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Editorial: Keys Journalism Reaches New Low

to be relied upon in a newspaper" - Mark Twain

Keys journalism has reached a new low, even by Coconut Telegraph standards.

Deputy Melissa Powers died in a horrible accident. Her family hired a lawyer as that is what most families do, mine included. There was the "threat" of a lawsuit at the location where the accident occurred. We do not yet know why.

Deputy Powers left behind a teenage stepson and a 5-year-old little girl. Some locals were so upset at the "threat" of the lawsuit that they never gave any consideration to the innocent children or their needs. Then, local newspapers printed and sensationalized the story.

One irate older woman went as far as to threaten my advertisers and associates that she would have their business black

"Advertisements contain the only truths balled for supporting the benefit and trying to help the Powers children! The family cancelled the benefit we had planned.

> Next, this woman and the media attack Sgt. Kiffney! They demand an internal police investigation over why he didn't answer his radio while he was on a bathroom break! That's ludicrous! Every police officer I have talked to has been out of radio contact at one time or another. Think for a moment... Cops wear pants, belts with guns, ammo, handcuffs, etc., and they are human and subject to the same gastric disturbances as we are. Here is a headline I would like to see: Newspaper Editor Chows Down Donuts And Craps His Pants in Front of Cops at Convenience Store While Waiting in Long Line for the Bathroom and Couldn't be Reached by *iphone, ipad or ipod!*

Heavens to Betsey! Editors bring along a copy of your own newspaper just in case

there is no toilet paper on hand.

Speaking of getting caught with your pants down.... A couple of months ago the Coconut Telegraph got a phone call from an acquaintance who spends a lot of time in jail. He was "shopping" a story. It seems his ex-girlfriend had received a ton of money from a prominent married man as hush money about their affair and he had the documented proof. I told the man that it wasn't considered dining or entertainment, nor would it be of any help to the community, so it's not my cup of tea. Then I thought, something is fishy here, how did this man get the proof? The spurned woman must have tried to extort more money out of the guy and when he wouldn't pay up again she "leaked" it to the media. Some people will do anything to get their name in the paper or failed facelifts on TV.

The worst thing you can do to publicity seeking trash is to not mention their name.



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Coral Shores High School Rotary Interact Club



Members of this year's Interact Club at Coral Shores Hiah School.

The Interact Club is the high school equivalent of a Rotary Club and is sponsored by the Upper Keys Rotary Club and the Key Largo Rotary Club.

Throughout the year the Club does fundraising, supporting causes like the Burton Memorial Church food bank and Forgotten Soldiers. The club members help out at the Rotary Club functions like the Chili Cook-off and the Gigantic Nautical Flea Market. Ms. Carmen Kelley is the teacher liaison/sponsor for the local Coral Shores Interact Club. which meets in her classroom after school on Mondays at

SALES

942-6325

2:30pm. Club dues: \$10.00. The Upper Keys Rotary Club are the people who bring you the Gigantic Nautical Flea Market to support our local High School Kids with scholarships.

The Upper Keys Rotary Club is a part of Rotary International, a world-wide organization with 1.2 Million members, who concentrate their efforts to supply help where it is needed. More information can be obtained at www.rotary.org.

The Upper Keys Rotary Club meets every Tuesday at 12:00 Noon at Craig's Restaurant in Tavernier.

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