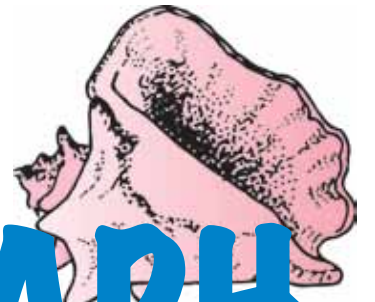


# The Conch Republic COCONUT TELEGRAPH

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Bartender of the Month...

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Festival April 6th

### All the Buzz

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Mangrove Galley

Conch Characters

Business in the Keys



Coins... treasure or trash? In this issue read all about coin collecting, what to look for, and who to trust.

## Celebrate Sunset

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Coconut Telegraph

April 2013  
Volume 8 Issue #74

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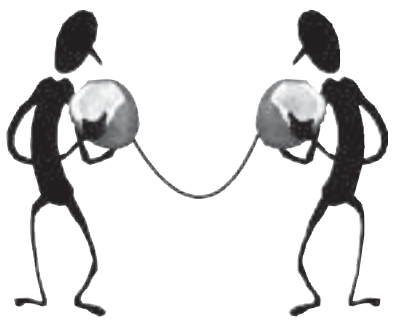
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Wednesday  
April 24, 2013

Contact Denise at  
305-304-2837  
theconchtelegraph@gmail.com

Cast of Characters:

Editor/Sales/Distribution  
  
Denise Malefyt

Advertising  
Production  
  
Sue Beal



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Editorial: Autophobic Man

Last year a 2-page slanderous flyer about the Coconut Telegraph was distributed at the Murray Nelson Government Center, local clubs and businesses. It stated that the Coconut Telegraph's "efforts are at attacking veterans", and "The "editor of the Coconut Telegraph is a plus-size, moo moo wearing, autophobic, drunk who uses her little newspaper to draw attention to herself." This long diatribe had to have taken many hours or even days of researching my website on the internet to twist my words into a 2-page attack on my newspaper, my family and myself. Everyone that knows me knows that I am not against veterans and just in the 7 years with

the Coconut Telegraph I have helped the community and veterans a whole lot, so much that I can't fit it all in this column plus what I did before the newspaper. I am very proud of the veterans in my family and I am a member of the American Legion Ladies auxiliary and the VFW Ladies Auxiliary At Large. The damaging flyer was UNSIGNED, however, Monroe County Veteran's Affairs employee Gary Johnson and his wife were seen handing out the flyers all around town. I wrote a letter of complaint to Mr. George Brentnall, Gary Johnson's boss at Veteran's Affairs, who responded with a letter dated 7/31/2012 that Mr. Johnson "denies writing and circulating the



Gary Johnson.

letter" and if I want to refute Mr. Johnson's statement to provide him with notarized statements that he is in fact circulating these letters on county time and he will pursue it further. Hmmmm. Interesting. They did not realize that I have a website tracker with which I can tell who has been

visiting the site and spending how many hours, even days, etc., on it. I narrowed down the IP address to, you guessed it, the Murray Nelson Building, where Gary Johnson has his office! That office and his salary are paid for by our tax dollars. With a Veterans Affairs office in Key West and Marathon, do we really need one in Key Largo if the man operating it can spend that many hours researching my website and composing a 2-page flyer to defame me? Why would anyone be so vicious and vindictive to a "little" newspaper? My next step was to hire an attorney who could help. Russ Cullen sent out a public records request letter. What we got back were emails between Johnson and Brentnall and a note that said they would send the rest of our request later.

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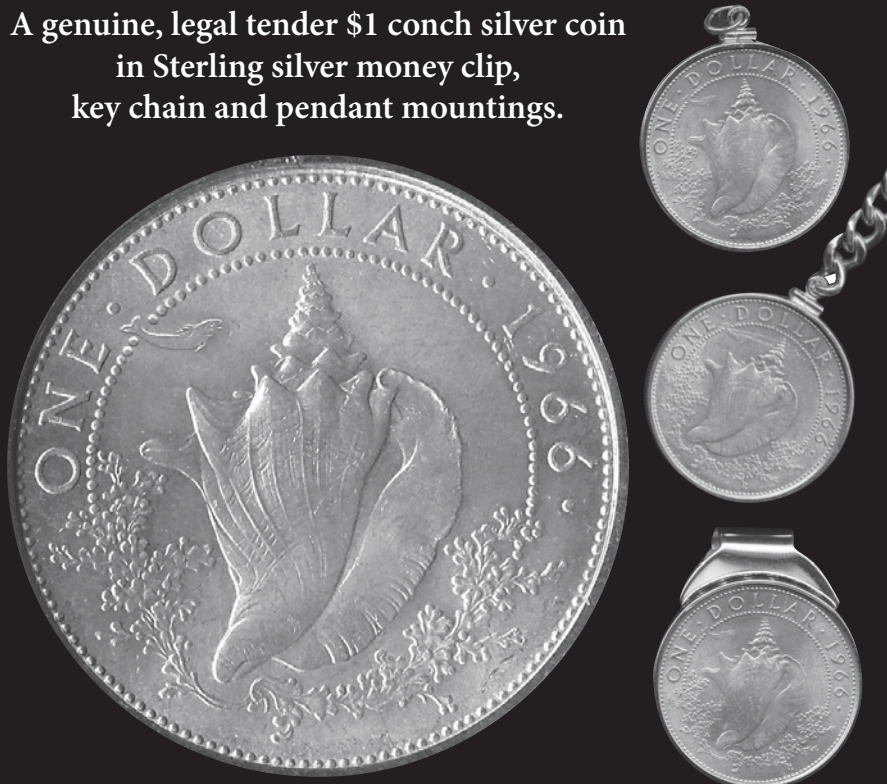
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In one email dated 7/25/2012 Johnson tells Brentnall that he was available to help Debra Barnes, former bartender and canteen manager of the VFW distribute 'her' flyers during his free time but "she says she has it covered." Soon after that my advertisers and many local businesses received letters again slandering myself and the Coconut Telegraph. I have copies of 4 different damaging letters that went out to my advertisers on 4 different occasions, and all were unsigned. Why weren't the letters signed? Who paid for the postage? Last week I received an email from Debra Barnes who said she in fact did not write the letters and that "Gary came in one day with a stack of those letters and told me to leave them out for everyone to read. When they were all gone he instructed me to make more copies to

be passed around. He stated that he'd already distributed them to various businesses." A couple of days later I received an email from the former commander of the VFW, Eric Shear. Here is part of his email: Hi Denise...Eric Shear here. The hits just keep comin'. FACT: Gary Johnson wrote the letters regarding you and your paper. PROOF: He told me he did. FACT: Gary Johnson used county time and resources to prepare and print the letters. PROOF: He told me he did. FACT: Gary Johnson denied involvement in this issue when confronted by his boss. PROOF: He told me he did. FACT: Gary Johnson came into the VFW one Saturday afternoon waving those letters over his head and stated "these are for here, we have been all over delivering these" and he placed them on the table by the pull

