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Entertainer of the Month Kevin Hurley welcomes singers and songwriters to the Upper Keys for the Key Largo Original Music Fest, May 19-22, 2011.



Coconut Telegraph

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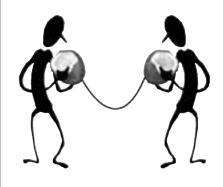
Cast of Characters:

Editor/Sales/Distribution

Denise Malefyt

Advertising Production

Sue Beal



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Editorial: Avoid Sewer Screwers and Get the Job Done Right

Last week my sewer connection was completed and I am delighted with the professional service I received from Wastewater Services. At the time I signed up I did not know that the owner and manager, Yvette Doherty, was my neighbor. She too is a homeowner in my neighborhood of Sexton Cove.

Being that I know nothing about plumbing I set out to gain a little knowledge before choosing a company. First I looked at an out-oftown company that advertised \$1,650 hook ups. When the company, Burtis Plumbing, came to my house they said that I needed to fill my septic tank with a special kind of premium cement and that it would cost me \$3,000. Red flag. Big



Yvette Doherty, Owner and Operator of Wastewater Services.

price increase!

Next, I called BC Plumbing from an ad in another newspaper. They told me that they needed to do a test to find out where my septic tank was. The test would be \$200 up front but they would deduct it from my bill if I chose them to do the job. Red flag. The cap on my tank was quite obvious. Scam alert!

The worst case was a local man who was working on his own. He came by to give me an estimate and all of a sudden items from my front yard were missing. He admitted to taking only one of the items. They are all probably in his Sanford and Son yard. Note: if you don't ask if you can take something it's stealing!

Continued on page 3...

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Here is a note to all the mothers out there.

Well, here it is, a beautiful Mother's Day! Dedicated to all the women who have borne children into the world. For women who have mothered their children, who have lived and died for them, laughed and cried for them. Mothers who have given too much of themselves and asked nothing in return. Mothers who stand by their children with unconditional love and allow their mistakes only so that they may learn from them. A mother is always there for her babes to mend their broken hearts, nurse wounded knees and elbows. This day is for all of you. So relax, enjoy and get out of the house, away from those damn kids.

Happy Mother's Day! Jeri Hansen, Key Largo

Editorial

..continued from page 2

So finally I went by the office of Wastewater Services at mile marker 100 Oceanside and signed up. Be patient because you can expect a wait period of 90 days or more depending on their bookings, but no penalties will be levied by the District at this time if you have signed up. You are in the Queue.

The crews were very nice and promptly completed the job. They filled my nasty old septic tank with dirt and rocks at no extra charge. It is a huge

relief and peace of mind to know that I have done my part. I do not trust the out-of-town companies that have come to reap a profit from us locals. Remember the "Roofers from Hell" after Hurricane Andrew? They don't live here so they don't have to worry about their reputation once they take all the money and run.

You don't have to worry if you hire Wastewater Services. Call the office 305-451-4400 or Yvette's cell 786-236-8158. The peace of mind is well worth the wait.





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Artist of the Month Tedd Tiedemann

Key Largo Illustrations



Owner and operator of Key Largo Illustrations, Tedd Tiedemann grew up in Queens, New York and studied at the New York Arts School. After a few years as a commercial artist Tiedemann became interested in the art of tattooing and studied and worked as an apprentice under Frank Romano in the Big Apple for three years.

Then, in 1982 Tiedemann moved to Nashville,
Tennessee and opened his own shop but after a year in Nashville he grew tired of the lifestyle and moved back to New York where he worked until 1991. From there he traveled to the Keys in search of warmer weather and fell in love with the laid back lifestyle.

It was here, in the Keys, that he met his lovely wife Evelyn who became an expert body piercer and the two have been enjoying working side by side for years.

In 2003 together the Tiedemanns opened another shop in Jaco, Costa Rica and they also own a shop in Wilmington, North Carolina. Now during the summer months Tiedemann takes opportunities to guest spot in other locations such as Verona, Italy; Denver, Colorado; and most recently Tel Aviv, Israel last year.

With over 30 years experience, Tiedemann is not only the most experienced tattoo artist in the Keys but also the owner of the oldest tattoo shop here. They are celebrating the 20th anniversary of his shop in Key Largo. The shop is spacious and decorated with

Continued on page 6...





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Friends of the Key Largo Cultural Center **Explore Means to Improve Facility**

On March 25, 2011 a group of approximately twenty-five interested citizens met with Commissioner Sylvia Murphy, County Administrator Roman Gastesi and Project Engineer Kevin G. Wilson to explore means by which the Murray E. Nelson Government and Cultural Center theater/auditorium could be enhanced and improved to include much needed dressing rooms and bathroom facilities for performing artists and event participants. This theater was built as part of the government center in January of 2009 but never fully completed.

