

Bartender of the Month

Gina Rew at Island Grill



It all started eight years ago when Gina Rew heard there was going to be a new restaurant opening by the Snake Creek bridge. When she stopped by to take a look around and saw the spectacular ocean views at the soon-to-open Island Grill, she knew that was where she wanted to work. Eight years later, the highly successful Island Grill and Rew will celebrate their anniversaries there January 1st.

Thirty-five years ago, right out of high school, Rew moved to the Keys from Long Island. Her first job here was at the prestigious Ocean Reef Club, followed by time spent at the Quay, and Snappers before she found her niche at the Island Grill.

Rew takes the important things in life very seriously - her job, her daughter and fishing.

Always working hard, Rew created several of her own well-known drink recipes that

are used by other professional bartenders. She has a legion of snowbirds that fly to the Island Grill daily to see her, and as any bartender will tell you, repeat business is the highest compliment a bartender can get.

Rew's beautiful daughter Caitlin is her pride and joy. Caitlin is currently a student at Gulf Coast University where she works hard and continuously makes her mother proud.

Fishing... Rew is serious about fishing. Rew enters every tournament she can and is always a contender, having placed in several.

And when she is taking time off from the seriously important things you may find her pool side with a good book or traveling on the back of a Harley somewhere.

Rew invites everyone to stop by Island Grill for happy hour from 4 to 7 everyday.

Get there early because the
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LOCALS — IT'S YOUR
CHRISTMAS
PARTY ON-THE-BEACH!



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Experiences

We Don't Understand

Hidden Gems

All of the events in our lives lead to other events, they are all connected.

Sometimes we have an experience that we don't understand, but if we look deeply, or wait long enough, a reason for that experience will usually reveal itself. All the events in our lives lead to other events, and all that we have manifested in this present moment is the result of past events and experiences. We cannot easily tease apart the many threads that have been woven

We may ultimately end up leaving the job or the place, but often during that time we will have met someone who becomes an important friend, or we may have an experience that changes us in a profound way. When all the pieces of our life don't quite make sense, we can remember that there may be some hidden gem of a reason that we are where we are having the

experiences we are having.

It's fun to look back on past experiences with an eye to uncovering those gems—the dreadful

temporary job in a bland office building that introduced you to the love of your life; the roommate you couldn't tolerate who gave you a book that changed your life; the time spent living in a city you didn't like that led you into a deeper relationship with yourself. Remembering these past experiences can restore our faith in the present. Life is full of buried treasures. Chances are, you're sitting on some right now.

together to create our current reality. Experiences that don't make sense, as well as any that we regret, are just as responsible for the good things in our lives as the experiences we do understand or label as "good."

This is especially important to remember at times when we feel directionless or unsure of what to do. It is often at times like these that we take a job or move to a place without really knowing if it's the right thing to do.

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