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27th Annual Key Largo Steeplechase

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Coconut Funnies



Key Largo's third annual Stone Crab & Seafood Festival is coming on January 28-29. The festival will be held on the Rowell's Marina property at MM 104.5 Bayside in Key Largo, from 11am to 8pm on Saturday and 11am to 4pm on Sunday. Two exciting days of all the seafood you can eat, music, fun, shopping, contests, cooking demonstrations, and so much more. Above, Genessa Miranda is front-and-center in the Key Lime Pie eating contest!



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Coconut Telegraph

January 2012
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TheCoconutTelegraph@yahoo.com

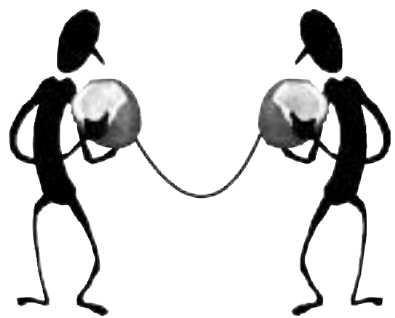
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Editorial: Real Decorations

This holiday season KLI in Key Largo gave notice to their neighbors, the VFW, that anyone parked in front of their store "during their decorated season" would be towed at the vehicle owner's expense. They wanted the public to be able to see their holiday decorations without the obstruction of veterans' vehicles. How is that for holiday spirit?

Imagine this scenario for what could be your son, daughter, grandchild, niece, nephew, or friend: First Sergeant Marine Corps Johnny Doe just got back from a nightmare tour in Iraq. He's on his way home for Christmas to surprise his family. With an eight-hour layover at MIA he decides to rent a car and visit the fabulous Florida Keys. The first thing he sees is the friendly red, white and

blue of the Veteran's of Foreign Wars. He knows there he will find friendly faces and perhaps a bite to eat.

Unknowingly, he parks in front of KLI. After a couple of draft beers and a fantastic dinner for only \$7 he bids his comrades farewell and exits the building only to find his rental car is gone! Back into the VFW he goes, "What happened to my car?" he asks. Another veteran sadly replies, "Sorry Johnny, the not so friendly folks neighbors at KLI probably had it towed."

Sure enough the greedy tow truck company has it. Johnny gets a ride to the towing company where he is charged \$400 to get his car back. That is all the money he had left. No more exploring the beautiful sights of Key Largo and that eliminates his last

minute Christmas shopping money, Mr. Tow Truck got it all. Johnny wouldn't be able to buy his wife that bracelet or his mom that special gift. Welcome back Johnny, you just got 'grinched' by a heartless hardware store!

Obviously the owners of KLI don't know what real decorations are. They are the medals and ribbons that the people fighting for our freedom have earned. They are the hours spent far away from their family crawling through the mud dodging bullets and bombs. They are tear drops on the letters to home written under candlelight late at night. They are the prayers of the loved ones, "God, please don't take my beloved Johnny."

Thankfully Johnny gets to wear his decorations to VFW ceremonies while

Continued on page 3...

...continued from page 2
way too many of his comrades came home in a box with their medals in bags along with their dog tags all wrapped up in a pretty flag. The real decorations are the tears of loved ones on a casket and a 21-gun salute. They are the treasures of a fatherless child or bereft parents. They are the greatest gift of all.

This writer is proud of her father's Army service to this country in Korea, and proud of the nine years her cousin Navy Captain Walter E. Wilber spent in Hanoi Hilton as a

prisoner of war because the plane he was piloting was shot down over Viet Nam. She is proud yet saddened by the countless young people she grew up with that never came back, that will never be able to see the KLI "decorated season" and not because some veteran parked in front of it obscured their view. It is because they never got to live the life in paradise that the owners of KLI do. This writer will never shop in their store again.



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Artist of the Month: Claudia Moriarty

Claudia Moriarty is an amazing woman who has suffered great loss, including losing her home twice. But with nothing but the clothes on her back she had the courage to rebuild her life never wavering from the things that she holds dear, such as her family, her art, and our soldiers.

A native South Floridian, Moriarty picked up her first paintbrush at the age of nine and quickly learned from family camping trips in the Everglades that her art was a way to preserve the beauty of the old Florida landscape.