It is the intention of the new Friends of the Key Largo Cultural Center to work with the county to assist them in their application to the Tourist

107900 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo

Development Council (TDC) for available capital improvement monies to help fund this project. The TDC funding will

help smooth the progress of completing the Murray Nelson Cultural Center. Although the Nelson Cultural Center commenced operation in January 2009 subsequent cultural events have been disadvantaged

by high operating fees. Consequently, the theater/auditorium remained primarily underutilized since inception. The County has

recently reduced these fees, which now make the cultural center a viable and affordable alternative for hosting cultural

"We will finally have a quality cultural events center where the citizens. tourist, and visitors can enjoy first-rate events."

- Debra Ginsberg.

events. The members of the

new group organized themselves into a committee. which they named the Friends of the Key Largo Cultural Center, and now this group has elected a Board of Directors.

The New Board of Directors is; President Kay Thacker, Vice President, Linda Kaplan, Secretary, Pauline Klein, Treasurer, Dave Andrews,

Director, Nola Acker, Director, Moe Saah, Artistic Director, Debra Ginsberg. Other committee members included representatives from a variety of local organizations such as the Key Largo Chamber of Commerce, The Keys Players, Key Largo Rotary, YMCA, First State Bank, Bank of America, TIB, Pirates on the Water, Island of Key Largo Federation of Homeowner Associations. Inc., GLEE, Key Largo Civic Club, Sons and Daughters of Italy, Protect e2, Kiwanis Club of the Upper Keys, Bob Gintel, Debra Ginsberg, friends from Ocean Reef, along with citizens of the community.

A mission statement was developed to outline the goals and objectives

Continued on page 8...



Artist of the Month



...continued from page 4
many of Tiedemann's original
award winning tattoo works
as well as Evelyn's body
piercing jewelry that is for
sale as well. It is 100percent clean, sterile and
physician inspected. Key
Largo Illustrations also now
offers permanent eye
makeup.

If you live in the Keys you already know of Tiedemann's reputation for clean expert workmanship. His work is

crisp and clear and the images are detailed. If you are just visiting the Keys be sure to stop in and check out Key Largo Illustrations. What better souvenir of the Keys than the tattoo you've been dreaming of, done by the best?

Key largo Illustrations is located at 102991 Overseas highway, Key Largo. Or contact them via keylargoillustrations.com, 305-451-4464 or follow them on facebook.



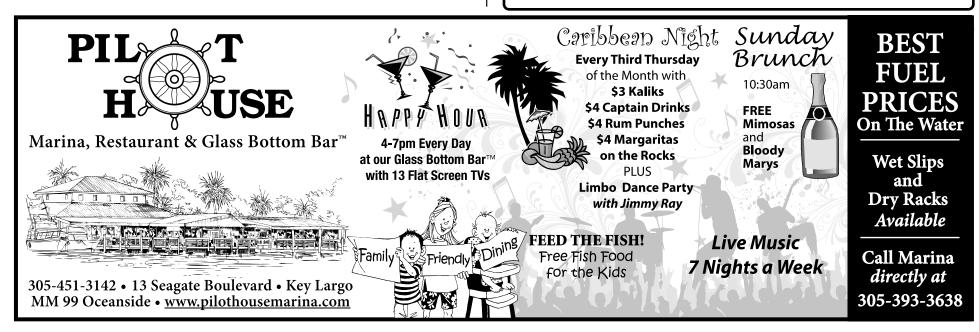
With Heartfelt Gratitude

MARY EAGER passed away on April 11, 2011, as she was on her way home heading south on the stretch at mile marker 117.

Her family would like to express great appreciation to Robert (Bob) Miles and Vickie Heid, the co-workers that Mary was traveling with. These two people did everything they could, trying to save Mary's life.

Words could never express the gratitude her family feels for what they did. There were two people who pulled over to assist, one person held an umbrella over her to keep her cool, and a retired firefighter helped with C.P.R. The family is asking that if anyone has any information about the two volunteers, please contact Greg Crum at (305) 451–0470.

The family thanks them both for their kindness.



Benefit on the Bay Raises \$10,000



Earlier this month, the Center for Independent Living held its annual fundraiser, Benefit on the Bay, at Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill and raised over \$10,000 to support their efforts assisting the more than 16,000 disabled residents of Monroe County. Executive Director Brenda Pierce pictured with title sponsor Centennial Bank's Jennifer Hawkins, Stephanie Scuderi and Jennifer Miller.

CSHS Baseball Team Thanks Centennial Bank



Coral Shores High School Varsity Baseball team present Centennial Bank's Jennifer Miller. Stephanie Scuderi and Jennifer Hawkins with team hats, a picture of the team, and a signed baseball in appreciation for the money raised grilling and selling hot dogs at the team's home games this year. Centennial Bank presented the team with a check for the proceeds at the last home game of the 2010-2011 season.

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Entertainer of the Month Kevin Hurley



It's not often that you find a local entertainer that is as loved and respected by the other local entertainers as Kevin Hurley is. People boast that he is a phenomenal guitarist, singer, songwriter, and an all around super nice guy.

