

The highest point in Key West

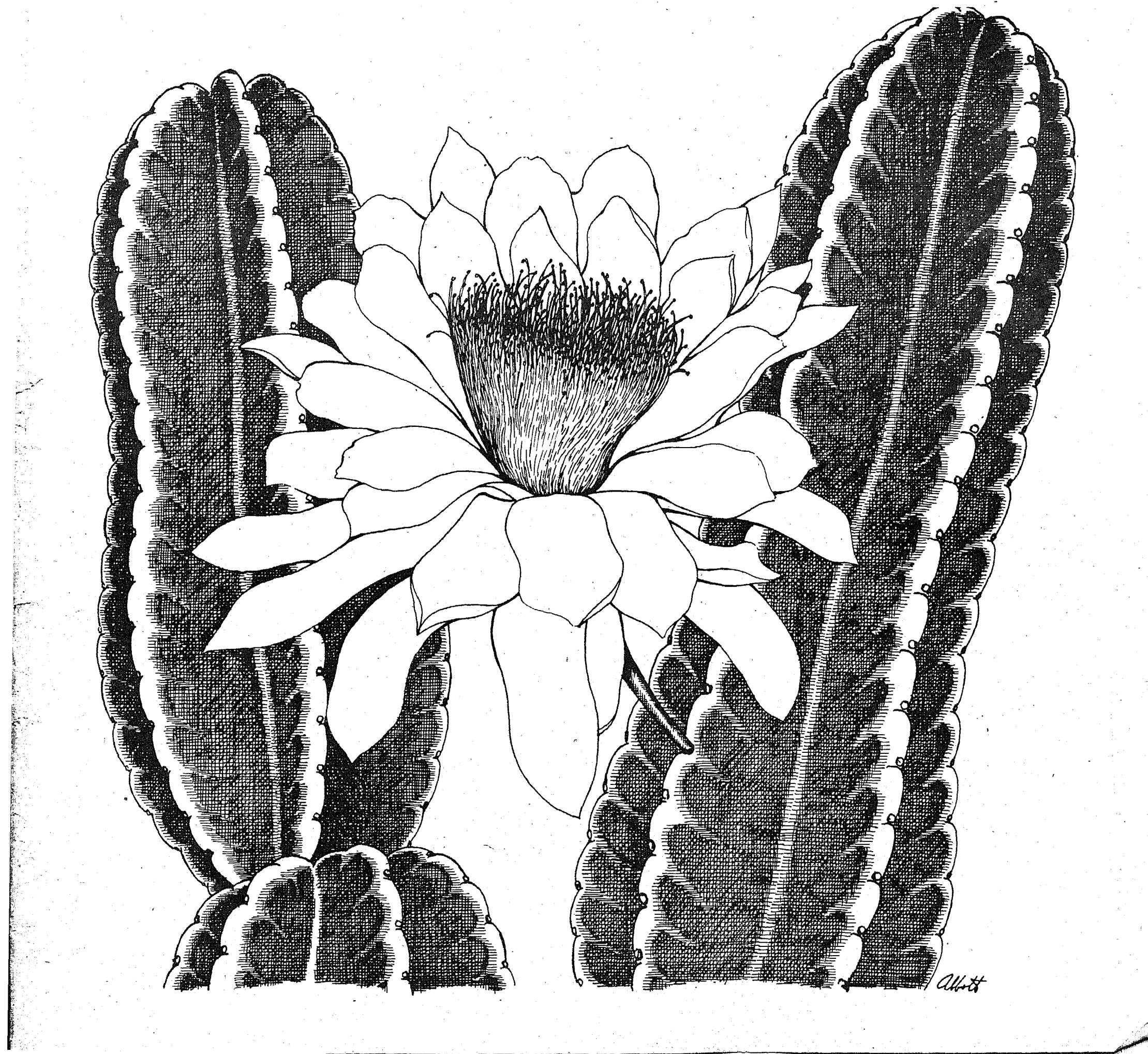
# solares hill

FREE

Vol. IV, No. V

Key West, Florida

May 1979





CONTRIBUTION

## From the Editor

Hello.

Hats off to one of Key West's number one citizen-activists, Larry Gomez. Larry is continually looking out for the rights of his fellow citizens and has emerged as a leading spokesman for the Senior Citizens of Monroe County. Most recently, Larry has been campaigning to have all permanently disabled persons made eligible for total exemption from property taxes. Hitherto, the law had exempted only those whose hundred percent disability put them in a wheelchair, or left them blind, or those who were hemiplegics. Larry carried on such an effective letter campaign to get ALL permanently disabled people covered by this exemption that he received a personal note from State Senator Bob McKnight saying "Larry, you have convinced me. I will support Senate Bill #7." (Senate Bill #7 is a bill placing all permanently disabled persons under a personal property tax exemption if they meet certain criteria, i.e., less than \$8,200 a year income, 5 years residency in the state of Florida, and are certified permanently disabled by two doctors who are specialists in different fields.) This form of citizen participation in legislative affairs is very effective, and many people will have something else to thank Larry Gomez for if this bill passes.

I spoke again with John Mercer about what the Old Island Restoration Commission is doing about the non-conformance of Billie's Restaurant with their regulations. He told me that they had followed all their guidelines in bringing action against Billie's, and that on May 7 he would speak to the City Commission at their regularly scheduled meeting and get their permission

to institute court proceedings. He was told by Joe Allen, III, City Attorney, that the OIRC would need approval of the City Commission before entering litigation.

Drive sometime along the ocean drive in Ft. Lauderdale and you will enjoy a full view of the ocean; drive along the ocean in Miami Beach and you will get claustrophobia from the concrete buildings on the ocean side of the road. Unfortunately, Reat Beach is being scooped up by developers, and the idiocy of permitting buildings to go up on the ocean side of Atlantic Boulevard is continuing. And not a sound from the City Commission except for murmurs of approval.

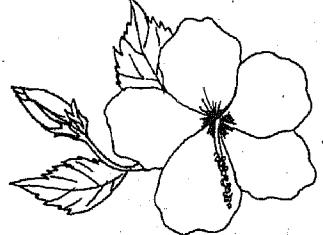
The pay scale for our city police remains wretched. Recently we lost an outstanding officer when Lt. Danny Lastres resigned, and the numbers continue to dwindle. Ed Swift spoke about the feasibility of a bond issue to get more money for the police. Maybe this is a good approach; maybe it wouldn't work, but we've got to come up with something.

See you next month.

Cover Artist this month is George Abbott. He is a partner in the gallery Cayo Hueso Graphics at 806 Duval Street.

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With a little help from our friends...

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## BILLY THE LIZARD MEETS GODZILLA

written and illustrated  
BY MACK PRYDEN

I'M SITTING ON my deck under an avocado tree watching some of the ten million lizards that live in my backyard. Give or take a million. An encyclopedia will tell you lizards are reptiles of the order Sauria, of the Old World family Lacertidae, and that they eat bugs and change color and stuff; but they don't tell you that they're all as crazy as loons, which is the most interesting part, in my opinion.

Take Willie, the brown one with a white stripe and little diamonds down his back who hangs out at the base of the avocado tree. I met Willie under strange circumstances. He attacked me. I was sitting unawares at my typewriter, in kind of a writer's trance, and this quarter-ounce reptile skittered across the table and leapt at my arm with its little red mouth open.

I WAS DUMFOUNDED. Not scared, because I used to play with lizards all the time and I know they can't hurt you even if they gnaw on you. But why did one out of ten million go for me? Was he the David sent to subdue the Goliath that clattered away on that infernal machine all day long? Was he impressing a little starry-eyed girl lizard? Was he just dumb as a stick? I had no idea, so I watched him and didn't move. He backed up, did one of those graceful little lizard pirouettes, and struck again at the same place on my forearm. This time he got something. A piece of fuzz from a yellow rug I had just shaken had been clinging to a hair, and that was what Willie was after. He took one taste, spit it out, and split after looking at me like I tasted bad.

I was relieved to find out it wasn't personal, but my concentration was broken and I gave in to curiosity. I spent the next several hours watching lizards and made the startling discovery (which zoology journals and encyclopedias have no doubt carefully suppressed for fear of causing some kind of panic) that they're all as crazy as Betsy bugs.

I CAN SEE two of them even as I write this. They're squared off, about a foot apart, facing opposite directions but cocking their little heads toward one another. One stiffens, gets up on all four legs, sticks his tail straight out behind him like a sword, and does eight jerky pushups faster than any Marine. Pushups completed, he extends the dim-sized, bright red sack under his throat three times, doing mini-pushups in between each one.

The other one checks out this display, is obviously unimpressed, and does the same thing only faster and bigger. I



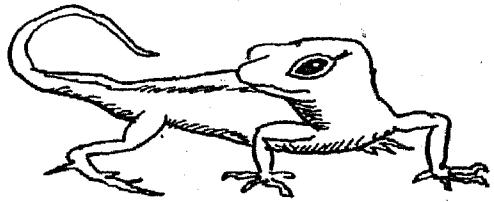
put my money on the second one. They change positions, cock their heads again, and go through the same rigmarole. Lizard disco. Stuff struttin'. Suddenly, WHAM! Lizard One pounces on Lizard Two with a

the locals just in case they don't know who he is. He glares at one who has had the audacity to stare at him from his perch on a schefflera leaf. The starer quickly fades into the dark shadows of the bush.

KING ONE RETURNS to his estate and finds the biggest hunk of lizard either of us has ever laid eyes on standing on the south forty. He'd run half an ounce after breakfast, easy. This boy's not only big, but he's ugly. And speaking of being hacked off at the end and has only a stump of a tail to show for it. A veteran. He's seen the meowing, furry jaws of death up close and survived by sacrificing his tail, which flounced and twirled for the few seconds he needed to escape the confused hunter.

One looks around uneasily. Does anybody know this guy? he seems to ask. Is that a skinny toad or a lizard with a thyroid condition? Is he looking at me? One saunters toward his estate as if he doesn't notice the hulking reptile standing -- no, lounging -- arrogantly on his property.

NICE DAY, he says. Godzilla responds by poking out the biggest, reddest, roundest, toughest throat sack in lizard history. The sack belongs in the Lizard Book of World Records. A King Hell throat sack. Lizards all the way over on the bamboo palm crane their necks to see the biggest throat sack in lizard history.



One seems to melt into the boards on the deck, trying to disappear. There is a pregnant lizard pause. He shrugs, as lizards will. Just passin' through, he says, turning to go. Godzilla can't resist. He leaps in One's direction, scaring the spots off him, and One, a deposed, humiliated shell of a reptile, skitters off into the avocado leaves, looking for his mother in the buggy dampness.



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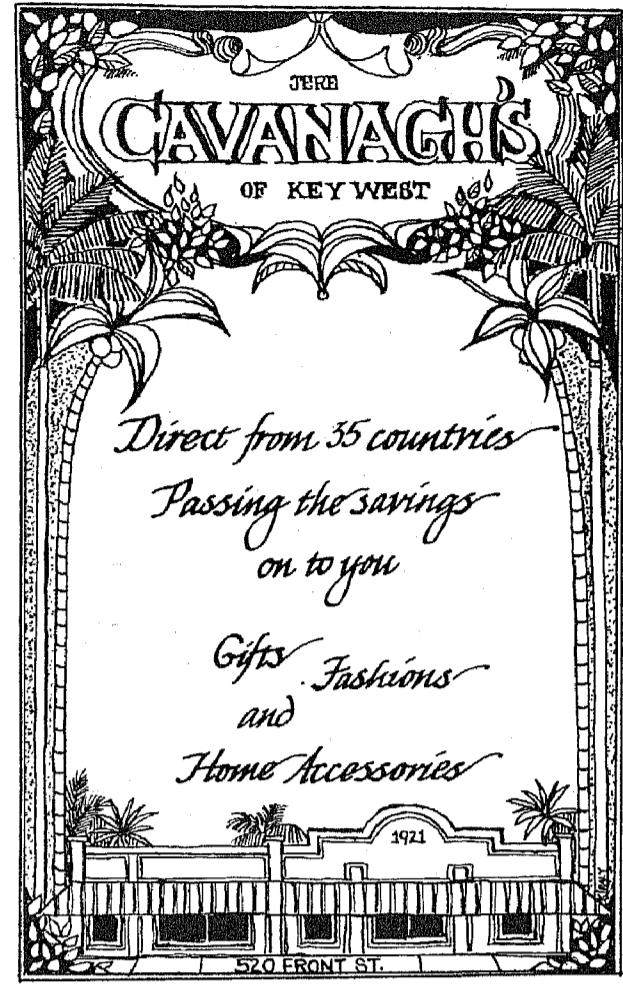
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## Palms & Pelicans

BY FRANCES ELIZABETH SIGNORELLI

YOU HAVE BEEN trying to take the cat off to Stock Island for three months.

Reason being, Aunt Maude, who is a really loaded auntie, age 79, who has come to live.

She can sit in the Florida room running her finger down the New York Stock Exchange -- Exxon closed 59 1/2, AT&T down 1/2 point, Resort International up 2.7.

Suddenly, she will cry, "Oh, my al-lergy. I sense a cat. Please save me!"

She will be shaking so that her rings jingle like castanets. Her late hubby owned a corundum mine in North Carolina. Corundums can be either sapphires or rubies, the same, and several of both encircle her plump fingers, overlapping.

EVERYBODY KNOWS THAT the cat is poking around on the topmost corner of the window's walk up there trying to snare a pigeon. He pretends he is a vicious jungle killer, his hot eyes sweeping the perimeter. In spring position, his muscles are locked for mortal combat. Somebody down on Waddell Avenue rattles a trash can lid, and he turns tail and flees down the plumbing pipe.

Buddy is dispatched to collect the cat and put him in the top dresser drawer while you get dressed to take him off.

Like smoke, the cat disperses and is, at the time, sitting three and a half blocks away over on Reynolds Street on Mr. Ned Parker's porch.

AUNT MAUDE, next time afflicted, is in the dining nook. Her 55 carat yellow diamond blinds us as the morning sun deflects its rays off the toaster. Buddy

has taken to wearing a golfing cap with a green plastic bill to breakfast. You shade your eyes with one hand and pick up your French toast with the other.

Aunt Maude screams and drops her honey pot.

"A cat. A cat. I'm going into a convulsion!"

The cat is at his morning sport. When nobody is in the front room, he dangles one paw into the aquarium and tries to snap the Oscar.

The Oscar, who is mean as sin and a cat hater as well as a person loather, grabs the cat's paw and swings on. The cat dances around on the rim of the aquarium on three legs, howling pitifully, spitting and cursing in cat lingo.

If a human member of the family enters, both snap back into being a cat and a fish just going about their proper morning business.

ONE DAY, Buddy climbs up onto Jack Spottswood's porch and, slick as an Indian, catches the cat. We start off in the car with him.

"Put a scarf over his head so that he won't check landmarks and come right home. Mother left a cat when she moved clear across New Mexico, and it took that cat six days to follow the Pecos River when it turned up at her back door mewling for breakfast."

Down in the wastebasket, used for transport, there is a shifting. The cat yawns disrespectfully. His little collar tinkles accusingly.

You turn your head and eyes meet, and what is in Buddy's as well as yours is an unlikely hope.

WE SADLY DEPOSIT the cat where you take cats when circumstances conspire against cats.

We pick up a box of Reese peanut butter cups for Auntie Maude and we drive in home.

When we pull up, there sits the cat under the mailbox, impassively cleaning

his left side.

THERE IS A period of time when Aunt Maude goes into one of her cat hysterics and we beat the bushes for the cat when the cat evaporates. Total eclipse. No trace, not even the smile that hung there in the Cheshire cat story.

"How can we be outwitted by a cat?" says Buddy. He has ransacked closets, pushed a broom under the beds, searched through the hibiscus, and even has consulted the car glove compartment. (Neither have these apertures contained gloves since the days of overland touring cars.)

The cat bobs up unconcernedly when the posse breaks up.

WELL, THE OUTCOME is that Auntie Maude packs defensively and leaves to spend her last days with a nephew in Oklahoma City, who is catless, poor and deserving and heirs everything in the end -- Aunt Maude's end, that is.

Buddy toasts the bread without his billed cap because the glint of jewels remains only a memory.

In the aquarium, when you walk through the front room, the Oscar looks complacent, though out of breath.

The cat lounges beside the aquarium, innocently pretending he is studying one hind paw.

## ECOLOGY HOUSE

article and photos by John Gorman

RETIREES ARE SOMETIMES accused of living in the past. But when Jack McDonald and his wife Joan retired to the Florida Keys, they found themselves living in the future, or, more specifically, in the "Ecology House," a home designed and constructed to harmonize with the unique environment of the Keys and provide its owners with year 'round pleasant living.

From the outside, the "Ecology House" looks like most of the other houses in the Keys built near the ocean. The first level is essentially open space, and the living area is located on the second storey, 12 feet above the ground, allowing hurricane tides to pass below. A few yards to the rear, a placid canal shimmers in the sun.

INSIDE THE HOUSE, however, it is obvious that something very special is happening. Instead of tightly sealed windows and the hum of air conditioning, the house has, as builder Richard Shields puts it, "air control," furnished by overhead paddle fans in each room and a small cupola on the roof which allows hot air to escape and be replaced by cool breezes drawn in through the open windows and doors. "We bought the house in August of '78, and it was as hot then as it ever gets around here," Joan recalls. "But the house stayed cool." Jack is equally enthusiastic. "All we had to do," he says, "was open the cupola and let it suck the hot air out."

WHILE DISPENSING WITH air conditioning certainly helps to keep electric bills down, the solar water heater on the roof is also responsible for considerable sav-

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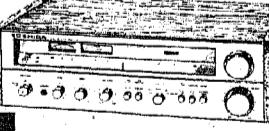
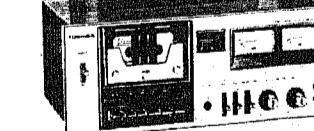
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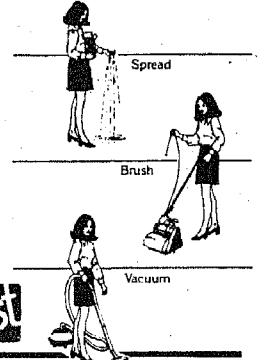
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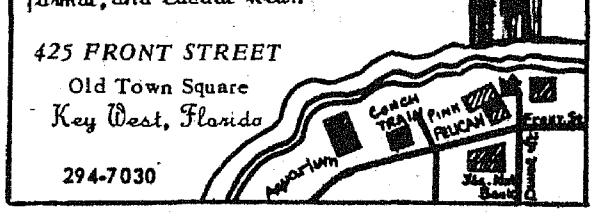
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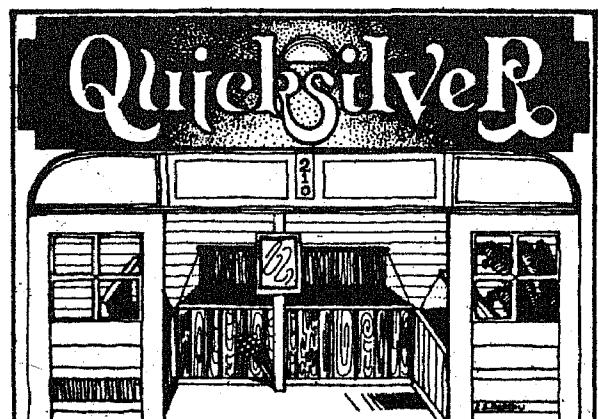


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## notes and antic-dotes

by Dorothy Raymer

(PART II OF A SERIES ON KARL TANZLER VON COSEL)

MYSTERY STILL CLOUDS some of the events which took place in the case of the necrophiliac, Karl Tanzler von Cosel, who kept the corpse of Elena Milagro Hoyos Mesa for approximately nine years after her death in October of 1931. She was 22 when she died, and he was in his middle 60's.