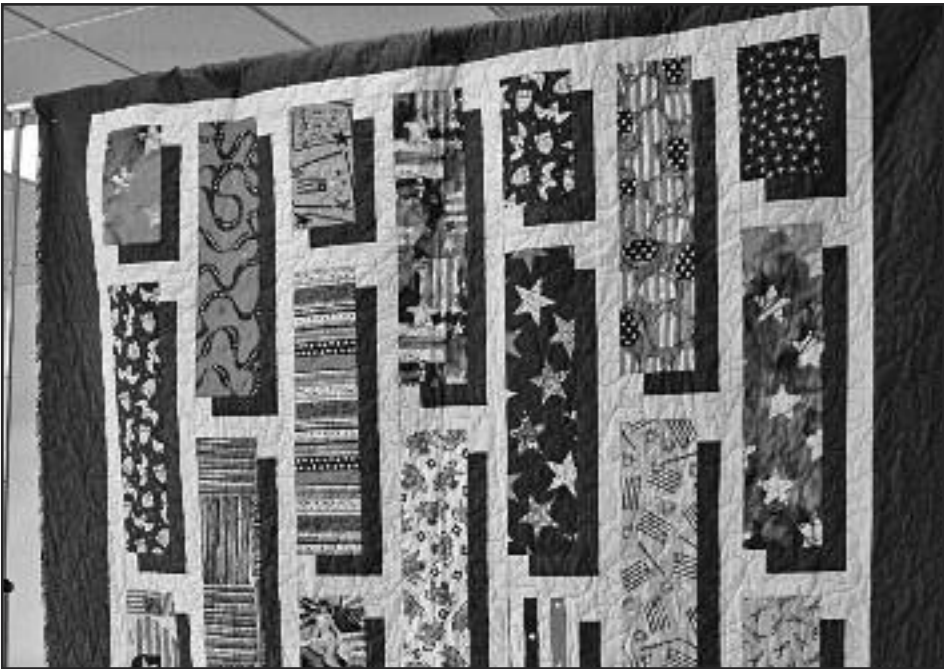
Moriarty has won numerous awards for her art and she is a member of several art organizations. She uses various mediums to bring life to canvas. You can see her art online at www.ClaudiaMoriarty.com or first hand at the Key Largo Art Gallery, at mile marker 103, bayside. For more information call 305-451-0052.

On the last Friday of each month the Key Largo Art Gallery artists throw a great party for the public. You can nibble on delicious snacks, and enjoy a glass of wine while you meet and mingle with a gathering of the finest artists in the Upper Keys.

When not at home working in her studio or mingling with her



Claudia Moriarty with her art at the Key Largo Art Gallery, MM 103.



Buy a raffle ticket to win this quilt at the Tradewinds First State Bank. Proceeds benefit wounded soldiers.

fellow artists, Moriarty can be found at the Key Largo Library where she has worked full time for 15 years and currently serves as the Senior Library Assistant.

While Moriarty is known for her art and work at the library, what she might be most known for is her lifelong active support of our troops. In addition to collecting goods and sending care packages overseas, she organizes trips for Wounded Warriors. Twice a year she works with the Wounded Warrior project to bring veterans together in the Florida Keys for dive therapy. She raises money, schedules hotel rooms, arranges dinners and makes sure the men and women enjoy themselves. Right now she is working on a group that is coming in May.

If you want to help Moriarty and our troops stop by First State Bank at the Tradewinds Plaza and purchase some raffle tickets to win a beautiful American-themed, handmade quilt. The proceeds will help with the expenses of the wounded soldiers' travel. Moriarty is the proud mother of a son in the Marine Corps.

Thank you Claudia Moriarty for all you do to make the world a better and prettier place.

Biking for Charity



On December 10, International Volunteers for Heron House (from left) Chris Ball, Lauren Ince, Mark MacDonald, and Ria Ball rode bikes from Key Largo to Marathon to raise money for Christmas gifts for residents of the facilities. Centennial Bank branches along the route hosted the volunteers providing snacks, water, and bathroom facilities.

Heron House is supportive housing for men & women with chronic mental illness in the Florida Keys.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1. Mr. Nice Guy 2-7 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	2. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	3. Luke 1-3:30pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	4. Allen Truesdell 1-3:30 pm and Allen Truesdell 6 - 8:30 pm	5. Luke Sommer Glenn 1-3:30 pm Kevin Hurley 6 - 8:30pm	6. David Bowman 2-5 pm The REGS 6-10	7. Luke & Dave 1-5 Whipping Post 6-10
8. Colbert the Band 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	9. David Bowman 1-3:30 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	10. Luke 1-3:30pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	11. Allen Truesdell 1-3:30 pm and Allen Truesdell 6 - 8:30 pm	12. John McKinna 1-3:30pm Kevin Hurley 6 - 8:30pm	13. David Bowman 2-5 pm Blackwater Sound 6-10	14. Luke & Dave 1-5 EGO 6-10
15. Mr. Nice Guy 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	16. David Bowman 1-3:30 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	17. Luke 1-3:30 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	18. Allen Truesdell 1-3:30 pm and Allen Truesdell 6 - 8:30 pm	19. Luke Sommer Glenn 1-3:30 pm Kevin Hurley 6 - 8:30pm	20. David Bowman 2-5 pm Colbert the Band 6-10	21. Luke & Dave 1-5 Gypsy Road Band 6-10
22. ECLIPSE 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	23. David Bowman 1-3:30 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	24. Luke 1-3:30 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	25. Allen Truesdell 1-3:30 pm and Allen Truesdell 6 - 8:30 pm	26. Luke Sommer Glenn 1-3:30 pm Kevin Hurley 6 - 8:30pm	27. David Bowman 2-5 pm LIMEROCK 6-10	28. Luke & Dave 1-5 Justa Head 6-10
29. The REGS 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	30. Dave Bowman 1-3:30 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	31. Luke 1-3:30 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	Discount Hotel Stays For Gilbert's Members! Present your Gilbert's Member Card at Check In to receive your \$10.00 Member Discount for each night of your stay!		February 4 th Swamp Night with GLADEZMEN	

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27th Annual Key Largo Steeplechase

In December, based out of Gilbert's Marina, catamaran sailors came from all around the United States and Canada to sail the 110-mile trek around the Upper Keys on high-tech, lightweight, high-speed beach catamarans.