Hurley was born in Miami but moved to California when he was 3 years old. He grew up in Palo Alto which is in the San Francisco Bay area. At age 11 he took guitar lessons from "a folkie banjo player" named Jerry Garcia, right before he formed the Warlocks and the Grateful Dead. The Dead, The Airplane, Quicksilver, Big Brother, and many other great bands that didn't become big had an influence on Hurley at an early age.

After the family moved back to South Florida when Hurley was a senior in High School he quickly formed a band with his best friend Mark "Slick" Aguilar called "TATTOO". Aguilar went on to play with David Crosby, Marty Balin and the Jefferson Starship with whom he still plays today.

Together the Slick/Hurley Band recorded an album called "Danny Cadillac" in the 90s.

Most recently Hurley released his own album "Palm Tree Reality" with The Conch-A-Delics, the lyrics were written by Hurley's wife Valerie Newman. One track "Anything at all" was written by Hurley and Aguilar. Inside the cover reads: We wrote these songs for all who dream of sailing to nowhere and for the spirit of those who have. The song "The Keys Disease" is the Coconut Telegraph's favorite but the whole album is wonderful.

Hurley attributes his inspiration to the music of the Beatles, the Grateful Dead, Bob Dylan, Bill Monroe and Graham Parsons. Treat yourself to the sounds of Kevin Hurley every Thursday at Gilbert's from 6 to 10, Saturdays at the Fish House Encore from 7 to 10 or at Scotty's Landing in Coconut Grove on Sundays from 4 to 8.

You can reach him at 305-282-1189 or check out his website KevinHurley.net.

Friends of the Key Largo Cultural Center

...Continued from page 5 of the committee, which are:

- 1.) To assist the county in developing plans to enhance and improve the functionality of the theater/auditorium portion of the Murray Nelson Government and Cultural Center in an effort to make this a modern event facility.
- 2.) To use this improved facility to attract affordable entertainment, educational programs and events to Key Largo.
- 3.) To conceive, explore and support various ideas and programs which could utilize the theater/auditorium for the benefit of Key Largo visitors, tourists and residents in an effort to make Key Largo a destination point for cultural tourism. These programs may include a variety of activities such as live theatrical productions; first run projected movies, year round creative camps for kids, educational seminars and lectures, important community events, meetings, photography,

- art shows, exhibits, competitions and horticultural events among others.
- 4.) To form a 501 (c) 3 to assist with grant writing and other fund raising events to help raise tax exempt monies for the Key Largo Cultural Center.

After several meetings the participants decided to organize into several subcommittees including: Event, Marketing, Ticket Sales, Concession sales and Movie Committee for which additional interested community members will be asked to volunteer and become involved.

"We will finally have a quality cultural events center where the citizens, tourist, and visitors can enjoy first-rate events," says Debra Ginsberg.

"I am overwhelmed and so pleased with the broad support for this endeavor," says Kay Thacker. "This aweinspiring broad based support by our businesses, civic clubs, private citizens, and County governmental officials proves this is a project worthy of TDC capital funding."





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Bartender of the Month Ashley Leonard



at D-Hooker Sports Bar & Grill

Ever cheerful and always smiling, Ashley Leonard, the Coconut Telegraph's Bartender of the Month will make you feel right at home in her beautiful second home, as she calls it. D-Hooker Sports Bar and Grill is her second home because she has been there since the beginning with owners Dennis and Betsy Duran . Leonard watched it being remodeled and helped even helped put the menu together.

"Most of these recipes are Betsy Duran's family recipes, that's why they are so special," says Leonard. "And another interesting thing is that all of the many fish mounts that you see in the restaurant are all fish that Dennis Duran caught on his fishing boat the D-Hooker."

There is even a photo on the wall of each fish to back up each mount. As I lookup at the giant shark mounted over the kitchen, this writer is impressed.

It just doesn't seem like it will be a year in June since the Duran family opened the restaurant and Leonard began serving drinks from behind their bar. Everything is still sparkling new and the food is still out of this world!

The beautiful Leonard lives in Florida City and has a license to tend bar from bartender's school as well as a Florida Controlled Substance license and a Responsible Vendors license. She probably even has a license to have a license, so don't mess with her. But do stop in and to see Ashley Leonard and try out the Duran's recipes. Be sure to tell them the Coconut Telegraph sent you.

Key Largo's Original Music Fest

Meet some of the entertainers in town for the Festival:



BRANDON YOUNG, born in Enfield, CT, began singing in his local church at the age of five. While attending school, music and theater, rather than athletics, quickly became his passion. In college, he was awarded a full scholarship for vocal performance and spent most of his weekends and breaks touring the United States and Canada, performing in a variety of venues.

After college, Brandon moved to Nashville, TN, to pursue a career as a professional singer and songwriter. Over the past several years, he has shared the stage with artists such as Emmylou Harris, Dave Matthews, Patty Griffin, Johnny Lang, and Allison Krause...to name a few. Brandon is still living in Nashville, TN, and continues to write, record, and perform his original songs.