In review, for the benefit of new readers, Karl Tanzler, who called himself Count von Cosel, and also affixed "Doctor" to his title, was a radiologist employed in the X-ray department at the old Marine Hospital, which was once on the Naval Station. He examined Elena when she was admitted there for lung disease on April 22, 1930.

Although the 20-year-old girl was in advanced stages of tuberculosis, the radiologist convinced her parents that he could restore her to health if permitted to treat her with special radiation therapy and injections. This extra treatment was carried on at her home.

VON COSEL, who claimed he was an engineer, a scientist, and a medical expert, among other accomplishments (artist, sculptor, musician, pottery maker), said he had built a "high voltage transmitter" which he attached to apparatus installed in the girl's bedroom at her home, where he continued his "experiments" to restore her to health.

According to later testimony which he gave, Tanzler-von Cosel dissolved gold to put in Elena's drinking water. He purchased a four-poster wooden bed and other furniture for her. He supplied fancy cushions and pink and blue sheets for the bed, and presented her with gifts, among them a ring, a pearl necklace, and a crystal pendant for her 21st birthday, plus other items of jewelry and several silk dresses. He bought food to tempt her appetite and supplement the diet of her relatives.

IT WAS SAID that the Hoyos clan at first resisted the "devil machine," as they named the electrical rig which the bogus count set up, but they did allow its use in vain hope that it would help the dying girl. At intervals, she was returned to the Marine Hospital for further examinations by Dr. Harry Galey and a Dr. Lombard.

Von Cosel, who claimed Elena was the reincarnation of a love he had known in the distant past, continued his courtship of the ailing beauty. She refused his proposal of marriage and spurned any physical contact. She did accept financial aid for part of the household expenditures, such as furniture bought on the installment plan and food. Key West was in the doldrums of the Great Depression, and the economic support was appreciated. In gratitude for curing her of an illness, Elena's mother gave the aging benefactor a swath of Elena's luxuriant long tresses, which had been cut off a year previous. This turned out to be the source of the hair used to form a wig for the deceased in the later sequences.

ELENA GRADUALLY DECLINED in tubercular condition, but her admirer persisted in his attentions and watched over the failing patient from the spring of 1930 on through the autumn of 1931.

Contradictory and tangled accounts of the life of Tanzler-von Cosel complicate records. Self-declarations varied. Official investigation by psychiatric authorities confirm that the "impostor" was born in Dresden, Germany, about 1869-70, but not of nobility. He had an ordinary education in public schools of Germany before he drifted to various parts of the world. He

was bright, and in some respects brilliant, with a vibrant curiosity for knowledge. He was also a mystic. Unfortunately, his penchant for reliving the past became twisted into a form of perversion.

DR. RALPH GREENE, medical director of Eastern Airlines, who made a study of the strange happenings, asserted that von Cosel had "impaired and morbid mentality, a technical trend known as necrophilia, or marked insane love for the dead." Somewhere in his childhood, there was a complex source for Tanzler-von Cosel's mentally warped condition, which expanded through passing decades on into his maturity.

Part of this condition was revealed in information from Tanzler's former wife, Doris Tanzler, who was a nurse living in Michigan at the time he was taken into custody in Key West. She sent a letter to a Monroe County Deputy at the time of the Tanzler-von Cosel hearing, which testified: "He is my husband and we have been separated for 11 years. His mind is troubled on account of many ways."

IN A MORE SPECIFIC revelation of Tanzler's behavior, it was reported that he preferred his wife to ice her body, powder it dead white, and to put purple eyeshadow and circles on the flesh of her face, then lie absolutely still during intercourse. In truth, he preferred at least a mock dead partner to a live one. This was undoubtedly the strong motivation for possession of the dead Elena.

The labyrinth of information on the background of Tanzler included the following claims, some verified, and some simply fantasy, expanded in his "autobiography." In this, Tanzler-von Cosel described his childhood in a castle where he was haunted by a ghost, and visions of a boyhood love embodied years later in Elena.

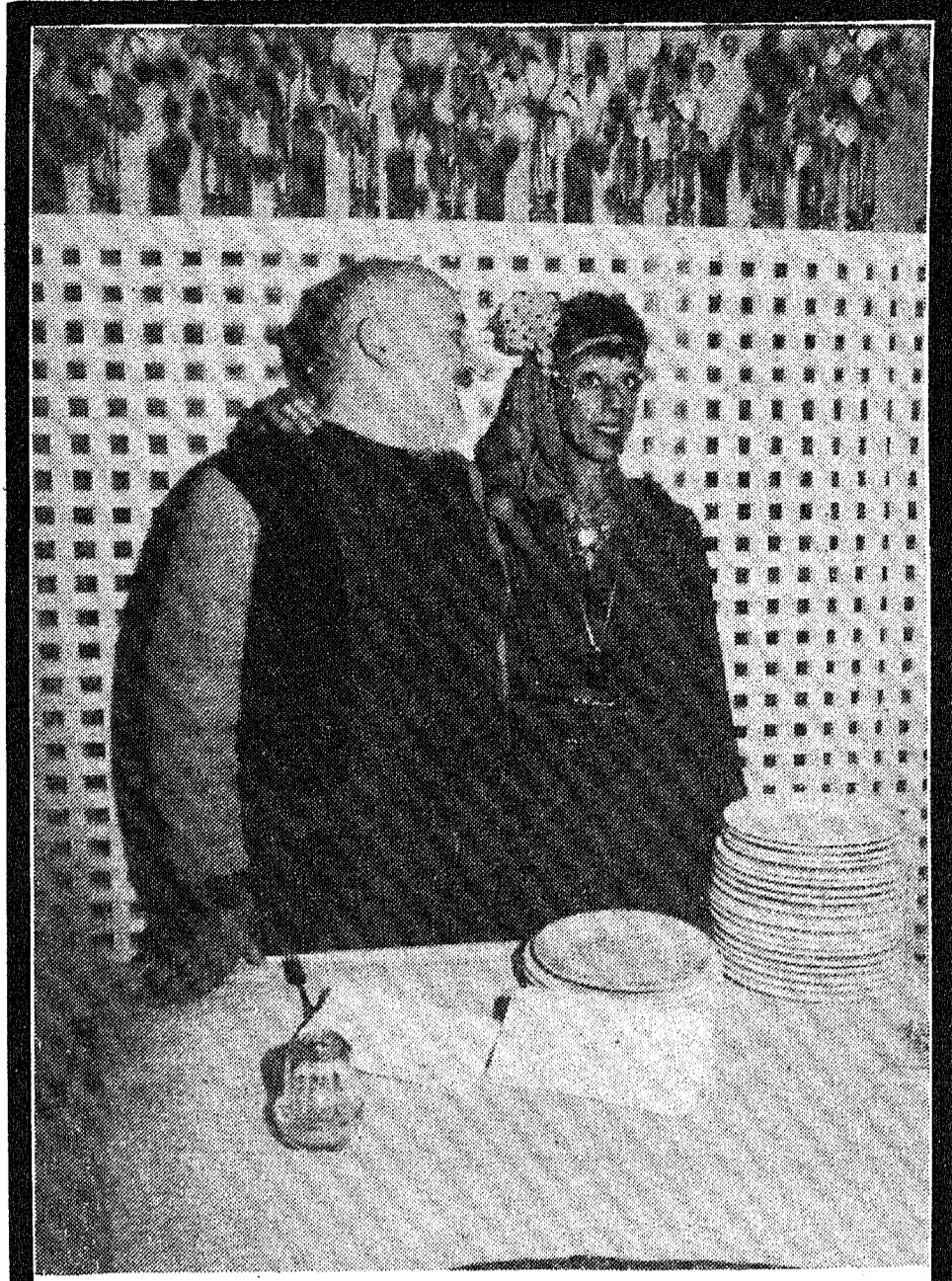
The narrative is shaky and jumps about incoherently. Tanzler-von Cosel stated that he had visited the United States in his youth, and had been detained at Ellis Island until one of his sisters, then living in Elizabeth, N.J., came up with \$20,000 bond. After that, he continued to live in New York City for about a year, but returned to Germany, his birthplace, to see his mother.

IN ANOTHER SECTION of his story, he served as assistant in plastic surgery in German hospitals, a fact somewhat substantiated by his monthly checks issued by Reich Credit, until the Nazis took over the German government in 1939, at the beginning of World War II. Yet the eccentric narrator vowed that he was interned in Australia during World War I. It is possible that his plastic surgery work was done after the close of World War I, when German military patients were still undergoing treatment, but this was not clarified. There was also a rumor that he was paid by the German government for an "invention."

In early years, Tanzler was a skilled mechanic and wandered about through Germany, into Austria and Italy. He became involved in sculpture, pottery making, music, painting and the writing of poetry. According to his account, he became a student of mummification in Egypt, then drifted off to Australia, where he was an engineer.

In Sydney, he supposedly built a yacht and a seaplane and learned to pilot the plane. He said he had flown a glider while in high school. He announced in this part of his memoirs that he was a British subject, had a beautiful home, a collection of valuable Australian opals, and was owner of a coconut plantation near that part of the Pacific where Amelia Earhart, the American aviatrix, was lost in her attempted flight around the world. He continued the fantastic odyssey, including a trip to India, where he nearly died of influenza.

CLAIMING HE HAD gone to Australia 13 years before World NOTES AND ANTIC-DOTES continued on page 24



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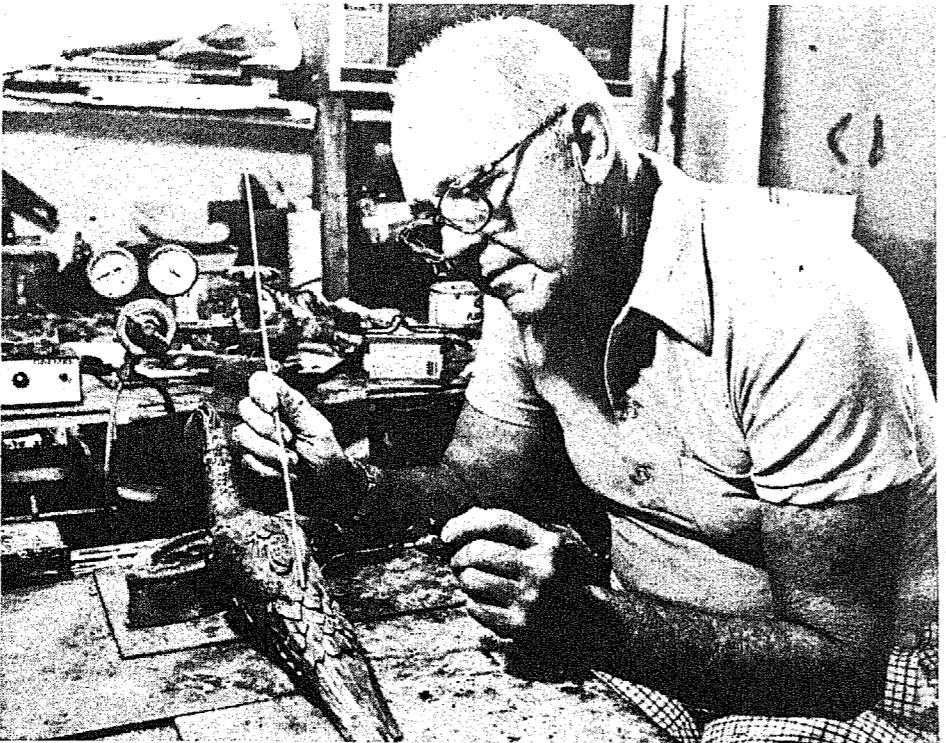
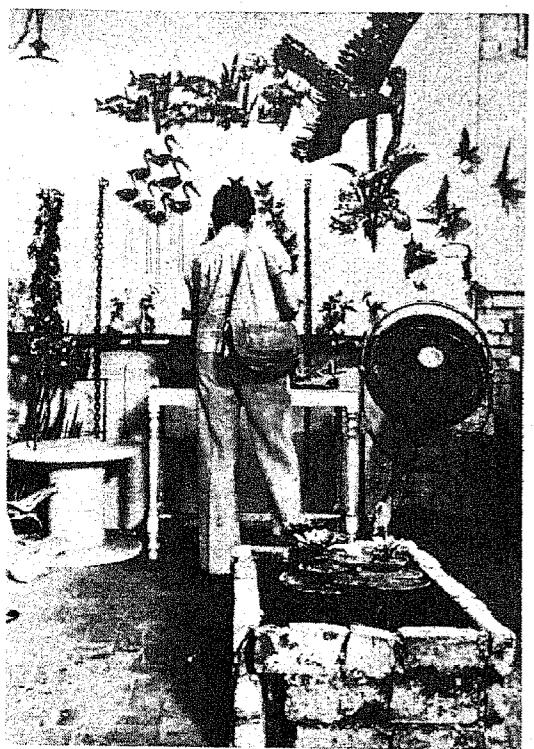
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## A CRAFTSMAN

WHEN GLENN WALKER was an interior designer, he applied the basic principles of art he had learned as an oil painter to the creation of a three-dimensional



work of art in a room or a house. As an artist, he was also able to supply his clients with a rendition in oil of the finished product -- the redesigned space.

He found it difficult to obtain metal sculptures and hangings to match his expectations, so he began making his own. Soon he put aside interior design and de-

voted his time to metal sculpture, applying the three-dimensional principles of organizing a room artistically to crafting and arranging pieces of metal -- copper, brass, and silver -- in harmony with natural materials like driftwood and coral, and various artifacts.

Birds, fish, butterflies, spiders and webs, and the flora that surround them are recreated in a moderately stylized manner in the forms of wall hangings, table pieces, fountains, and lamps.

Standard pieces are always on hand for sale and as samples, but most of Walker's

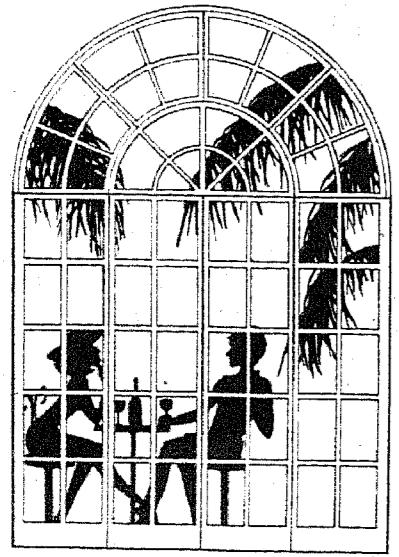
business consists of custom work scaled to any size and shape to fit the client's requirements.

Walker has operated his studio-workshop in the Harbor House since 1971, and he can be found there most days pounding, cutting, arranging, creating, and proudly displaying his artistry to both the casual browser and the serious buyer of art.

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**editorial**

OUR SHRINKING BEACHFRONT

IN SPITE OF the area's continuing water shortage (the pipeline had broken out on the Seven Mile Bridge again, and both the desal plant and R.O. plants were broken down last week) and the city's sewage disposal problems (the main Amelia Street pumping station and the Flagler Avenue lift station broke down, causing neighborhood manholes to back up with raw sewage and allowing seepage of sewage into salt ponds), new luxury housing development in Key West seems to be proceeding at an ever-increasing rate. Most of this development is or will be concentrated on or near the beaches on the southern side of the island.

The 20-unit Vincent Caselles townhouse project on Rest Beach is underway again after work was suspended for several months following the disappearance of builder Cris Ray in an aircraft accident. Despite the seemingly good news that Mayor McCoy was securing Bureau of Outdoor Recreation grant funds with which to purchase the portion of Rest Beach opposite the indigenous park between White Street Pier and the Rongo townhouses, it now appears that local builder David Wolkowski, who has a purchase contract for the strip, is not receptive to such a proposal and is proceeding with plans to build about 17 apartment units along the narrow beachfront tract.

WOLKOWSKI'S BEACH SURVEY by a registered land surveyor seems to place the mean high water mark (MHW) some 7 to 12 feet seaward of the MHW mark we had reckoned from the National Oceanographic Survey benchmark on White Street Pier. Furthermore, the Florida Bureau of Beaches and Shores has apparently decided not to enforce the minimum fifty-foot coastal construction setback law under Florida Statute 161.052 in Key West, thereby allowing Wolkowski to build to within twenty feet of the ocean MHW mark. Wolkowski apparently was out of town and could not be reached for comment on his plans.

Near press time we learned that a new 136-unit condominium project is slated for construction by the Coral Isle Development Corporation at the northeast corner of Bertha Street and South Roosevelt Boulevard, across from Smathers Beach. The 9.76-acre tract is about half submerged; however, the developer intends to cluster the four buildings on the dry land part of the tract and can count the entire acreage at 16 units per acre in computing the allowable density. There does seem to be some question of conforming to zoning height limitations of four stories or 40 feet for this R2-H zone. The project with five floors would appear to exceed 40 feet and would require a variance.

A PRELIMINARY REVIEW of the required Community Impact Statement filed with the City by the developer indicates many omissions and hazy, ambiguous responses to requirements for definitive and descriptive detail in development and layout features. This impact statement is presently being reviewed by the Division of State Planning under Critical State Concern, and it is scheduled for a public hearing before the Key West City Commission on May 21, 1979.

THE CASA CASELLES project has most recently advertised in the *Key West Citizen* for the sale of 20 "townhouse" units (starting at \$136,800), even though their attorney successfully argued that they were not townhouses during an administration review hearing before the Board of Adjustment (City Commission) on September 5, 1978. It appears obvious now that they were misrepresented, and that they are in fact townhouses requiring a special exception.

At this point, the City Commission could reconsider its decision of last September and issue a "stop work" order based on the apparent misrepresentation through his attorney by owner Caselles, and require Caselles to secure a special exception under Section VIII of Zoning Ordinance 69-29 before proceeding. The Commission might also adopt a resolution calling upon the Florida Bureau of Beaches and Shores to enforce the 50-foot ocean setback line with respect to all of Rest Beach under Florida Statute 161.052. Additionally, the City Commission might rigidly enforce the dimensional provisions of its Zoning Code (particularly height, which was established following a successful referendum petition drive by voters of Key West in 1973), and also take steps to preclude encroachment of bulldozers into the salt pond wetlands in various parts of the island city, including the Coral Isle Condo site.

IN THE FIGHT to preserve the few remaining acres of open space surrounding our island, the battle never seems to stay won. We were successful in preventing the new weather station from being placed in the middle of a salt pond next to the airport; the station is now being planned for an expanded second floor of the airport terminal building next to flight service, where it should have gone in the beginning. This battle helped stop other speculators and developers from filling and building in other parts of the salt ponds. But they'll be back!!! Now we hear rumblings that the Army Corps of Engineers is considering a compromise with the developer who illegally filled and destroyed the mangrove wetlands along the south side of the Riviera Canal. We abhor any compromise there!

IN SPITE OF the seeming setbacks, we believe that an informed and involved citizenry can influence government. It is done by writing letters and sending telegrams to our legislative delegation. Write to Representative Joe Allen, and Senators Bob McKnight, Vern Holloway and Dick Anderson, House or Senate Office Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32304. A letter to our senators for retaining

Critical Concern in Key West is particularly appropriate at this time. At the local level, telephone or write your city and, when appropriate, county commissioners. Attend commission meetings and other public hearings on zoning changes, variances and special exceptions. Express your opinion and/or support the opinion of those you agree with.

On April 26, 1979, the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA) declared that an emergency exists with respect to available water supply. The Monroe County Commission has by resolution asked the FKAA if it should declare a moratorium on county building permits until the water shortage is relieved.

THE FACT IS THAT THERE IS A WATER SHORTAGE! IN KEY WEST THERE IS A CRITICAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROBLEM. MAJOR NEW DEVELOPMENT HAS GOT TO WAIT UNTIL THESE PROBLEMS ARE SOLVED.