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tab machine. Deb was tending bar...she could not have been helping him. PROOF: I was there and witnessed it. I have resigned as Commander of the VFW effective 2/6/13 because of Gary Johnson. I thought I was done with that guy, but now I am hearing he has accused Deb of being the author of the hateful, petty letters about you. I will be available to meet with Russ Cullen... sign a sworn statement, deposition, polygraph...whatever. —Eric Shear In a personal Facebook message from Gary Johnson to me and unsigned letters mailed to businesses about me Mr. Johnson calls me "autophobic". In all my years with newspapers I had never heard that word before. No one I mentioned it to had ever heard it before either. It means "an irrational fear of one's self."

Is it a coincidence Mr. Johnson uses that word and it also appears in one of the unsigned letters? I think not. Who is the autophobic person here? The one who is afraid to sign their name! The one with a twisted vendetta against a "little" newspaper? A public official paid by us? Now as a newspaper publisher I get some really weird mail but I have never been personally attacked like this before. My family and I are being attacked at a cost to the taxpayers of Monroe County! Anyone who would like to send Mr. George Brentnall comments may do so at the Veterans Affairs Department, Harvey Government Center, 1200 Truman Avenue, Suite 204, Key West, FL 33040. Phone 305-295-5150. Please contact me with any additional information. TheConchTelegraph@gmail.com.

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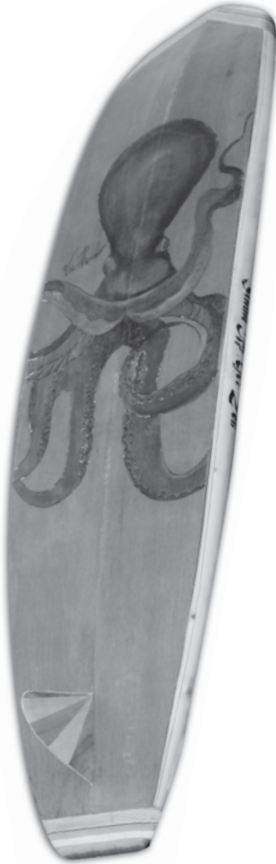

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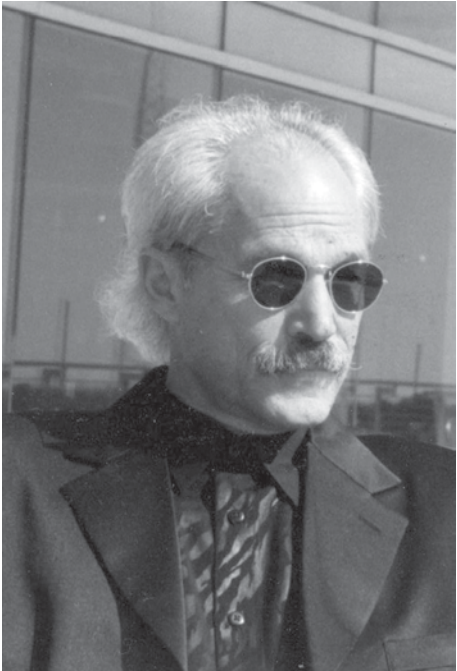
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You know you’re in the Keys when.....

- The only shoes you own are different varieties of flip flops.
- You have driven at least one Keys Cruiser.
- You’re constantly passed by vehicles with out of state license tags.
- There are only 3 levels of sobriety: sober (morning), stoned (afternoon) and smashed (anytime).
- You’ve gone through crib-death (an all-nighter at the Caribbean Club), and though you swear you won’t again, it just keeps happening.
- Your land is worth more than your house.
- Someone asks, “Where is Iz-luh-more-a-day?”
- You only put on sun block when you are on a boat because otherwise you are always in the shade.
- Every bartender knows you and what you drink.
- You know everyone everywhere you go and you’ve known them for 3 generations.
- You and your grocery store cashier are on a first name basis.
- You party with your car salesman, doctor and housekeeper at the same place.
- In order for it to be bad weather, it’s got to be a category 3 or higher.
- In some way or another your income depends on tourism.
- You can get anywhere by boat but you have to drive an hour to get to a mall.



David Keator

The Art Box Artist of the Month is David Keator. Here is his story in his own words:

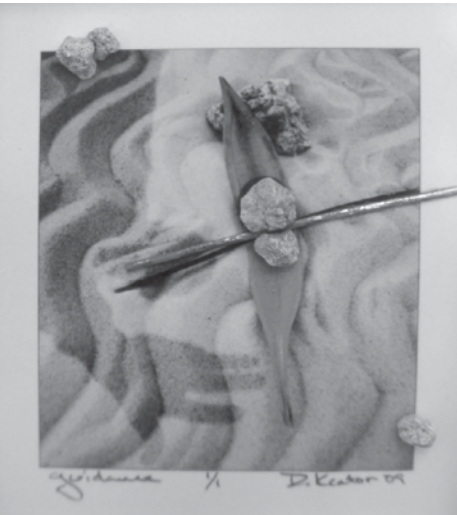
Oftentimes I am faced with the question of how to explain my artwork and why do I paint the way I do.

From early childhood in the sandbox, I have always had some type of drawing instrument or tool in my hand. This obsessive need to “create” continued into my years as a student at the Kansas City Art Institute, where I received a BFA degree in ceramics with a minor in hot glass. Then graduate studies at the NY State college of Ceramics at Alfred U. for an MFA degree with main emphasis on ceramics and printmaking.