MEGAN CONNER was born in North Carolina but grew up in Texas then moved to New York City and then Nashville. Megan has been in Nashville for 5 years where she has been writing and recording with some of the top musicians in the business. She has recorded a self-titled project produced by Grammy-nominated producer Chris Stevens

Megan also competed in the national TV show The Next GAC Star where she was one of the top finalists, and she recently signed a co-venture publishing deal with Dan Hodges Music in Nashville and Shapiro Bernstein in New York City. The latest exciting news on the horizon is a cut by Christian artist Jonny Diaz - "Weeps For You" released in April 2011, and a cut on the new Chris Young album to be released this summer titled "Save Water, Drink Beer"

No matter what Megan's involvements have been, it always comes back to the music and affecting people. "I want to create music that moves people. I want to make people laugh, cry, FEEL... No matter if there are 5,000 people or 5 people in the room that I'm performing in — if I connect with just one person, then I consider my job done."



JAMIE MORGAN is multi-talented musician and producer residing in Nashville, where he attended Belmont University and currently works out of his home-based studio to produce his own music as well as the music of many other artists. Having traveled and worked with artists from around the world, Jamie has an eclectic style that puts a unique, refreshing spin on every genre he works in—from Christian and country to pop, reggae and more.

Jamie's love of music dates back to early childhood in Charlotte, N.C., where he began writing music at the age of 13. With the help of award-winning producer Ed Cash, Jamie went on to start his first album at the age of 17. Having collaborated with other producers such as Donnie Boutwell, Ed Cash, David Hall, Doug Wayne, and Josh Moore of Caedmens Call; as well as his former publishing company, Dimensional Music, Jamie boasts an impressive portfolio of music that has reached around the world.

Now dedicating himself to music full time, Jamie hopes to use his gifts to raise awareness of and support for nonprofit organizations and ministries; speak into the hearts of today's youth; and share his music with as broad an audience as possible through his songwriting, producing and performing.



JEFFREY JAMES is a Pop/rock/soul artist originally from Brownsburg, IN. Last year Jeffrey released his first full-length album titled "Just Right." Jeffrey followed this up by performing over 60 dates, playing both as a solo act and with his backing band, The Professional Children, in 2010 including opening for acts like Hanson and Rooney.

His song, "Always the Same," was the Grand Prize Winner of the Expose Yourself Song contest at ReviewPosse.com. He was also asked to be a part of a compilation album titled, "Nashville For Haiti," which featured 30 artists from the Nashville area. The proceeds for the album went to relief organizations helping the victims of the flood in Nashville and the earthquake in Haiti.

To kick off 2011 Jeffrey and his band got a chance to play the Rites of Spring Music Festival at Vanderbilt University which put him on the same bill as acts such as Sara Bareilles, Public Enemy, The National, and many others. James is currently finishing up his newest recording project, titled "Goin' Back Down," which is set to be released in May of this year.



Mississippi Gulf Coast native ROBIN GRANT credits her writing style to the music she grew up listening to. "My mom loved artists like Olivia Newton John and Dolly and my dad loved Heart and other rock bands. That combination explains me perfectly." After studying classical music at Oklahoma University, she made the move to Nashville to begin developing her songwriting career

Since moving to Nashville, Robin has written with prominent writers including Ted Hewitt (producer of Rodney Atkins), Nicole Witt (writer of "Brothers of the Highway" - George Strait) and Jen Adan (writer of "She Wouldn't Be Gone"- Blake Shelton) In addition, Robin has recently written with several up-and-coming artists, including Tucker Perry, Miss Tennessee USA 2010.



JUSTIN HALPIN is an Ohio-born Nashville-based singer/songwriter. Born to a family of Motown-influenced musicians, his versatile writing style is steeped in Roots, Blues, and Gospel. He's written and played for artists ranging from Brooklyn-based hip hop to Nashville and Australian country to LA pop.

Justin is currently the guitar player/co-writer for Jeffrey James and The Professional Children, sharing bills with such artists as Rooney, Sara Bareilles, Hanson, William Fitzsimmons, The National, Andy Davis, Andrew Belle, and others.

Justin has enjoyed commercial songwriting successes that include multiple cable television placements (MTV's "The Hills" and "Teen Mom"). 2011 is set to be a big year for Justin, with multiple cuts on albums from up and coming artists Holley Maher, Jeffrey James, and JT Spangler. He is also currently working on his debut solo effort.

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The Effect of Not Doing When We Don't Take Action

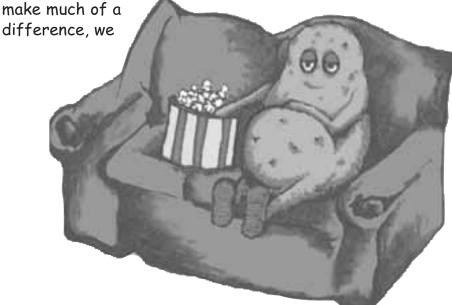
Every action taken affects the whole as greatly as every action NOT taken.

