

The Conch Republic COCONUT TELEGRAPH

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The Florida Keys are a paddler's paradise. Photo by Nikki Zidanic



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Coconut Telegraph

March 2012
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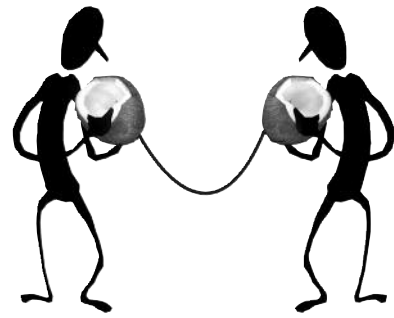
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Editorial: The Tables Will Turn

Thank you to all the Coconut Telegraph readers for their calls and supportive comments on last month's editorial regarding the VFW posting the threatening and erroneous signs about parking in front of KLI. I have explained how the signs led to my, and many others', misunderstanding and I have apologized publicly to KLI. And while I take the high road the VFW refuses to acknowledge their mistake or take any responsibility and continues to hold it against me.

To my dismay it seems they are taking their grudge against me out on the Good Health Clinic by not donating funds the Coconut Telegraph helped raise. In November the Coconut

Telegraph donated a hefty gift basket of cheer to the VFW with the stipulation that the proceeds go to the Good Health Clinic, which has been facing financial difficulty. As of press time the clinic has yet to receive the money! Needless to say this paper will not be donating anything to the VFW again.

While I cannot support the VFW, who blames me for taking the signs they posted at face value, I will continue to support our country's veterans. And I encourage you to as well. To show your appreciation for the men and women who serve our country stop by First State Bank and buy a raffle ticket to win a beautiful patriotic quilt. All of the

proceeds from the raffle benefit Wounded Warriors, a program that funds veteran's trips to places such as the Keys.

If you also have a problem with the VFW you can contact the national headquarters at 406 W. 34th St., Kansas City, MO 64111, call 816-756-3390 or email them at www.vfw.org. And the local phone number is 305-451-2120.

Fear not. If you are not happy with your local club just remember that eventually the tables will turn and fresh new faces will take over. If you feel your club could be functioning better then perhaps it is your turn to step up to the plate and serve.

Disclaimer

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Dress to Impress on March 17th



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Artist of the Month Teresa Kelley

Key Largo Art Gallery

The Coconut Telegraph is proud to feature Teresa Kelley as Artist of the Month. Teresa, or Tere as her friends call her, is a very accomplished and prolific artist. Kelley has been winning awards for her art since she was only nine years old.

Kelley is a first-generation, Cuban-American Florida native whose work is influenced by our community and her heritage. As a Keys resident she enjoys all the area has to offer. When not at work at the Key Largo Art Gallery (where is part owner and manager), or painting her next masterpiece, she can be found on the water, boating, fishing or just soaking up the inspirational beauty that surrounds her.

To our Upper Keys community Teresa Kelley is a luminary. Over the years she has donated much of her art to local causes such as Habitat for Humanity, Relay for Life, Chamber of Commerce, local school fundraisers, and sport fishing events. Her work is currently being featured on local blood drive tee shirts and she was involved with the Key Largo Chamber's Art in Key Largo. As part of the project, her angelfish can be seen hanging at the retail area of the Key Largo

Fisheries.

The prestigious Purple Isles Art Guild, of which she is a member, has bestowed awards on Kelley.

"I am very proud to be a member of the Purple Isles Art Guild and to be showing my work at the Key Largo Art Gallery where I am fortunate enough to be surrounded by the best," says Kelly. "The encouragement and talent is inspiring and also provides me with constructive critiques that promote my growth as an artist."

Stop in the Key Largo Art Gallery and meet Teresa Kelley and the other 25 artists. The last Friday night of each month they throw a party at the gallery located at 103200 Overseas Highway in Central Plaza. For more information call the gallery at 305-451-0052. The gallery is open Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 1 pm or by appointment. You can contact Kelley at TereCurl@hotmail.com, TereKelley@facebook.com or visit the website www.KeyLargoArtGallery.com.

Brighten up your life with a work of art that you will treasure for years to come.



