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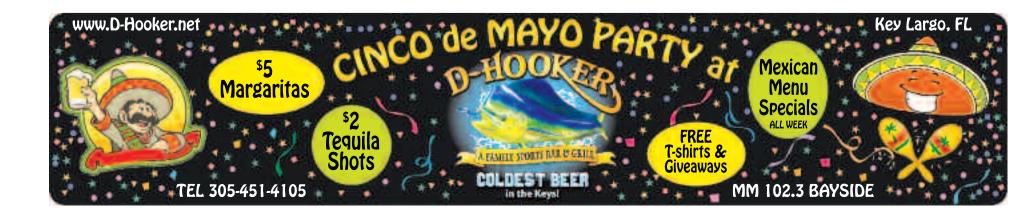
Conch Characters
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Feeling Threatened
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Book Review: The Murder of Bozarth



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## Coconut Telegraph

April 2011 Volume 6 Issue #49

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## Deadline

for the Coconut Telegraph's May issue is Friday April 22, 2011

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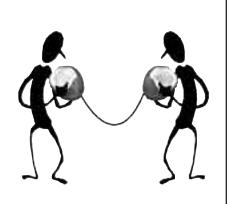
## **Cast of Characters:**

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Advertising Production

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## Editorial: Collar and Release

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) wants to trap feral cats and send them to the Humane Society where they will be put to death. There are several good organizations in the Keys that have been trapping the cats and spaying and neutering them thus reducing the cat population. I myself even did a fundraiser for "Helping Homeless Cats in the Upper Keys" in 2008. In the 20 years I have lived here I have noticed a huge decrease in the feral cat population because of these successful programs.

Now the FWS is saying that we need to drastically reduce the already reduced cat population because the cats are a threat to certain local endangered wildlife species. I guess they didn't learn anything from their previous failure in 2007 where the FWS entered into a \$50,000 trap and kill contract in the Keys which resulted in only

13 trapped cats of which at least 5 of them were owned. That is \$3,846.15 per dead cat! All this to save some rats and birds.

Well, I have a solution... My cat Suki that I got from the Humane Society at mile marker 106 likes to present me with "gifts" of birds and lizards. On more than one occasion, the cat came tearing into the living room with a bird in its mouth resulting in a fine-feathered mess and a freaked out pet owner. My seriously sensible daughter offered a solution "put a bell on the cats collar." she said.

Duh! Why didn't I think of that? It worked like a charm. The bell gives the rats and birds a warning that cat is coming and lets them save themselves. So, all the FWS has to do is purchase a bunch of cat collars with bells on them and dress the feral cats

However, it is a different thing when

dealing with a cat suffering from an illness or a mental problem. Diagnose your cat early, look for these signs your Cat has a Personality Disorder:

- · You've repeatedly found him in the closed garage, hunched over the wheel of your running Buick.
- It sits for hours in fascination while listening to Al Gore on the TV.
- · Teeth and claw marks all over your nowempty bottles of Prozac.
- · It no longer licks it paws clean, but washes them in the sink again and again...
- · Continually scratches on the door to get in... the OVEN door.
- · You realize one day that the urine stains on your carpet actually form the letters N-E-E-D C-A-T-N-I-P!
- · Your stereo and flat screen TV are missing, and in the corner you find a pawn ticket and 2 kilos of catnip.

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## Hunk of the Month



**Bob Burgeson** of the Whistle Stop

Shirts by T-Toons

## **Key Largo Conch House** MM 100.2 Oceanside • Key Largo

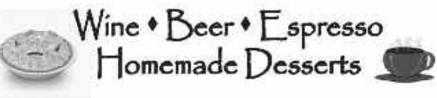
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# Artist of the Month Dan Lawler at the Key Largo Art Gallery

In the heart of Islamorada a famous painting hangs in a local Pub and Restaurant called the Whistle Stop. A typewritten note attached to the painting reads:

"Sleepy Jack... Real person... Homeless. Painted at The Barrel House Bar (now the Whistle Stop) in the 1970s. Sleepy Jack stayed 27 days at the bar. He was killed in Tampa by a Busch Beer Truck while hitchhiking to visit his parents in Princeton, NJ."

Key Largo artist Dan Lawler was commissioned to paint "Sleepy Jack" and sometime later the painting was stolen. The police were able to recover the painting and the owners of the Whistle Stop claimed it and put it where it proudly hangs today, in the bar at mile marker 82.5.

But Whistle Stop is only one place where the work of Dan Lawler can be found. If you stop by the Key Largo Art Gallery at mile marker 103 you can find many of his paintings and you also just might catch him working. Another place to view his work is over at the Buzzard's Roost Restaurant, mile marker 106, where there is a large display of his art

Wherever you view his art you will see that all his paintings tell a story. And no one can tell a story quite like Dan Lawler. When you have lived in the Keys as long as Lawler, some 50 plus years, there are plenty of stories to tell and he is the master. One look at any of his "Smugglers" series and you are brought back to the day when it all happened, right here in the Keys. They are absolutely mesmerizing!