Life is sculpted on a moment-to-moment basis. Every one of the thoughts we think, the words we speak, and the actions we take contributes to the complex quality and character of the universe's unfolding. It simply is not possible to be alive without making an impact on the world that surrounds us. Every action taken affects the whole as greatly as every action not taken. And when it comes to making the world a better place, what we choose not to do can be just as important as what we choose to do.

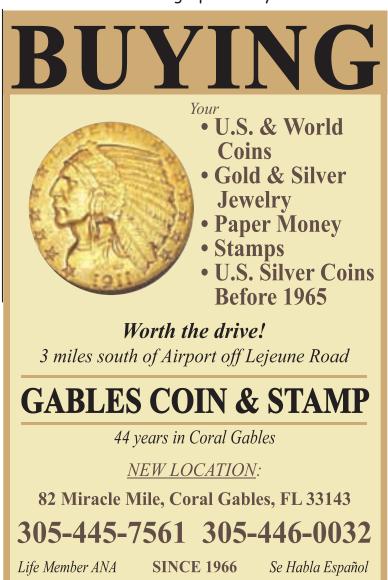
For example, when we neglect to recycle, speak up, vote, or help somebody in immediate need, we are denying ourselves the opportunity to be an agent for positive change. Instead, we are enabling a particular course to continue unchallenged, picking up speed even as it goes along. By holding the belief that our actions don't

may find that we often tend to forego opportunities for involvement. Alternatively, if we see ourselves as important participants in an ever-evolving world, we may feel more inspired to contribute our unique perspective and gifts to a situation.

It is wise to be somewhat selective about how and where we are using our energy in order to keep ourselves from becoming scattered. Not every cause or action is appropriate for every person. When a situation catches our attention, however, and speaks to our heart, it is important that we honor our impulse to help and take the action that feels right for us. It may be offering a kind word to a friend, giving resources to people in need, or just taking responsibility for our own behavior. By doing what we can, when we can, we add positive energy to our world. And sometimes, it may be our one contribution that makes all the difference.



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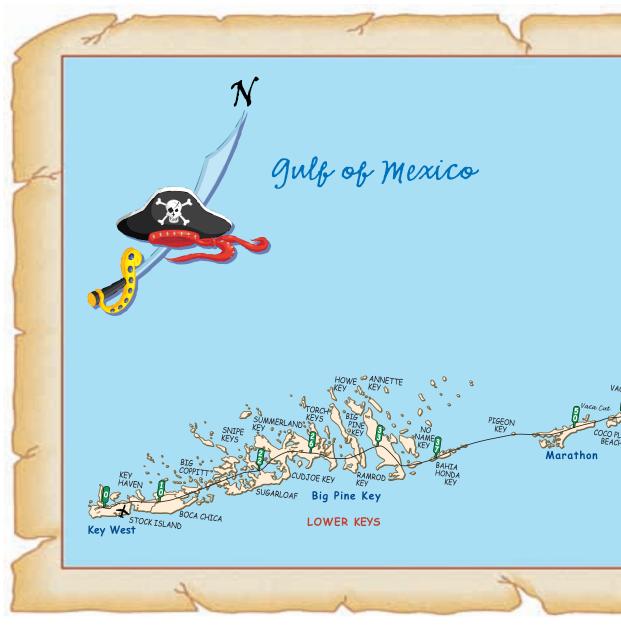






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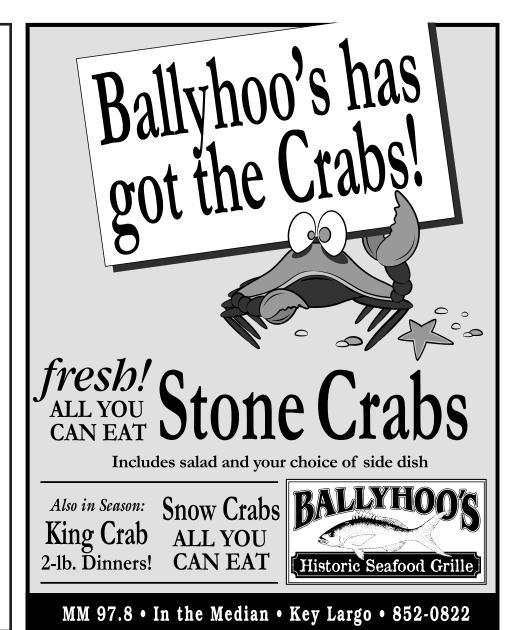
Se Habla Español

Moose Lodge Donates to Girls Basketball



Photo by Tiger Photo/Video

The women of the Islamorada Moose Lodge present a check for \$500 to the Coral Shoes Girls Basketball Team. Moose Treasurer Diane Rohr presented the check to coach Patrick Meyers. Also there representing the team were Katherine Hamer, Alexis Tarafa and Jackii Boyle.







