Coco 'Nut' Funnies

The Stella Awards

It's time again for the annual 'Stella Awards'! They are the awards named after 81-year-old Stella Liebeck who spilled hot coffee on herself and successfully sued the McDonald's in New Mexico where she purchased the coffee. She took the lid off the coffee and put it between her knees while she was driving. Who would ever think one could get burned doing that, right?

These are awards for the most outlandish lawsuits and verdicts in the U.S. Here are the Stella's for the past year:

5TH PLACE: Terrence Dickson, of Bristol, Pennsylvania, was leaving a house he had just burglarized by way of the garage. Unfortunately for Dickson, the automatic garage door opener malfunctioned and he could not get the garage door to open. Worse, he couldn't re-enter the house because the door connecting the garage to the house locked when Dickson pulled it shut. Forced to sit for eight, and eight days on a case of Pepsi and a large bag of dry dog food, he sued the homeowner's insurance company claiming undue mental anguish. Amazingly, the jury said the insurance company must pay Dickson \$500,000 for his anguish.

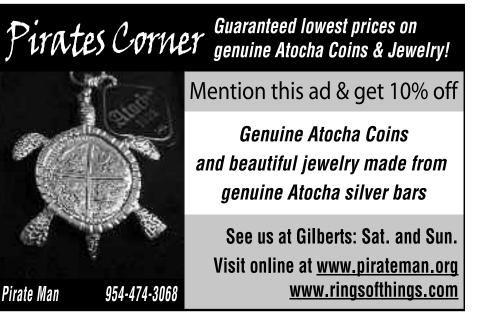
4TH PLACE: Jerry Williams, of Little Rock, Arkansas, garnered 4th Place in the Stella's when he was awarded \$14,500 plus medical expenses after being bitten on the butt by his next door neighbor's beagle - even though the beagle was on a chain in its owner's fenced yard. Williams did not get as much as he asked for because the jury believed the beagle might have been provoked at the time of the butt bite because Williams had climbed over the fence into the yard and repeatedly shot the dog with a pellet gun.

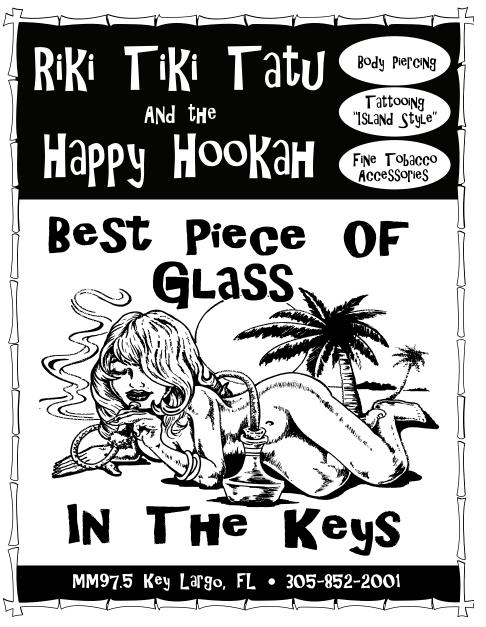
3RD PLACE: Third place goes to Amber Carson of Lancaster, Pennsylvania because a jury ordered a Philadelphia restaurant to pay her \$113, 500 after she slipped on a spilled soft drink and broke her tailbone. The reason the soft drink was on the floor: Ms. Carson had thrown it at her boyfriend 30 seconds earlier during an argument.

2ND PLACE: Kara Walton, of Claymont, Delaware sued the owner of a nightclub in a nearby city because she fell from the bathroom window to the floor, knocking out her two front teeth. Even though Ms. Walton was trying to sneak through the ladies room window to avoid paying the \$3.50 cover charge, the jury said the nightclub had to pay her \$12,000... Plus dental expenses.

1ST PLACE: Mrs. Merv Grazinski, of Oklahoma City, who purchased a new 32-foot Winnebago. On her first trip home from an OU football game, having driven onto the freeway, she set the cruise control at 70 mph and calmly left the driver's seat to go to the back of the Winnebago to make herself a sandwich. Not surprisingly, the motor home left the freeway, crashed and overturned. Also not surpris-, Mrs. Gazinski sued Winnebago for

not putting in the owner's manual that she couldn't leave the driver's seat while the cruise control was set. The Oklahoma jury awarded her, are you sitting down, \$1,750,000 PLUS a new motor home. Winnebago actually changed their manuals as a result of this suit







Key Largo Food & Wine

...Continued from page 11 attendees a wealth of flavors to savor.

For example, connoisseurs can enjoy a six-course progressive dinner with free transportation Wednesday, Aug. 6. The feast will begin at Sundowners Restaurant, moving on to The Fish House Encore, Mandalay Restaurant, Café Largo and culminate back at Sundowners for dessert

Just Good Keysy Cooking paired with summer wines is hosted by Shipwrecks and Publix Supermarket. Publix is also partnering with Upper Crust Pizza to present 'Pizza, Pasta and More' complimented by Chianti and other Italian wines courtesy of Publix.

Delicious Prix Fixe Menus and themed happy hours are featured at Coconuts, The Mandalay, Buzzards Roost, Gus' Grille and the Fish House Encore.

"We're bringing the winery to you," said Robert Stoky, an event coordinator and local restaurateur. "What better way is there to taste wines than with fresh local seafood and the owner of the winery at your table, pouring free wine?"

For a complete schedule of events, prices and reservation information, call festival coordinator Sue Finney at (305) 394-3736 or visit www.KeyLargoFoodandWineFestival.com.

More information and festival calendar is available at all event locations and at the Key Largo Chamber of Commerce at MM 106 Bayside, Phone: (800) 822-1088 or (305) 451-4747.

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Dinner every Friday night starting at 6 pm.

Call for menu, changes weekly.

Karaoke with Lee every Saturday 1 until 4 pm.
Breakfast on Sunday morning from 8:30 to 11:30 am.

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