

Entertainer of the Month

Mike Mitzner at Sharkey's Pub

The great Yogi Berra once said "This is like deja vu all over again!" No, your eyes are not playing tricks on you. Mike Mitzner is the only musician in the history of the Coconut Telegraph to ever be featured as Entertainer of the Month three times.

The musical phenomenon was first featured in the April 2008 issue (see theconchtelegraph.com archives for the original story) as one half of the extraordinary duo Mike and Drein. Drein Vernon was Mike's partner, girlfriend and best friend. Together they were one of the most sought after singing sensations to ever rock the Keys. They even produced a CD together called "Live, Loud, and Proud" which was recorded live at the Caribbean Club.

We are very sad to say that shortly after the article appeared in the Coconut Telegraph Drein, then age 43, passed away in her sleep. While all the Conch Republic mourned Mitzner was devastated. Most people would have crawled into their shell, but he grabbed his guitar and sat in with any entertainer who would let him.

"Music is my therapy. It's my balance," explains Mitzner. "When life starts to spiral out of control music pulls me back and keeps me grounded. Life goes on."

In June of 2009. Mitzner and Dwayne McGregor had formed the duo "Just Not Right" and were featured as

Entertainer's of the Month. They both later went on to play solo.

And this month Mitzner is featured solo. Mitzner discovered music at age six when he sat at his grandmother's piano and started played along with the

commercials on TV, finding the melody by ear. He is completely self-taught on the guitar as well.

"No lessons, just using my ears and watching others", he says.

From sixth grade through college he has played baritone, trombone and trumpet in symphonic and concert bands.

He is also an A.S.E. certified auto technician with 24 years experience and for the last 14 years he has been working at Vic's Auto on Plantation Key.

To hear Mitzner play stop by Sharkey's Pub any Tuesday night.

"I love playing at Sharkey's because it is like playing at my house! Friends, family, laughter and good

times," Mike tells us. "Plus I don't have to worry about cleaning up afterward!"

In his free time Mitzner hangs out at home with his four cats and dog, cruises around on his boat and checks out local music, dives and fishes.

For more about his music you can contact Mike Mitzner at 305-394-0235



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Eighth Annual Locals' Art Show, Feb. 12 and 13

Once again, it is time for the infamous "Pigeon Poop" Art Show. Although the "Pigeon Poop" nickname may rouse thoughts to duck and cover, artists and locals have been flocking to the show for eight years. Also know as the "Locals' Art Show," artists will be displaying their work February 12 and 13 in front of the Marathon Winn Dixie right on US 1 at MM 50.2

The success of the event can be attributed to the diverse group of artists assembled by organizers and the enthusiasm of participants who enjoy taking part in an event with a colorful history. The show was originally started by local artists who were left out of the larger Pigeon Key Art Show in favor of national applicants. Today, artists are just as proud to take part in the Locals Art Show which has earned a

strong following of its own. This year over 50 artists will participate including award winning painters, metal workers, wood workers, potters, fabric artists, glass artists, photographers, and jewelers. A mix of new and returning artists, as well as selected national artists keeps the show interesting.

Adding to this year's excitement is a book signing by John and Bette Mojjis, former owners of the Dirty Dancing movie site. This is the first time their book *Dirty Dancing! Hey Baby Let's Dirty Dance* will be presented. It tells of the before, during, and after filming and features many photographs from their private collection. The Ghosts of

Lake Lure Inn, where the cast and crew stayed amusingly narrate the stories. Don't miss this fun addition!

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Come see local artist display their work on February 12 and 13 in front of the Marathon Winn Dixie at mile marker 50.2, oceanside.

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FEBRUARY ENTERTAINMENT						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesd.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
06. ECLIPSE 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	07. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	08. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	09. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	10. Luke Sommer Glenn 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	11. David Bowman 1-5 pm Blackwater Sound 6-10	12. Luke & Dave 1:30-5:30 Justa Head 6-10
13. VIVA 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	14. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10 ♥♥♥♥♥	15. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	16. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	17. Felix Hawkins 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	18. David Bowman 1-5 pm Main Highway 6-10	19. Luke & Dave 1:30-5:30 Mr.Nice Guy 6- 10
20. Mr.Nice Guy 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	21. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	22. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	23. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	24. Luke Sommer Glenn 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	25. David Bowman 1-5 pm Gypsy Road Band 6-10	26. Luke & Dave 1:30-5:30 Whipping Post 6-10
27. EGO 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	28. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	01. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	02. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	03. Felix Hawkins 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	04. David Bowman 1-5 pm The REGS 6-10	05. Luke & Dave 1:30-5:30 Mosquito Heads 6-10
06. ECLIPSE 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	07. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	08. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	09. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	10. Luke Sommer Glenn 11-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	Come by Car or Boat	

Feb. 14th is Valentine's Day!
♥ **Enjoy a Romantic Beach Candlelight Dinner at Gilbert's Beach Tiki Hut.** Selected Menu available.

Hours • Tiki Bar: 7 Days 11am to 11pm or later • Inside Restaurant: Monday to Friday 5pm to 10pm • Saturday and Sunday 7am to 11am and 5pm to 10pm