The race began in Barnes Sounds, where the sailors headed north to Angelfish Creek, then down Hawk Channel with spinnakers flying to a first-day finish on Lower Matecumbe Key, a 70-mile jaunt. The first boat finished in just under four hours, averaging almost 18 mph, with top speeds over 30 mph.

Miamians Brett Moss and John Casey teamed up for the second year on a Marstrom 20 to win all the honors, both line honors and handicap, of the 2011 event. This was their second such victory in a row. Mike Phillips and Kenny Pierce, also from Miami, shadowed the leaders both days, but had to settle for second overall. They are previous winners of the event.

The race is not for the faint hearted. A complementary bottle of champagne is awarded to every one that simply makes the



Brett Moss and John Casey leading Mike Phillips and Steve Lohmayer.

entire distance and finishes. This year the event was not without problems for several of the boats. One team capsized in Hawk Channel and the skipper was separated from the boat with the crew unable to get back to pick him up. The crew notified the U.S. Coast Guard who arranged for Sea Tow to pick up the stranded sailor, unite him with his boat and crew, and go on to finish the race. Another incident happened at Card Sound Bridge when one of the boats decided to go under the bridge closer to the land to save some time, instead of the middle of the bridge, where it is highest. The mast hit the bridge and down it came.

This famous race, known around the world by catamaran sailors, was founded and is still managed by local Rick White and his wife Mary Wells. Rick has won the event a several times, but now prefers to just organize it.

Sponsors for the event are Catamaran Sailor Magazine (www.catsailor.com) and its store at www.OnLineMarineStore.com.

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Bartender of the Month Ed Carboni

Pilot House



Ed Carboni has been featured in the Coconut Telegraph before as Artist of the Month for his writing, and as you read more about him you'll discover that he would most definitely be featured again if this paper had a "Traveler of the Month" category. His life has taken him on many adventures and now has him at home, bartending at the Pilot House.

In addition to being a bartender, Carboni is a world traveler, licensed Merchant Marine Officer, and an avid scuba diver. He was born and raised in Philadelphia, where he graduated from Holy Family College. Carboni's extensive travels have allowed him the privilege of seeing every continent on earth with the exception of Antarctica.

During his travels a few misadventures have occurred, including an ill-advised mid-night encounter with an African bull elephant in Kenya, a not-quite-as-planned shark feeding in the Bahamas, and a

search-and-recovery operation in the Caribbean for a tall ship's anchor in 100 feet of water with no visibility where a moray eel looked just like a length of chain. In Ireland, he was once presumed dead!

In 2001, Carboni found work on the Miami based live-aboard dive vessel, *Sea Fever*, as a deck hand/Dive Master. Over the course of three years cruising the Bahamas he worked as engineer, first mate and eventually earned his 100-ton Merchant Marine captain's license. Also during that time he had the opportunity to log over 700 dives, taking him over the 1,000-dive mark. After leaving the *Sea Fever* in 2004, he worked as cook/emergency diver on the sail training tall ship, *Concordia* while it circumnavigated the globe. During that time he single-handedly prepared over two hundred meals daily, helped the crew work the sails in occasional gale force winds

Continued on page 22...

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11am – 4pm

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Musician of the Month Lewis Rainbow

Not Just a Drummer



Lewis Rainbow has been entertaining people in the Keys ever since I can remember. In the 20 years I have known him he has always had the same handsome, youthful, boy-next-door good looks and shining personality. He enjoys his work and is always happy to greet his many fans.

The other night at the Pilot House when I approached him about being the Entertainer of the Month for January he looked surprised and said "but I'm just a drummer". Not quite, Rainbow...

Lewis Rainbow is a native-born Miami drummer, a full-time performing musician, a drum instructor with over two decades of experience, and the published author of

the innovative drum books "Megachops", "Megakicks", "Megamatrix."

At the age of ten Rainbow began formal drum lessons with Robert Hilton, studying snare drum, rudiments, and reading for two years. In the following six years he played in school bands, and become a self-taught drum set player. Then, at age 18 he studied music at the college level while also launching his professional performance and instructional career.

During the early years of his career he played all across the country with a diversified combination of bands of all styles, ethnicities, and ages. At the same time, Rainbow was studying at University of

Continued on page 18...