Letter to the Editor: Thanks for the Support

Dear Coconut Telegraph Editor,

We here at Marc of the Upper Keys recently had the 23rd Annual Al Flutie Over-the-Hill Rip-Off Sailfish Tournament. The publicity you have given us for this was greatly appreciated. The articles you have written about and for us are informative and moving. We want to thank you for your continued support of our MARC program and we look forward to working with you in the future.

Corinne M. Triviski
Michelle Snyder MARC of the Upper Keys Coordinator

For more information about the Monroe County Association for Remarcable Citizens visit www.marchouse.org. Or see page 6 for more information about their thrift store and how you can support the non-profit organization.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26.The X's 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	27. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	28. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	29.Allen Truesdell 1-5pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	01.Luke Sommer Glenn 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6 - 10pm	02. David Bowman 1-5 pm The REGS 6-10	03.Luke & Dave 1-5 EXIT 19 6-10
4.Mr. Nice Guy 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	5. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	6. Luke 1-3:30pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	7. Allen Truesdell 1-5pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	8. John McKinna 1-3:30pm Kevin Hurley 6 - 8:30pm	9. David Bowman 2-5 pm Gypsy Road Band 6-10	10. Luke & Dave 1-5 Whipping Post 6-10
11. Eclipse 2-7 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	12. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	13. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	14. Allen Truesdell 1-5pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	15. Luke Sommer Glenn 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6 - 10pm	16. David Bowman 2-6 pm Blackwater Sound 7-11	17. Luke & Dave 2-6 EGO Band 7-11
18. Mr. Nice Guy 2-7 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	19. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	20. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	21. Allen Truesdell 1-5pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	22. John McKinna 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6 - 10pm	23.David Bowman 2-6 pm Colbert the Band 7-11	24.Luke & Dave 2-6 No Restrictions 7-11
25.The REGS jammin' with Eclipse 2-7 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	26. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jammin' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	27. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	28.Allen Truesdell 1-5pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	29.Luke Sommer Glenn 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6 - 10pm	30. David Bowman 2-6 pm Limerock 7-11	31.Luke & Dave 2-6 Justa Head 7-11

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'Til Beth Do Us Part

Key Players finish the season with a comedy

Don't miss this side-splitting comic romp that centers on Suzannah, an entrepreneur, who is stressed out by her husband's sloppiness and unwillingness to help around the house. Feeling overwhelmed, she takes a friend's advice and hires an assistant, Beth. However, Beth's energy and talents may come with an ulterior motive, and her clean sweep just might be aiming the broom at Suzanne's husband.

The Key Players' talents are showcased in this production. Featuring Fatima DaSilva as Suzanne, Ron McMahon as her husband Gibby, plus Marianne Billings as Beth. They are joined by Russell Holmes, Patrice Messina and Lilly Cascamo. It's produced by Tom Butler and directed by Mary Jo Chadwick, and the play runs for six performances (see below for dates).

This is one you won't want to miss!!



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Directed by
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Russell Holmes
Lilly Cascamo

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Beachcombing Couple Finds Cuban Raft in Marathon



While at Coco Plum Beach in Marathon, two of our readers, Terry and Linda Gibson, found what could only be a Cuban raft.

The well-crafted vessel was made from metal oil drums, and there was a transom on the back for a small engine or sail, although the couple didn't find either. There was a red tee-shirt on the ground next to the raft that said, "Club de Romo Havana Cuba." Gibson's Cuban neighbor informed him that Club de Romo was a prestigious rowing club in Havana. There were also bags of rice in the boat with Spanish labels and an empty backpack, evidence the passengers of this makeshift boat made it to shore.