My primary concentration was in the areas of three dimensional objects and the expression of form and structure. From ceramic pottery and sculpture and later furniture-making and design, my main concentration was with form, function and creating something that exhilarated and exalted the human spirit. As a professor of fine art for many years my intent was to encourage students to investigate everything they did in a unique way and with an inquisitive mind. This attitude kept me both fresh, vital and constantly invigorated.

Art Box Artist of the Month: David Keator

For the next 20 years or so I worked as an Interior Designer, which became my passion later in life. Designing came was intuitive for to me. Designing was like taking a large compartmentalized blank canvas. Then take the situation and begin to paint it with colors, furniture, artwork and artifacts, collectables, carpet, wall coverings etc. These provided me with texture, shapes, and forms that would



eventually become the palette.

Seven years ago, I moved to Key Largo to help my father. I left behind a 2,000 sq. ft. studio and all the tools that a woodworker/ furniture designer could ever dream of.

Being a creative person, I turned to my music but still felt a void. I needed to create something as “Artist.” I began to fabricate small vignette studies and mythological storytelling pieces from objects that I would pick up on my many journeys and walks. These were actually miniature sculptures that were very personal metaphorical pieces that explained some forgotten feeling towards events in my personal life. Then I found working on such a small scale restricted primarily because of the intricacy. I found myself working with tweezers to glue and hold things in place.



Stop by and see some of David Keator’s amazing pieces at the Art Box.

From this grew taking photographs during the course of attending events and perceiving things I saw in nature. They would eventually be reworked and modified through the use of the computer. With a workable print, I began to alter them through the use of colored pencils,



paint, gold leafing and the addition of 3-dimensional found objects, thus creating reliefs as a collage of sorts.

It was at this time I really began to explore paints and all the possibilities that they presented. This, along with my need to make touchable, tactile surfaces offered me the opportunity to explore further the of possibilities that were presented to me by both by the materials and technologies. Paint became my new fascina-



tion and “creative outlet.”

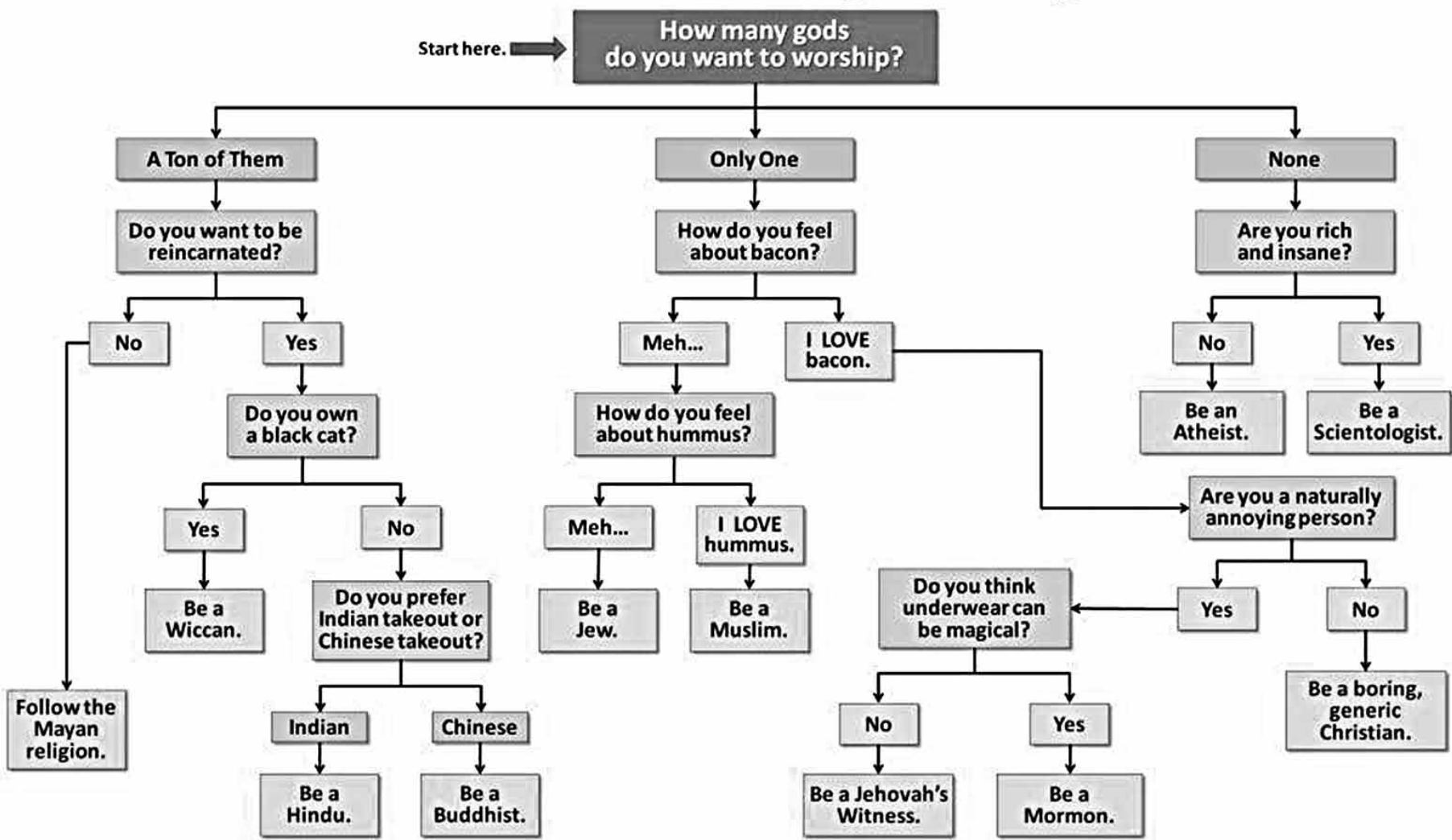
My paintings are non-representational. They are a search for the impression or expression of objects or subjects in a spontaneously responsive manner.

Life goes on with titles such as...Fireflies, Evening Frolic, Tears of Morning Thunder, Cartwheels and Moonbeams, Shadow Dancing, Disappearing Waters and Poem of a Solitary Symphony. All painted to let the imagination drift and see what it wants to see.