There is no doubt that some sort of large development moratorium is needed in the City of Key West now! Isn't it just possible that some of our water shortage and most of our backed up sewers along Flagler Avenue might be caused by the reopening of the old Casa Marina; not that we objected to the restoration and reopening of this historical old monument, but did we need the additional 250 new units? The City Commission should think hard before approving a new 136-unit project. It is time for the City Commission to get its head out of the sand and face the fact that we cannot support major new development until new public service facilities -- water, sewers, solid waste disposal -- are completed and operating. And perhaps in the meantime we can preserve and acquire for all the people a bit more of the little remaining open space at our beaches.

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Critical Concern in Key West is particularly appropriate at this time. At the local level, telephone or write your city and, when appropriate, county commissioners. Attend commission meetings and other public hearings on zoning changes, variances and special exceptions. Express your opinion and/or support the opinion of those you agree with.

On April 26, 1979, the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority (FKAA) declared that an emergency exists with respect to available water supply. The Monroe County Commission has by resolution asked the FKAA if it should declare a moratorium on county building permits until the water shortage is relieved.

THE FACT IS THAT THERE IS A WATER SHORTAGE! IN KEY WEST THERE IS A CRITICAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROBLEM. MAJOR NEW DEVELOPMENT HAS GOT TO WAIT UNTIL THESE PROBLEMS ARE SOLVED.

There is no doubt that some sort of large development moratorium is needed in the City of Key West now! Isn't it just possible that some of our water shortage and most of our backed up sewers along Flagler Avenue might be caused by the reopening of the old Casa Marina; not that we objected to the restoration and reopening of this historical old monument, but did we need the additional 250 new units? The City Commission should think hard before approving a new 136-unit project. It is time for the City Commission to get its head out of the sand and face the fact that we cannot support major new development until new public service facilities -- water, sewers, solid waste disposal -- are completed and operating. And perhaps in the meantime we can preserve and acquire for all the people a bit more of the little remaining open space at our beaches.

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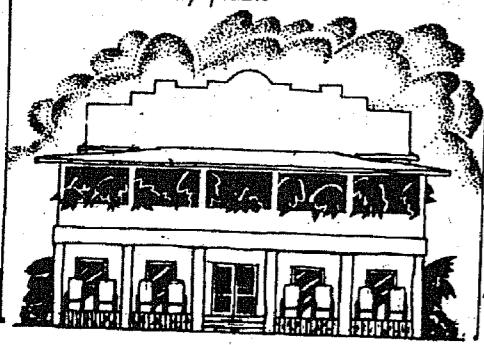
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EQUALITY FOR ALL has always been an interesting concept for both the humanity dwelling on this planet and one of its many satellite groups known as children. One of the most difficult things to really appreciate as a child is that it is a basic part of grown-up life to learn how to be generous and giving without being envious of what the other person has or is about to get.

My older sister Kathryn was, by sheer accident of birth, always the first to experience whatever "first" there was to be had. Because of this, she felt it her absolute duty to see that my little sister Martha and I always were in the proper time and space to receive the gradual rewards of growing up.

KEY WEST WAS the only place we ever knew, and the sophistications of the metropolitan child just did not exist for us as a formative influence in our lives.

My mother was forever making cozy little places for us to play within the confines of our yard from the time we were very small up until the last child was well into the second or third grade. One of my beloved mother's greatest achievements was procuring a large wooden boat (at least thirty feet long) for our yard, and furnishing it with old tables, chairs, and rugs, all neatly arranged to facilitate even the most obscure fantasy of child's imagination. We promptly rechristened the battered old *Four Roses* the "Banana Leaf Restaurant" in honor of the large, softly ribbed banana leaves.

We unthinkingly ripped them from the stalks of our defenseless banana tree to serve as attractive platters for our mock-epicurean delights.

Anyway, each had her place marked out in the boat, and, as usual, Kathryn always assumed the position of authority right near the door, making escape all the more accessible and giving her a



written and illustrated by Amy De Poo

clear runway straight to the kitchen door, where she could relate with remarkable detail the latest atrocity committed by either Martha or myself.

KATHRYN HAD A mind like a steel trap with honed razor edges -- she could remember *Every Little Thing* you ever said or did (especially if it was bad) and could string together a list of previous crimes and indiscretions so neatly as to make the present one seem like just another unsightly blotch on the rotten fabric that was your entire life to date. She was amazing. It didn't matter what we were all doing together -- be it stringing frangipani flowers together to make leis, collectively torturing Herbert, our white dog, by dressing him up in our culottes and ruffled rib-ticklers or putting wax-paper on the cat's feet to watch it slide across the linoleum -- Kathryn invariably would make a stink about some minor breach of manners or the odor of your feet and launch herself into these unbelievably long, stretched-out, and very wordy lectures on how much she *Knew*, how much she had *Done*, how *old* she was, and what was only *Fair*.

Honestly, Martha and I were quite the nonplussed duo for the better part of our youthful existence. There was just no way to shut her up when she got started. And once she got started and got her steam up, wild gesticulations and bulging veins became the best part of the show. I usually stood there stupefied and entranced by this miniature Clarence Darrow, but Martha had developed a keen sense of timing to defend her sanity when beset by the oratorical manipulations of her oldest sister. She became a master at waiting until Kathryn had made a particularly emphatic point and would quickly interject a well-placed "What-did-you-say?" that would make Kathryn's blood boil all over again. I snickered in the

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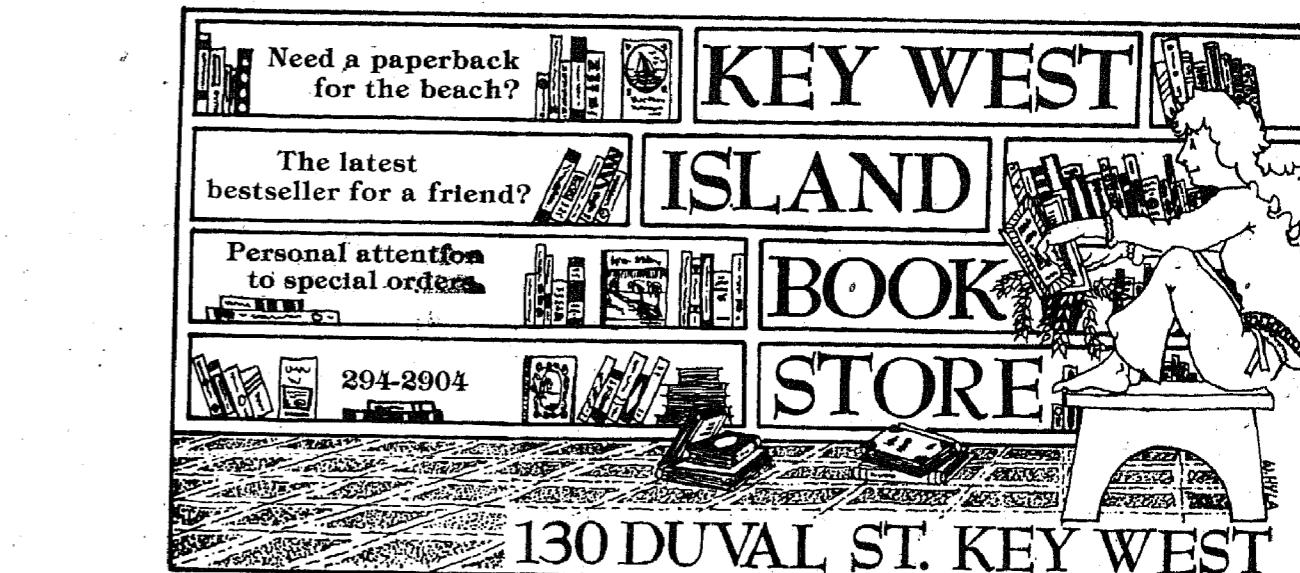
most obnoxious nasal tones I could conjure up, and this would begin the fireworks anew. Kathryn was our very own personal volcano.

KATHRYN ENTERED THE fifth grade.



This stage in her life represented true separation from all the underlings still learning cursive writing in the third grade (being Martha) and all the imbeciles reciting multiplication tables in the fourth grade (being me). With this august advancement in her life came the usual trappings of impending maturity: she got *Privileges*. How I grew to hate that word. She spared no expense in tossing it in your face, either.

It was her *Privilege* to do most anything and everything that Martha and I wanted to do but were not allowed. She visited friends to watch *Popeye* on television until four-thirty in the afternoon! And if that wasn't disgusting



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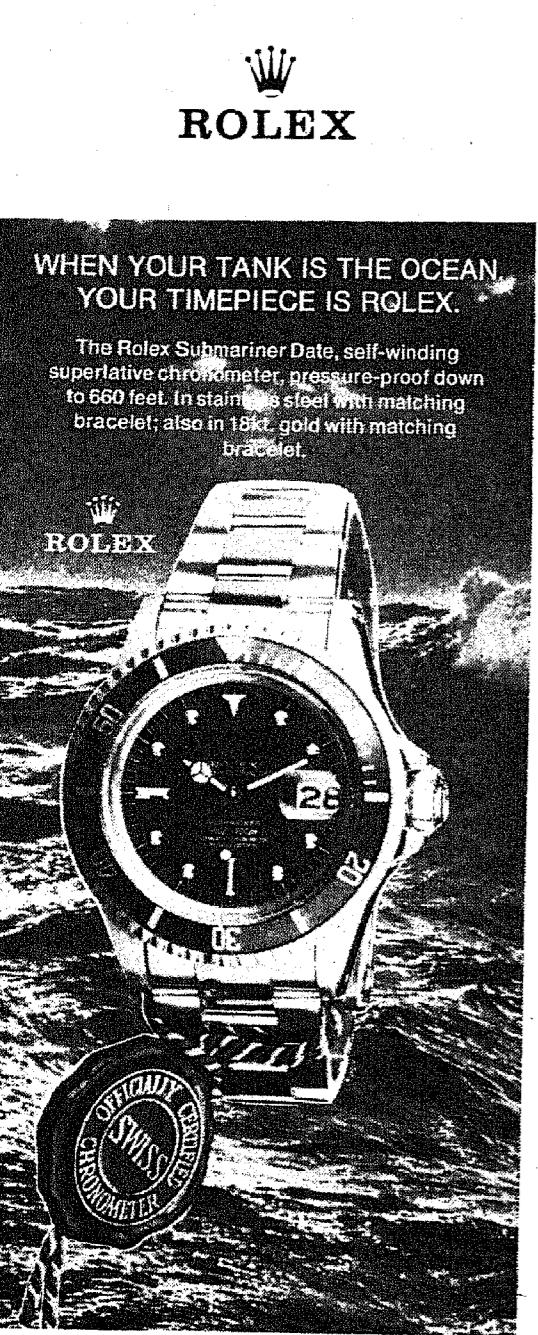
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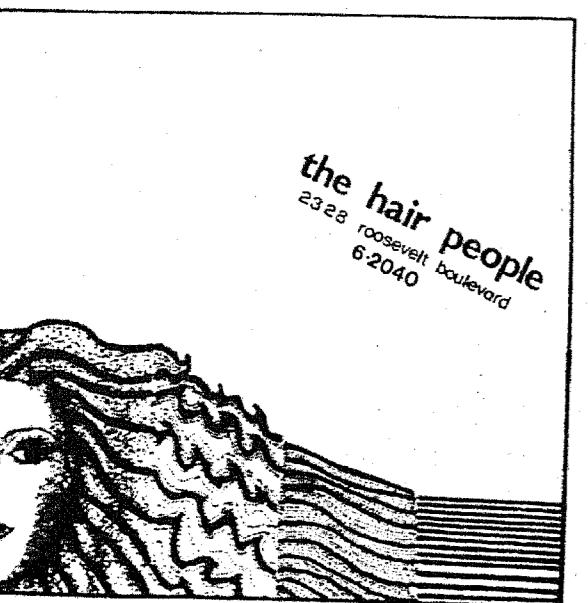
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ever, and became very stale after awhile. Martha, being the strong silent type, would set her jaw, purse her lips and completely ignore Kathryn's rude displacement of the obligations of a genuine parent, which she was most certainly not, although she had managed to perfect the authoritative attitude of an effective one.

"IT IS NOW EIGHT-THIRTY TWO. IT IS TIME FOR YOU BOTH TO GO TO BED, YOU NEED YOUR SLEEP."

God, she could be so annoying.

"DADDY WILL YOU PLEASE TELL AMY AND MARTHA THAT IT IS TIME TO GO TO BED?"

My father, John, was usually reading a book and did not like to have his train of thought interrupted.

"What's that you say, Kathryn?"

"I said it is their bedtime and they should go to bed. When I was their ages I didn't get to stay up this late. It's just not Fair. You always said when I got to the fifth grade I could stay up until nine. How can you be More Fair to them and not to me? It's just not right. The Fairest thing to do is to send them both upstairs now, because it's getting later and later and pretty soon there won't be any difference between Anybody's bedtime and I don't think it is being equal to me. After all, I am the oldest and I did get straight A's on my last report card. Doesn't that mean anything anymore?"

OH, JUST SHUT UP, Kathryn, I thought to myself. I'd rather be put to sleep than endure her obsession for justness and equal rights. Could I help it if I didn't share her concepts of advancing age and proper bedtime hours? John, himself a little weary of being judge and jury to Kathryn, the Criminal Lawyer, and her verbose arguments ad infinitum, would merely nod in our direction and we would then jump up and begin preparations for sleepy time rather than risk getting a good clout on the head for not moving quickly enough.

This pleased Kathryn immensely, and she would victoriously resume her comfy position on the sofa next to the lamp and stick her nose deeply back in the crack of her book, a necessity and not the af-

fection of a pseudo-intellectual; she had the vision of a myopic mole and could not see two feet in front of her face. She wore these very strange eyeglasses that were as thick as coke bottles in the middle and had sort of a pointy-wing shape, the black color of the frames doing nothing to enhance her coloring, which was very blonde and fair. In addition to that, her hair was quite wispy and fine and had the texture of cotton candy, so that if my mother tried to pin it back or put it up in a rubber band, it was to no avail, because her hair slid right out again and adamantly refused to be tamed. These qualities were a source of never-ending taunts and insults from us beasties upon poor Kathryn's fragile ego. We could easily reduce her to tears with our cruel summations of her outward appearance, so one can see why she leapt at every opportunity to define her status as the oldest and smartest. Really, she could not help herself.

RELUCTANTLY, MARTHA AND I went off to do the usual pain-in-the-neck things a child is trained to do to avoid becoming what is known as a nerd in junior high school. As we were brushing our teeth, a thought struck me. I was pretty well fed-up with this all-consuming passion Kathryn had for religiously dictating my bedtime. Perhaps a little trick would set her back a notch or two. I spit out the last mouthful of Crest and rinsed my mouth thoroughly as I was repeatedly instructed to do so; my parents obviously thought I had multiple ear chambers because they always told me to do something at least fifty times before they were confident I had the sensibilities to manage such a complicated task on my own.

I bent over to Martha's ear and whispered a plan that would assuredly be a mild stimulus to Kathryn's heart.

"Listen, Martha. Why don't we wait under Kathryn's bed tonight and just sort of grab her ankle a little bit to see if she'll get scared. It won't hurt at all and maybe she'll think twice before she sends us up to bed right in the middle of *The Lucy Show*. What do you think?"

Martha stopped in mid-stroke and held

the toothbrush stationary for a moment. I could see the reels spinning in the back of her easily-deviated mind. Her eyes widened and shone brightly with the prospect of meting out some just-deserts to her eternally-maternal bossy sister. She spat with such masterfully decisive undercurrents I knew she would be my partner in crime tonight. We both covered our mouths in a subconscious reflexive motion that signified our pact was complete.

in, because once she removed her glasses it was quite impossible for her to see, and this made it safer for her in case she got up in the middle of the night. The floors in our house creaked loudly, so Martha and I were ever so careful in crawling beneath her bed. There were lots of those god-awful dustballs under there, which made our unholy undertaking all the more self-sacrificing.

Since we had extended our toiletries-session for as long as possible, there



WE BADED OUR nighttime farewells and ascended the stairs with as much normalcy as possible, fearing surely our mother would suddenly read our minds and put a stop to it all. Luckily she was not tuned in that night. We all slept in the same room, each having a twin bed next to a wall. Kathryn's was right by the door where the light of the hall could shine

was but a few minutes before Kathryn herself would be required to come to bed. Each second hung like an eternity, and I silently prayed to God that neither Martha nor myself would inadvertently be the victim of our growing bodies and make some sort of audible indiscretion, be it a burp or whatever. But we were as quiet as churchmice.

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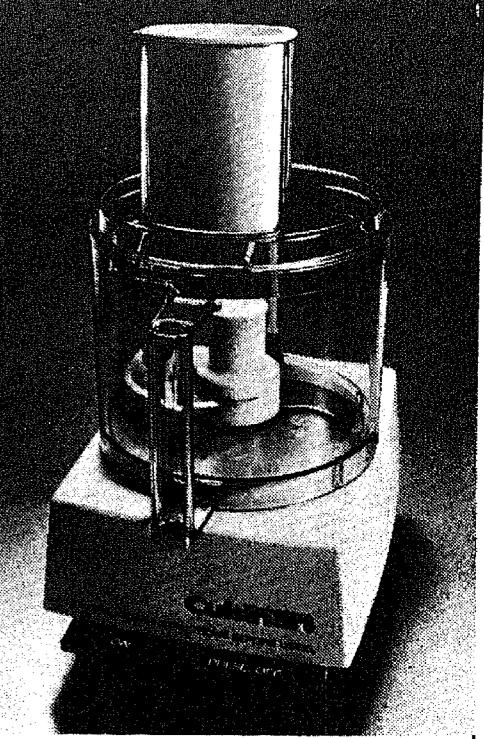
For further information contact Bernice Dickson, 907 Whitehead St.

# MOTHER'S DAY

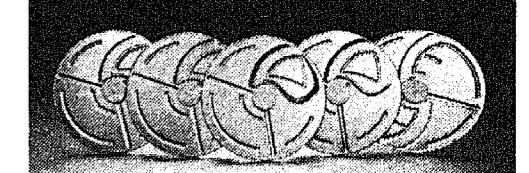
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# BEHIND THE BADGE: A LOOK INSIDE THE KEY WEST POLICE DEPARTMENT

by Richard Marsh

**THERE HAS BEEN** considerable discussion over the past several months about the possibility of abolishing the government of the City of Key West. Calm, reasoned discussion of the subject is rare. Those who equate abolishing the municipal corporation known as the City of Key West with wiping more than a century and a half of Conch tradition and history from memory react emotionally, fearing the loss of their identity as Key West Conchs. Many whose thinking is not clouded by emotion are nevertheless hampered by imperfect knowledge of the workings of city government. With this article, Solares Hill begins a "nuts and bolts" series of how things work at City Hall, including some of the frequently heard criticisms from citizens, answers from officials, and comments by knowledgeable observers.

The views and opinions in this article are the result of personal observation by this reporter or by close observers of police activities. Most observers did not wish to be quoted or to have their opinions attributed to them for fear of reprisal, but their opinions are supported by this reporter's experience.

THE KEY WEST Police Department is undermanned and underpaid and suffers from sagging morale and uneven discipline. "The amazing thing," said Police Chief Winston "Jimmy" James, "is not what doesn't get done, but what we do with what we've got."

That is true, and it is also surprising not only that Key West manages to maintain a police department at all, with working conditions as unattractive as they are, but also that a large number of the policemen are competent, well trained, and willing and able to perform their duty in a professional manner.

IT IS EASIER to understand why city policemen "defect" to the Monroe County Sheriff's Department for the additional nearly \$3000 a year salary, once they have completed their basic training at city expense -- ten went over last year --, than why they stay with the city. The Sheriff has better equipment, and, in the eyes of some, there is more pres-

patchers, five jailers, and two secretaries. The budget for fiscal year 1978-79 is \$850,000.

Twelve volunteer police reservists donate about 40 hours a month apiece, serving as an extra set of eyes and generally aiding the policemen they patrol with. Reservists have no arrest powers. They receive the same basic 80-hour training course as regular beginning policemen, and they supply their own equipment.