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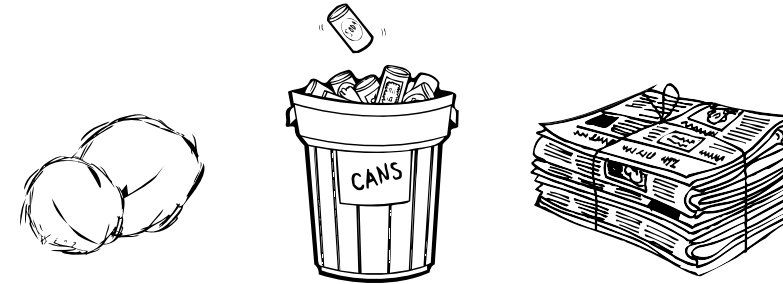
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Coconuts are available in front of our building for a donation. Aluminum cans donated by people like you can be turned in for money to help pay our spay/neuter and medical bills.

We need a lot of newspapers to line our kennels. We use hundreds of pages every day!

Please consider bringing your coconuts, newspapers and aluminum cans to us at MM 101.5. Or, send a check, or volunteer!!



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Constructive Connections

Sharing with Your Neighbors

If you are craving community look to your own neighbors to forge new relationships and build something new together.

Many of our relationships can be fleeting or do not deepen past a superficial level, yet these connections, as trivial as they can seem, often have the potential to grow into something much more essential. When we crave community, we should focus our attention on these casual acquaintances. To forge a bond with neighbors, we need to work together with them so that we have a context from which to begin a more mature relationship. Sharing tasks that are part of living can be a wonderful way to become a part of a larger community, make new friends, and lighten the workloads of everyone involved.

Creating a network of neighbors who agree to pool certain resources and share daily duties can be as easy as taking the initiative. If you are willing to take the first step by reaching out to the individuals and families who share your building or your street, you will likely find that others are receptive to the notion. Starting


small, with just a few people, can help you orchestrate a smoothly running system. Together, you will need to decide what chores you want to do communally and what resources can be shared. Ideas for community sharing are childcare, errands, housework, keeping a joint garden, cooking for the group, and carpooling. For instance, if you cook large meals for four neighbors once a week, you take off four nights after that. As you grow to trust one another, you can begin adding new members to your evolving network or introducing new tasks to your shared roster of duties.

Actions speak louder than words; so working closely with neighbors to ensure the well being of the group can be a wonderful way to build a sense of community in your locale. Not everyone you approach will be open to the idea of becoming a part of a network of sharing. As you connect with those who do appreciate the merits of such a system, you will discover that others are just as eager as you are to create interpersonal connections that are defined by substance.



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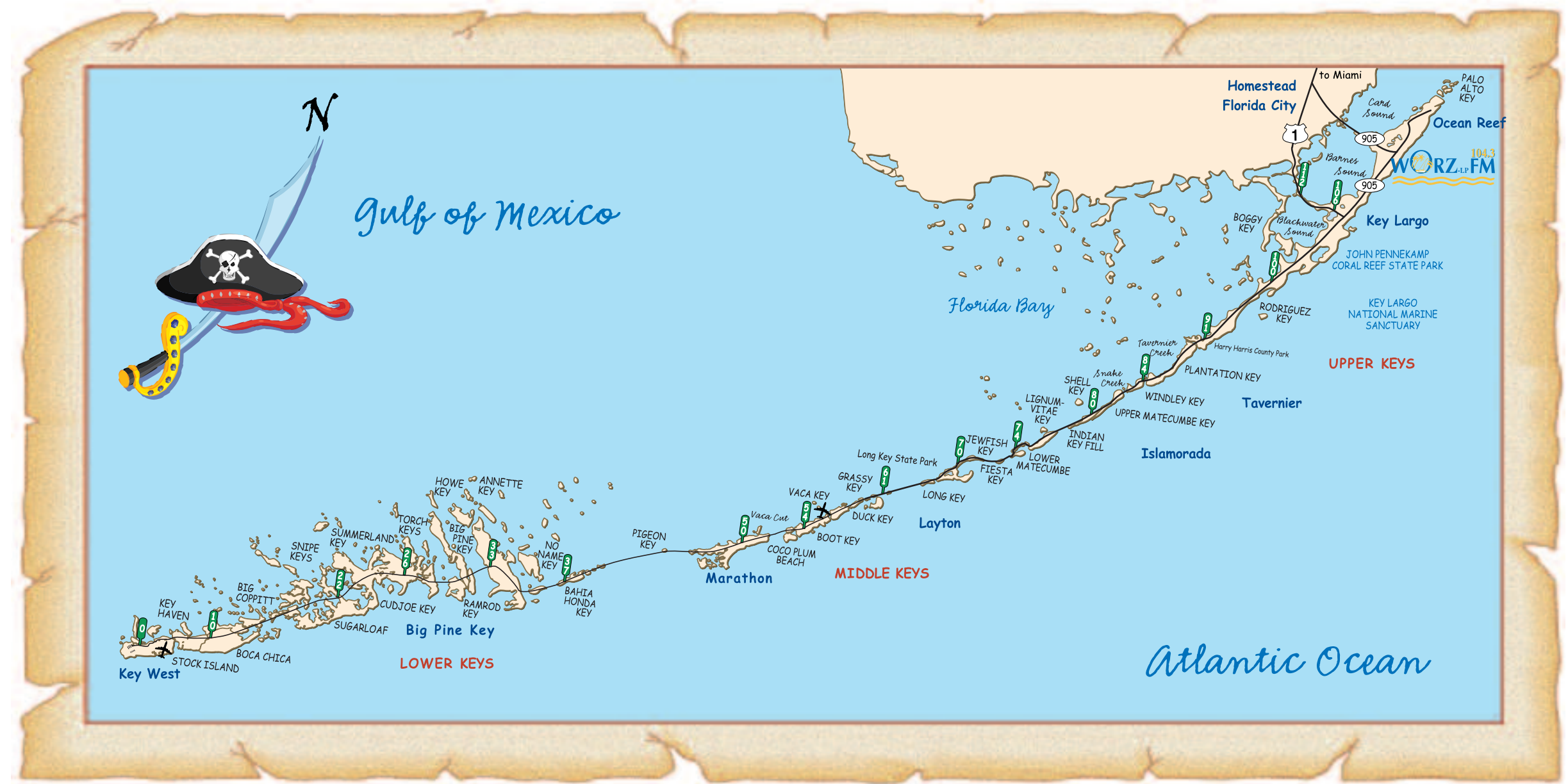
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Jon Dreaver