His works also depict other historical scenes such as wreckers, seascapes, and local characters. When friends from out of town come to visit I take them to the Key Largo Art Gallery and they always leave happily with a Lawler painting in their arms. Captain Dan Lawler is a retired iron-worker and has a 100-ton master license from the U.S. Coast Guard. He has also designed and built homes as well as a Spanish galleon restaurant in Islamorada for the late Gus Boulus (Now there is another great Keys story but you'll have to ask Dan about that).

For more information visit the Key Largo Art Gallery or the Buzzard's Roost Restaurant where you can meet Lawler's son, Dan Lawler Junior or just check out his website www.danlawlerfineart.com.

One of Dan Lawler's paintings at the Buzzard's Roost for sale.



Dan Lawler at the Key Largo Art Gallery, MM 103 bayside.



Sleepy Jack... Real Person... Homeless.





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HAPPY EASTER, APRIL 24! Join us for family fun...

## Key Largo Rotary Welcomes Nancy Alvarez



From left: Rotary sponsor Cheryl Powers; inductee Lt. Nancy Alvarez, Rotary President Sara Hamilton.

The Key Largo Rotary Club welcomes its newest member, Nancy Alvarez, Station Commander of the Monroe County Sheriff's Office in the Upper Keys.

Lieutenant Alvarez has worked for the Sheriff's Office since 1986, beginning her career as a Communications Officer. She went to serve as Patrol, Intelligence Officer, and Commander of Special Operations leading to her current position in the Upper Keys.

Alvarez grew up in the Florida Keys and looks forward to networking with the community and citizens of Monroe County. The Key Largo Rotary is honored to have Alvarez as their newest Rotarian. The Club meets Wednesdays for breakfast at Coconuts at 7:30 a.m. Information about the Key Largo Rotary Club can be found at www.keylargorotary.org.



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idays 8-11 pm - Elks Lodge - MM 91.5 Bayside - Tavernier Sundays 9 to close - Coconuts - MM 100 Oceanside - Key Large

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## Congratulations! Navy Recruit Tuckus Graduates



Navy Recruit Tiffany Tuckus, granddaughter of Keys residents John and Ann Tuckus, recently graduated from Great Lakes, IL. Tiffany will receive a free one-year membership to the Key Largo American Legion

## Celebrity Sighting at Big Chill



From left: Unknown tourist, Big Chill General Manager Nicko Christidis, Actor/Artist Gene Hackman, Big Chill Owner Larry Calvano, and Football Legend Jimmy Johnson.

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## Five Essentials of Music Career Success

Written by Peter Spellman Courtesy of Dave Feder

Music is too big a world for a one-size-fits-all model of music career success. Musicians' career paths are as unique as their individual finaerprints. Nevertheless, there are a few guidelines that I believe apply to anyone trying to make a living career out of their love of music. Here are five:

1. Hone your talent and realize there is a place for you. Not everyone is a Quincy Jones, a Beatles, or a Bruce Springsteen, but if an artist like Tom Waits is a vocalist, then there is definitely room for you too. Do the work necessary to excel in your niche, whether it's writing a chart, engineering a session, providing backup vocals, or teaching kids the basics of music. 3. Accept the new powers in

Your goal, to use marketing lingo, is to "position" yourself in your market as the go-to person for that particular skill or talent. Don't worry too much about industry rejection. Every record label in Britain initially passed on the Beatles and The Rolling Stones. The key is believing in yourself and persevering beyond others' opinions (even those of "the industry").

2. Connect with as many people as you can because relationships drive music careers more than

anything else, even talent. Music is a "who-you-know/who-knowsyou" kind of business. The quality and quantity of your relationships will be the primary engines of your progress. Try developing creative projects with fellowmusicians. Perhaps you can combine your live show with two other acts and present the package to a local promoter. There is strength in numbers. Finding the right combinations takes experimentation.

If you're interested in working in the business side of music, then interning at a music company is the best way to both learn how the biz works and connect with those who can help move your career forward.

your corner and take responsibility for creating your own success. The last twenty years has given you the means to both produce and distribute your own music on a global scale. New models of business are emerging in the world of music. A "record deal" is not necessarily the goal any longer. The Internet has clearly become your "open mic" to already resonate with and try the world, and desktop technologies provide you with ways to have the look, reach and efficiency of larger companies. Dare to be different.

Remember, new power also means new responsibilities. Global reach means a potentially farflung audience. You need to be ready for the incoming messages and questions from this new market. Have you created the best business structures to hold and express your work? Are you setting up effective systems to communicate with your audience? It's up to you to create your own success and not merely rely on a record company or agent to do the work of making you visible in the marketplace.

4. Understand that every business is becoming a "music business" and so musical opportunities are multiplying. It took a coffee company and a computer manufacturer to teach the music industry how to sell music in the digital age. Nonmusic businesses everywhere are seeking creative ways to add music-related services to their mix. This means that you needn't be dependent on the traditional "music industrial complex" for music career success.