Four Things to Know About Performers

by Scott Youngberg

* In response to the article "Five Essentials of Music Career Success," by Peter Spellman (Courtesy of Dave Feder).

As a performer, I think very "locally." I have annual events that lead me off The Rock, but I play most of my calendar here in Key Largo / Islamorada. The article "Five Essentials of Music Career Success" that ran in last month's paper got me thinking about how different the public's perception is from the performer's own life experience.

Let's say that you have a favorite local performer, and you're having a party. This party could be at your home or in a rented room. You've thought, "Wouldn't it be great if I could get * favorite performer * to play?" but never pick up the phone.

We like to work, and you might be surprised how easy it can be to liven up your event. Considering the cost of keeping a large group's plates and glasses full, live entertainment is a bargain these days...

It's the age of information and you can book many musicians by email or website contact!

1. Don't assume that the entertainer you want to hire is too busy or too expensive.

"It never hurts to ask." Many performers represent themselves and therefore make their contact information easily accessible. There is a good chance that a local musician will charge a local resident less than they would a corporate gig or private party for tourists. Any performer "worth their salt" recognizes the community that supports them and will do their part to give back. The squeaky wheel gets the oil, so let them know.

2. Try to find a schedule and book on a n "Off Day."

Performing musicians keep a calendar, usually scheduled with weekly work at different venues. Clubs pay less than private events. There are many reasons, including public exposure where people are gathered, a pre-set food & beverage tab for the performer, an actual stage ready with power (and sometimes lighting,) and the ability to make tips and sell merchandise.. The main reason for a lower pay scale is the security of a steady work schedule, and loyalty still goes a long way for long term bookings with a history!

A performer will reschedule a standing gig for, you guessed it, money. Try to book them on a day that doesn't cause a re-schedule they might accept a lower offer.

3. If your event is on a date you know the performer is already booked, ask anyway but give advance notice.

No less than a month, and that's tight. Two or more months' notice can allow for schedule juggling, again, for money.

4. If you have spoken with the performer about an event, but decided against it, let them know.

Confirmations happen all by themselves. "Unconfirmations" don't. They just hang in space. If the date was "in pencil," a more ruthless person will just sell the date. Another will take the time to track you down to see if it's on or off.

Neither is guaranteed. While a musician's nightmare is to not show up for the show,

showing up when there is no show isn't that great, either.

Try Open Mic Night



Debbie Hawkins and Steve Venini at Gilbert's Open Mic night.



Keys Conch Characters and More



Don Brown of the Pilot House Marina points out the new ultralight landing strip being constructed.



Conch Republic conch shell blowing at Sundowner's. Part of the Conch Days





Memorial Marker Installed to Honor Deputy Powers



It was a very proud but sad moment for the family of Deputy Misty Powers when family, friends and co-workers recently gathered to install a memorial marker.

At the service, Deputy Powers's daughter Autumn helped install the memorial marker.

Powers died in a car accident while on duty last June.

Conch Characters of the Month



"Ironman Grandpa" Al Slusser of the Great American Walk with American Legion Commander Woody.



Don and Jeannie Brown welcome daughter Nikki Bricker back from tour in Afghanistan at the Big Chill.



Annie at Sharkey's.



R.I.P. Frank Beckett You will be missed!



American Legion's new bartender Iris.

84-year-young Man Follows Dream to Skydive



Long-time local resident Woody Woods, 84, recently pursued his dream of sky diving.

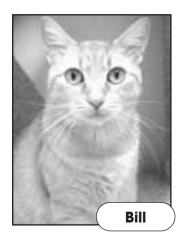
"Skydiving is something I've always wanted to try," says Woods. "And after visiting Skydive Miami and seeing how nice and professional everyone was my decision was easy."

Woods, who will celebrate his 85th birthday in June, has always had close ties with planes. He was an airplane mechanic for major airlines for decades, later was a plane mechanic for Mosquito Control here in the Keys and has enjoyed building and flying remote control planes for years - but jumping out of one seemed like a different story.

And one jump isn't enough for this man. He plans to do it again soon. Who knows what is next, but if you have the pleasure of knowing Woody you know anything is possible. And at 84-years-young he is a great example of living life to the fullest, and being happy and healthy.

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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Did You Hear About The New Dog Cross-Breeds?

They crossed a Collie and a Lhasa Apso. The new breed is a Collapso, a dog that folds up for easy transport.

They crossed a Spitz and a Chow-Chow. The new breed is a Spitz-Chow, a dog that throws up a lot.

They crossed a Pointer and a Setter. The new breed is a Poinsetter, a traditional Christmas pet.

They crossed a Great Pyrenees and a Dachshund. The new breed is a Pyradachs, a puzzling breed.

They crossed a Pekingese and a Lhasa Apso. The new breed is Peekasso, an abstract dog.