Starting salary for a patrolman is \$8679, which is \$240 a month less than the starting salary with the Sheriff's Department. After six months on the force, a city patrolman gets an increase of \$25 a month; after another year, an increase of \$300 a year; after another year and a half, another increase of \$300 a year.

After three years as a patrolman, he is eligible for promotion to corporal at a salary of \$8929; after three more years, sergeant at \$9738; after three more years, lieutenant at \$10,449. The position of captain is filled as the need arises at a salary of \$11,411. Each promotion requires passing a civil service examination administered by the Civil Service Board, which maintains a roster of those eligible for each rank.

LET'S LOOK AT the hypothetical case of a man who, in his early thirties, has spent about 12 years as a Key West policeman. He has been married ten years and has two children. He has made no serious mistakes in his career and has been promoted regularly, so he is probably a lieutenant making \$10,449, which, according to a recently published survey, allows him to maintain a "lower-level" standard of living.

To reach this point, he has spent the prime of his life working various hours of the day and night, including and especially holidays, extracting broken bodies from wrecked cars, entering dark buildings that may contain armed burglars ("I could be dead 30 seconds from now," a policeman remarked to me one night as we approached a warehouse where a silent alarm had been set off), listening to reasons why people don't have driver's

Most of the men who leave, he explains, are those at the patrolman level, since they have less time and seniority invested. The department lost 20 men last year, including the ten who went to the Sheriff's Department.

THE MAIN REASON men leave is for an increase in salary, according to James. Assistant Chief Larry Rodriguez would like to see a patrolman's starting salary increased to \$10,500 in order to attract and hold qualified men.

In spite of the many drawbacks to being a city policeman, many wouldn't want to work elsewhere at any other job. They like the unique atmosphere of Key West, or they are hometown people who would feel like fish out of water anywhere but here. They like police work because of the action involved and the satisfaction they get from helping people and solving problems. Their wives may work, and the men may take on occasional guard duty on their days off or moonlight at a second job to raise their standard of living above the lower level. Those who can bear to live this way stay with the Police Department; those who cannot move on.

CITY COMMISSIONER Alton Weekley, who has maintained a close relationship with the Police Department since his election in 1977 by frequently accompanying police in cars or on foot patrol, identifies three basic problems with the Department:

1) Lack of money -- the Department has an inadequate budget, and the City cannot afford to increase it from the overall budget, but Weekley sees a possibility of increasing salaries and improving equipment through a rearrangement of the Department budget; there may also be some means of increasing the City's revenue in ways other than increasing taxes, which would benefit the Department.

2) Lack of encouragement of discipline -- from the upper echelons down through the lieutenants, officers do not uniformly apply regular discipline to the men, resulting in a certain loss of pride in being a police officer.

3) Morale -- low pay, deteriorated equipment, undermanned watches (work shifts), insufficient discipline, a feeling that promotions are sometimes made for reasons other than merit: these are some of the factors that lead to sagging morale on the part of policemen.

THE GUIDANCE CLINIC remained the only community mental health clinic in the Keys until 1972, when a Mental Health Board was established in Monroe County, and Guidance Clinics were set up in Marathon and Tavernier.

As a community mental health center, the Guidance Clinic provides outpatient mental health services to all people of the Key West area and the Lower Keys, including the many who could not otherwise afford professional mental health care. The philosophy of the Clinic has been described as follows:

"The Guidance Clinic of the Lower Keys as a non-profit corporation is directed towards serving the community by providing professional diagnosis and treatment of emotional and/or mental disabilities. To this end, the Board of Directors and personnel of the organization are committed to provide a quality, comprehensive, and constructive out-patient mental health program. The program will accentuate both direct and indirect client services, as well as education, research, and responsiveness to community needs. Further commitment is directed to cooperation with social agencies and mental health professionals." (Organizational Development Study, 9/77).

REALIZING THAT I have less police experience than a week-old rookie, I offer this collage of impressions from accompanying the police on several watches

Behind the Badge continued on page 37.

"THE AMAZING THING IS NOT WHAT DOESN'T GET DONE, BUT WHAT WE DO WITH WHAT WE'VE GOT." --POLICE CHIEF WINSTON "JIMMY" JAMES

tage with better working conditions as a Sheriff's Deputy. On the other hand, there is a stubborn pride felt by some city policemen in doing what they see as a tougher job keeping the city streets safe than "chasing raccoons around out in the mangroves."

Still, a young, single policeman, full of enthusiasm for his position of responsibility in the town where he grew up, may fall in love, get married, and then have to face the harsh reality of establishing a home and family on what amounts to poverty level wages. Such a young man, if he is honorable, may find it difficult to resist a move to the Sheriff's Department or another law enforcement agency. If he is not honorable, he is ripe for persuasion by the criminal element in exchange for "fringe benefits" not available through normal city channels.

THE POLICE DEPARTMENT currently has 39 sworn officers and patrolmen, including the chief. The count was at the budgeted 43 before four policemen were suspended after being caught in a raid on a smuggling operation last September. The Department also includes five dis-

licenses with them or lights on their bicycles, being punched by drunks in bar fights or the husband or wife or both in the midst of a domestic spat, and hoping he will never have to use his gun. His future at this point, if he stays with the Key West Police Department, is limited to the slim possibilities of making captain, assistant chief, or chief, or, more likely, remaining a lieutenant at an annual "cost-of-living" increase of 5% in the face of 9% inflation.

A YOUNG MAN fresh out of military service with no other work experience and only a high school education may not have the foresight to realize that a career as a Key West policeman leads to a dead end. It is a job when a job is needed, and there is still some prestige in law enforcement, even after the cop-baiting, cop-hating decade of the 1960's.

A common criticism of the police department is that there are "too many chiefs and not enough Indians" -- that is, there are more officers than patrolmen. Chief James laments the fact that Key West has only 14 patrolmen for a city of 25,000, compared to a national average of two patrolmen to every 1000 residents.

## MENTAL HEALTH CLINIC

by Ernest Szetela

SINCE MAY HAS BEEN designated as Mental Health Month, it would seem fitting to survey mental health care in the Key West area at this time.

Late last year, the Mental Health Clinic of the Lower Keys (formerly known as the Guidance Clinic) moved from its original location on Flagler Avenue to its present site at Truman Annex. Also, during the past year, the Mental Health Association has been revived in the Lower Keys.

A Mental Health Association was originally organized locally during the surge of interest in combating and treating mental illness through comprehensive community mental health care in the 1960's, following President Kennedy's landmark message to Congress in 1963 outlining a national program for mental health. At that time, a group of dedicated citizens, among them Gladys Mulberg, Al Brown, Armando Henriquez, and Neil Knowles, worked to establish what came to be known as the Guidance Clinic of the Lower Keys.

THE CLINIC WAS first opened in 1967, with Dr. Louis A. O'Connor, a licensed clinical psychologist, as its first director. Dr. Jerrold Weinstock arrived in early 1968, working originally as a consulting psychiatrist, then becoming involved on a full-time basis. Both Dr. O'Connor and Dr. Weinstock remained with the Clinic during its first six formative years. They are presently engaged in private practice in Key West. Another area psychiatrist is Dr. Alfonso Rey, who worked as Clinic psychiatrist before entering private practice.

For more than a year, except for a brief period, the Clinic has not had a full-time psychiatrist. Psychiatric services are being provided by a consulting psychiatrist who has been flying to Key West from Miami on a one day a week basis.

LIFELINE, A DRUG ABUSE telephone hotline staffed by volunteers and originating from the Guidance Clinic of the Upper Keys, extended its services to Key West during 1978. A significant increase in drug-related calls was reported once Lifeline opened in Key West. Although apparently no drug program funding has been allocated for Monroe County this year (Lifeline was terminated in late 1978), a resurgence of interest in such a program, combined with strong community support, may result in resumption of funding for drug abuse prevention and treatment programs in the Keys, particularly in Key West.

HOW DOES ONE avail oneself of the services of the Mental Health Clinic? Perhaps the simplest, most commonly used way is to call the Clinic directly (294-5237) and to give relevant information about the problem. In most cases, an appointment for an initial interview, and subsequent outpatient counseling, if appropriate, can be readily obtained.

Although there is not a full-time psychiatrist or licensed clinical psychologist on the Clinic staff, the professional staff does provide essential

treatment program as well as a program geared to prevent drug abuse in the schools, which was adopted by other school systems, were inaugurated. A grant from the Food and Drug Administration to set up a methadone maintenance program was obtained. (Reportedly, due to threats and harassment of Clinic staff at that time, the program was not implemented, although the funding may still be available.)

During its early years, the Clinic was directly involved with the county school system, with the school system providing partial funding for a psychiatrist to work in the schools. In recent years, however, this direct involvement diminished until at present there is none, although referrals are made to the Clinic's child psychologist. The reason given for this development is that in Key West, unlike other areas, the private sector and the public sector -- that is, psychiatrists in private practice and publically funded agencies like the Mental Health Board -- do not work together.

MONROE COUNTY HAS at this time no psychiatric facility specifically providing inpatient care in use. In the past, there were psychiatric beds at the former Monroe General Hospital and at the Key West Navy Hospital. And there have been instances of psychotic patients being admitted by their physicians to both Florida Keys Memorial Hospital and DePoo Memorial Doctors Hospital, particularly if some other condition required hospitalization.

AS A RULE, however, it has been the practice that once an emergency room physician, or any other licensed physician, ascertains that a person is mentally ill to the extent of being a danger to himself or others, he can sign the appropriate forms. This brings into effect the Baker Act, the Florida Mental Health Act, and the person can be hospitalized for a brief period for emergency evaluation and treatment. If a psychiatric bed or transportation is not quickly available, the physician may authorize the use of jail. (It is hoped that the use of jail in such cases will soon be eliminated and replaced with a holding environment that will improve and not worsen one's condition.) If a patient is eligible, up to two weeks' hospitalization in an authorized treatment facility can be covered by Baker Act funding, after a court hearing or waiver of a court hearing by the patient. (This description of obtaining hospitalization under the Baker Act is quite oversimplified, and each instance is unique, as is every person.)

...APPROXIMATELY 15% OF A COMMUNITY'S POPULATION REQUIRES MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES...ONLY ABOUT 6% OF THOSE NEEDING TREATMENT IN KEY WEST ARE CURRENTLY RECEIVING IT.

mental health care. The staff presently consists of a counseling psychologist, an educational psychologist, a psychiatric social worker, a psychiatric nurse, and an alcoholism counselor. The consulting psychiatrist, during his weekly day at the Clinic, sees patients and prescribes medication, if indicated.

Many clients are eligible for the Indigent Drug Program, under which there is no charge for psychotropic medication for those who are eligible. Most clinic fees are flexible, on a sliding scale according to family size and income. Outpatient services provided include marriage and family counseling, alcoholism counseling, outpatient follow-up after psychiatric hospitalization, and counseling for individuals undergoing various adjustment crises. Occasionally group sessions have been conducted, particularly for troubled adolescents.

THE CLINIC IS open weekdays, as well as two evenings a week for the convenience of those who might find it difficult to come for daytime appointments. There is usually very little delay in getting an appointment. Depending upon availability of staff, clients can often be seen on

ALCOHOLISM COUNSELING IS available at the Clinic. In cases of serious drunkenness, transportation can be arranged to Marc House (Monroe Alcohol Rehabilitation Center) in Marathon, which is operated by the Guidance Clinic of the Middle Keys, where treatment can be obtained for those seeking it voluntarily. Referrals can also be made through the Clinic to the fine treatment program at Avon Park, Florida.

For problems related to drug abuse, referral can also be made through the Clinic to Central Intake at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami.

DURING THE PAST year, under its present director, Dr. Nancy Spissi, the Mental Health Clinic of the Lower Keys has changed its name and location. Transportation of patients requiring psychiatric hospitalization in Miami area hospitals is now being provided by a mental health technician using a specially adapted vehicle provided by the county. The Health Systems Agency of South Florida has approved two holding beds at Florida Keys Memorial Hospital, which, when in use, should eliminate the use of local jails for most psychiatric patients.

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awaiting transportation or hospitalization. The short-term treatment may in itself be sufficient to provide stabilization and early release to outpatient care. Furthermore, attention is being called to the fact that there is at present no funding for drug abuse programs in Monroe County.

DURING MENTAL HEALTH MONTH it would also seem proper to consider what still remains to be done. By what criteria can one measure the extent to which people in the greater Key West area with mental and emotional problems are not receiving adequate treatment?

One possible indicator is the statement of the President's Commission on Mental Health (1978) that at any given time approximately 15% of a community's population requires mental health services. Referring to the Presidential Commission's statement, Dr. Spisso has estimated that only about 6% of those needing treatment in Key West are currently receiving it. (Cf. Key West

The size of the clinic staff has not been increased since this report was prepared in 1978. Actually, the number of mental health professionals has decreased.

ANOTHER CRITERION IS the kinds of mental health care available in other comparable areas and communities. Of course, the unique geographical configuration and population distribution of the Keys must be taken into account. Yet programs at mental health centers in other areas can suggest priorities and potential areas of expansion, such as, for example, a half-way house, day care program or sheltered workshop to help re-integrate persons who have undergone inpatient treatment into productive roles in the community. Special programs for the aged and retired, minority groups, counseling for prisoners to alleviate serious problems at local jails, may be areas worthy of consideration.

Perhaps funding can be somehow obtained for such programs, as well as for a program to prevent and treat drug

...ALTHOUGH (THE LOWER KEYS CLINIC) IS THE LARGEST OF THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE CLINICS IN MONROE COUNTY, IT HAS A RELATIVELY SMALL STAFF AND HAS INDICATED SOME DIFFICULTY IN OFFERING A RANGE OF SERVICES COMMENSURATE WITH THE NEEDS OF THE POPULATION. -- FROM A BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE STUDY

Citizen, Jan. 14, 1979, p. 3.)

PERHAPS ONE REASON the Clinic is reaching such a small percentage of those potentially in need of treatment is touched upon in a study by the Behavioral Research Institute of the Lower Keys Clinic. This study states that:

"...although it is the largest of the mental health service clinics in Monroe County, it has a relatively small staff and has indicated some difficulty in offering a range of services commensurate with the needs of the population."

abuse, by setting up innovative approaches particularly suited to the uniqueness of the Keys, and Key West in particular. The strong revival of community interest as evidenced by the rebirth and quick growth of the Mental Health Association of the Lower Keys may be an indication that the kind of community involvement needed to fund and implement such programs may not be lacking.



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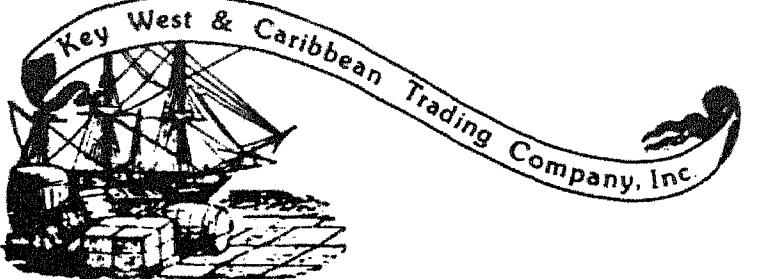
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NOTES AND ANTIC-DOTES: continued on page 19

Marvin Paige would ride in 1918-1919, as a young man, a political refugee, for he fled his home town of Posen, Italy, a town he made before the arrival of World War I, which began in 1914. He vowed it was then that Elena appeared to him in a vision in Campos Santos among statuary.

All of his Australian possessions were lost, von Cosei lamented, while he was in India. Upon returning Down Under, he was supposedly placed in an internment camp, or "military headquarters," because he was considered an enemy alien, although he claimed to be a subject of England. The "count" averred that his five year period in the camp was what cost him all of his holdings and valuables in Australia.

There are gaps in the fragments of his imagination; it can only be supposed that if Tanzler was interned in Australia, he did return to Germany at the close of World War I, in 1918 or 1919, and worked and lived there from then until his move to the United States. It has been confirmed that he sailed from Holland in the winter of 1926, presumably to visit a sister who dwelt in Zephyr Hills, near Tampa. Anyway, he arrived in Cuba February 6, 1926.

The ferry from Havana brought Tanzler-von Cosei to Key West on March 1, 1926. He must have gone over to the west coast of Florida at some time during that year for he was reportedly the purchaser of an orange grove near Tampa in 1927.

DURING THIS TIME, Tanzler secured a job at the Marine Hospital in Key West as an X-ray technician. He also announced that he was a pathologist.

Plans to acquire the body of his dying inamorata were made in advance by the wily necrophiliac, although he concealed his actual motive. He created several plaster facial masques and at least one face-and-bust cast while Elena was still living. He did so with the knowledge of the Hoyos clan.

He also salvaged the fuselage of a wrecked airplane and established it on the grounds of the Naval Station adjacent to the Marine Hospital. He maintained residence in a shack out on Rest Beach, in what was then an almost deserted part of the island, a very secluded spot.

DURING THE FINAL DAYS of the stricken Elena, her would-be lover promised that he "would take care of her, no matter what." He must have schemed to carry on with his macabre ideas as the impending death of his "sweetheart" became evident. She was seldom out of her bed at her home on United and Watson streets, except for periodic visits to the hospital.

On October 16, 1931, as von Cosei was closing his laboratory at the Marine Hospital, Mario Medina, husband of Elena's sister Florida, arrived around 6 p.m. with the news that Elena had died about an hour before.

Dr. Harry Galey examined the deceased and signed the required death certificate. The body was then turned over to the Pritchard Funeral Home in preparation for burial. Presumably, the body was embalmed according to regulations, and a wake was held.

AT THIS POINT the mystery evolved. Harold Cross, who was attached to the funeral parlor and who later worked for the Lopez Funeral Home, claims that the actual body was never buried at all, but that von Cosei, in some secret maneuver, contrived to substitute a plaster replica for the body. He unloads a cast image was buried in the casket and interred in a plot in the City Cemetery.

He believes that von Cosei managed to spirit his lost love away and that he hid the body immediately in the old plane on the Navy property. There are a number of other Key Westers who support the contention that the monumental hoax was continued from 1931 through until the autumn of 1940.

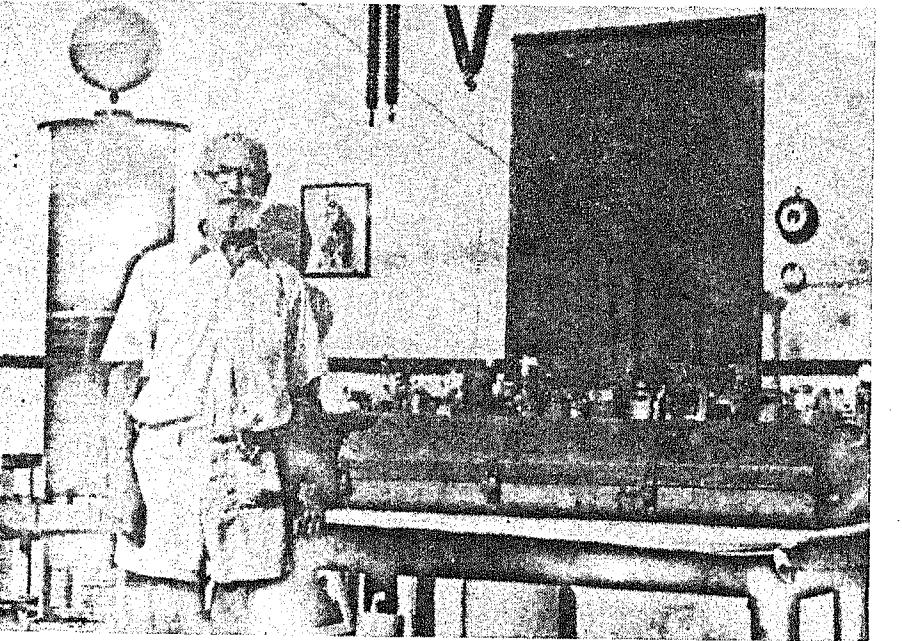
AMONG THE PEOPLE who were convinced that von Cosei had

engaged in the switch of an effigy for the cadaver was Bienvenido Perez, a police officer who had been a close friend of Elena's. I wrote about him after an interview in August of 1952 following the death of Tanzler-von Cosei.