Key Largo Conch House and the Art Box

Shirts from T-Toons

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Natural Sea Salt Potpourri

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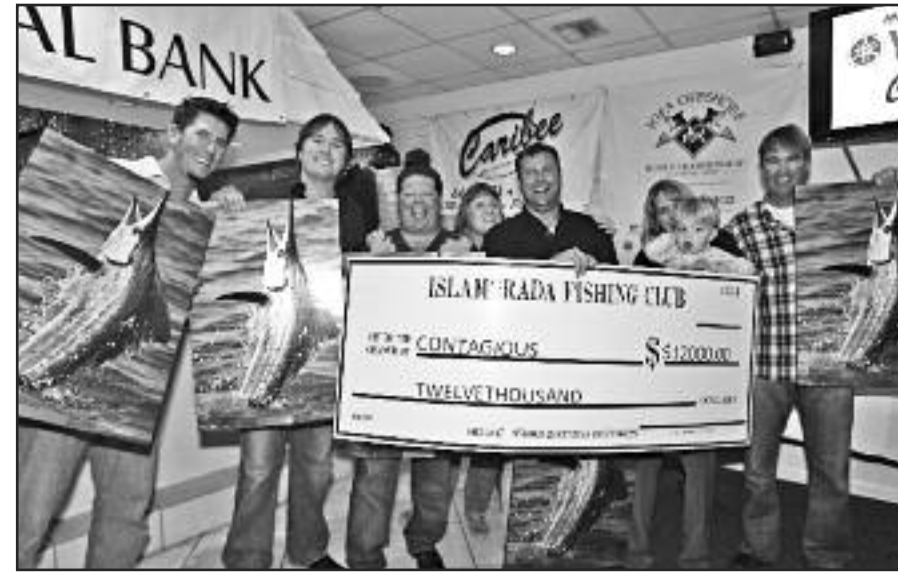
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Captains Cup Sailfish Tournament



First Place • Seven Sailfish

Anglers Travis Bennett, Tavernier; Greg Toplin, Key Largo; and John Timura, Islamorada on board the *Contagious* with Champion Captain Brian Cone.



Second Place • Seven Sailfish

Anglers Kevin Clark of Islamorada; Sam Worden, Traverse City, MI; Frank Juliano, Key Largo on board the *Wei Dream* with Captain Scott Stoky, and Mate George Clark.