Photo by Terry Gibson



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- If you're a snowbird or a non-working retiree, you absolutely cannot drive from 6a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 4p.m. to 7p.m. This is considered to be RUSH HOUR and you are not in any rush.
- Freeways can only go north and south. Not east and west.
- Tolls are a fact of life; the state has to make money, so deal with it!
- Know the difference between SunPass, Sun Fest, Sun-Sentinel and Sun Trust.
- Florida Turnpike (Miami area) will always be under construction. And there is nothing anyone can do about it, period!
- If you travel more than 5-10 miles on any road in any part of Florida without seeing an orange barricade, you're lost!
- 'A1A' and 'ALT A1A' are the same road.
- Traffic lights are not timed and never will be.
- Once the light turns green, only 3 cars can go through the intersection, eight more go through on yellow, and 4 more on red.
- In Florida, we measure the distance we travel in time - not miles.
- If you miss your exit on I-75, or I-4 it's perfectly acceptable to back up!
- Every street in Florida has both a name and a number (i.e. Adamo = Rt. 60) just for the heck of it and also for the pleasure we get when we give visitors directions.
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As part of the program and also as a source of funds, MARC operates the thrift store in Tavernier.



Erin go Braugh

On St. Patrick's Day we will be featuring
Corned Beef and Cabbage \$18
Chicken Cordon Bleu \$22
Filet Mignon au poivre \$34
Stuffed Shrimp with hollandaise \$27
Captains Platter \$29
Buzzard's Roost, MM 106.5
Oceanside in the Garden Cove Marina

St. Patrick's Day Party
11am-6pm at D-Hooker
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Conch House will be doing corned beef, cabbage, potatoes and carrots with soda bread.

Cactus Jack's is featuring green beer, corned beef and cabbage and shepherd's pie.
MM 104 Bayside.

Celebrate at Sharkeys
with corned beef & cabbage
l from 4pm for \$9.95,
\$2, 20-oz. green beer,
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next to Marina Del Mar

St Patty's Day - party all day,
also featuring Ladies Night with TJ DJ -- wear your green and get in free!
(Ladies drink free from 9pm-11pm)
also featuring the 4th Annual UnderWater Hockey Team Beer Pong Contest on the Lower Deck - come out and cheer them on!
Come to Coconuts
MM 100 Oceanside

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For more information about this program or about how you can help please call 305-852-3282.

Mark Your Calendar

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Sunshine Heritage

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Saturday, March 31, 4:00 p.m.

Islamorada Founders Park, MM 87

For more information, call (305)853-7294.



Bethencourt Joins First State Bank

Terri Bethencourt joins First State Bank of the Florida Keys as Vice President, Deposit Operations Officer.

Bethencourt brings 27 years of banking and project experience to First State Bank. Her professional background includes such positions as Consumer Asset Division Systems Analyst, Systems & Procedures Coordinator, Privacy Officer & Deposit Applications Manager, and Vice-President/Deposit

Operations Manager. She also holds a Professional Project Management Certificate from Florida International University.

"We are very pleased to have someone with Terri's experience join First State Bank," said Elizabeth Miranda, Executive Vice President/Risk Manager. "We're confident that her extensive experience and

background will be beneficial to our team and to the success of the Bank."



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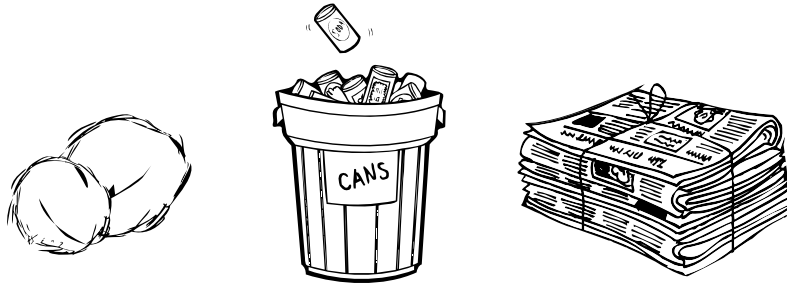
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Information & Inspiration Road Maps to Life

When we learn to attune ourselves to our inner compass we follow a map that only we can see, our own path.

All the major spiritual traditions serve the purpose of offering us a road map to guide us on our individual journeys to enlightenment. These road maps are made up of moral codes, parables, and, in some cases, detailed descriptions of mystical states. We often study the fine points of a particular ascended master's narrative in order to better understand our own and to seek inspiration and guidance on our path. In the same way, when we plan a road trip, we carry maps and guidebooks in an effort to understand where we are going.

