## 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

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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.

hosting cultural
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

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

group has

elected a Board

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of Directors.

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

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