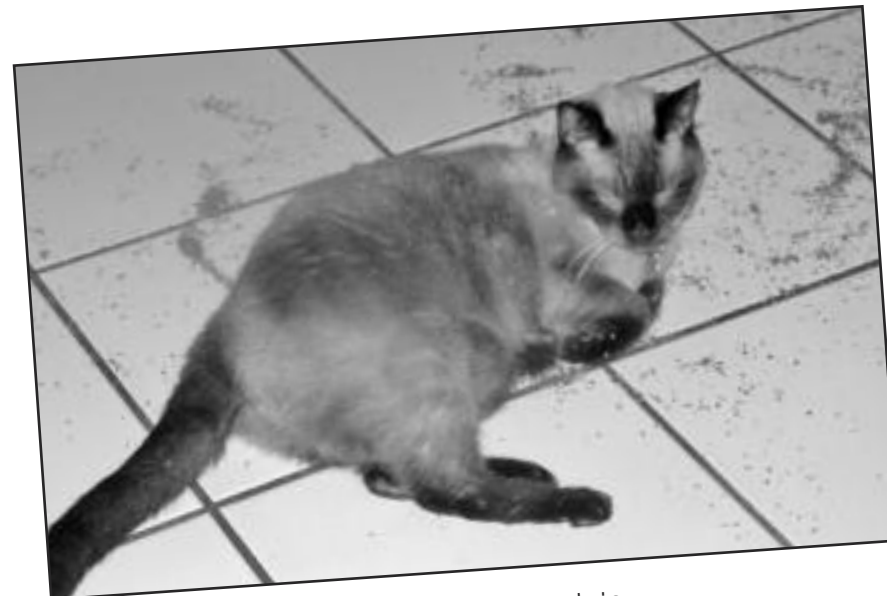
Third Place • Six Sailfish

Anglers Brian Devries, Grand Rapids, MI; Dan Flynn, Tavernier; Jesse Leboeuf, Tavernier on board the *Challenger II* with Captain Rob Dixon and Mate Dan Flynn.

Conch Characters



Avatar at the Big Chill?



RIP Gert. Rest in catnip.



Brenda Star at the Whistle Stop. A performance you don't want to miss!

and More Conch Characters



Romantic dining on the water at Steamers.



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This paddlewheel boat leaving from Gilbert's will be taking dining tours very soon.



Frank Patterson of WORZ Radio with his Buzzard's Roost assistants selling food donated by Buzzard's Roost to benefit Ocean Reef feral cats and the Good Health Clinic.



Pierre at the Island Market displays beautiful used furniture on consignment.



Always great entertainment at the Pilot House!

Lewis Rainbow

...continued from page 10
Miami, Miami-Dade Community College and Florida International University. Some of his instructors included Steve Rucker, Danny Perez, Pete Webster, and Gary Chaffee. As if he wasn't busy enough, Rainbow also taught at several local music stores including Music Shop of Kendall, Carroll Music, and at Resurrection Drums. Rainbow currently maintains a busy schedule of

private lessons at his home studio. When he's not teaching or practicing, he can be seen around South Florida performing with local musicians like Luke Sommer Glen, Jimmy Hawkins, The Photons and the Swinging Johnsons plus various musical groups ranging from Jazz-Fusion to Progressive Rock and everything in between.

Contact Lewis Rainbow at www.LewisRainbow.com.



Don't forget your feathered friends this year.

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The Florida Keys Wild Bird Center is a non-profit 501C 3 organization that relies almost entirely on the generosity of both public and private donations. We sincerely appreciate and are thankful for all donations of any size.

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Mission Statement

Florida Keys Wild Bird Center's mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and release native and migratory wild birds that have been harmed or displaced, to provide or locate a humane shelter for those birds that cannot be released, and to educate the public toward the importance of coexistence with all wild bird species.

Objectives

1. To provide professional standards of animal care, rehabilitation and assistance to injured, sick, rescued or orphaned wild birds.
2. To educate the public about the importance of our migratory and resident wild bird populations to the Florida Keys and to the Everglades.
3. To provide a humane example for others to learn from and follow.



The Center also need volunteers. Contact the Center at 852-4486

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.



Angel



Bella



Shadow



Betty



Angelina



Bonita



Jingle & Bell



Rudy



Sherry

Dear
Anny
Bannanny



Dear Anny Bannanny,

Have you ever heard the term "Bridezilla?" It is a merging of the words bride and Godzilla, a word for the new breed of brides that will stop at nothing to have the perfect wedding.

Well Ms. Bannanny, this one really takes the cake! Bridezilla's mom and dad were caring for a dying relative and strapped for cash after a few foreclosures. But Bridezilla didn't care, she whined, "They did it for my sister! They have to do it for me!"

Then, grandma passed away and there were funeral expenses. Bridezilla didn't care. Neither of her baby daddies could help so Bridezilla tried to borrow \$15,000 for the perfect wedding, but no luck. Coincidentally ever since Bridezilla got a promotion from her place of work the "organization" has lost thousands of dollars in less than a year and could go under. Closing the doors at her place of work would hurt a lot of people, but again Bridezilla didn't care!

Why doesn't Bridezilla care? She doesn't care because she has a rap sheet for fraud, theft and drugs "so what's another crime to her?" To my dismay "Little Miss Goody Two Shoes" Bridezilla had a successful wedding and it was at the expense of everyone who ever helped and cared for her. Is it possible to get through to this white trash Bridezilla with a plain face and big boobs?

Signed,
The Starfish

Dear Starfish,

The real crime here is against Bridezilla's parents who will ultimately be the ones caring for the children while the baby-daddies work and Bridezilla goes to the slammer once again. Has anyone called DCF? Grandma can't get a break, can she? What good is a perfect wedding when she will wind up in jail with nothing to do but stare at some recently divorced pictures? She'll be stuck looking at photos of the home that got foreclosed to pay for her legal defense, and pictures children she can't see because she is in prison as a repeat offender. It must be hell to go through all that plus suffer from drug addiction withdrawal in a freezing cold cell with a thin mattress.

The good news is that maybe in prison Bridezilla will actually learn something. Just hope that she does not pass on her degree of integrity to her children.

