10 · The Coconut Telegraph · May 2010 What Do You Do If You Find A Baby Wildlife

Healthy wild birds and mammals need to be raised by their parents. Humans cannot duplicate, but only approximate, all learning skills baby animals need to get from their parents in order to thrive as adults in their natural habitat.

BIRDS

Baby birds go through 2 main stages of development before becoming self sufficient juniors:

Nestlings - At this stage baby birds are naked or have some soft feathering, they are immobile and totally depended on adults for survival.

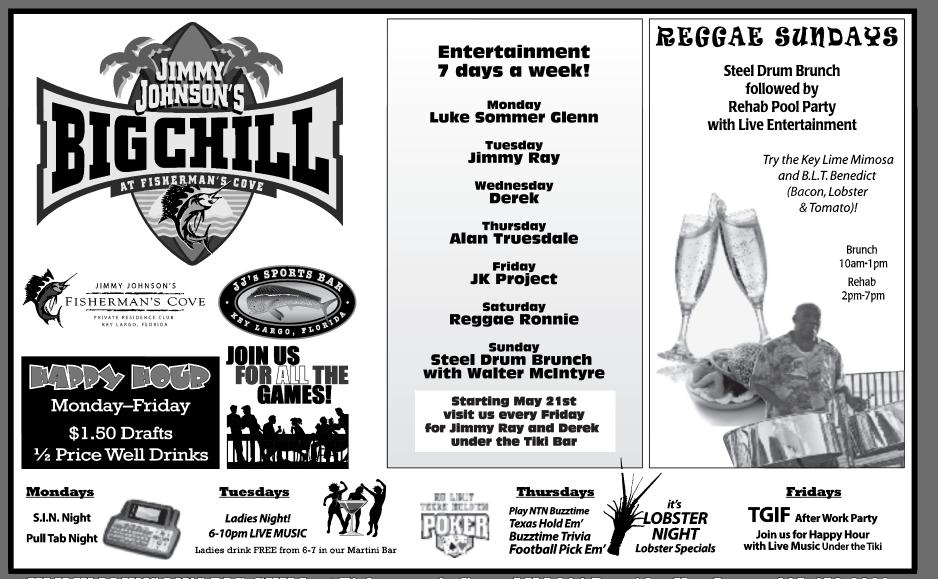
If you find a bird at this stage on the ground, try to locate the nest, and if possible, put the baby back. Despite of what you may have heard, the parents will not reject the baby (Mammals have a keen sense of smell and will not take back a baby that was handled). **Fledglings** - at this stage the bird will be feathered but has a short tail. It is mobile on ground but not flying yet. It is still being fed and cared for by its parents.

If you find a bird at this stage on the ground - it is normal - all songbirds jump out of nest at this stage and learn how to fly from the ground up.

Unless the fledgling is injured, wet, cold, not moving, or in a dangerous location, it is best to let the parents finish raising their baby - it is only a short period of time before they fly.

MAMMALS - If found on ground and there is no sign of parents, the baby should be picked up and transferred to the center. (please call the center for farther instruction on the different species of mammals).

If you determined a rescue is needed Place the bird in a box (with breathing hole punched into the side and top) keep it warm and quiet. Please do not give food or water. Then call Florida Keys Wild Bird Center (305) 852-4486 or bring the animal to the center at 93997 Overseas Hwy, Tavernier, mile marker 94, Ocean Side.



JIMMY JOHNSON'S BIG CHILL at Fisherman's Cove, MM 104 Bayside, Key Largo 305-453-9066



TAKEOUT AVAILABLE **852-8786**

Bartender of the Month Jim Horan at Gilberts & Encore



Jim Horan has the best of both worlds. On weekends you'll see him zooming around Gilbert's keeping up with the crowd. He's serving rum runners and awesome food from the Tiki Bar menu where the atmosphere is laid back. It's a bikini's and barefoot pet friendly kind

of place. Come by boat, motorcycle or car. Weeknights you'll find him at the inside bar at the Fish House Encore, a more upscale fine dining elegant kind of place. At either place he shines.

"Jim is amazing. He can listen to his customers and talk at the same time," says last months Bartender of the Month Josh Kassell. "He doesn't miss a thing."

Mark Mills of Clear Channel Radio says "Jim is a 6' 3" sensitive new age bartender!"

When Jim got divorced and moved here three years ago it completely changed his life. He appreciates the beauty around him, meditates and does not drink alcohol. Last week outside the Encore I saw him give a woman a

frog. Not an ordinary frog, a Brazilian tree frog. By the way it is not on the menu.

He's an animal lover and you'll see him fosters animals till he finds them a good home. But I think his most endearing quality is his honesty.

Combined with his great physique and good looks it is enough to make me want to kiss a tree frog.

What does Jim have to say about his work and life? "I get to work with the best and by the way, I love chocolate cake!"

"Jim doesn't miss a thing," says Co-worker Josh Kassell