covenant Church, 2610 Flagler Avenue. Call Helen Gerbracht at 294-4875.

**KWAMI Share and Care Support Group** for families and friends of people with mental illness meets 7:30 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at the Care Center for Mental Health, 4th Street and Patterson Avenue. Free of charge and open to all. Call Helen at 294-4875 or Mary at

294-9905.

**La Leche League** of Big Pine Key meets the second Monday of every month at 10 a.m. in the Big Pine Baptist Church. Call Joanne at 872-2861 for meeting information.

**La Leche League** of Key West meets second Monday of every month 6 p.m. at 2505 Flagler Avenue. Breastfeeding classes for pregnant moms begin at 5 p.m. Call Joanne at 872-2861 for meeting information.

**Last Resort Codependents Anonymous** meets Mondays at 6:30 p.m. in the rear of Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

**The Law and You** with Attorney Fred Butner, "Live from Key West." Wednesdays from 8 to 9 a.m. Radio debates. Guests include judges, attorneys, law enforcement officers and lawmakers. Broadcast on AM 1600 WKWF Talk Radio. Number to call in during broadcast: 294-1600.

**Literacy Volunteers of America** meets 7 p.m. on the last Monday of each month and offers volunteer training programs as well as workshops. LVA also offers one-to-one tutoring for adults in basic reading and math, GED preparation, or English as a second language. Call 294-4352.

**Literacy Volunteers of Monroe County** is seeking volunteers to help in working with the media and in teaching others to read. Students are also needed. Call Lisa Snyder at 294-4352.

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

**Lower Keys Friends of Animals** helps animals that are victims of misfortune. Group meets 7 p.m. Tuesday evenings at the Ramada Inn. For membership information call 294-7467 or 296-3926.

**Marine Archaeology Expedition**. Third Sunday of the month. Each session focuses on wrecks and the coral reef environment. Membership fee goes toward seminar and monthly newsletter. Call 800-468-3255.

**Meditation and Relaxation Support Group for Oncology Patients** meets the second Tuesday of every month from 7:30-8:30 p.m. in the 6th floor family lounge of the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 669-0400.

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

**Monroe County District School Board Meeting** is held the second Monday of each month in the board room of the Administration Building, 242 White Street. Call 296-6523.

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

**Neighborhood Improvement Association Meeting** last Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at Martin Luther King Center on Catherine and Thomas. The public is invited to help discuss ways to guide Baha-ma Village to a brighter economic future.

**Old Island Harmony Barbershop Chorus**, Old Stone Church, Key West, meets Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

**Open Poetry Reading** meets the first Sunday of the month. Bring original work

only. Also prose, music, dance; listen or perform. Free, refreshments served. 296-0785 or 294-1848.

**Ovarian Cancer Support Group** meets the first and third Wednesday of every month from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the South Miami Hospital. Call 662-7146.

**Overeaters Anonymous** meets in the chapel at DePoo Hospital Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8 p.m. Use emergency room entrance. Call Sharon 296-8802 or Patti at 745-2033.

**Pool & Dart Tournament**, Big Pine Moose Lodge, Wednesdays. Call 872-9313.

**Pool and Dart Tournament** at Stick & Stein in Key Plaza. Blind Draw Tournament every Saturday at 8 p.m. Eight ball every Thursday at 8 p.m. Nine ball every Sunday at 8 p.m.

## CALL HELPLINE

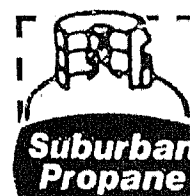
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**Positively Sober** is a 12-step Recovery Group for men and women who are HIV-positive and a member of another 12-step Recovery Group. This group meets Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 1215 Petronia Street. Call 294-8912.

**Prenatal and Postnatal Exercise Classes** are held Monday through Saturday from 10:45 to 12:15 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:15 to 8:15 p.m. at the South Miami Hospital. Call (305) 662-5335.

**Problem Solving Group** meets Thursdays from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Mental Health

Care Center. No charge but referral required. Call 292-6843.

**Problem Solving for Teenagers Group** meets Tuesdays 4 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Mental Health Care Center. Call 292-6843.

**Quaker Worship Meetings** every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the garden in the rear of 618 Grinnell Street. For more information, call Sheridan Crumlish at 294-1523.

**Quality Time—Parenting News for the Keys**, a half-hour television talk show focusing on family issues presented by MOMS inc. on TCI Channel 5 Wednesday nights at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 294-4837.

**Recorder Class** for the children of Baha-ma Village at the Martin Luther King Junior Community Center. Call Lee Thompson

for more information, 292-8248.

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

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

**SCORE-Key West** (Service Corps of Retires Executives) offers free business counseling to the public and will assist anyone in furthering their business plans. Call Mike at the Chamber of Commerce for an appointment, 294-2587.



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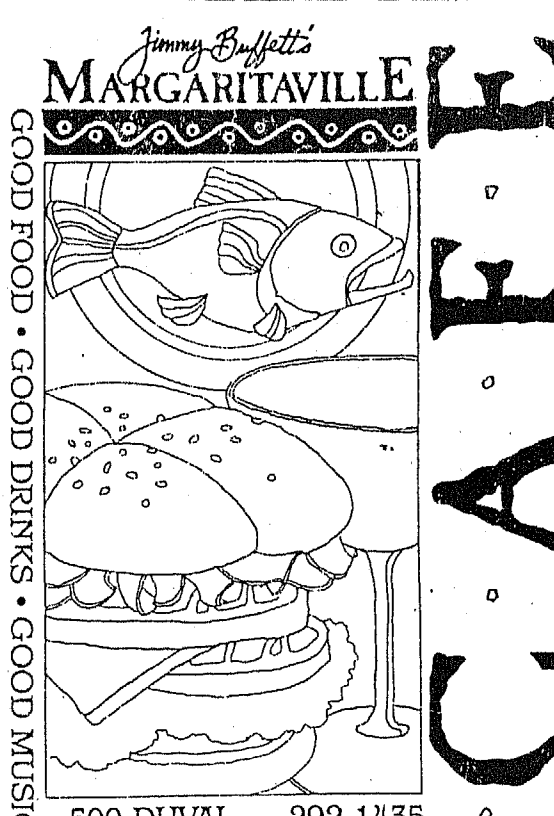
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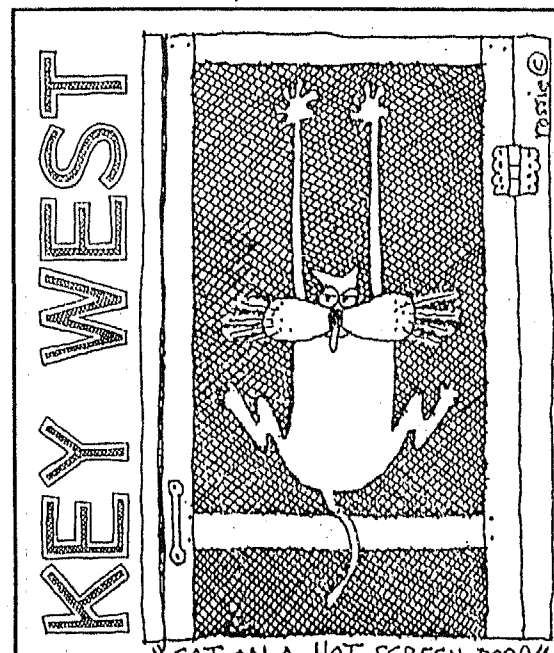
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