Signed,
Anny Bannanny

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Ballot Language:

The District's objective is to continue to make available a portion of existing capital ad valorem tax levy for operations – such as teachers, school nurses and classroom materials. The District intends to continue its reduced millage for capital projects, and continue to make available the equivalent amount for operations.

When can I vote?

Best to vote by mail or early voting (begins Jan. 16). Your last chance to vote is on January 31st, 2012 on the primary ballot at your designated voting location. More information at: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/voting/early.shtml>

Who can vote?

All registered voters in Monroe County: Democrats, Independents, and Republicans.

Will my Taxes go up?

No! It is important to understand that no matter how anyone votes on the referendum it will not increase individual tax bills.

What happens if the Half Mill Fails?

If the referendum fails, the school district will face another major budget shortfall (\$9+ Million).

How will this impact the District?

A \$9+ Million budget reduction to the General Fund next year will be detrimental to our students. Possibilities include: school consolidations, no athletics, no electives, and no after school activities.

What has the District done in the last 5 years?

Improve fiscal responsibility, reduce administration by 29%, and reduce general fund by 14.8%.

Where are we now?

Monroe County Schools ranked 8th out of 67 counties in student achievement in the Florida Recognition Program.

- ✓ **YES =**
- ✓ **No new taxes**
- ✓ **Support our schools**
- ✓ **Keep our educators employed**

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Clubs/Organizations

Upper Keys Mac User Group meets the second Thursday of every month at Key Largo Library Comm. Room 7pm. Free/open to public. 451-4601

Key Players, Inc. Community Theater Group needs volunteers to work behind the scenes! Sign up on the web! www.thekeyplayers.org

Florida Keys Orchid, Fern & Bromeliad Society meets the 3rd Thurs. of every month at Key Largo Library Comm. Room 7pm. Free/open to public. 451-3000

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Living La Vida Douche Bag

How to Live Your Life to the Fullest in a Shallow, Superficial, and Self-Centered Way

It's all about you. You know it's true and everyone should appreciate that simple fact of life. Why keep up the charade that it isn't? Here are a few pointers to help you to help others to understand how special you are....douche bag.

Keep a vigilant eye on others. There's no better way to make yourself look better than to point out the mistakes or shortcomings of others in front of a grateful audience. It feels good to focus on the faults of other people, and they'll appreciate your keen sense of observation. So whenever and wherever you can publicly show fault in others, there's an opportunity to build up your fragile self esteem....douche bag.

Your opinions are handed down by God. What you think about anything isn't just a perspective, but the perspective of the most intelligent being in the universe...you. So don't be afraid to share them loudly with everyone. And if someone dares to respectfully disagree with your opinion, become angry and hurl insults at them, after all

you did them a favor by allowing them to witness the inconceivable brilliance of your twisted psyche...douche bag.

Exaggerate everything. Don't allow something like silly little facts get in the way of your brilliant assessment of any situation. Facts are for the weak minded who do not have the magical ability to create mountains out of mole hills. That is your true power; wield it with force...douche bag.

Appearances are the supreme measure. Forget about the truth, what's really important is how you look on the surface. As long as you can convince others how compassionate and kind you are, they will be more willing to overlook your true nasty, malicious and selfish nature. That way, when you give friends and business associates the shaft, they won't see it coming. Remember, it's not about faking it till you make it, it's about faking it till you can fake it again....douche bag.

Your anger proves the veracity of any argument. When

fact and reason fail, just get angry. Most people do not know that anger is one of the most common ways that people express insecurity and fear. So get angry with everything, especially petty and small things, that way you will be showing the world exactly what you are. Petty and small.....douche bag.

Just lie. The truth can be boring and very confining, so set yourself free! Why bother with truth when you have a vast universe of lies to choose from. Now to truly be an effective liar to others, you first need to be an effective liar to yourself. So make sure you cling to a rigorously fabricated collection of grandiose fantasies that define the real you that never was. Want to be a doctor? Forget medical school; just tell people you're a doctor! See how easy it is. Bam, now you're a doctor! When people call you on the stupid shit you say or something you did, just lie about it! Tell them you would never say or do what you did say or do. That will make them think they're the crazy one when in truth it's you who's bat shit over the top. Get angry too, and use phrases such as "how dare you" and especially "do you know who I am?" because that will just give proof to the truth of your lies ...douche bag.