In both cases, though, the journey has a life of its own and maps, while helpful, can only take us so far. There is just no comparison between looking at a line on a piece of paper and driving your own car down the road that line represents. Some people seem well suited to following maps, while others are always looking for new ways to get where they're going. In the end, the only reliable compass is within, as every


great spiritual guide will tell you. The maps and travelogues left behind by others are great blessings, full of useful information and inspiration, but they cannot take the journey for us. When it is time to merge onto the highway or pull up anchor, we are ostensibly on our own. Strange weather patterns, closed roads, and traffic jams arise in the moment, out of nowhere, and our maps cannot tell us what to do. Whether we take refuge in a motel by the side of the road, persevere and continue forward, or turn back altogether is entirely up to us.

Maps are based on observations from the past and we are living in the present, so we are the only true experts on our journey to enlightenment. We may find that the road traveled by our predecessors is now closed. We may feel called to change direction entirely so that the maps we have been carrying really no longer apply. These are the moments when we learn to attune ourselves to our inner compass, following a map that only we can see, as we make our way into the unknown territory of our own enlightenment.



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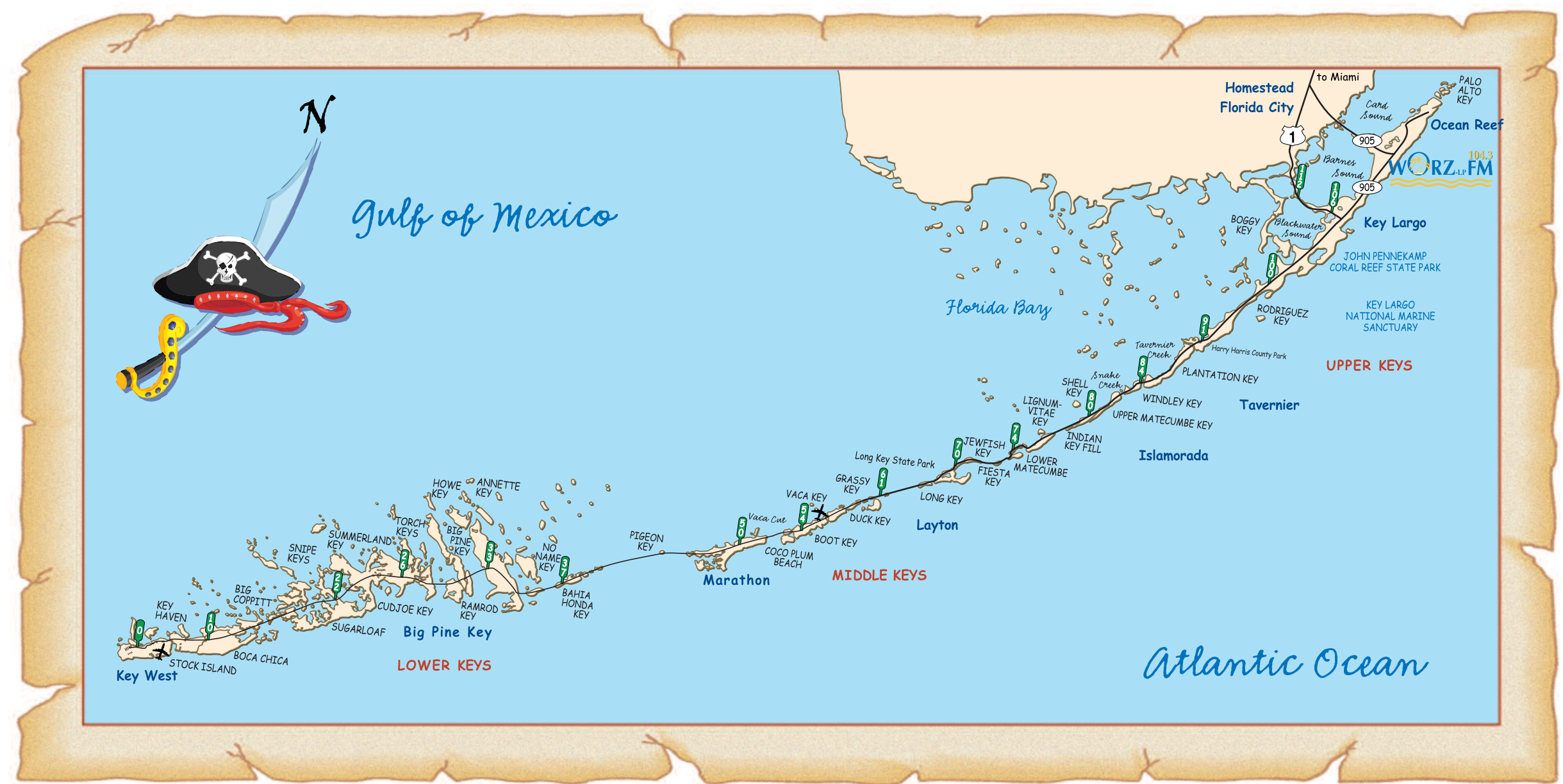
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Bob Regan Fishing Bash