Perez told how he discovered the real body of the dead girl only five months after her passing away. He said he had been patrolling the area near the Marine Hospital and was curious about the plane in the yard. Every time he came near it, von Cosei became agitated.

Perez said, "One day he stuck his head out of the little window of the plane and ordered me to leave. He shouted that the plane was charged with electricity. This was about five months after Elena was supposedly buried in a regular grave, and before the tomb was built for her above ground."

DECIDING TO TAKE the risk of a "booby trap" and deter-



Von Cosei in his laboratory at Rest Beach in a previously unpublished photograph.

mined to investigate the interior of the fuselage, Perez rolled a barrel over to the plane after von Cosei had left. Standing up on the barrel, he peered into the plane and saw something like a body covered up on a sort of bunk.

"So I went inside the plane via a ladder. I got a scare when I first pulled back the canvas cover. There was Elena! It was easy to recognize her. Von Cosei had put in glass eyes and they stared at me wide-open, and there was her long black hair. There was no odor. The body was carefully wrapped in strips of gauze and a kind of cotton cloth, wound around like a mummy, but with the face showing.

"I touched the arms and legs and they were soft under the wrapping, but the shoulders were dry, like a mummy's."

PATROLMAN PEREZ swore that he notified Florinda Mesa, Elena's sister, and told her what he had found. She replied that he was mistaken; that what he had seen was only a reproduction in plaster. Perez was unable to convince the sister or any member of the family that this was otherwise. The matter was dropped.

NOTES AND ANTIC-DOTES continued on page 19

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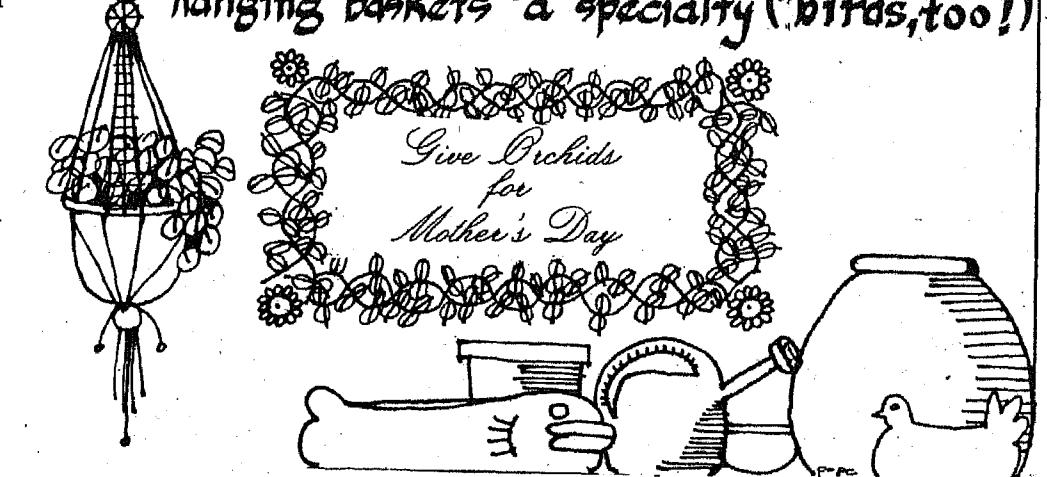
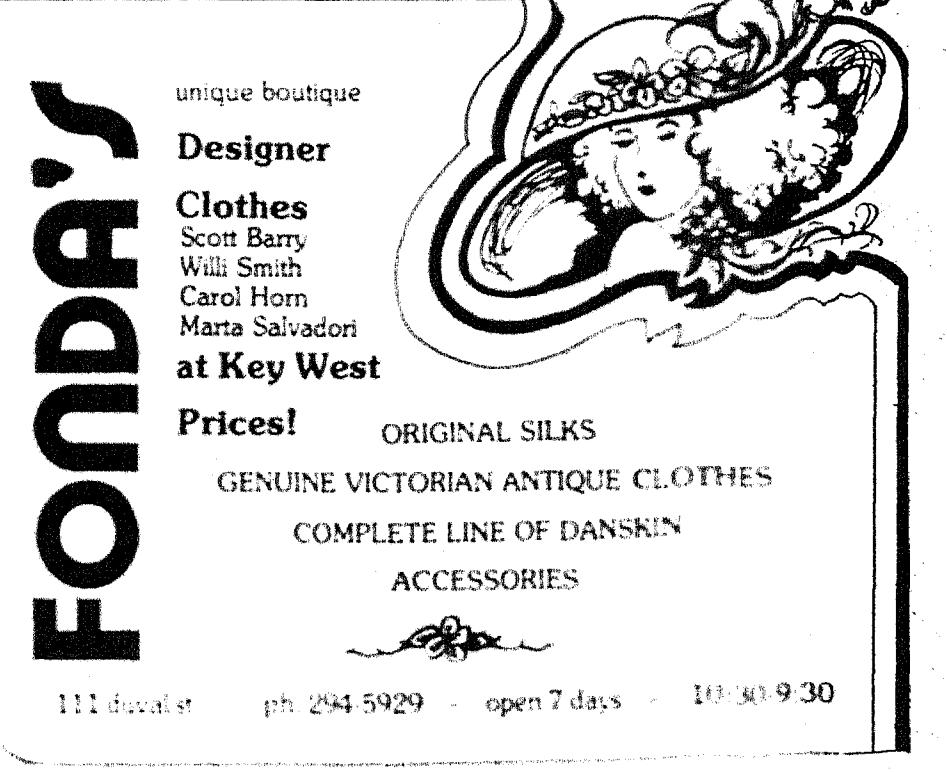
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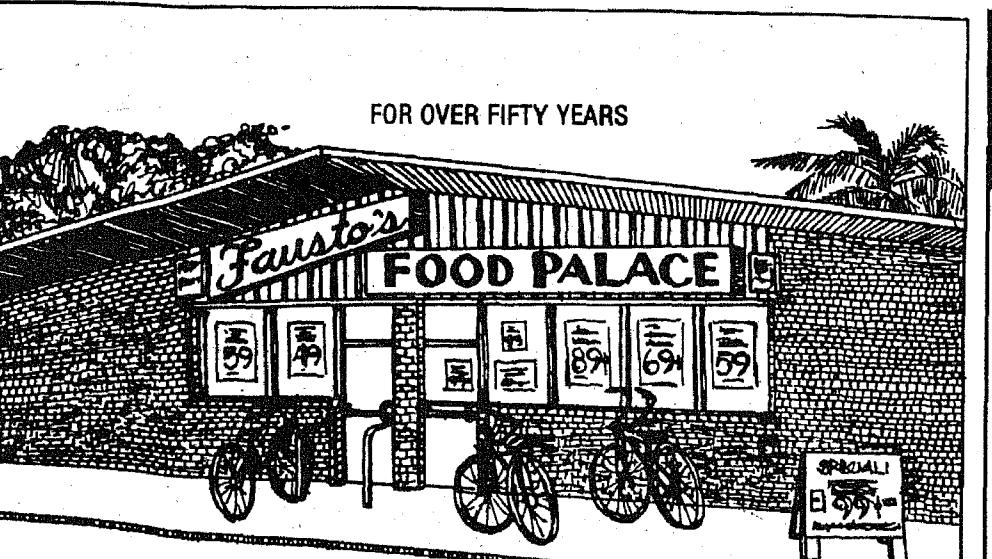
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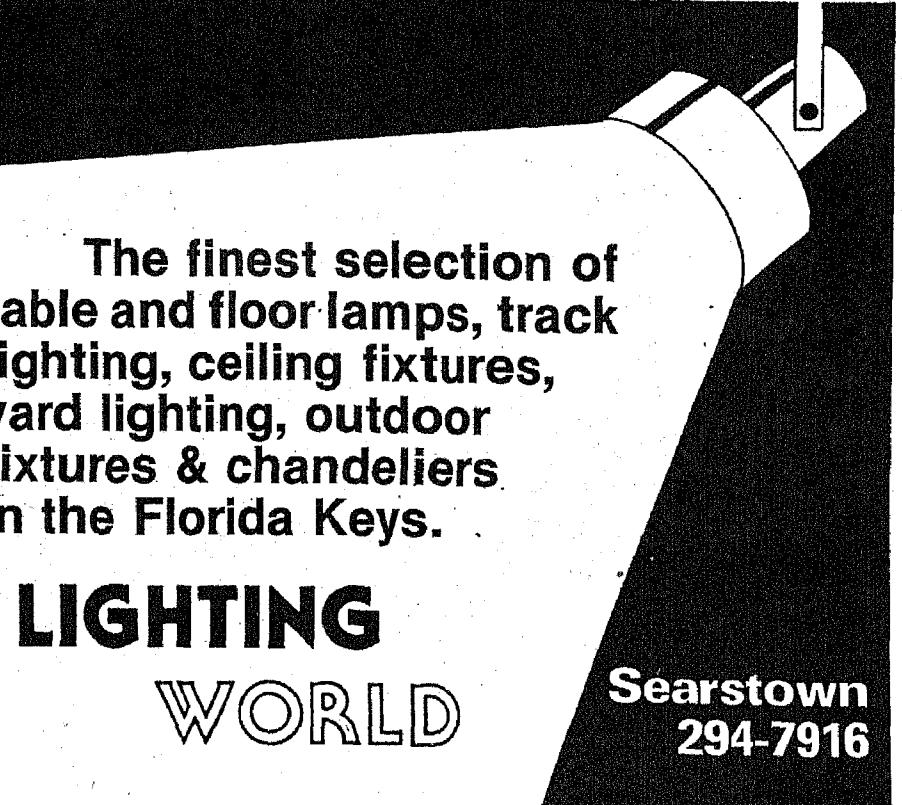


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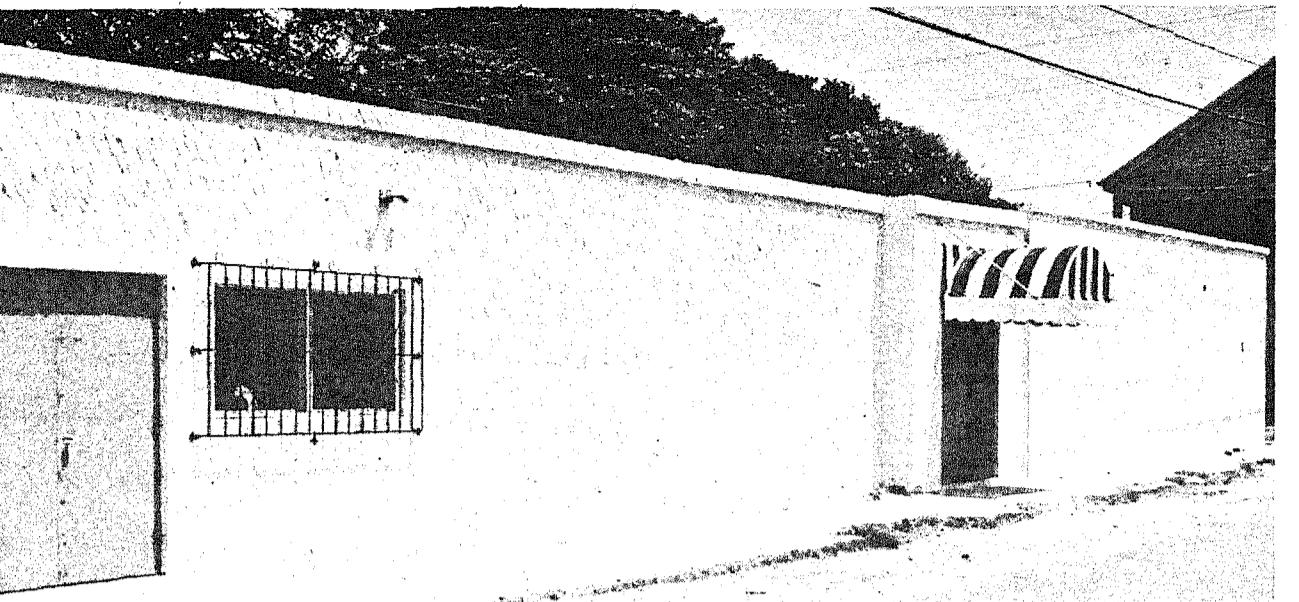


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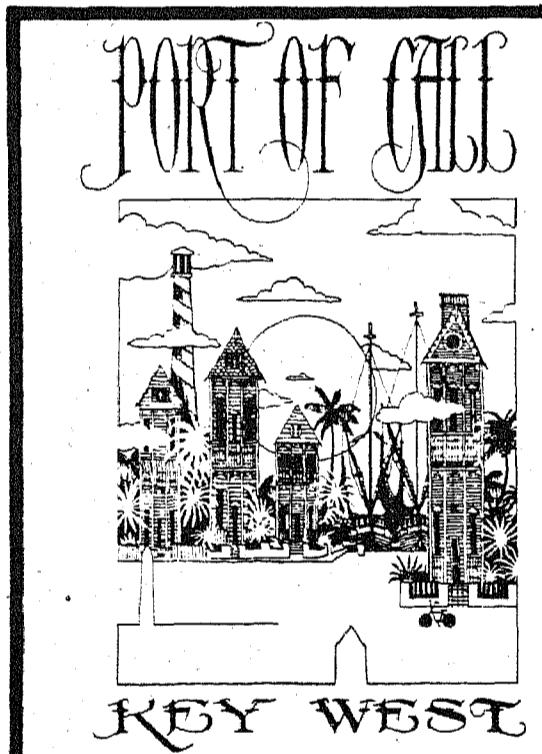
A landmark of the Key West night-life scene will soon be re-opened. The famous Club 21 at the corner of Petronia and Thomas Streets, first opened in 1952 by the late Cecil Bain, will be re-opened by his son, Cecil, Jr., as a private club in May.

pletely innocent of environmental considerations. Despite the fact that no one in his right mind would swim in polluted Biscayne Bay or Lake Worth; despite the fact that halibut, haddock, and swordfish, once so plentiful, are today unknown to the younger generation; despite the fact that scarcity of once abundant fish and crustacea is producing fights between fishermen and shrimpers, line fishermen and netters; among South Florida officialdom, greed appears to win out over the

prospect of tomorrow's sterility. Corporate interests have a publicity campaign going, deriding the entire concept of environmental concern. Those of us who are dedicated to the health and well-being of the World we live in need all the help we can get.

I hope that those of you who function in governmental legislation and administration will always remember us, and do not yield too readily to the blandishments of today's Fast Buck.

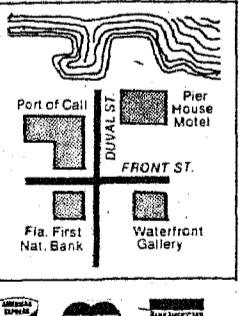
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## A LUG, A BOLT, AND A HONK OF HORN

by Helen Chapman

#### APRIL PHOTO QUIZ

THERE WAS NO winner in the March Photo Quiz, so we used eight of the ten photos again in April and substituted two easier photos for the two we thought were hardest.

The winner of the April quiz was Don Leckie, who gets \$25 for correctly identifying all ten photos. Here are the answers:

- 1) Tilton Hilton rooming house on Angela between Duval and Simonton
- 2) The new clock on the sidewalk at Duval and Southard
- 3) Sign on the Old Fishermen's Cafe, Caroline and Margaret
- 4) Nets behind Standard Marine Supply, Caroline and William
- 5) Southernmost Sign Service, 913 Eaton
- 6) Stone fruit pot, City Cemetery gate at Windsor Lane
- 7) Clock at Chamber of Commerce
- 8) Widow's walk at Simonton and Southard
- 9) End of wooden pier at County Beach
- 10) Courthouse Annex, Whitehead and Fleming

The two March photos that were replaced were the weathervane on top of Flanner Realty on Fleming between Duval and Whitehead (#3) and the gate on the cistern between the Waterfront Playhouse and the Community Center (#10).

We did not have room for a photo quiz this month.

ONCE UPON A TIME, I bought an eight-year-old De Soto automobile. I don't know how much mileage it had -- the gauge had given up the ghost at about 50,000 miles. I bought it in Texas and drove it to California -- and drove it and drove it. It was eleven when it rusted to death in Long Beach. But those three years were memorable ones.

Right after I arrived in Los Angeles, I read a newspaper article that stated that old cars were dangerous on the freeways. Swell. At that stage of my life, as an Angeleno, I would have been terrified on the freeways in a brand new armored truck, so this intelligence was even more intimidating. As a result, I drove some pretty circuitous routes to avoid the freeways. However, after three months or so, I overcame my fear and used the freeways all the time. The De Soto appreciated it, bumpy little side roads being hard on the internal organs (its and mine). It gave me excellent service for the first two years.