A Flowchart for Choosing Your Religion



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Janis Zeller-Kindlinger Celebrates 10 Years with First State Bank

Janis Zeller-Kindlinger, Islamorada Customer Service Representative/Lead Teller, celebrates her tenth anniversary with First State Bank of the Florida Keys. Zeller-Kindlinger joined First State Bank in 2003 as Teller at the Bank's Islamorada Office, progressing to Customer Service Representative /Teller at the Key Largo Branch in 2005. She was promoted to her current position in 2007, and she also serves as the Islamorada Branch's Environmental Green Captain. "Janis' winning personality and positive outlook make her a favorite of her customers and co-workers," said First State Bank AVP/Isla-



morada Branch Manager Nola Acker. "We are happy to congratulate her on this milestone anniversary with our organization." Zeller-Kindlinger has 23 years of customer service and cash handling experience. Originally from Michigan, she currently lives with her husband in Islamorada.

**The Domestic Abuse Shelter Key Largo Outreach Office could use your help.**  
The Pink Plaza Suite #235 -- mile marker 103 Bayside (103400 Overseas Highway, Suite 235, Key Largo, FL 33037)  
Please come by and see us, and if you can, bring a donation: **(305) 451-5666**

MON 11am-7pm  
TUE-FRI 9am-5pm



DOMESTIC ABUSE SHELTER, INC. Wish List

General Needs

- Copy paper
- Paper towels & toilet paper
- Cleaning supplies & laundry detergent
- Gift certificates to drug (Kmart, CVS, Walgreens) & grocery stores (Albertson, Winn-Dixie and Publix) in small denominations
- Hand sanitizers
- Twin size linens (sheets, pillows, plastic mattress & pillow covers)
- Bath towels & wash cloths
- Non perishable foods
- First aid supplies
- Bus passes (Keys transit)
- Gas cards

Personal Needs

- Tooth brushes & toothpaste
- Hair brushes & combs
- Shampoo, conditioner, bath soaps
- Nail files & clippers, razors
- Deodorant
- Cotton balls, Q-tips
- Feminine hygiene products
- Women's panties & bras in assorted sizes, pajamas, night shirts & socks
- Blow dryers

Children's Needs

- Books
- Art & school supplies
- Diapers & wipes
- Baby bottles
- Baby foods & juices
- DVDs (age appropriate)
- Kid oriented gift certificates (movies, food, fun stuff)
- Children's underwear in assorted sizes & socks

The Domestic Abuse Shelter (DAS) is a non-profit organization, providing comprehensive services for individuals and families experiencing domestic and sexual abuse in the Florida Keys. Our mission is to reduce the incidence and minimize the impact of domestic and sexual abuse in Monroe County by directing victims and abusers to appropriate, effective programs and services.



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7 STALKING MILDRED 2-7 KIM BANKSTON DURING BAND BREAKS	8 DAVE BOWMAN 1-5 JAM NITE WITH STEVE VENINI 6-10	9 LUKE 2-5 BOBBE BROWN 6-10	10 ALLEN TRUESDELL 1-5 HARRY FRENCH 6-10	11 JOHN MCKINNA 1-5 KARAOKE WITH MARILEE 6-10	12 BOBBE BROWN 1-5 TRAVLER BAND 7-11	13 LUKE & DAVE 2-6 THE REGS 7-11
14 MR. NICE GUY 2-7 KIM BANKSTON DURING BAND BREAKS	15 JESS ATKINS 1-5 JAM NITE WITH STEVE VENINI 6-10	16 LUKE 2-5 TED & VIVIAN 6-10	17 ALLEN TRUESDELL 1-5 HARRY FRENCH 6-10	18 KEVIN HURLEY 1-5 KARAOKE WITH MARILEE 6-10	19 STEVE WEBB 1-5 EXIT 19 7-11	20 LUKE & DAVE 2-6 DOUBLE STANDARD 7-11
21 EGO 2-7 KIM BANKSTON DURING BAND BREAKS	22 DAVE BOWMAN 1-5 JAM NITE WITH STEVE VENINI 6-10	23 LUKE 2-5 BOBBE BROWN 6-10	24 ALLEN TRUESDELL 1-5 HARRY FRENCH 6-10	25 JOHN MCKINNA 1-5 KARAOKE WITH MARILEE 6-10	26 BOBBE BROWN 1-5 THE ROAD KINGS 7-11	27 LUKE & DAVE 2-6 PUSH 7-11
28 THE REGS 2-7 KIM BANKSTON DURING BAND BREAKS	29 JESS ATKINS 1-5 JAM NITE WITH STEVE VENINI 6-10	30 LUKE 2-5 TED & VIVIAN 6-10	MICHAEL TRIXX MAGIC SHOW SATURDAYS AT SUNSET \$7.95 Daily Food Specials Monday-Friday Happy Hour 4-7 Monday-Friday			

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# Trash or Treasure? How do you determine the value of a coin?

The **Sentimental Value** of a coin is priceless if it was a cherished gift from a loved one that you wear around your neck close to your heart.

The **Numerical Value** is face value. The numerical value of penny is one cent.

The **Perceived Value** - A novice may wishfully think their 1965 penny is worth a fortune because it is old, but in fact may be only worth its numerical value.

The **Intrinsic Value** or "bullion" is the scrap value of the metal used to make it.

The **Numismatic Value** - Coins that are valued due to either rareness or condition, or a combination of both, are considered numismatic coins. Most modern coins have no intrinsic value.

A coin collector is someone who has the knowledge to purchase coins as an investment.

A coin hoarder is someone who has no knowledge of value yet purchases coins because they are shiny and pretty and doesn't care that they are a poor investment.

If you are interested in buying or selling coins you need to connect with an expert. Locally I know only three that I would trust.

"A good reputation is more valuable than money." Pubillius Syrus

These three coin dealers are all respected bondable members of the South Florida community, and have been for many years:

**Bill Wiggins** is the co-owner and managing partner of Coral Financial Jewelry and Pawn and Vice President of Kabil Investments. Wiggins has been collecting currency since 1960 and buying and selling since 2000. Coral Financial is located at MM 102, oceanside (across from the government center) in Key Largo. "We try to have a good assortment of affordable coins with some intrinsic

value and leave the really high end stuff to the larger markets." says Wiggins. Wiggins does sell currency, but hates to part with his collection. He absolutely loves to buy and pays top dollar. 305-453-5300

**Art Smith** is a retired professional coin dealer/ numismatist who began his career in 1965 with his father. Smith's expertise is respected worldwide. He has specialized in treasure coins, Spanish America and was was the prime U.S. Tax Appraiser for Mel Fisher's find of the Atocha. He is a lifetime member of the American Numismatic Association and a former consultant to their certification service as well as a former member of the prestigious Professional Numismatist Guild. Smith disposes of his inventory

through retail dealers including the Bahamian coins featured by local jewelry dealers. You can purchase them locally. See his ad on page 3. Smith is usually available for consultation services (305) 987-5777. When it comes to knowledge, this guy is worth his weight in gold!