The 4th Annual Bob Regan Bloody Mary Fishing Bash held Sunday March 4th at the Islamorada Fishing Club was a huge success. Anglers and friends of Bob gathered for the festivities that included a Bloody Mary party at the Islamorada Fishing Club from 8-10 a.m. Some braved the windy weather and a storm line as a cold front passed. Others just came and enjoyed the festivities. The post-party reconvened that evening at 5 p.m.

"This is one of the great, fun events held at the Islamorada Fishing Club," said tournament chairman Dianne Harbaugh. "This is a family fun event that was Bob Regan's idea. He wanted to have a party that included fishing and in his memory we serve his famous conch chowder every year." The tournament winners were:

Most Species	Cathy Langston	4 different species
Least Specie	Karen Merriam	1-Black Grouper
Longest Fish	Pat Kelley	30" Tarpon
Shortest Fish	John Langston	5-1/2" Snapper
Unusual Catch	Kim Dankenbring	Sea Bream Porgie
Most of Single Species	Pop Farrell	10 Mangrove Snapper
Hard Luck	Judi Bray	
First Released Redfish and Longest Fish by a Junior Angler: Kennedy Dankenbring 27" Redfish		

Everyone enjoyed the awards bash that not only included Bob's famous conch chowder, but a great BBQ and an open bar compliments of tournament supporters and sponsors. Winners of the event won entry into next year's tournament.

The Islamorada Fishing Club would like to thank those who made this fun event possible: Charlen Regan, Tom and Judi Bray, Ted and Wayne Parker, Pat and Glenda Kelley, Art Feinberg, Bob and Susie Temkin, Steven and Pam Shea, Whitney and Katrina Lavene, Toby and David Goldfinger, Bob Royall, and Cheryl Cuberson. We could not have done it without you!

If you would like more information about the Islamorada Fishing Club contact Vinnie at 305-664-4735.



Cathy Langston won for most species caught in the recent annual Bob Regan Fishing Bash. She caught four different species of fish.



At the fourth annual Bob Regan Fishing Bash Judi Bray received the hard luck award. The boat was full so she had to go shopping.

Bartender of the Month Sabrina Lee at D-Hooker



The Coconut Telegraph is pleased to have the enchantingly beautiful Sabrina Lee from D-Hookers as our March Bartender of the Month.

Lee is a local Key Largo girl who moved away for a few years but the beauty and serenity of our islands brought her back to us.

When Sabrina isn't serving drinks and delicious food at D-Hooker she is home tending to her two dogs, fish tank and hedgehog. Yes, I did say hedgehog. Sabrina is a homebody at heart, but loves her regular customers and is proud of the great food she serves.

Stop by for happy hour. Sabrina is there Wednesday through Sunday. Try the chicken wings, the Coconut Telegraph loves them. And you can bet your bippy that they won't have hedgehog on the menu.