THEN I GOT a job thirty miles from my home (which is practically around the corner to a Californian) and the car began to develop some strange habits. The horn would blow when I made a right turn. This upset a few other drivers and embarrassed me to death. I tried assuaging them by yelling, "Do not ask for whom the horn blows. It ain't blowing for thee,"

DANSKINS

ANITA KANTOR Dresses

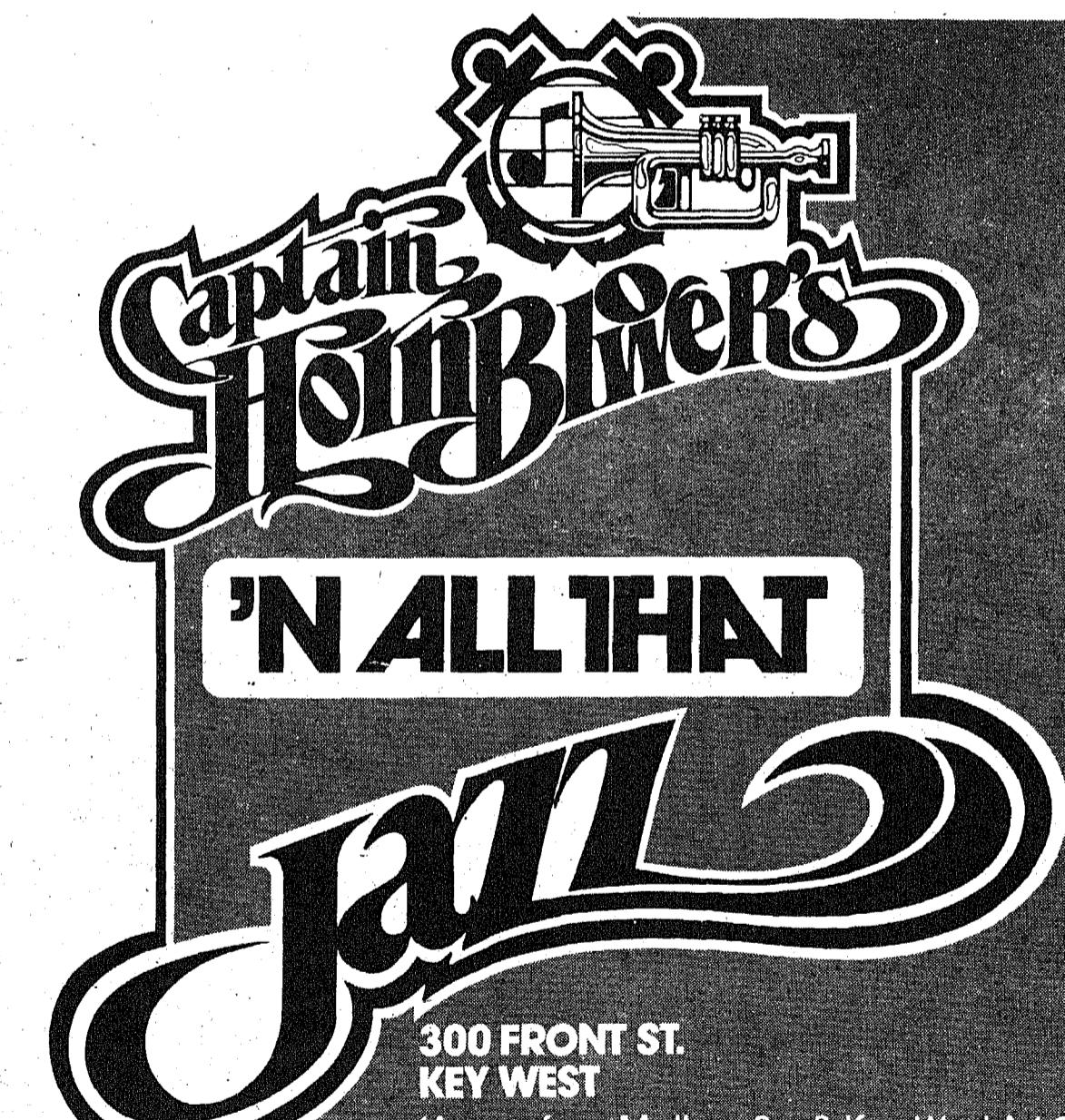
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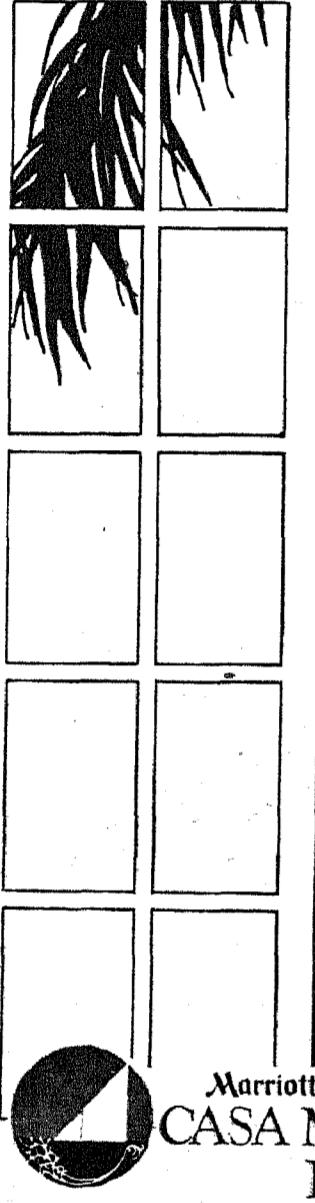
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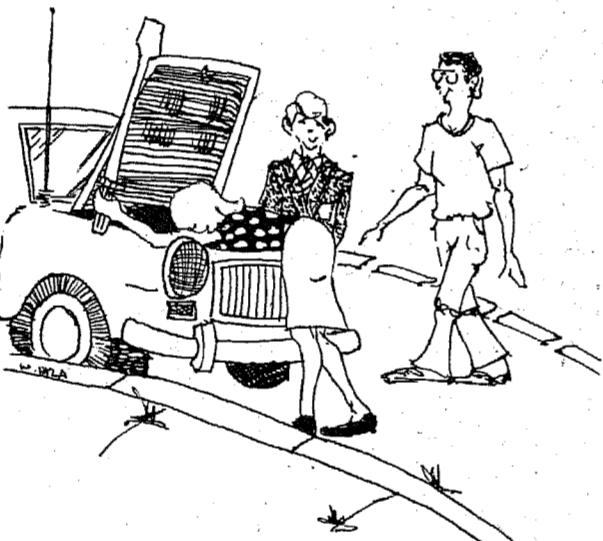
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"honey!" But some people have no sense of humor. One day while I was making a complete circle to the right in a parking lot, the horn blew for a solid minute and was never heard from again.

THEN I BEGAN having starter problems. (You may ask why I didn't take the car for complete repairs. I was always broke, that's why.) There was a service station two blocks from my house, and several mornings I had to dash over and get someone to start the car. One morning a very nice man gave me a screwdriver about three feet long including handle and showed me how to get the starter going. His heart was in the right place (even gave me the implement to keep, but he didn't reckon with my mechanical mentality, and to make the wicket stickier, the car began stalling on left turns. Coming home from work one day, I was making a slow turn to the left from an



inside lane when the car stalled, and of course, the starter wouldn't start. Undaunted, I got out my trusty screw-

driver wondering what to do with it. No problem. I was young and not bad-looking. I had three men to assist me immediately. But I felt I couldn't depend on this miracle occurring every day so I rerouted my trip to and from work to eliminate left-hand turns. If you think this is easy, try it. It works fine in one direction, but coming back would stymie an Einstein. I eventually developed six different ways of getting back and forth.

I got the starter fixed and breathed freely again. Not for long. One morning the car would go only backwards. Now, I sure couldn't drive thirty miles backwards and try to avoid left-hand turns which were then really right-hand turns, but at least I didn't have to worry about the horn. So repairs were called for immediately. I was back in business again, but my boss was apprehensive every day until I arrived.

WHEN THE CAR turned eleven (I gave a nice party for it), it went on a permanent sit-down strike (or rust-down strike, as it were). I had enough money to live for a month so I quit my job and started writing plays. The plays were lousy, but it was more fun than driving sixty miles a day with no left-hand turns to a dumb job in an aircraft plant.

One day a man came to the door and declared himself a junk car dealer. He offered me twenty bucks. Sold! He and his partner got my car started, and one drove it, and the other drove the tow truck they had arrived in. As they started off in different directions, I yelled, "Don't turn left!" He did. The tow truck became useful after all.

They just don't make cars like they used to. Maybe nobody makes three-foot-long screwdrivers any more either.



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BY EMMA CATES

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Venus in Aries, after 17th in Taurus  
Mercury in Aries, after 10th in Taurus,  
after 25th in Gemini  
Saturn in Virgo turning direct on the 9th  
Jupiter in Leo  
Mars in Aries, after 15th in Taurus  
Uranus in Scorpio retrograde  
Neptune in Sagittarius retrograde  
Pluto in Libra retrograde  
North Node in Virgo

a sensible and practical fashion.

The first 11 days of the month show the town experiencing much activity in the area of social affairs. The short transit of Mercury in Taurus until the 26th marks this period as a good time for solidifying and bringing a spirit of cooperation to the different factions in the city that are working for the same end -- which is a clean, healthy, productive and supporting city to call Home.

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## What Next On The Base?

THE INFIGHTING FOR control over the fate of the surplus Truman Annex Navy Base property went into round two in April when the Key West City Commission appointed a five-member board to oversee the development of the 96-acre golden egg.

The formation of the Key West Redevelopment Agency (KWRA) became necessary when federal funding ran out for the Key West and Lower Keys Development Corporation (Devcorp), which has handled most of the red tape involved in switching the property from military to private use since the Navy pulled out.

AT THIS WRITING, the bone is being fought over by those people who think members of Devcorp and its executive director Denis Anderson should continue to oversee the redevelopment of the base, and those people who think Devcorp and

continuity will assure uninterrupted progress.

It's the differing ideas of "progress" that have caused the rifts. After the initial shock of the Navy pull-out wore off back in 1973, city fathers predicted a veritable commercial Disneyland would spring up on the prime waterfront property as developers rushed in to employ locals and pour gold into the city's bone-dry coffers.

THAT WAS five years ago. Today, there is some commercial activity on the base, and the city gets about \$250,000 a year in lease money; but the shangri-la that was predicted is nowhere in sight.

Anderson blames the Navy for the delay in the redevelopment because the property was surplus a little bit at a time instead of in one chunk, handcuffing him

"NOBODY COULD DO ANYTHING UNTIL THAT LAST PARCEL WAS EXCESSSED (IN) JUNE OF 1977. WE'RE ACTUALLY AHEAD OF SCHEDULE..."

DENIS ANDERSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
KEY WEST AND LOWER KEYS DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION

"I'D HAVE PURSUED IT MORE VIGOROUSLY."  
LARRY ROGERS, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT,  
KEY WEST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Anderson have been ineffective and should be dumped. It appears that the former group is in the driver's seat, and Anderson's re-appointment appears inevitable since three members of Devcorp were appointed to the five-member KWRA. The appointments were "the last straw" for local activist Melvin Levitt, who stormed off the Key West Citizens Advisory Committee when the committee's request to appoint "new faces" to the new agency was ignored. Anderson, on the other hand, breathed a sigh of relief and said the

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NEITHER LOCAL DAILY newspaper ran the

story. What the release said, summarized, was that the Navy surpassed Truman Annex over a four and a half year period ending in June, 1977, and that a complicated, tedious procedure must be followed before the city can own or use it; Devcorp put pressure on federal agencies to cut through a lot of red tape and condense the conveyance process to bring some economic relief to Key West earlier than the feds had planned; and, finally, that "An economic boom can be forecast for Key West over the next five to eight years. Property conveyance and development can conceivably begin in early 1980." *article continued on page 34*

(Here is the text of the six-page statement released last month by Denis Anderson, Executive Director of the Key West and Lower Keys Development Corporation.)

QUESTIONS WHICH HAVE arisen in recent weeks regarding final transfer of Truman Annex and Trumbo Point to civilian ownership have sparked charges that the process has been slow because of local mis-handling.

The fact that this is not true has been set forth by the Key West and Lower Keys Development Corporation and verified by Leo Burrell, Office of Economic Adjustment director in Atlanta, which has monitored the procedure since its inception.

In an effort to educate his critics and exonerate himself, Anderson released a six-page statement to the news media on March 8 that explained the causes of the delay. "Questions which have arisen... have sparked charges that the process has been slow because of local mishandling," the statement began. "The fact that this is not true has been... verified by Leo Burrell, Office of Economic Adjustment director in Atlanta, which has monitored the procedure since its inception."

NEITHER LOCAL DAILY newspaper ran the

NAVAL SHIPS AND submarines have been absent from Key West for nearly six years. The majority of military realignment took place in 1974, when personnel and equipment was transferred to Albany, Georgia, and Patuxent River, Maryland.

As a result of the serious economic

and employment impact on the community caused by the military reduction, an economic adjustment committee visited Key West. The team assisted the community in organizing the Key West and Lower Keys Development Corporation and helped to obtain funding for a Base Re-use Study.

THE NAVY BEGAN, in 1973, slowly excessing property not needed for their continued operation. Excessing, following by surplusing, took place as required in four multi-piece phases over a period of four and one-half years.

1. April 1973 - disestablishment of Key West Naval Air Station.

2. Phase I - 13 acres surplused February 1974.

3. Phase II - 42 acres surplused June 1976.

4. Phase III - 9 acres surplused June 1977.

5. Phase IV - 86 acres suplused June 1977.

Plans for conveyance of surplus property to civilian reuse began immediately.

THERE IS A rigidly defined, logical sequence of events required by U.S. Government to achieve the highest and best use from surplus property. The sequence is as follows:

a. The military branch holding title declares property excess to its needs.

b. The property is offered to other military branches for use.

c. The property is offered to eligible federal agencies for use.

d. The property is declared surplus to federal needs.

e. A general offer made to state, county and city governments, public educational institutions and other quasi-governmental organizations. (this type of conveyance is for public benefit and is handled through federal agencies.)

f. A Base Reuse Plan is prepared.

g. The General Services Administration (GSA) contracts for Environmental Impact Assessment (required by law before any federal action).

h. The property is offered for ne-

gotiated sale to public entities (usually the controlling municipality).

i. If no sale is made in this way, then the property is offered by GSA for sale by auction to the highest bidder.

Thus the three primary methods of property conveyance are:

1. public benefit conveyance, or  
2. negotiated sale to a governmental entity, or

3. auction to highest bidder.

The surplus property disposal sequence has been completed through item "e." Items "f" and "g" are contracted to be completed in June 1979 at which time negotiations for conveyance will begin.

WHEN A SIGNIFICANT parcel of surplus property contiguous with city property was assembled, a grant was applied for and GSA was notified to immediately begin preparation of a government required Impact Statement (EIS) and establish a "fair market value" for the property.

The result of all these necessary steps is very near. The Development Corporation was not content just to wait and follow the procedure step by step. Final transfer of the Truman Annex and Trumbo Point Annex property might still be at least two years in the future if the sequence had not been condensed.

HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF the wish and the need for the local property to get into long-term use and thus benefit the Key West economy, GSA proceeded with its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concurrently with the final draft of a Reuse Plan as requested by the Development Corporation and the City of Key West. Continued government excessing delays necessitated completion of the Reuse Plan in June of 1975, prior to the excessing of major key pieces of Navy property. No mission has been identified for NAS Key West since the 1973 disestablishment further delaying excessing.

THE CITY and the Key West and Lower Keys Development Corporation could not allow the community to bear the entire

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economic burden. A Protection and Maintenance lease was signed in March 1977 which allowed Navy property to be leased to civilians.

For the first time in more than 150 years Key West will be able to generate jobs and revenue from the Navy property. This revenue may be used for such protection and maintenance deemed necessary by the Navy and upon their approval. All revenue in excess of these costs must be returned to the Navy. The main benefits from the short term leases are:

- a. new jobs created - (over 200 to date)
- b. buildings are now available to attract new businesses and allow expansion of established businesses (currently leasing to 40 businesses)
- c. \$250,000.00 per year in rent

New jobs and businesses have aided the community's recovery from the shock of the Navy realignment.

IN ADDITION TO the community benefits derived from short term leases, 57 acres of public benefit conveyances were negotiated during the same period.

Conveyances were made to the following recipients:

- 12 acres of Fuel Island - City of Key West
- 38 acres of Fort Zachary Taylor; 12 additional acres pending transfer.
- 1 acre at Trumbo Point - City Electric System.
- 6 acres at Trumbo Point - Monroe County Board of Public Instruction.
- Public conveyances can take place through several federal agencies and will continue to the degree identified in the Reuse Plan currently being prepared.

AN ECONOMIC BOOM can be forecast for Key West over the next five to eight years. Property conveyance and development can conceivably begin in early 1980. New jobs of all kinds will be immediately generated and taxes will begin accruing. Redevelopment will be phased so that the growth does not negatively impact on established businesses.

That's where the new agency comes in. It will be the prime mover in the redevelopment of the base; and, unlike the powerless, advisory Devcorp, it will have the authority to take action. It can buy and sell land, issue contracts, and enter into financial agreements. Anderson described it as "a quasi-public body. The city has definite control over it, but it's somewhere between a totally autonomous board like the City Electric System's and a city department."

THE MEMBERS of the new board who were on Devcorp are Margo Golan, Dr. Phillip Doherty, and Charles Major, Sr., all three of whom are active in local politics and civic organizations. The newcomers are long-time Key West businessman Paul Sher and attorney John M. Spottswood, Jr.

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whose family is one of the largest property owners on the island.

Simply put, the board's job is to determine the best and most profitable way to use the base and then see that it's done. The studying is about complete, so visible development should begin by early 1980.

Right now Anderson is wrapping up the "public benefit conveyances" part of the deal. In other words, he's negotiating with the General Services Administration (GSA) to see how much of the base the city can get for free: the historic areas like the Little White House, utility easements, roads, etc., which will be used for public benefit only. Any profit made from those acres must be used to maintain them or other public areas.

Some locals have asked why the government can't give the whole base to the city as has been done in Boston and other places. Anderson explained that there is no agency set up to freely convey waterfront property without cost, and that the bases that have gone for only a dollar have been used solely for airports and industrial parks. The hotels, restaurants and other tourism-related businesses planned for Truman Annex help disqualify it.

AFTER THE FREE portion is determined (hopefully this summer), the GSA will start appraising what's left and determine its fair market value. That's where the real brow-beating negotiations begin. They'll do their appraisal acre by acre, and Anderson and the city will fight them tooth and nail to lower the price-tags on everything. "They'll say a certain building is in good enough shape to use again, and we'll say it's rotten and worthless. They'll say a piece of ground is worth X-amount in town, we'll say that you can't compare the two," said Anderson.

The final price-tag -- what the city will have to pay for the base -- should be reached by early 1980. By that time, a very specific land re-use plan will have been formulated using the exhaustive studies that have been underway for several years.

HERE'S A RUNDOWN of the studies that have been done so far: Milo Smith and Associates did a \$50,000 study (paid for by the feds) soon after the base was excessed. It is now deemed worthless because it covered only a portion of the total acreage finally excessed and because the federal guidelines for such studies were changed shortly after its completion.

The Environmental Impact Statement, required by law to foretell what effect the re-use of the base will have on the environment, is complete. A Land Re-Use Plan, which will outline the range of uses deemed appropriate for the base, will be completed in about a month, Anderson said. It will be a broad, general outline of what should and should not be allowed on the base. There will be no steel mills or cotton fields, for example; but there could be housing, a bottle-making

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plant, a data-processing center, a hotel, a yacht harbor, a boat yard, and a museum, for example.

The study everybody is interested in is the one that will never really be completed because it will be ongoing as the base develops. The KWRA and its consultants will take the broad Land Re-Use Plan and refine it until it is "very specific," said Anderson. The broad plan might say a hotel would be an appropriate use. The specific plan would use computerized information to arrive at the best kind of hotel -- perhaps a 700-unit, high-priced "boatel" at dockside with a restaurant and a set of boutiques. Perhaps a no-frills motel for average-income families. The consultants will decide which of the hundreds of alternatives will provide the highest and best use, and the KWRA

professional consultant recommends muddies the picture even more.

QUESTIONS ARE ALREADY being asked about the new redevelopment agency's ability to function properly. An early member of Devcorp working groups and committees who knows all five appointees had his doubts. He questioned the logic of appointing Doherty, Golan and Major to the board, since their backgrounds in facilities management are weak, in his opinion; and he said at least two of them are easily led by stronger members. He said Spottswood could be a good choice since he's dealt with large properties before (his family owns the La Concha Motor Inn and recently sold the Casa Marina), but that he could find himself in a conflict of interest situation for the same reason.

THE FACT THAT THE CITY OF KEY WEST IS INVOLVED IN THE DECISION-MAKING ENSURES THAT LOCAL POLITICS WILL REAR ITS UGLY HEAD, AND THE FACT THAT POWERFUL LOCAL PEOPLE TEND TO GET THEIR WAY NO MATTER WHAT A PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT RECOMMENDS MUDDIES THE PICTURE EVEN MORE.

will try to secure a profitable contract.

HOPEFULLY, THERE WILL be several big corporations waiting with money in hand, ready to invest it in the property. Anderson predicts that there will be more offers than the city can shake a stick at. He said big-money developers have been lining up for a piece of the action ever since the word went out.

Although the formula isn't decided upon yet, this is probably how the relatively poor city of Key West will buy the property: GSA will set a price (Anderson used \$20 million for sake of discussion, so we will, too), and will require a 10 per cent, or \$2,000,000 down payment. The city will go to, say, four of the developers who are itching to spend their money on the property and ask them for \$500,000 each in return for tax breaks and other incentives that would equal their investment.

THE CITY WOULD then own the property and could develop it any way it and the KWRA think would be most profitable. Some property would be sold outright, and the city would start collecting ad valorem (property) taxes on it. Some would be leased at typically outrageous Key West rates, and the city would get the profits. Using these revenues, the city would pay for the base by 1990, and everything after that would be gravy.

Now back to reality and the present. It all seems rather clear-cut and logical on paper, but human beings are involved, and Key West is the staging area. The big money is going to attract big pressures, no doubt about that. The fact that the City of Key West is involved in the decision-making ensures that local politics will rear its ugly head. And the fact that powerful local people tend to get their way no matter what a pro-

fessional consultant recommends muddies the picture even more.