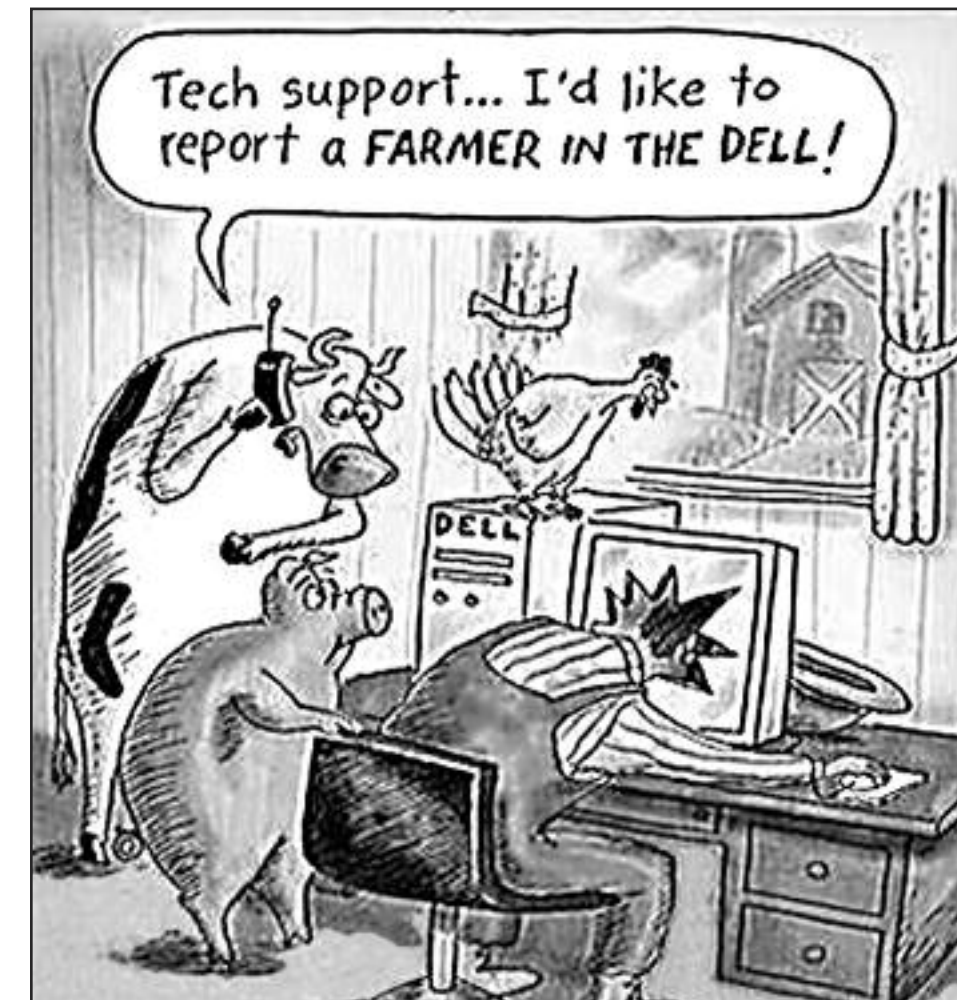
Complain. Again, your opinions are handed down by God, so when you don't get your way (and of course your way is the way) then it's time to complain. Complaining is a wonderful way to let others know when things don't meet your expectations. There's no need to express your expectations before hand—people should know already. Whether it's the government, or that the supermarket doesn't

carry your favorite brand of...whatever. Silly people tell you some silly thing like "it is what it is", and don't be fooled by those who tell you some crazy thing along the lines of you doing something to change a situation. You've complained! And with it you've exposed to the universe how things should be. ...douche bag.

Deny responsibility. Events that don't serve to strengthen your fabricated and delusional reality require your denial of them. Don't allow anyone to hold you accountable for your actions. Remember that people who do this to you- to you -are just trying to make you look bad out of jealousy. Be sure you punish such behavior to show the people around you that it is unacceptable for them to hold you accountable for your words and actions...douche bag.

Embrace the drama. Inside you're a frightened sixteen year old girl regardless of your gender or age. You need to draw attention to yourself, to do that you need to cuddle up close to the dramatic. Be loud! Let the whole world know the important thoughts that go through your mind. Cut off people in conversation. Make up realities that fit your own world view. Be dramatic in everything you do and say—drama makes everything so much more real and interesting. In the end remember it's all about you...douche bag.

Hopefully this guide helps you on your path to becoming a weak, pathetic and needy human piece of shit with little or no real concern for others—in essence—a douche bag. And if you take offense to some of the tidbits above then it's quite possible you're well along the way to living la vida douche bag.



Morning Sex

She was standing in the kitchen, preparing our usual soft-boiled eggs and toast for breakfast, wearing the t-shirt that she normally slept in.

As I walked in, almost awake, she turned to me and said softly, "You've got to make love to me this very moment!"

My eyes lit up and I thought, "I am either still dreaming or this is going to be my lucky day!"

Not wanting to lose the moment, I embraced her and then gave it my all; right there on the kitchen table.

Afterwards she said, "Thanks," and returned to the stove, her T-shirt still around her neck.

Happy, but a little puzzled, I asked, "What was that all about?"

She explained, "The egg timer is broken."

Ed Carboni

...continued from page 8
and baked over 4,000 loaves
of bread.

Upon returning to the U.S. he bought his first sailboat, the 32-foot ketch "Buck Fish" which he lives aboard in Key Largo. Carboni has also recently added publishing the books, *Boss Ralphie* and *Cinderella Joe*, to his resume.

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