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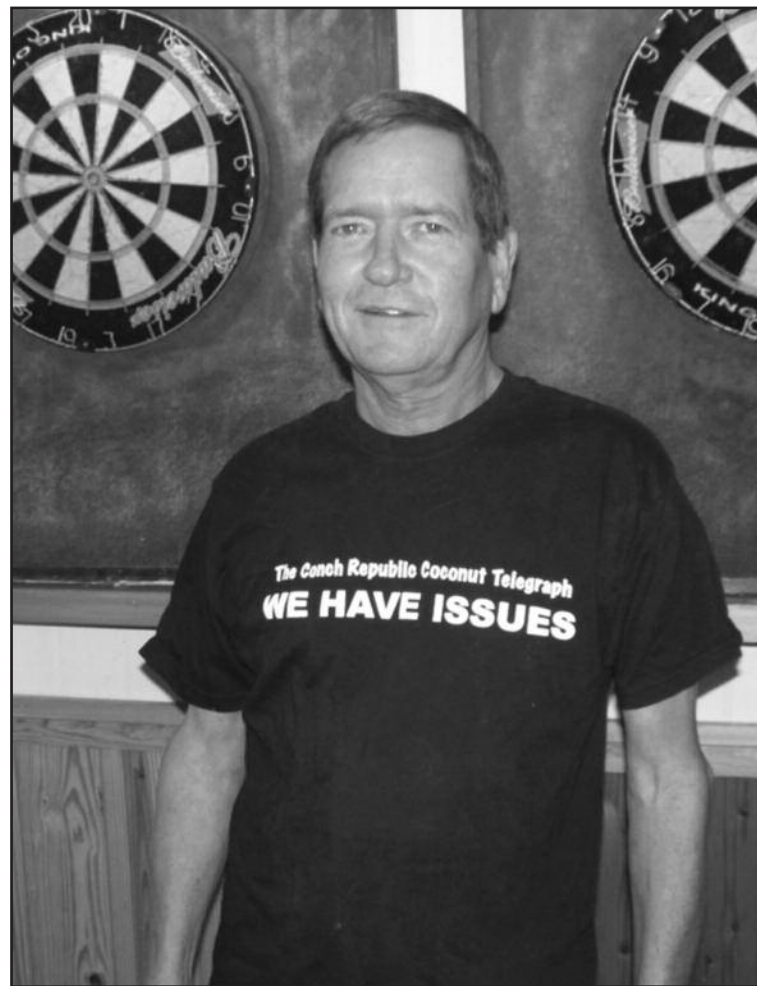
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OOPS!

We at the Al Flutie Over-The-Hill Rip Off Sailfish Tournament didn't get the 3rd place trophy to the winners until The Friday Night Radio Show at Wahoo's with Capt. Bill Kelly February 17th.

Congratulations to : John Fuechsel, and Brian Reynolds (not pictured) and Capt. Jon Reynolds and Gary Salyers. Thanks to all for their patience.

Pictured left to right: Capt. Bill Kelly, Corinne M. Triviski, Capt. Jon Reynolds, Gary Salyers, Debbie Rice-Zwirein and Gary Ellis.

Michelle Snyder

Spring Fling

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AT THE COCONUT COVE RESORT

FOR MUSIC AND DANCING

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Michelle Snyder was our Program Director for many years and it has been two years since her passing. We are going to honor her with her favorite things: music, dancing and eating. As a young woman growing up in Scotland, she never went to the Prom in High School, but she made sure that our clients were able to attend. She organized everyone to have escorts, corsages, formal wear and a very nice dinner. The Prom was a total success with lots of fun and laughter and pictures (she loved pictures). She herself looked like a debutant—just beautiful with the biggest smile.

We are going to be less formal in honoring her, with music by The Sunshine Band at the beautiful ocean side Coconut Cove Resort and Marina. We will have prizes for The Best Dressed and bring your own photos of your Prom and win a prize for The Best Dressed Back Then. We want to thank Paul and Magda at The Coconut Cove Resort, Community Bank-Tavernier and Vics Auto Tech for their generous donations toward the Spring Fling. If you would also like to join us as a sponsor please call Corinne at (305) 852-3282 or visit our Thrift Store at MM 90 ocean side in Tavernier.

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.