They crossed a Irish Water Spaniel and a English Springer Spaniel. The new breed is a Irish Springer, a dog fresh and clean.

They crossed a Labrador Retriever and a Curly Coated Retriever. The new breed is a Lab Coat Retriever, the choice of laboratory researchers.

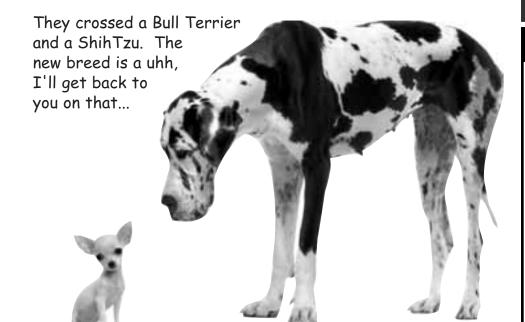
They crossed a Newfoundland and a Basset Hound. The new breed is a Newfound Asset Hound, a dog for financial advisors

They crossed a Bloodhound and a Labrador. The new breed is a Blabador, a dog that barks incessantly.

They crossed a Malamute and a Pointer. The new breed is a Moot Point, owned by....oh, well, it doesn't really matter.

They crossed a Collie and a Malamute. The new breed is a Commute, a dog that travels to work.

They crossed a Deerhound and a Terrier. The new breed is a Derriere, a dog that's true to the end.





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Dear Anny Bannanny

Dear Anny Bannanny,

My father is in his late 80s. When my stepmother passed away, an alcoholic woman in her 50s moved in with my dad. The first thing she attacked was the liquor supply, next she got a hold of his credit cards which I had to cancel. Now she wants him to get a reverse mortgage on his home so she can get her hands on that money too. She feeds him a pack of lies and says that his family doesn't love him and that "we want to put him in a nursing home." Mean while she is scheming to get his money. All my dad has left is his social security and his home.

Even worse, this is not the first time she has taken advantage of an elderly person either. My dad thinks she is helping him but all she is doing is drinking all his money til she is red in the face. When I go to visit him she rears up her ugly head and screams at me to get out of "her" house! We just want what is best for our father. What can we do? Signed,

Daddy's Girl

Dear Daddy's Girl,

Anny Bannanny thinks she knows the person you speak of! I can see clearly that you and your family want her to get out and she won't go. Where else could she go? It would be hard for her to get a job and she'd have to pay rent someplace else. So it looks like you have your hands full. Since you are an intelligent person you know you have to go by the book. Call

the authorities, every damn one of them! Tell all Dad's friends to drop in unexpectedly at all hours to check on his well being. If you wouldn't leave a child with an alcoholic why would you leave an elderly person with one? He may be being neglected and it sounds like he's definitely being financially exploited!

The first agency to respond to a report of elderly abuse, in most states, is Adult Protective Services (APS). Every state has at least one elder abuse hotline or helpline. Information and referrals are available from the national Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116. In the meantime watch for signs that might indicate elder abuse. Take a look at your Dad's prescriptions. Does the amount in the bottle jive with the date of the prescription? And keep your eye out for evidence of financial abuse. Ask him if you may scan bank accounts and credit card statements for unauthorized

transactions. Call and visit as often as you

> Best of luck, Anny Bannanny

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Coco'Nut' Funnies

All Puns Intended

Thanks to Gillian Gates - Canada

- 1. Two antennas met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.
- 2. A jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."
- 3. Two peanuts walk into a bar, and one was a salted.
- 4. A dyslexic man walked into a bra.
- 5. A man walks into a bar with a slab of asphalt under his arm, and says: "A beer please, and one for the road."
- 6. Two cannibals are eating a clown. One says to the other: "Does this taste funny to you?"
- 7. An invisible man marries an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.
- 8. Deja Moo: The feeling that you've heard this bull before.
- 9. I went to buy some camouflage trousers the other day, but I couldn't find any.
- 10. A man woke up in a hospital after a serious accident. He shouted, "Doctor, doctor, I can't feel my legs!" The doctor replied, "I know, I amputated your arms!"
- 11. I went to a seafood disco last week... And pulled a mussel.
- 15. Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says, "Dam!"
- 19. Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him (oh, man, this is so bad, it's good). A super-calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.
- 20. And finally, there was the person who sent twenty different puns to his friends, with the hope that at least ten of the puns would make them laugh. No pun in ten did.

RIP My Neighbors Sweet Rabbit

Recently while lying in my hammock drinking JD from the bottle I noticed my dog dragging something under the fence. Upon inspection, to my dismay, I realized it was the next-door neighbor's 10-year-old daughter's rabbit.

For years I had watched her come home from school and head straight out to its cage, let it loose and play with it in the yard. I knew today would be no different and fearing for my dog, I had to think fast.

The rabbit was quite dirty, as if it had put up quite a struggle, so I washed it off with the hose, combed it with the dog brush and

blew it dry with the leaf blower. Upon finishing its grooming, I

fence and put it back in its cage hoping its death would be written off as "natural causes." I then went back to the hammock and my JD.