**John Albright** is the owner of Gables Coin & Stamp at 82 Miracle Mile in Coral Gables 305-445-7561 or 305-446-0032. He has been a full-time coin dealer since 1966 and is considered a legend in his field. He has been in business in the same location for 44 years and his shop is the ultimate hangout for coin enthusiasts. People come from all over to mingle, swap stories and drool over Albright's amazing collection. The reason for his success is probably not just

his vast knowledge, but because he is laid back and a really nice guy. The shop has a staff of four who are ready and able to answer your questions.

"For investment purposes it is best to stay away from collectable coins," says Albright, "bullion is preferable," he adds.

All US pennies have inscribed on them "In God We Trust".

All three coin dealers agree that the Home Shopping Network is the worst place to buy coins for investment. If you think about the high cost of television media, thousands of dollars per minute, you realize that they have to make an enormous profit. Unless the coins are gold or silver there is no intrinsic value. "Most people who buy currency from television will not live long



John Albright - owner of Gables Coin.



Bill Wiggins at Coral Financial, local treasure coin expert.



Art Smith, retired coin dealer/ numismatist.

## The Spiritual Value

I found a penny today  
just laying on the ground  
But it's not just a penny  
this little coin I've found  
"Found" pennies come from heaven  
that's what my Grandpa told me  
He said angels toss them down  
oh, how I loved that story!  
He said when an angel misses you  
they toss a penny down  
Sometimes just to cheer you up  
make a smile out of your frown  
So don't pass by that penny  
when you're feeling blue  
It may be a penny from heaven  
that an angel tossed to you.

- author unknown

enough to see a return on their investment" says Wiggins. Most are just cheap baubles. You also should not trust companies that run expensive commercials offering you high prices to sell to them.

"A fool and his money are soon parted" Thomas Tusser

What about selling coins on Ebay? Of course you can, if you have: an Ebay account, bank account, Pay Pal account or if you accept credit cards for payment... plus the knowledge of a true collector, the time to

spend on the computer researching, photographing and categorizing each coin, and you realize you have to pay Ebay 11% or more plus the listing fee, take the time to insure, pack and drive to the Post Office to mail your coin. That's a full time job!

Coin collecting can be very rewarding, as with antiques. Sometimes the joy is not so much in the value of the item as it is in the find.

"Whoever said money can't buy happiness simply didn't know where to go shopping." Bo Derek



Gables Coin Shop is a busy place.

# Craft Beer Festival April 6th



Key Largo Rotary Club presents **Brew on the Bay**, Key Largo's only craft brew festival, on Saturday, April 6 from 1-5 pm. Sample over 100 unique regional and international craft and specialty beers. Meet brewery representatives who will explain the brews' subtleties while you're tasting. Relax and take in the sights overlooking the Bay at Rowell's Marina at MM104.5 bayside.

Beer quaffing will be accompanied by live music from Coral Rock Jam Band. A Bar-BREW-Que corner will

offer gourmet burgers and so much more.

A homebrew competition has been added this year; a chance for homebrewers to showcase their brews and it's open to the public. This event will be at Doc's Diner, MM99 bayside on Thursday, April 4 from 6-8 pm. A limited number of tickets to sample beer, eat hors d'oeuvres and vote on your favorites will be available for a \$15 donation.

Prizes and full competition details can be found at [www.keylargobrewonthebay.com](http://www.keylargobrewonthebay.com).

**Bayside Blues Concerts & Beach Parties**  
Concert Showtime: 6:30pm  
*Bayside Grille brings you the greatest music schedule ever presented in Key Largo!*

WED APR 3

**Victor Wainwright & Wild Roots**  
Power-house blues, Memphis soul, and roots rock'n'roll.

SAT APR 13

**Peter Karp & Sue Foley**  
High voltage, plank spankin', piano boogyn', slide guitar stompin' blues!

WED APR 17

**Chris Duarte Group**  
Guitar Player Mag's 4th "Best Blues Guitarist" behind Eric Clapton, Buddy Guy and B.B. King.

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CIROC VODKA SPECIALS AT THE BAYVIEW BAR  
CAPTAIN MORGAN GIRLS (MORGANETTES)  
CAPTAIN MORGAN BBQ FOOD SPECIALS  
CIROC VODKA INSPIRED FOOD SPECIALS  
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[www.keylargoblues.com](http://www.keylargoblues.com)

And, coming up...

Wed, Thurs, Fri May 8, 9 & 10 Mac Arnold & Plate Full of Blues  
Thurs, May 23 Kelly Ritchey [www.kellyritchey.com](http://www.kellyritchey.com)  
Sat, May 25 Captain Morgan Beach Party with Albert Castiglia

**MM 99.5 Bayside, behind Cafe Largo**

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# Entertainers of the Month – the Mr. Nice Guy Band

This is the band everyone is talking about! The Coconut Telegraph is proud to present Entertainers of the Month – the Mr. Nice Guy Band. Check out Gilbert's Resort schedule on page 7 for their next appearance.



**Tommy Hall**  
Guitar, Keyboards, Vocals

Born August 31,1960 in Miami, Tommy began playing piano at age 8 and guitar at age 11. In the late 70s he formed the band "Napoleon" and with Mr. Nice Guy band-mate John Quinn, toured Europe and Asia for the U.S.O. and played frequently in the Virgin Islands. In 1983 Tommy moved to Northern Virginia and played in "somewhat cheesy" hotel lounge bands for 6 years. At the same time he did studio work on advertising jingles. In 1990, he moved back to South Florida (the Ridge), and shortly thereafter began playing with the "Backbeats," along with MNG drummer Dave Webster.