The study everybody is interested in is the one that will never really be completed because it will be ongoing as the base develops. The KWRA and its consultants will take the broad Land Re-Use Plan and refine it until it is "very specific," said Anderson. The broad plan might say a hotel would be an appropriate use. The specific plan would use computerized information to arrive at the best kind of hotel -- perhaps a 700-unit, high-priced "boatel" at dockside with a restaurant and a set of boutiques. Perhaps a no-frills motel for average-income families. The consultants will decide which of the hundreds of alternatives will provide the highest and best use, and the KWRA

professional consultant recommends muddies the picture even more.

He said he respects Sher's "depth and understanding" and said he could be an effective member after he is oriented to the complexities of the job.

And, of course, "what happens out there" concerns every business in town as well as the KWRA. Rogers of the Chamber of Commerce said he has heard "on the street" that the powers that be intend to devote "about 90 per cent of the property to industry and 10 per cent to tourism," a revolting type of development in his opinion.

Sher, who has been openly critical of Devcorp and Anderson, wouldn't say anything of substance for the record until his appointment became official. His one statement for the record glowed with optimism. "I'm sure," he said, "that we'll work this out for the betterment of the city of Key West."

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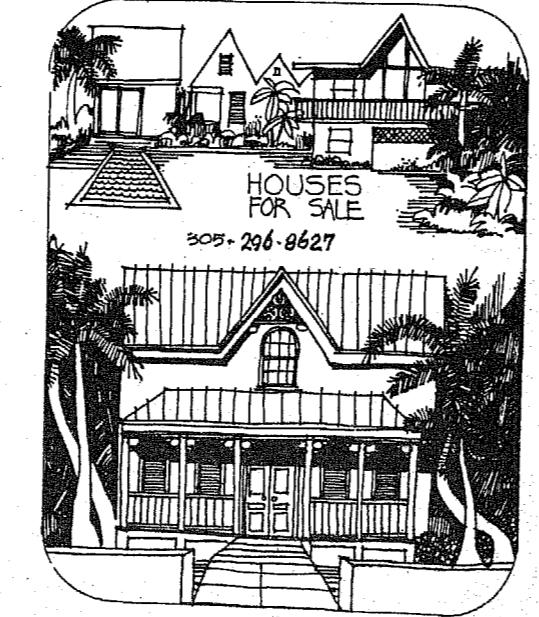
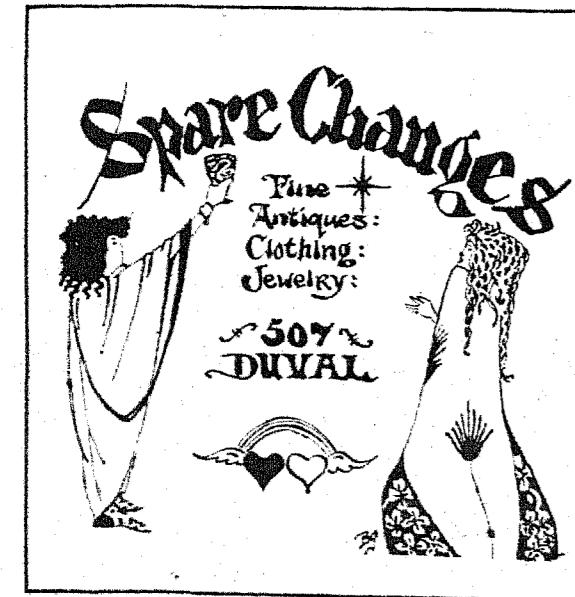
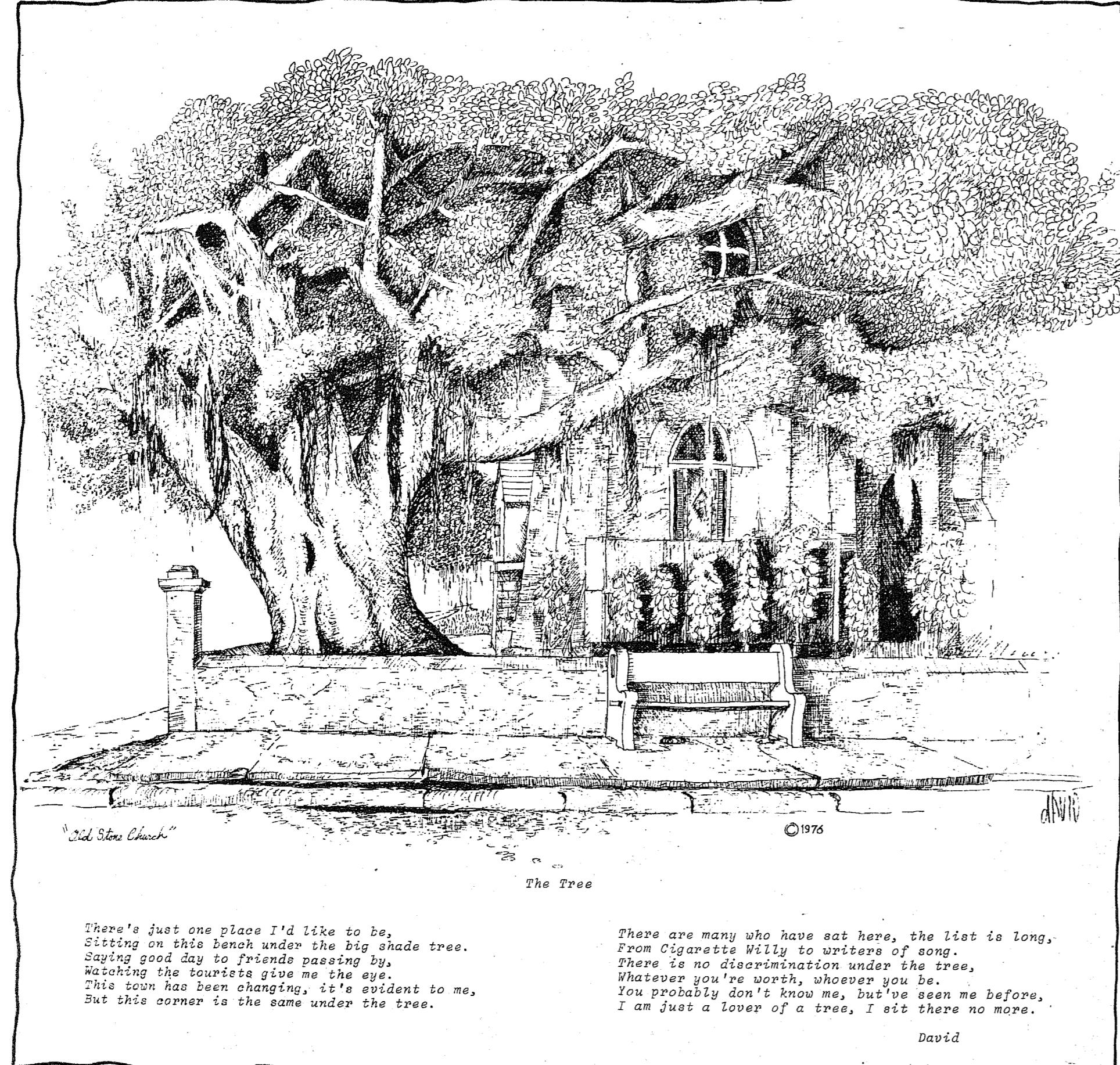
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Behind the Badge continued from page 20

to show something of what it is like to be a policeman in Key West:

Dispatcher reports a fight in progress at a downtown bar. When we arrive, it is pouring rain. One man is on his back in a flowing gutter, the other -- the bar's bouncer -- straddling him. Both are arrested for having an affray, which, it is explained to me, is not the same as having an affair. It means they were both fighting. If the action had remained inside the bar, the bouncer would probably not have been arrested.

A man is reported to be in the parking lot of a classy night spot, waving a high-powered rifle. We speed down Simon-ton, stopping briefly to see what two

men who is falling asleep leaning against a plate glass window on Duval Street is observed carefully by a policeman. "If his head is any lower next time we pass by, I'm going to Myers Act him." It is, and he does. It is carefully explained to the man in the booking room that he is not under arrest, but that he is being held under the provisions of the Myers Act, a state law which allows the police to detain a person long enough to sleep off the effects of drink or drug when he appears to be in no condition to safely look after his own well-being. The man does not understand. It is explained several times in various ways, but he is still saying "Yes, but..." long after he is locked in the tank.

obey the laws but also make other people obey them and not get himself killed and preferably not kill anyone else in the process. He must protect the Constitutional rights of the citizens who employ him, while carefully avoiding the violation of the rights of those he believes are violating the rights of the rest of us. He prowls through our dark backyards at our request to investigate the suspicious noise that we fear to investigate ourselves, not knowing, perhaps, about the clothesline strung at neck level, or whether an armed burglar waits around a corner. He risks his life and safety so that ours are secure.

All this for poverty level wages.

IT IS AN AXIOM of law enforcement that the quality of law enforcement the people get depends on two things: who the police chief is, and what the people demand.

The police chief is ultimately answerable to the City Commission, and so it is to the City Commission that the people must go to demand more and better paid policemen, better equipment for them to work with, and the discipline needed to help them work more effectively, if the people want them.



THE POLICE FORCE OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, SHALL CONSIST OF A CHIEF OF POLICE AND AS MANY SUBORDINATE OFFICERS, POLICEMEN, PATROLMEN, GUARDS AND EMPLOYEES AS THE CITY COMMISSION SHALL DETERMINE FROM TIME TO TIME. THE CHIEF OF POLICE SHALL HAVE EXCLUSIVE CONTROL OF THE STATIONING AND TRANSFER OF ALL PATROLMEN AND OTHER OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES CONSTITUTING THE POLICE FORCE, SUBJECT TO SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS AS THE CITY COMMISSION MAY PRESCRIBE OR AS MAY BE PRESCRIBED BY THE ORDINANCE OF THE CITY.

CITY CHARTER, CHAPTER F, ARTICLE I. 1

men are doing holding each other at arm's length in the middle of the street in front of a bar, surrounded by several others. One has blood on his face. He had fallen, he explained, and the other man was helping him up. We continue on the original call. When we arrive, several police, including one off duty who had come along for the ride, are running around the parking lot with pistols drawn. The man had put his rifle back in his pickup truck, but his dog had attacked the police. Mace was not effective, so the off-duty policeman fired his revolver toward the dog, missing, and the dog retreated. The policeman returns to the station later to fill out a report about using his weapon. After all the excitement, the only thing the man could be arrested for is allowing his dog to run loose, but it is not certain whether the dog escaped from the truck or was set loose. The man and his dog are taken home, since he is too drunk to drive.

IMMEDIATELY AFTER THAT is settled, a call for assistance comes from a policeman about a mile away. The message is somehow incorrectly interpreted to concern an emergency, and subsequent correction cannot be heard as we bounce and rattle through the bumpy streets to the scene of action with flasher and siren. It is a request for a prisoner pickup.

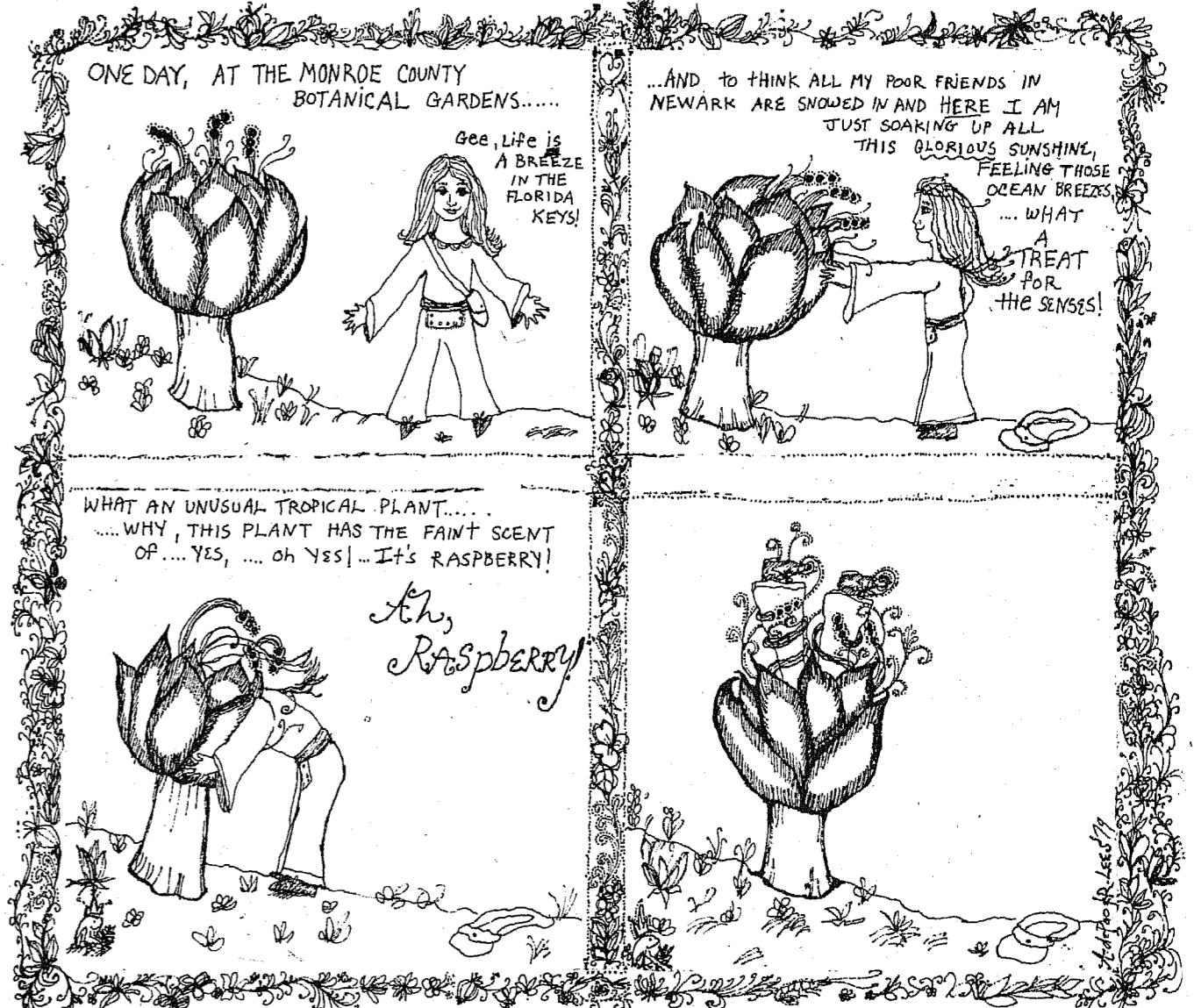
It is breakfast time, about 4 am, and halfway through a chicken breast and one of the best cups of coffee in town a call comes in about a sound being detected by a sophisticated alarm system in a jewelry store. An alarm clock went off, it is finally determined after nearly an hour. It is also discovered that the only person with a key is in Miami.

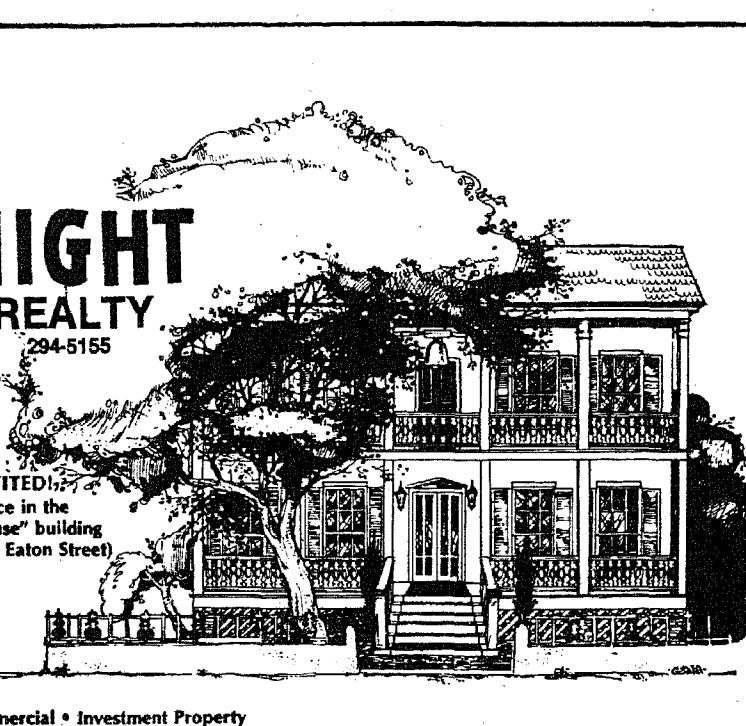
Two burglaries of motel rooms are reported. Both rooms were entered while the occupants slept, and there is no sign of forced entry. A key was used.

ROUTINE PATROLS OF the Mallory Square parking lot turn up a man who is sleeping in a truck and is in possession of a large quantity of low grade "Black Beauties" -- amphetamines -- and a man and a woman sleeping nude under a blanket on a table in the large cistern behind the Chamber of Commerce building. The policeman who arrests the 19-year-old "Black Beauty" dealer is disturbed: "These are what cause the violence in town." The dealer is morose and silent. The policeman who arrests the nude couple makes light, humorous general comments in the booking room, and the sleepers eventually crack smiles and even laugh a little.

THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS set forth in the City Charter ensure that our policemen are physically healthy, reasonably intelligent, and have a clean police record. They are given 12-week minimum standards course at Florida Keys Community College taught by out-of-town professional law enforcement instructors. During this course, rookie policemen accompany an experienced officer on patrol, then they are on their own.