Think of companies you brainstorming ways you can link up. Start on a local scale. It might be a gift shop, bookstore or arts organization. It may even evolve into a full-fledged

sponsorship for a tour or recording project. Find ways to add value to what these businesses are doing with what you have to offer. Forging creative alliances is key to building a multi-dimensional music

5. Prepare to be versatile and to wear several hats initially. until your "brand" is established. Most musicians I know have had to cobble together several revenue streams in the early stages of their careers in order to make enough money to support themselves. Many have also had to take on a non-music "lifeline careers" just to make ends meet, pay down debt, or supplement what they earn from music.

I tell musicians to not so much look for "a job," but to seek out the work that needs to be done. It might be arranging a song, playing a wedding gig, helping organize a concert series, doing a jingle session, offering private music instruction, or writing a review of your favorite band's new CD. Eventually, all the different experiences merge together into the roaring river that will be your music career. At that point you'll be visible, in demand and able to name your price. And that's career success.





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## Bartender of the Month D.J. Geffrard



## at The Big Chill and Pilot House

The Coconut Telegraph's Bartender of the Month for April has come a long way in more ways than one. D.J. Geffrard immigrated to America from Port au Prince. Haiti at age 18. His father is a U.S. citizen and sent for Geffrard, who didn't speak a bit of English upon first arrival. From his family home in Homestead he took the bus to Key Largo and applied for work at the Pilot House Restaurant.

"D.J. was hired on the spot and he went from busboy to waiter to barback to bartender in a very short time," says Bush, a former Coconut Telegraph Bartender of the Year and Geffrard's mentor.

The two continue to be the best team of bartenders in the Keys. When Bush left the Pilot House to work at Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill he brought in Geffrard to work part-time.

"After the earthquake in Haiti Geffrard didn't hear from his family for over a week, but he kept right on working. He works seven days a week now and still continues to send his family money," says

Geffrard 's co-worker at the Pilot House now is Ed Carboni and he tells us. "D.J. is one of the best bartenders I've ever worked with. The customers love him so much that they scream his name and applaud when he starts his shift."

"D.J. is so fast that your drink is on the bar before you are able to sit down," says Larry Calvano, owner of the Big Chill. "And it is a pleasure having him part of our team."

Shirlee Alcock, the manager of the Pilot House also sings his praises saying, "I am so proud of D.J. He has worked so hard to get where he's at. He is fast, honest, dependable and a really nice person."

I couldn't have said it any better myself Shirlee. When I asked Geffrard what he likes to do in his spare time he said he really likes soccer but what is spare time when you work seven days a week?

Do stop in the Pilot House Restaurant or the Big Chill and congratulate Geffrard. You know you can always find him at one place or the other.

## Book review

## The Murder of Ed Bozarth By J. Harold Lowry

Circumstantial-Evidence Getting Away with Murder in the Florida Keys The Murder of Ed Bozarth By J. Harold Lowry.

Someone is getting away with murder in the Florida Kevs

It was a torrid July heat that led Deputies to a decomposing body in a Florida Keys marina.

Was it a Mob hit, a drug deal gone wrong, an angry lover? The Sheriff had a long list of suspects. But one stood out from the rest.

In the backwaters of the

Florida Keys there is no fancy crime lab. No modern medical office. And the Investigators are underpaid.

The State Attorney had only passed the Florida Bar 6 years before, and is ill equipped to charge the prime suspect and take them to trial.

This is the true story of a brutal murder that shocked the Keys.

J. Harold Lowry takes you through the evidence and the court documents hidden from view. He steps you through this brutal crime that can happen to any family in the

Florida Keys.

The book is not only well written but it is written in a way that lets you see and feel as though you are there. It is one of the first books not only written from first hand accounts and court records but from actual emails between Government Officials, Witnesses, the Lead Detective and even a United States Senator.

J. Harold Lowry is using first hand accounts, actual emails and even the actual postings and messages from Facebook explore the trail from Miami, Tampa, and the backwaters of the Florida Kevs.

This is a book where you will smell the shrimp beginning to boil. It takes you into the Keys life only the locals see. If you want to see the side of the Keys hidden and overlooked by the tourists then this book is a must read.

You can get your copy of Circumstantial-Evidence Getting Away with Murder in the Florida Keys The Murder of Ed Bozarth on Amazon in either Kindle or Printed edition.

Learn more about J. Harold Lowry at www.jharoldlowry.com

Mr. Lowry also writes a Legal Blog for the average person at www.circumstantial-evidence.com



Krista Stanford, age 7, recently opened a lemonade stand for disaster relief in Japan. She raised \$110 for the Red Cross in one day.

Her motto: When life gives you lemons make lemonade! In the reflection in the background is her proud mom, Tammy Patten.

Our Publisher, Denise, bought the Lemonade Stand kit for Krista, thinking it would be fun for the neighborhood kids.

Krista took it upon herself to have the stand at her parents office Key Largo Realty on a Sunday during the flea market and to donate all the money to the Red Cross for Japan. Krista just turned 7 years old! Her parents Chris Stanford and Tammy Patten are active in the community with the VFW and American Legion and Krista loves to help whenever she can too.

## **Key Largo Conch House** MM 100.2 Oceanside • Key Largo

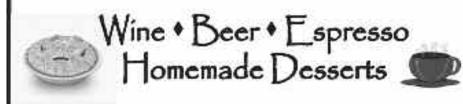
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## Feeling Threatened Afraid of the Truth

We avoid the truth because it scares us, or makes us angry, or makes us feel like we don't know what to do.