Emma



Madonna



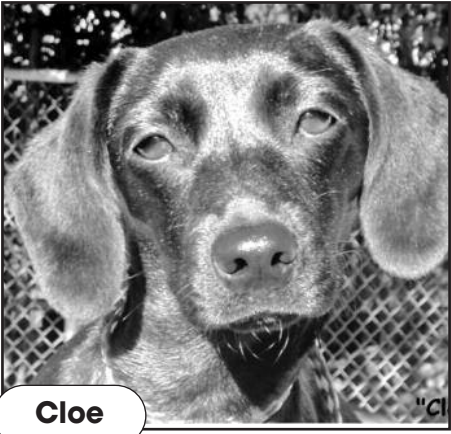
Mao



Sheldon



Kodiak



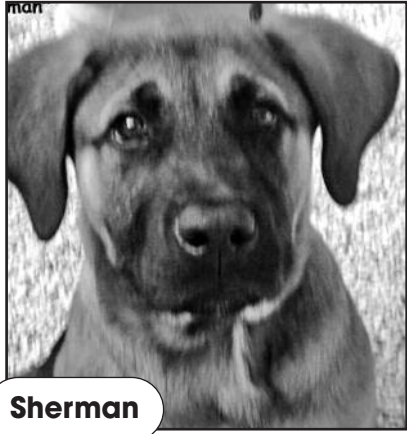
Cloe



Odie



Petunia



Sherman

Dear Anny Bannanny

Dear Anny Bannanny,

I am a federal employee who loves my job and I work very hard. Lately a middle-aged, female co-worker has been trying everything under the sun to get me fired. I have tried every possible way to make peace with this woman, who has been at the job much longer than I, because I have children to support and can't afford to lose my job. Still she attacks me every chance she gets. I just don't understand why someone would go to such trouble to try and have our supervisors look down on me. I am no threat to her! Help me please.

Sincerely,
Frightened

Dear Frightened,

You may think you are no threat to her but the reality is, you are and that makes you a target. You're not paranoid. You truly are being sabotaged.

In a world where jobs are being eliminated; companies are keeping the newer, lower pay scale employees and giving the boot to the older ones close to retirement that are costing them more money. Your nemesis probably knows she's incompetent and at risk of being replaced, making you a direct threat to her. You are younger, fresher, and gung ho, where she is doing the bare minimum to get by and doesn't want to step up her game to compete. It's easier to just badmouth you.

This person probably has her nose so far up the bosses you-know-what that it's dripping with poo.

Anny Bannanny's advice to you is to avoid this psychotic scum-bag bully. If you find yourself in a situation where you must interact with her, document everything. Be sure to include her attitude, tone of voice and eye contact. Details! Keep a journal just in case the time comes where you need to produce proof of harassment to your boss and if you get no satisfaction there you may need a lawyer that specializes in civil rights and discrimination. Do not give up. Anny Bannanny gets bullied all the time but arguing with Anny Bannanny is like mud wrestling with a pig. You don't get anywhere and eventually you begin to realize that the pig actually enjoys it.

Yours truly,
Anny Bannanny

The Coconut Telegraph • March 2012 • 19

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Useless Irish Facts

An odd Irish birthday tradition is to lift the birthday child upside down and give his head a few gentle bumps on the floor for good luck. The number of bumps should allegedly correspond with the child's age plus one.

A traditional Irish hangover cure was to be buried up to the neck in wet river sand.

County Mayo's Carne Golf Links, which was built between 1987 and 1993, was constructed by farmers using spades and rakes.

Catherine Kelly, who died in 1785, was allegedly the smallest Irish woman ever. With a total height of just 34 inches and weighing only 8 pounds, she was known as the "Irish Fairy."

Ballygally Castle in County Antrim, currently a hotel owned by a major chain, is allegedly one of the most haunted places in the country.

Aran Island sweaters have a variety of "family weaves". These were developed so that when a fisherman drowned his sweater

was often the only thing washed up on shore. The distinctive weave allowed family members to identify and know their loved one was lost.