A policeman soon discovers that he also needs a knowledge of practical human psychology, patience, understanding -- in short, all the traditional virtues, plus a generous sense of humor. He must be human, and at the same time above human weakness, because he must not only





*poetry*

such an artist  
when it licks  
ice cream  
brushes its  
strokes  
with utmost  
care across  
the yummy  
canvas

and unlike the  
hand  
it can taste  
the red  
raspberry fields  
pure bliss

by George Gullette

*BROKEN HEARTED CHILD*

Walking through the park  
with the flowers and the trees  
you wish the animals could talk  
carry their voices with the breeze

Then you come upon a child  
so fragile, small and sad  
you take that baby in your arms  
wishing he was yours that you had

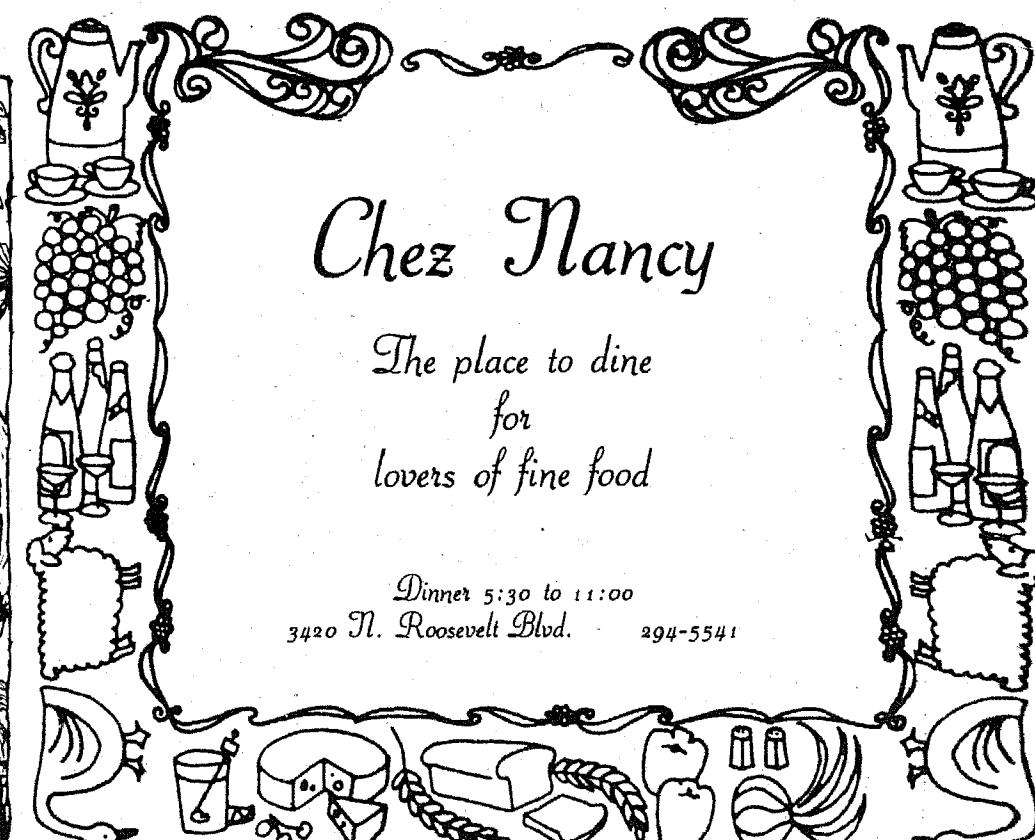
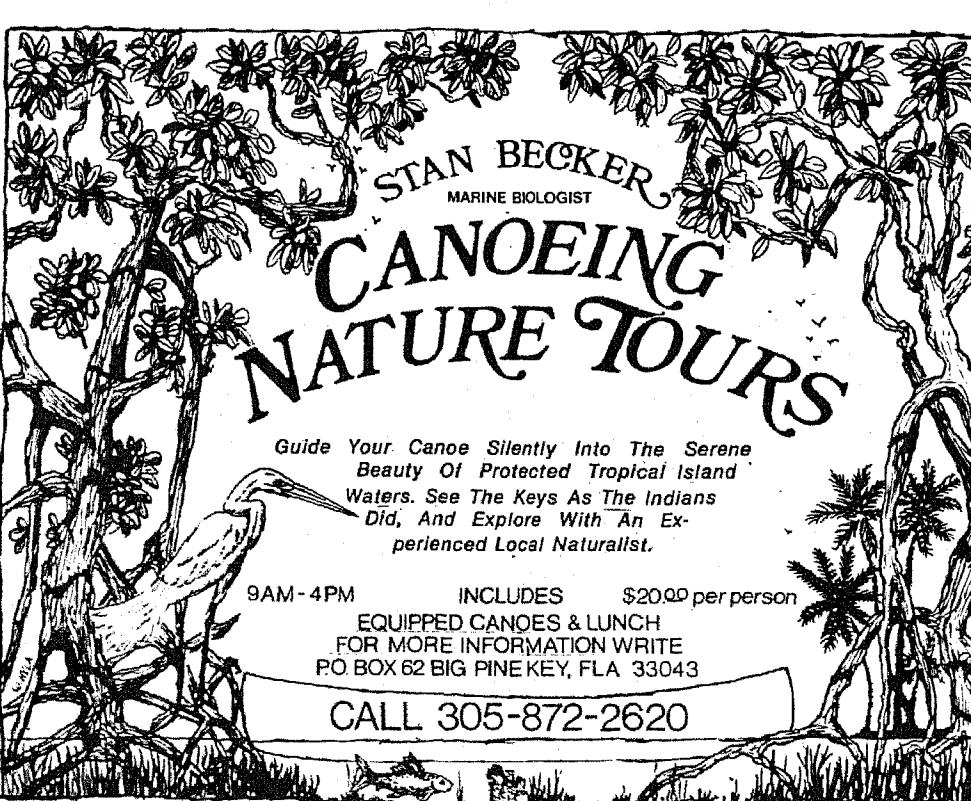
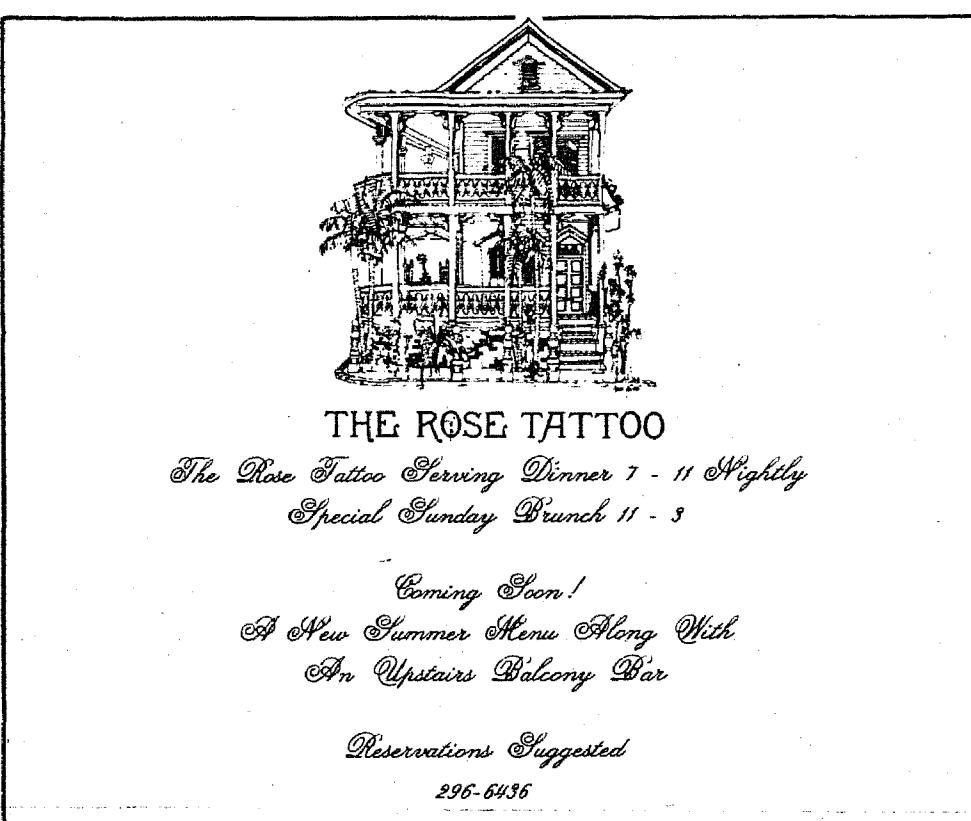
You look into his big brown eyes  
and ask what is the matter  
at first there is no reply  
that makes you even sadder

You take that small child in your arms  
and hold him close and tight  
when he looks you in your eyes, and says  
"My parents had a fight"

They said they didn't want him  
it was all a big mistake  
the child overheard this  
and now, his tiny heart aches

I cried with that little boy  
so innocent, sweet and sad  
he was like a tiny little toy  
broken apart by someone mad

Janet Knowles



Saturday & Sunday  
May 5th & 6th

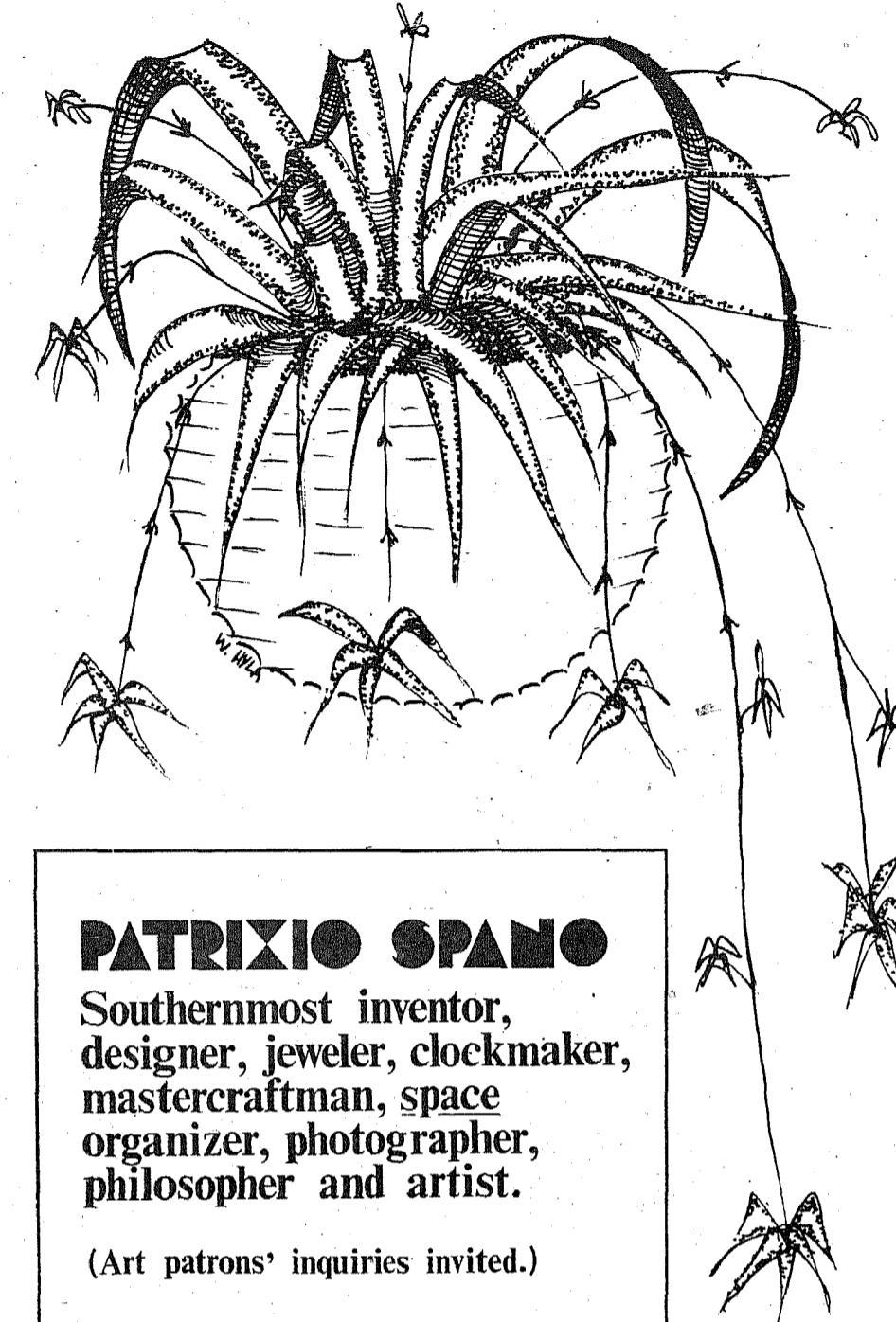
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Eleven Key Lime Square

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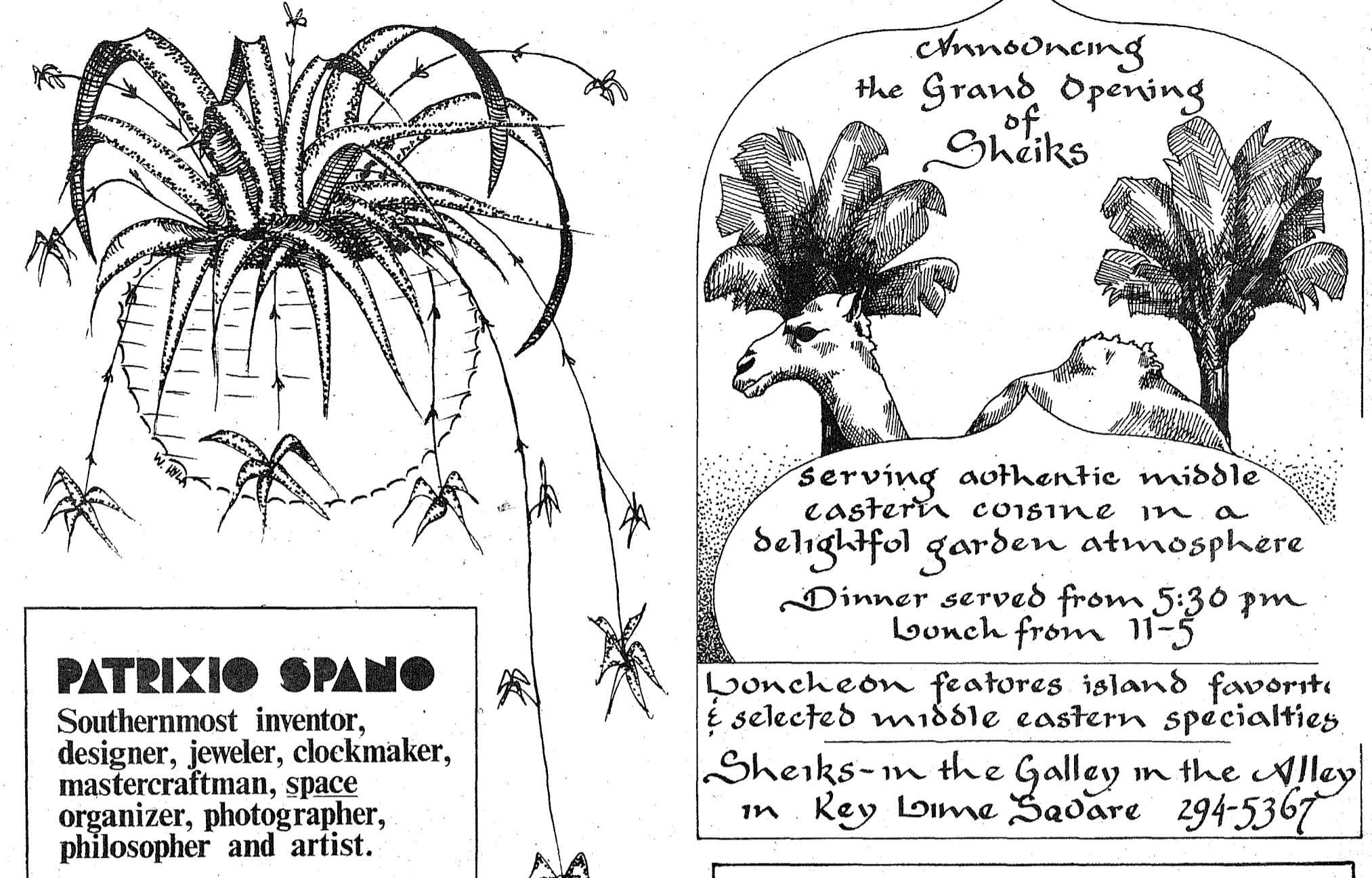
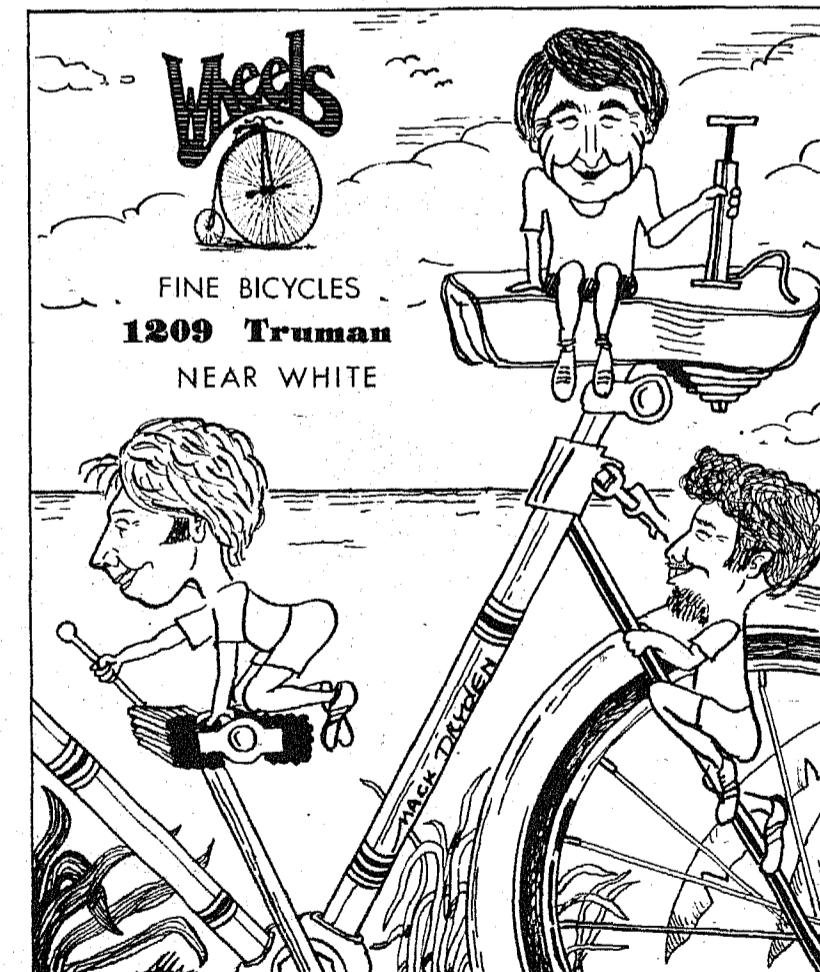


**PATRIZIO SPANO**

Southernmost inventor,  
designer, jeweler, clockmaker,  
mastercraftman, space  
organizer, photographer,  
philosopher and artist.

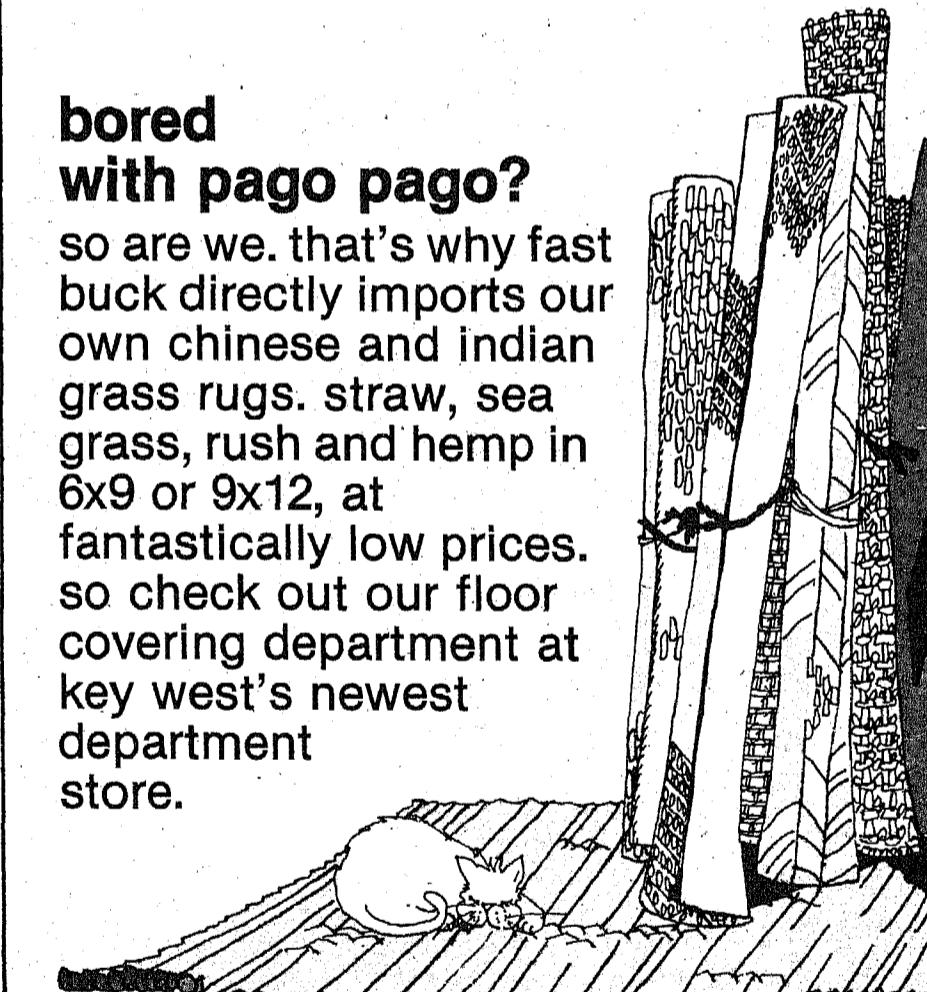
(Art patrons' inquiries invited.)

294-1044



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with pago pago?**

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