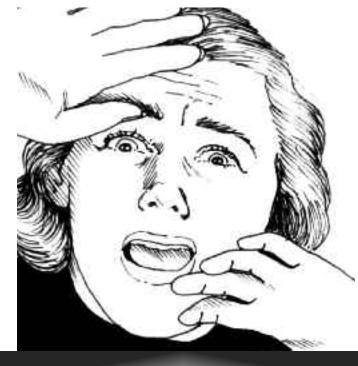
Most of us have had the

experience of being in possession of a piece of truth that we were afraid to share because we knew it would not be well received. There are also instances in which we ourselves have been unable to handle some truth confronting us. This might be a small truth, such as not wanting to see that our car needs repairs because we don't want to pay for them, or a large truth, such as not fully accepting that someone close to us is pushing us away. Usually the truth is evident, and we can see it if we choose, but we have elaborate ways of hiding the truth form ourselves, no matter how apparent it is.

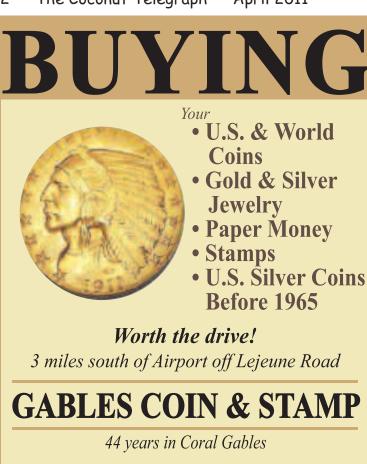
For the most part, we avoid the truth because it scares us, or makes us angry, or makes us feel like we don't know what to do. We often create our lives based on a particular

understanding, and if that understanding turns out to be fully or even partially incorrect, we may feel that our whole sense of reality is being threatened. It takes a strong person to face the truth in circumstances like these, and many of us run for cover instead. Nevertheless, we can only avoid the truth for so long before it begins to make itself known in ever more forceful ways.

Ultimately, there is no way to avoid the truth, no matter how painful it is, so the sooner we let down our defenses, the better. When we know the truth and accept that we may have to adjust our lives to accommodate, we are in alignment with reality. At the same time, we can be patient with people around us who have a hard time seeing the truth, because we know how painful it can be. Whatever the truth is, we make a sincere effort not to close our eyes to it, but instead to be grateful that we have access to it.



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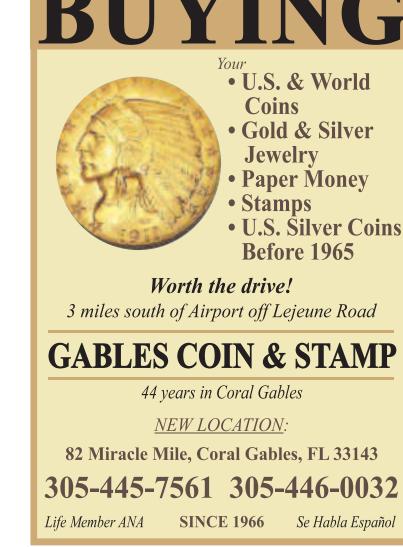
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### The Coconut Telegraph · April 2011 · 15

What do you get when you cross sexy lingerie, 6 tipsy ladies and a peeping-Tom husband? You'll find yourself howling to the latest Key Players production called **UNMENTIONABLES**. This saucy adult comedy is certain to remind you of parties you regretted arriving to, and leaving... having had the time of your life! Come join our titillating lingerie party and share a glass of wine with the silliest ladies to ever come out of Kalamazoo, Michigan... and yes.... there really is a Kalamazoo... but never like this!

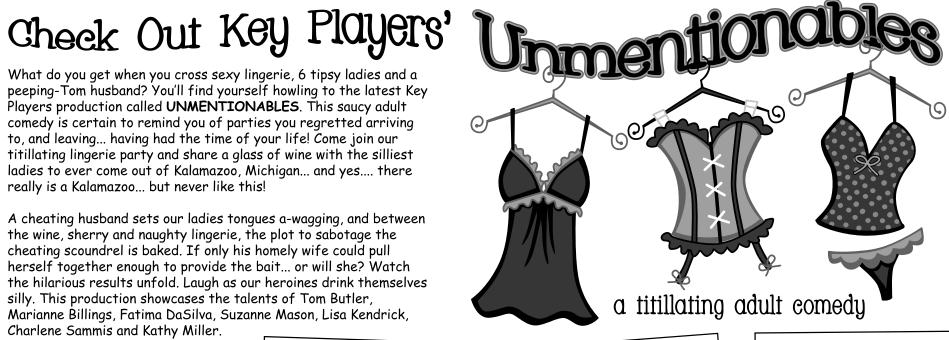
A cheating husband sets our ladies tongues a-wagging, and between the wine, sherry and naughty lingerie, the plot to sabotage the cheating scoundrel is baked. If only his homely wife could pull herself together enough to provide the bait... or will she? Watch the hilarious results unfold. Laugh as our heroines drink themselves silly. This production showcases the talents of Tom Butler, Marianne Billings, Fatima DaSilva, Suzanne Mason, Lisa Kendrick, Charlene Sammis and Kathy Miller.