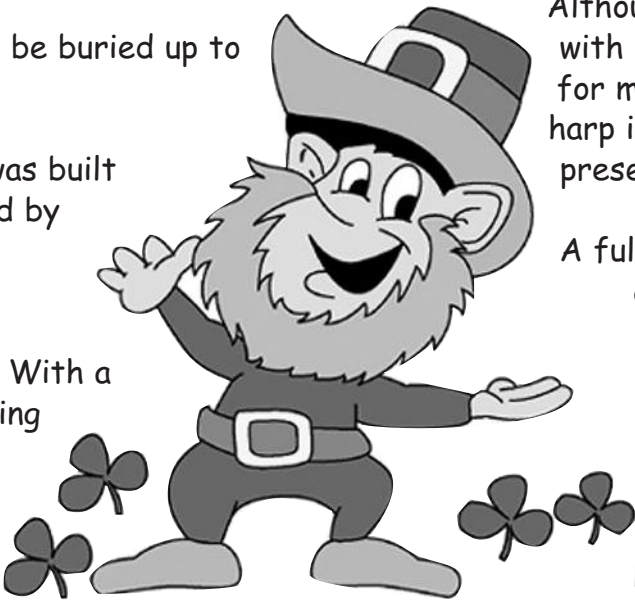
Although the Shamrock is traditionally associated with Ireland, the Harp has been used as a symbol for many centuries. The design of the heraldic harp is based on the "Brian Boru Harp", which is preserved in Dublin's Trinity College.

A full seven percent of the entire Irish barley crop goes to the production of Guinness beer.

The longest place name in Ireland is Muckanaghederdauhaulia, in County Galway.

According to one rather obscure Irish legend, a ringing in your ears means a deceased friend stuck in Purgatory is ringing a bell to ask for you to pray for him/her.

It is not the custom in Ireland to wear green ties, hats or clothes on St. Patrick's Day. A shamrock sprig on the lapel is traditional.



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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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You're so Ugly

- You're so ugly, when you walk into the bank they turn off the cameras.
- You're so ugly, you went to a haunted house and came out with an application.
- You're so ugly, if ugliness was a crime, you'd get the electric chair.
- You're so ugly, at birth your parents named you Poop Happens.
- You're so ugly, your mate won't have to worry about birth control, your face will do just fine.
- You're so ugly, your husband's friends all call you Pop Eye.
- You're so ugly, when you were born they put tinted windows on your incubator.
- You're so ugly, you have to sneak up on your mirror.
- You're so ugly, when you sit in the sand the cats try to bury you.
- You're so ugly, your doctor is a vet.
- You're so ugly, you stuck your head out of the car window and got arrested for mooning.
- You're so ugly, you have to Trick or Treat by phone.
- You're so ugly, you make onions cry.
- You're so ugly, the tide wouldn't bring you in.
- You're so ugly, you mother had to get drunk before she breast-fed you.
- You're so ugly, you went to a freak show and got a permanent job.
- You're so ugly, when you get sick they call the vet.
- You're so ugly, farmers use your picture as a scarecrow.
- You're so ugly, every time you go out you get chased by the dog catcher.
- You're so ugly, you can't even hail a bus.
- You're so ugly, they let you park in handicapped spaces.
- You're so ugly, when you went to the zoo they refused to let you out.
- You're so ugly, when your mother went into labor the doctors went on strike.
- You're so ugly, people put your picture in their car window as an anti-theft device.

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Florida Keys Wild Bird Center

93600 Overseas Highway, Key Largo 33037

email us: info@fkwbc.org

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

Coco'Nut' Funnies

Husband and Wife Go Shopping Together

A husband and wife are shopping in their local Target. The husband picks up a case of Budweiser and puts it in their cart.

"What do you think you're doing?" asks the wife.

"They're on sale, only \$10 for 24 cans" he replies.

"Put them back, we can't afford them" demands the wife, and so they carry on shopping.

A few aisles further along the woman picks up a \$20 jar of face cream and puts it in the basket.

"What do you think you're doing?" asks the husband.


"It's my face cream. It makes me look beautiful," replies the wife.

Her husband retorts, "So does 24 cans of Budweiser and it's half the price."

"A radio station is the final straw! We're getting a cat"

Things You Should Never Say to a Naked Man

- Are you cold?
- Did you date Lorena Bobbitt?
- Why don't we just skip right to the cigarette?
- It's a good thing you have so many other talents.
- So this is why you're supposed to judge people on personality.
- Will it squeak if I squeeze it?
- Why don't we just cuddle?
- You know, they have surgery to fix that.
- Wow, and your feet are so big.
- Isn't that cute!
- This explains your car.
- Are you one of those pygmies?
- Why is God punishing you?
- But it still works, right?
- Do you take steroids?
- I've smoked joints bigger than that.
- Let me know when you're done.



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