In late 2002, they formed Mr. Nice Guy. In 2003, Tommy played guitar and keyboards briefly with former Bad Company vocalist Brian Howe. Shortly thereafter he began playing bass guitar with MNG keyboardist John Quinn in the "Livesays." In 2005 Tommy played lead guitar with "Foghat" original member Tony Stevens and continues doing shows under the band name "Slowride."



**John Quinn**  
Keyboards

Brought up in New England, John played around the New Haven and Hartford areas. Soon after high school he moved to Florida, where he played in a local band that toured the Midwest. Finally settling in Miami, he met up with Tom Hall and "Napoleon."

This group toured all over the world, playing concerts and clubs for the military (USO, DOD, PACAF). The band played many bases in Europe, the Middle East and the Orient. "Napoleon" made its home in the Virgin Islands where it had a house gig for a couple of years playing covers and originals.

John then met a group called the "Livesays" which was playing all-original music. The band was opening shows for national acts at big concerts. They played with such acts as Cheap Trick, Edgar Winter, Foreigner, Steppenwolf, Moody Blues, Bo Diddley, and many more. John and Billy Livesay (of the Livesays) ended up joining The Clarence Clemons Band in 1998, the Big Man with Bruce Springsteen's E-Street Band. John played with Clarence Clemons for a couple of years, and then Mr.Nice Guy was soon in the picture.



**Magoo**  
Bass Guitar, Vocals

Many attempts have been made to secure a Magoo bio, all have failed. Magoo is a very talented musician who can literally play every instrument on the stage plus about a dozen more. But it's his bass playing that fuses the MNG Groove™ that gets people up on the dance floor and keeps them there.



**Dave Webster**  
Drums

Dave was born in Fairbanks, Alaska, in January of 1955 (for the record, it was 52 below zero, not the best day to come out of the womb). Being an Air Force brat, he lived all over the country during his youth, and started playing guitar at age 11. Once he saw the Beatles on Ed Sullivan, and saw Ringo shake his head and make hundreds of girls scream, he thought, "I gotta learn how to play drums."

At age 15 Dave started playing nightclubs (illegally). He somehow survived disco

in the 70s, then moved north to play and record with local groups in Pittsburgh and Long Island. He returned to Florida in the 80s, playing in a few local hair bands (with less hair) and in "Oliver Twist" with Jim Oliver.

Dave had stopped playing for a few years until a call came from Brooks Reid and Tom Hall, who were looking for a drummer for "The Backbeats." He says, "This is all their fault, I was happily retired!"



**Johnny O**  
Vocals, Sax, Flute, Harmonica, Percussion

Johnny O (Onderlinde), formerly from Philadelphia, PA and born in Baton Rouge LA, has opened for the likes of Steppenwolf, Joan Jett, Eddie Money, Morris Day and the Time, Bobby Womach, Jewel, Soul Asylum, the Lemonheads, Lakeside, Robert Hazzard and the Heroes, the Stylistics, Santana, Tito Puente , and others. Johnny O was a member of the original Village People band, and received a gold record with "Instant Funk," formerly Bunny Sigler's band, famous for the hit song 'Let The Good Times Roll.'

Johnny shows his diversity from his early days backing up the Village People to his stint with the Ritchie family, to his nightclub days in the 90s at the top of the Philly club scene, to his pres-

ent classic Rock n' Roll and soulful R & B that will sooth your soul. He has sung with War, Mark Farner, and Huey Lewis and the News. Now, he is having a ball playing along the southern coastline with Mr. Nice Guy, a band he thinks is the best! Playing sax, percussions and holding up the occasional lead vocal, Johnny O has never lost track of what's important: that is, the music must be recreated flawlessly, and the party must be off the chain!



**Alex Lencina**  
Vocals/Percussion

Alex is a California native who started his musical career as a drummer in a little town called Placerville. After successfully taking part in various well-known bands in northern California and realizing that breaking down a drum set can really suck (yea no kidding, Dave!), he decided to take on singing and did so during his travels to South America, where he recorded with two record labels and rocked with some of South America's best.

His vocal influences include Wilson Pickett, Jimi Hendrix, James Brown, Cory Glover, TT Darby... pretty much anything that grooves and or rocks. He has shared the stage with the likes of BB King and Jeff Healey.

On his return to the US he decided to settle down and explore other avenues in the music and radio industry. In other words, he

stopped singing (bad idea). Several years passed until he was introduced to MNG by a co-worker (you know who you are). The rest as they say, is history. Alex certainly brings his own unique style to MNG.



**Maria De Crescenzo**  
Vocals

Here's the story... a long time ago in a decade far far away (the 80's... remember the 80's?), members of MNG played with Maria in a couple of local Miami bands, "Top Secret" and "Maxx." Even back then, her talent as a vocalist and entertainer showed that this was her calling; they knew she was going somewhere.

Fast forward 30 years (wow), Maria had gone on to a very successful career as a prominent member of KC and the Sunshine Band. With her own projects, she has been performing for thousands of fans around the world. Of course with her schedule, the other members of MNG had not seen her since the old band days.

Through a series of events (coincidence or fate?), they caught up with her recently and proposed a crazy idea about doing some dates with the band whenever she is in town. And she loved this crazy idea.

Maria can sing anything, but she is a rocker at heart, and the band is excited about the chance to

reunite with her once again and rock the house like old times!



**Martin Engineering**

Martin is the behind-the-scenes 8th member of the



The Mr. Nice Guy Band (above, at Gilbert's) also plays at Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill, and you can visit them online at [www.mngband.com](http://www.mngband.com). This is the best band The Coconut Telegraph has ever heard in the Keys. This is a show you don't want to miss!



Helicopter visits a raft-up of small boats. Photo by Skip.