Judy (Fatima DaSilva) and Sue (Kathy Miller) attend the Lady Lace Lingerie party where many worlds collide...



your Lady Lace Representative, readies some lingerie to show.





The Makeover begins!.



Lingerie party hostess, Marilyn (Marianne Billings) gives up hope of any semblance of decency, and pours herself some pea pod wine



MM 99.6 Oceanside

Key Largo Lion's Club

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Producer

Starring:

Tom Butler

Admission: \$12 in Advance or \$14 at the Door



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Tradewinds (MM101 5 Ocean)

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05-853-1101

PostNet Store 3 Waldorf (MM 99.6 Ocean) Islamorada (MM 88 Ocean) For more info call: 305-453-0997 or visit: www.thekeyplayers.org

UNMENTIONABLES is produced by Nancy Wells and co-directed by Kathy Miller and Nancy Siljander. See lingerie fly through the air and pea-pod wine flow as this production plays at the Lion's Club in Key Largo at MM 99.6, behind TIB Bank, beginning April 13, 15, 16 and 20, 22, 23 and 27,29, 30th. Doors open at 7PM with an 8PM curtain call. Advance tickets are sold for \$12 at Tropical Arts & Crafts (MM101.4 ocean), The UPS Store (MM99.6 ocean) and PostNet Store (MM88 ocean). Tickets sold at the door are \$14. Come share the fun!



(Charlene Sammis) teaches the yougsters how it's done



Leonard (Tom Butler) ushers next-door neighbor, Kitty (Lisa Kendrick) to a choice seat for the lingerie party.



There! That's better...

## Bice Joins American Legion



Terri Bice, owner of Mom's Taxi, is a proud new member of the American Legion Post 333.



PAUL CASE RETURNS TO THE ISLAND GRILL

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· CASE & DAVIDSON Saturday Night on the Beach

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MM 85.5 Oceanside At Snake Creek Bridge, Islamorada

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## VFW 2010 Men's Auxiliary Achievements

Membership increased by 9% Achieved state recognition

### Support Events

Veterans Hospital Lunches (4) Wounded Warrior Picnic (2) Wounded Warriors Dinner (2) Jr. U.S. Ambassador Fund Raiser VFW Sunday Brunch 28 Weeks VFW Saturday Lunches (14) Joint Club Yard Sales (2) Pearl Harbor Day Functions Sponsored YMCA Junior Basketball Sponsored YMCA Summer Program Sponsored Veteran's Day Dinner Fund Raised for Christmas in Afghanistan Fund Raised for the Christmas Lady Charities Donated and installed Marquee Co-Sponsored Men's & Ladies Great Christmas Cookie Bake and Party Contributed Over \$2,000 to our Veteran's, our Members, and

our Community.

Repaired Bar Stools

16 · The Coconut Telegraph · April 2011

## Keys Sounds and Conch



Ted Hyde with special guest singer Brenda at Sharkey's Pub.



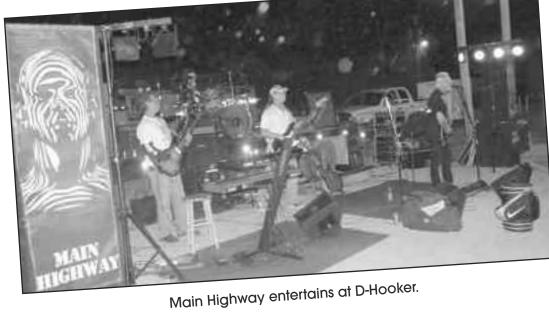
A very dapper Bill Wilson visits Sharkey's Pub on St. Patty's Day.



Paul Moen at Sharkey's.



Harry French at Gilbert's Resort.





From the minute you arrive, Chilli Willies is super kid friendly.



Nick Charles and Marilee Free Karaoke.



Former Hunk of the Month Ricky Cortina goes Bragh-less for St. Patty's Day.

## Characters of the Month



Kevin with his parents Kay and Howard at the Big Chill.



Coconut's beautiful bartender Nichole.



Ric West is back and better than ever!



St Patrick's Day Party at D-Hooker.



Find these accessories at CarLashes.com - rhinestone eyeliner is also available.



The Buzzard's Roost bartender Shannon at their new Tiki Bar serving all your favorite cocktails.



See Jerry Scott's restored antique cash registers at the Whistle Stop.



John McKinna, best selling author and extraordinary musician.

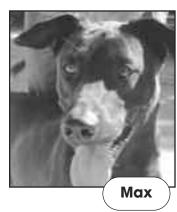


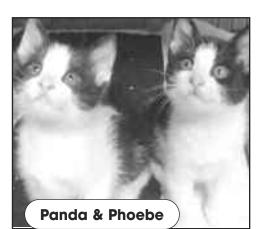
Tony and his wife Kathy visit the Pilot House while he was on vacation from work in Dubai.