Within the hour the neighbor's Volvo pulled in as usual and out popped the little girl, and as usual she headed straight for the cage. Only this time she stopped about six feet away and screamed:

"DDDAAAADDDYYYYYYY!!!"

Her father, panic stricken, stood looking at the cage. Being the good neighbor that I am I rushed to fence and asked if there was anything I could do. Her father less than calmly blurted, "What kind of sick individual would dig up a little girl's dead rabbit and put it back in it's cage??"





Coco'Nut' Funnies

Are You Ready for Children?

Are you considering having children? To determine whether you are truly prepared for the experience, we suggest you take this set of simple tests...

MESS TEST:

Smear peanut butter on the sofa and curtains. Now rub your hands in the wet flowerbed and rub on the walls. Cover the stains with crayons. Place a fish finger behind the couch and leave it there all summer.

TOY TEST:

Obtain a 55-gallon box of Lego. (If Lego are not available, you may substitute roofing tacks or broken bottles). Have a friend spread them all over the house. Put on a blindfold. Try to walk to the bathroom or kitchen. Do not scream (this could wake a child at night).

GROCERY STORE TEST:

Borrow one or two small animals (goats are best) and take them with you as you shop at the grocery store. Always keep them in sight and pay for anything they eat or damage.

DRESSING TEST:

Obtain one large, unhappy, live octopus. Stuff into a small net bag making sure that all arms stay inside.

FEEDING TEST:

Obtain a large plastic milk jug. Fill halfway with water. Suspend from the ceiling with a stout cord. Start the jug swinging. Try to insert spoonfuls of soggy cereal (such as Weetabix or Cheerio's) into the mouth of the jug while pretending to be an airplane. Now dump the contents of the jug on the floor.

NIGHT TEST:

Prepare by obtaining a small cloth bag and fill it with 8 to 12 pounds of sand. Soak it thoroughly in water. At 8:00 PM begin to waltz and hum with the bag until 9:00 PM. Lay down your bag and set your alarm for 10:00 PM. Get up, pick up your bag, and sing every song you have ever heard. Make up about a dozen more new ones and sing these too until 4:00 AM. Set alarm for 5:00 AM. Get up and make breakfast. Keep this up for five years. Look cheerful.

PHYSICAL TEST (WOMEN):

Obtain a large beanbag chair and attach it to the front of your clothes. Leave it there for 9 months. Now remove 10% of the beans.

PHYSICAL TEST (MEN):

Go to the nearest drug store.
Set your wallet on the counter.
Ask the assistant to help
himself. Now proceed to the
nearest food store. Go to the
head office and arrange for your
wages to be directly deposited to
the store. Purchase a newspaper.
Go home and read it quietly for
the last time.

FINAL ASSIGNMENT:

Find a couple who already have a small child. Lecture them on how they can improve their discipline, patience, tolerance, toilet training, and child's table manners. Suggest many ways they can improve. Emphasize to them that they should never allow their children to run riot. Enjoy this experience. It will be the last time you will have all the answers.

The Dreaded Blister Bugs - Swipe Don't Swat!

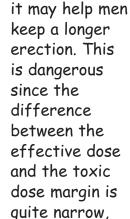
If you are from up north you probably remember catching lightning bugs in a jar as a kid. When the sun would set these harmless little half-inch bugs would come out and their tails would light up like a light bulb. Those lightening bugs look exactly like the blister bugs we have here in South Florida. They also swarm at night and are attracted to light. These innocent looking bugs are beetles (Coleoptera) of the Meloidae family, so called for their defensive secretion of a blistering agent, Cantharidin. If you feel one of them land on your skin gently brush them off

because if you swat them like a mosquito you could most likely end up with a nasty looking blister.

The chemical Cantharidin is poisonous and is used medically on humans to remove warts. It is also known as

Spanish Fly or Cantharides, and is often given to farm animals to incite them to mate. When ingested it irritates the urethral passages, causing inflammation in the genitals.

For this reason, Spanish Fly has been given to humans for the purpose of seduction and



meaning don't go around collecting these bugs, crushing them and putting them in your mates drink as it could cause permanent damage to the kidneys and genitals. As it is illegal for

general sale anything you purchase may be something less harmful but why take the chance? It is a serious criminal act to give it to someone unawares. The Marquis de Sade was sentenced to death for that. If you think you may have ingested it seek immediate emergency medical treatment.

There was a scientific study done in a South Florida prison where 12 maximumsecurity inmates voluntarily took the drug. Study says they went crazy and managed to escape; now there are 12 hardened criminals on the loose.

Sea Salt Potpour

Perhaps you have noticed that your feeling of well being is intensified in pure mountain air, or at the seashore, or after a thunderstorm. This is due to the higher concentration of negative ions in these surroundings. Objects that release negative ions are believed to purify air and promote good health.

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