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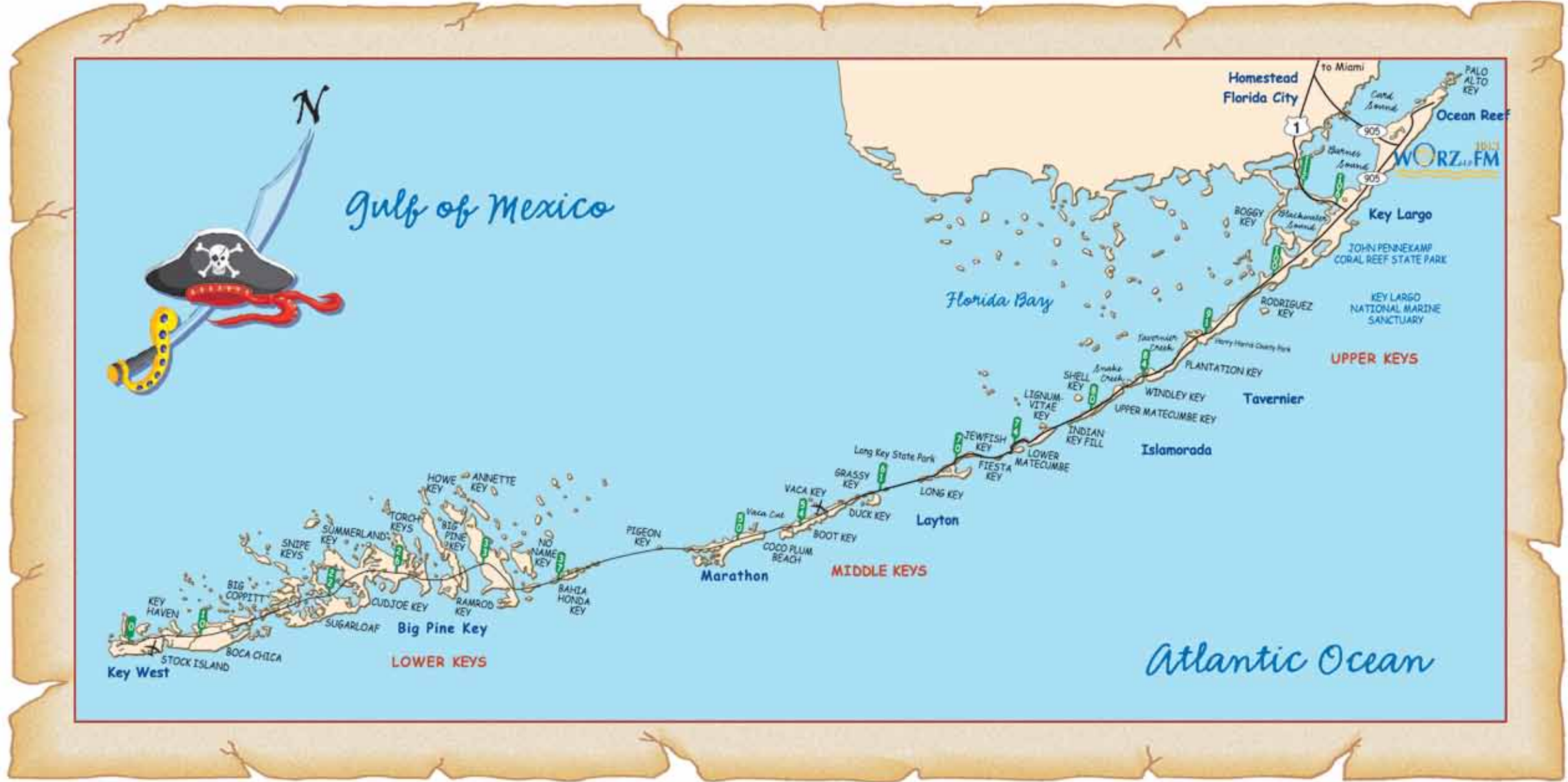
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MM 106.5 Oceanside in the Garden Cove Marina



Centennial Bank Recognizes  
Three Star Tellers



Joyski Carrasco



Dee Bergstrom



Jessica Lugo

Centennial Bank congratulates these employees for earning the following Star Teller Awards for all activity in 2012:

Most Star Teller Awards: Joyski Carrasco - Key Largo Branch, Joyski received 11 Star Teller Awards throughout 2012.

Dee Bergstrom - Islamorada Branch, received Most Transactions as well as 2nd highest Star Teller Award for 2012 with 10 Star Teller Awards.

Jessica Lugo received 2nd Highest Transactions Star Teller Award for 2012 and earned Star Teller eight times in 2012.

"The Star Teller program sets the bar in regards to the quality of service we wish to see from our employees," states Teresa Condas, President of Centennial Bank's Florida Region. "On behalf of our customers and everyone at

the bank, we thank Joyski, Dee and Jessica for their accuracy and enthusiasm serving their customers. This is well-deserved recognition for their dedication and attention to detail."

In appreciation of the challenges tellers have in providing best-in-class customer service, Centennial Bank designed the Star Teller Program, a monthly recognition program that showcases the importance of error-free work. Tellers are rewarded for maintaining Centennial Bank's standard of customer service, meaning they have no unscheduled absences, and that for every given number of transactions there are a minimal number of errors. Each Star Teller receives a monetary award and a Golden Star to be placed on his or her name plate, indicating to customers the teller provides stellar customer service.

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Bartender of the Month:  
Master Mixologist Jesse Dean

For the first time ever, Key Largo has a world-class bartender! Master Mixologist Jesse Dean, owner of the prestigious Libations Bar School in Washington, D.C., left his business behind to move to South Florida to help his father, who is recovering from a stroke. One day Dean went to look for a job and, fortunately for us, he turned right instead of left and found his way to the Buzzard's Roost in Key Largo. Conveniently located at MM 106 in Garden Cove on the ocean, the Buzzard's Roost is a longtime favorite of the Ocean Reef crowd and Key Largo locals alike.

The title of "Master Mixologist" is bestowed upon only those individuals who excel in a variety of areas related to fine drinking, including aspects of the culinary arts including herbs and spices, teas, coffees, and colas. A top barman should not only be technically proficient, but also creative and personable. Dean is all that and more. While we were chatting, a heavenly cocktail magically appeared before

me. The concoction was called Parfait Amour, consisting of gin, violet liqueur, fresh lime, and a slight bit of cane sugar that he presses himself. Although I have never cared much for gin, this was quite delicious and very pretty to look at. Whether you're looking for a fruity, original island concoction or a rock solid classic cocktail, you'll enjoy the experience with Jesse Dean at the Buzzard's Roost.

Chances are you won't find Dean tossing bottles into the air at the Buzzard's Roost, although he does like to shake things up. From the fresh produce stands in Homestead he hand picks his fresh fruit, black and green sugar cane and other secret ingredients and from them he makes his own house drink bases, such as Bloody Mary and Pina Colada mix. He uses only the freshest ingredients. He took me in the back room behind the kitchen where he keeps dozens of small bottles, each one a delightfully odd syrup concoction that is aging to perfection.