## Adopt a Key Largo Animal Shelter Pet

Meet a few of the animals who are currently available for adoption at the Key Largo Animal Shelter. If you are interested in taking one of these adorable furry friends home stop by or call. The Shelter is located at mile marker 106 Oceanside; phone 305-451-0088.







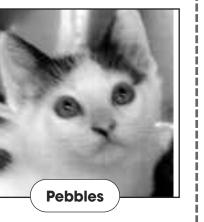












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## Spring has Sprung for Keys Songbirds!

The Ring-Necked Dove pictured here heralds the arrival of baby songbird season in the Florida Keys. Currently being rehabilitated at the Florida Keys Wild Bird Center's Wildlife Hospital with the help of an adult foster mother, the young bird is one of a trio of doves rescued recently in the Upper Keys, each under different circumstances.

"Sometimes youngsters are brought in for good reasons," cautions Lela Larned, FKWBC's director. "But just as often, young birds are 'kidnapped' by well-meaning folks who are trying to help, but don't quite understand how to decide if a young bird truly is in trouble."

Unless a bird is obviously injured, it's best to watch from an indoor vantage point for a while to see what is going on.

### What to Watch For:

· Almost all young birds go through a fledgling period, when they have hopped out of the nest but their wings. feathers, and flight skills are not quite developed yet. Though they might appear alone, the patient observer will discover parent birds are close by, swooping down to check on youngsters a few times an hour. This unflighted period holds true

for birds as small as hummingbirds through birds as large as ospreys. Gradually youngsters begin to gain strength, first perching on branches close to the ground and then taking short flights but the flightless period can last for 10-14 days, leaving the youngsters extremely vulnerable to predators. Some species of songbirds, especially insectivores, need feeding every few minutes from visiting parents. Other species, especially seedeaters such as doves, are only fed every few hours and are left unattended.

### When Baby Birds Need Help: · Birds that have had direct

contact with a pet, obvious injuries such as broken bones or open wounds, have suffered a long fall onto a hard surface, feel cold to the touch, or are unfeathered and found on the ground need help from FKWBC's Hospital immediately. Even the smallest bite puncture from a cat or a dog will spark an infection in young birds that is impossible to survive without oral antibiotics. Every minute counts in saving these babies' lives. Simply place the injured bird in a

covered box with tissues or paper towels and call FKWBC's wildlife help hotline: 852-**4486**. Food and water should not be offered as they can be very harmful initially; keeping the animal warm, dark, and quiet is most



Photo by Nancy Pindru, FKWBC clinic volunteer

### How You Can Help:

- · If you have a cat-free yard, help host bird families by hanging birdhouses, keeping bird-bathes supplied with fresh clean water, and maintaining shrubs, trees, and ground cover as hiding spots for young families.
- Keep baskets with handles handy. Young birds on the ground or fallen nests can be protected from predators and neighborhood pets if placed inside a shallow basket and hung in a nearby tree. Parents will tend to the youngsters once they adjust to the novelty of the basket. Birds are safest up high.
- · FKWBC often is able to reunite healed youngsters with parents and restore makeshift nests. Resist the urge to try and raise young

Business Office (305) 367-0097

birds yourself. Lessons including migration, birdsong, nest-building, and foraging are best taught by bird parents.

### Common Myth:

- It is not true that a mother bird will reject a youngster if touched by a human. Instead, human touch can mark the bird with a scent that aids bird predators such as raccoons, snakes, and opossums to locate and raid nests and babies.
- Keeping close tabs on pets during nesting season will save lives. Many of our native songbirds are declining at rates of 4% per year due to habitat loss and predation. Please help songbirds in your own backyard!

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## Ending a Friendship Not All Friends are Good Friends

A friendship that serves to support, encourage and entertain is a good relationship but not all friends are good friends. Review some of the following types of friends and take a moment to evaluate some of your friendships.

### The Emotional Vampire

This is the friend who seems to suck the life out of you. Whether you realize exactly how they do it or not, they seem to leave you feeling exhausted. These types of people tend to constantly be surrounded with some sort of drama and they drag you right down in to it. Do you really want to hear about their sorry relationship every time you see them? Life is rarely pleasant, and they have continuous problems they need to complain about. You might talk to this person about their effect on you, but you'll soon realize these people rarely change. Friendship is about giving and taking, and if this friend is only taking, you deserve better.

### The One-Upper/Snob

When you're sharing an experience that's important to you, this person interrupts with a story or experience that's just a little better than yours. Their stories will always be more - more pleasant, more exciting, more dreadful, or

more dramatic. If your friend doesn't know how to listen and validate you, it's time to start questioning how much they truly care about you. They should realize that what you have to say should be equally valued. This person's rudeness can also run off your good friends.

### The Big Three: Lying, Cheating, or Stealing

Everyone makes mistakes, but after you give this friend multiple chances, it may be time to end the friendship. A friend who constantly lies or steals from you is not showing you the respect that friends should show one another. There is no value in this

person or your friendship.

