Domestic violence doesn't stop for the holidays.

The holidays should be a time for family and friends to share the joy and hope of the season. For those experiencing abuse, however, December can also be a particularly stressful time. Domestic violence doesn't stop for the holidays and the added pressures of holiday expectations can worsen an already unhealthy situation.



This year, help those living with abuse to know that they're never alone, especially during the holidays.

The Domestic Abuse Shelter (DAS) is a non-profit organization, providing comprehensive services for individuals and families experiencing domestic and sexual abuse in the Florida Keys. Our mission is to reduce the incidence and minimize the impact of domestic and sexual abuse in Monroe County by directing victims and abusers to appropriate, effective programs and services.

The Domestic Abuse Shelter, Inc. is the only certified emergency shelter in Monroe County that provides refuge for victims of domestic and sexual violence and their children. Residents may stay at the shelter for up to six weeks. The shelter is a safe and secure environment that empowers residents through its services to form the beginning of independent lifestyles. Residents obtain crisis intervention, supportive counseling, children's services, food, clothing, support group counseling and advocacy. All agency services are available to shelter residents. For more information, call (305) 743-4440. The National Domestic Abuse Hotline is 1-800-799-SAFE (7233).

Below is a list of items needed by the Domestic Abuse Shelter. You can drop off your gifts at 100670 Overseas Highway #5, Key Largo, FL. Monetary donations are also accepted. You can mail a check to Domestic Abuse Shelter, Inc., PO Box 522696, Marathon Shores, FL 33052

For more information call 305-451-5666, or go to www.domesticabuseshelter.org.

Domestic Abuse Shelter, Inc. Wish List

• Hand sanitizers

pillow covers)

• First aid supplies

• Cotton balls, Q-tips

• Twin size linens (sheets,

pillows, plastic mattress &

• Bath towels & wash cloths

• Feminine hygiene products

• Women's panties & bras in

assorted sizes, pajamas,

night shirts & socks

• Non perishable foods

General Needs

- Copy paper
- Paper towels & toilet paper • Cleaning supplies &
- laundry detergent
- Gift certificates to drug (Kmart, CVS, Walgreens) & grocery stores (Albertson, Winn-Dixie and Publix) in small denominations
 - Bus passes (Keys transit) • Gas cards

Personal Needs

- Tooth brushes & toothpaste
- Hair brushes & combs
- Shampoo, conditioner, bath soaps
- Nail files & clippers, razors
- Deodorant
- Children's Needs
- Books
- Art & school supplies
- Diapers & wipes
- Baby bottles
- Baby foods & juices
- DVDs (age appropriate)

• Blow dryers

- Kid oriented gift certificates (movies, food, fun stuff)
- Children's underwear in assorted sizes & socks

Richard Behr Opens Solo Law Office



Attorney Richard M. Behr of Key Largo has opened a solo Law Office and is now accepting clients throughout the Keys, from Key Largo to Key West, seeking to file for Bankruptcy relief. The new office is located in the Bank of America Building at 92300 Overseas Highway in Tavernier.

Behr has been a resident of Monroe County for 15 years. He has practiced law county-wide all of that time in Bankruptcy, having

practiced in the Federal Courts of both the Northern District of Illinois and the Southern District of Florida. He has been a practicing attorney for 22 years in both State and Federal Court in all areas of the Law, including criminal and civil trial, probated, divorce, foreclosure and bankruptcy. He has been a volunteer mediator in Small Claims Court in Plantation Key for many years.

For further information or and has substantial experience a free consultation, call (305) 423-6552.



RICHARD M. BEHR. ATTORNEY AT LAW is now available for Foreclosure Defense, Loan Workouts and Consumer Bankruptcy Petitions

We may be able to stop phone calls, letters and other collection efforts

The ONLY Attorney handling Bankruptcy Petitions in the Keys, who lives and works in the Florida Keys Key Largo to Key West

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Also available for Criminal Defense, Family Law, Wills and Probate The hiring of an Attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements Before you decide, ask us to send you free information about our qualifications and experience.

Coconut Conch Characters of the Month



Laura Deaver and Dawn DeBrule with the wreath for Pennecamp Park's 50th anniversary at the Key Largo Conch House.



Some of the Hiddenout crew at the Party for the Pantry at the Big Chill.



Deadliest Catch at Coconuts!



Picture from left: Don Brown and Sharon Butler of the VFW. Thank yous to VFW for doing a great job for Niki's troops! See article on page14.



Lisa and Ed's house on Maderia St in Key Largo



Mikey at Coconuts.