### The Harvey Two-Face

The friend who says one thing and does something else. Or the friend who is nice to your face and then talks badly about you behind your back. Do they make fun of your clothes? Weight? Hair? Their actions tend to be more severe than the typical casual gossip common among friends. This type of bad friend's actions are purposeful, hurtful, and continue regardless of your objections.

## The Reputation Squasher

Your friend is banging every man or woman in the place like Continued on page 23...

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## **Conch Republic Days - Schedule of Events** Wednesday April 27

Conch Republic Progressive Dinner. 5-course conchalicious Keys-themed wine dinner; we transport you! 6:30pm. Sue Finney 305-394-3736

Pirates Tour Beer Tasting "Ales & Lagers of the Caribbean Tasters Grille & Market MM 91, 5-8pm 305-853-1177

### **Thursday April 28**

Snapper's Turtle Club Prices rolled back to 1982 thru Sunday

Re-Enactment of the Proclamation of Secession and New Cabinet Installation Snapper's, MM 94.5 6pm. Celebrate the Conch Republic. Awards for Cream of the Conch Republic Northernmost Territories. 305-852-5956

### Friday April 29

World Record Attempt at Conch Blowing. Sundowners, MM 104 5:30pm. Our goal is 200 conch

Extreme Bartender Conch Cocktail and Flair Competition, Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill, 8pm Best Bartender wins money++ for Challenges & Flair. Entry Fee \$15, call 305-453-9066

## Saturday April 30

"Start the Day the Conch Republic Way" Breakfast specials at Key Largo Conch House, MM 100.2, 7am-noon 305-453-4844

"Is Your Pet a Conch?" Keys Kritters Pet Store, MM 100.5. 11am-5pm, Pet Costume Contest & Finals and Awards of Pet Photo Contest, call to enter 305-451-2627

By Land or Sea Conch Poker Run, 11 am. Event begins at Snapper's, MM 94.5. Entry \$15 includes event t-shirt, cont. breakfast & hand. 305-394-3736

Conch Republic Island Music Fest Live Music, Dancing, \$10 Fish Fry, Conch Fritters, Peruvian Conch Ceviche and more... Pontunes Marina, Tiki Bar & Grille, MM108, 2pm 'til late. 305-451-0864

Conch Fritter Eating Contest Key Largo Conch House MM 100.2, 3pm - Eat as many award winning conch fritters as you can! M**ust register by 11 am**. Buy a lunch or appetizer and enjoy a FREE beer. Call 305-453-4844 or stop at the restaurant to enter.

## AST YOUR VOTE TODA "CREAM OF THE CROP"

### Go to the website or ask the participating sponsors for event details!

### Sunday May 1

"Start the Day the Conch Republic Way" Breakfast specials at Key Largo Conch House, MM 100.2, 7am-noon 305-453-4844

**Everything Key Lime Dessert** Contest, Key Lime Tree, MM 95. 12noon. Amateur and professional categories. No rules! 305-853-0378 or website to enter.

New! High-Heel-a-Thon at Snapper's, 3pm: Guys and gals don your high heels for charity and walk the runway at Snapper's. Prizes & fun. 305-852-5956 or

Closing Ceremonies at Snapper's, MM 94.5, starting at 3pm, Conch Shell Blowing Contest, Key Lime Pie Eating Contest followed by the Ceremonial Destruction of the Jewfish Creek Bridge, live music dancing and drink specials 305-852-5956

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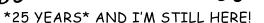
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## Coco'Nut' Funnies

## Clean Words that Sound Dirty

The English language is loaded with dirty words and it is also loaded with clean words that sound dirty. If you have a dirty mind you may enjoy these words...

Philatelist: This word sounds like it represents a person who enjoys giving oral sex, but actually a philatelist is a stamp collector. Now if you happened to be a stamp collector who also enjoys performing plural sex, you would be one popular nerd. Cunning Linguist: A cunning linguist is a person who is a shrewd speaker of multiple languages. This is not to be confused with a person who is a shrewd giver of multiple

Angina: A condition characterized by suffocating, painful spasms (such as a heart attack) is known as angina. So remember, if the doctor tells you that your wife has "acute angina," he is not talking about her hoo-hoo; he is simply warning you about a serious medical condition.

Masticate: When we eat, we masticate, or chew. If someone calls you an "excessive masticator," it means you eat too much. It doesn't mean he's been peeking in your bedroom window.

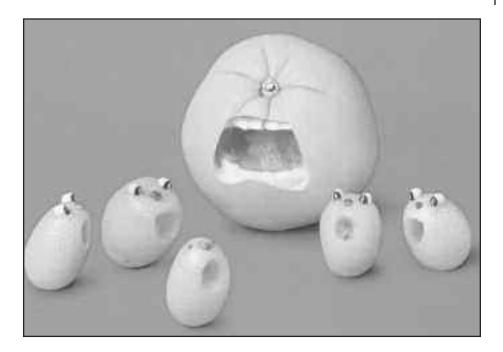
Thespian: A thespian is an actor, not a chick who digs chicks; unless, of course, that actor is Jody Foster, who also happens to be a chick who digs chicks.

Volvo: A warning to all men: It is important to know that if a woman offers to give you a ride in her Volvo, she is talking about her car! A mistake like that could get you five-to-ten. Uranus: One of the planets that revolve around the sun is called Uranus, which is not the same thing as that area of your body where the sun don't shine.

Rectify: You may think that rectify is a word that relates to that area down under, but it isn't. It means to fix or correct, as in: "Fernando's hemorrhoids became so inflamed that he had to have surgery in that area down under in order to rectify the

Cumquat: A cumquat is a fruit that resembles a small orange. It is not something to do when you squat.

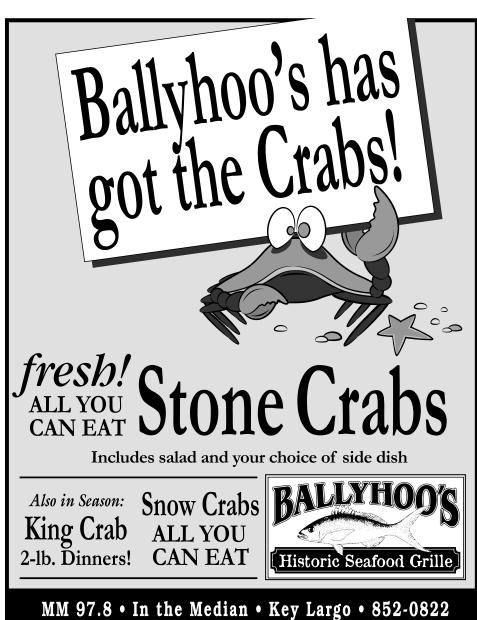
Ramrod: A ramrod is also referred to as a "packing stick" which was used with muzzle-loading weapons to push the bullet up against the gunpowder in the 19th century. Unfortunately it is not a well endowed energetic man. If it was there would be more women living on Ramrod Key.



## What To Do At The Funeral Of Someone You Dislike

- Tell the widow you're sure you saw him move.
- · Go to the funeral dressed as the deceased, and call the widow a
- · Bring a dog to the funeral and have him play dead.
- · Sign the deceased's name in the guest register.
- · Bring a shovel to the church.
- · Ask the widow if you think it would do any good to shake him.
- · Put waxed lips on the body.
- · Ask the widow how long she's been sure he's dead.
- · Tell the widow a lot of his favorite TV shows were cancelled
- · Put a bumper sticker on the hearse that says, "I'd rather be breathing!"
- · Ask the widow how long it will be before she starts dating.
- Tell the deceased's mother that you never expected them to go
- · Hide behind the casket and talk to the mourners as they kneel in front of the body.
- · Send the widow a singing telegram from the deceased.
- · Ask the widow if you can take a finger.
- · Tell the widow in a loud stage whisper, "I'll bet this is costing you a pretty penny."
- Tell the widow that the body doesn't look comfortable.
- · Ask the widow if she's aware of any job openings.
- Tell the widow you think he'd look better on his side.
- · Tell the widow you suspect foul play.
- · Entertain the guests with a hand-puppet replica of the
- Put a lit cigarette in the deceased's mouth.
- · Put a pair of shoes under the coffin.
- · Wear a "Grateful Dead" t-shirt to the wake.







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## Ending a Friendship

...Continued from page 20 a screen door in a hurricane. Soon you notice that people around you are beginning to treat you disrespectfully.

It could be that this person is always sloppy drunk. You know that your standards are different but do others? People will naturally associate you with who you are with.

### The Addict

Drugs, alcohol, gambling, sex whatever the addiction, the addict will eventually take so much that it's just not worth being friends anymore. You can only be expected to support the addict for so long. Nothing is more important to an addict than their drug of choice.

### The User

This person tends to always be friends with people who have something they need or like to use - a car, video games, a couch to sleep on, movies. food, etc. The test of this friendship is to start saying no. If the person still wants to spend time with you, then they are there for you. If you start cutting them off from your stuff and they start hanging out less this could be a good sign they are just using you

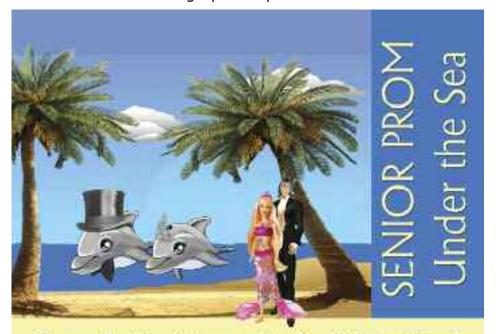
### The Abuser

Friends should support.

encourage, and love you. Yes, friends can challenge you to be a better person or make changes in your life, but this can be done in a loving and supportive way. The abuser tends to put you down, hurt you, and keep you down. The abusive friend will somehow convince you that you need them, despite how much they hurt you. It will be incredibly difficult to cut this friend from your life, as they will make it an effort to make your life miserable in the process. In the end, you'll realize how much better you are without the abuser in your

This list is not intended to tell you when to end friendships. Instead, use this list as a starting point for evaluating questionable friendships in your life. If your friends tend to take more than they give, don't be afraid to confront them about your concerns. Friends should be able to have open two-way communication. If things don't start to change consider the benefits of cutting that friend out of your life and moving on.





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