Back in Washington, D.C., Dean was the talk of the town and he is no stranger to the rich and famous. Dean personally created the cocktail list for



Jesse Dean at Buzzards Roost.

President Obama's inauguration and was called upon by the Chinese Embassy to create a drink for one of their events. For that soiree Dean gathered up cherry blossoms which he pureed and the final touch was a bit of liquid nitrogen which caused the drink called "The Year of the Dragon" to produce smoke. He was a regular fixture at Washington charity events raising money for organizations such as the Red Cross and the Smithsonian Institution.

The Sievers, owners of the Buzzard's Roost, invite everyone to come by and meet Jesse Dean, who usually works Thursday through Sunday nights. Dean plans to stay there a long time, he tells us as he gazes across the bar at the ocean. "This establishment has a wonderful location, the food is really good, and the kitchen

staff works hard to execute it so it comes out really fast and hot," says Dean. He is looking forward to working with the Sievers to improve the place, and dreams of putting in a rooftop cocktail garden and his special drinks on tap. When he is not at work or taking care of his father, Jesse Dean is taking classes at the Fruit and Spice Park to learn more about fresh and exotic ingredients to make your cocktail experience the best.

The Buzzard's Roost is open daily. Happy Hour is Monday through Friday inside 4:00-6:00 p.m., or at the tiki bar Friday nights 4 to 7 pm, with specials such as the \$2.75 margaritas and \$5 appetizers. Come by car or by boat.

Lat 25°10.232 Long 80°22.291 . 305-453-3746, buzzardsroostkeylargo.com

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## Decorating Life: The World as Home

Each day we choose  
to decorate our lives  
just as we do  
our homes.

There are few things more thrilling than having a new house or an empty room to decorate. Our imaginations soar as we consider the many possibilities. In the same way, our lives offer us the opportunity to express ourselves within various contexts, to ask ourselves questions about what we want to see as we move through our days and how we want things to flow. Some people do this instinctively, moving through the various environments they inhabit and shifting the energy with their presence. These people have a knack for decorating life. This can be as simple as the way they dress, the way they speak, or the fact that they always bring a bouquet of wildflowers when they come for a visit.

As we move through the world, we make a statement, whether we intend to or not. We shift the energy one way when we enter a room dressed elegantly and simply, and another when we show up in bright, cheerful colors and a floppy hat. One is not better than the other. It is simply a question of the mood we wish to create. What we wear is just one choice we can focus on. The way we speak to people, or touch them, shifts the energy more profoundly than almost anything else. The words we speak and the tone in which we say them are the music we choose to play in the world that is our home. Some of us fill the space with passionate arias, others with healing hymns. Again, one is not better than the other. We are all called to contribute.

Just as we consciously create an environment within our homes, we can consciously choose to decorate life itself with our particular energy. Ideally, in doing so, we express our deeper selves, so that the adornments we add to the world make it more meaningful, more beautiful, and as welcoming as a beloved home.

Reprinted from DailyOM - Inspirational thoughts for a happy, healthy and fulfilling day. Register for free at [www.dailyom.com](http://www.dailyom.com)

The Coconut Telegraph is not your typical newspaper!

## The Mangrove Galley

by Sandi Mieszczenski

There are so many things to love about the Keys. We have beautiful weather, multicolored water, and super bars with incredible music and unbelievable seafood. The shrimp, crab, lobster and fish are so fresh and abundant. The recipe below features one of the Keys premier fish, the yellowtail snapper. This delicacy is found off the North American coast in the Atlantic Ocean but most notably in the Florida Keys. The yellowtail snapper is light, delicate and so delicious. Meunière is my favorite way to prepare yellowtail... so enjoy!

### ISLAND GRILL

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#### Easter Sunday

Island Grill Islamorada will be serving up some great specials, including Prime Rib, Ham and a couple of surprises!

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So travel north or south for your Easter Lunch or Dinner, but, travel to the Island Grill!

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Key Largo 305 852-0595 Islamorada 305 664-8400

## Yellowtail Snapper Meunière

If yellowtail is not available you can use red snapper or small grouper. Lengthen the cooking time for thicker fish.

- 1 1/4 pounds yellowtail snapper, skin removed
- 1/4 cup flour
- salt and pepper
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 egg beaten
- 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- juice of 1/2 a lemon

Combine the four, salt, and pepper. Using a bag, coat the fish, then shake off the excess flour.

Place in a pan and refrigerate for one hour. After the hour, remove the fish from the pan and dip into the beaten egg. Place a skillet on the stove and heat the pan turning the knob to the high side of medium heat. Add the olive oil and 1 tablespoon of the butter, bring to a bubble, then add the fish.

Sauté the fish on one side for about 5 minutes, until golden brown. Be careful not to break the fish when turning; cook an additional 3 to 4 minutes. Remove from heat. Add the remaining 2 tablespoons of butter, Worcestershire sauce, garlic powder, and lemon to the pan. Blend and serve over the fish.

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### CORAL FINANCIAL

Key Largo PAWN Stars

## CORAL FINANCIAL

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I have been a resident of the Upper Keys for over 20 years and always had health insurance. For the longest time I passed by a billboard advertising free health care and I thought there must be a catch. Unfortunately I fell on hard times and could no longer afford health insurance so I went to the Good Health Clinic across US 1 from Mariner's Hospital and I qualified for the program.

The quality of service and attention I received far surpassed any of the doctors I had been to previously. They got my cholesterol and high blood pressure under control and provided the more expensive medicines. The dermatologist treated me for existing skin cancer and pre-cancer, also finding discounted drugs for me. My left hip needed to be replaced so they found a surgeon to do the surgery pro bono including a 3-day stay in the hospital. They continued with physical therapy and administered the follow-up drugs I needed with no charge to me.

I will always be thankful to Dr. Yankow and his wonderful staff for greatly improving my life. So for good health call 305-853-1788.

Sincerely,  
Betty Chiavarini

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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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# Conch Characters



Ted and Vivian every Sunday at the Conch House



Ocean Reef residents Kathie Lee and Frank Gifford stopped by the Buzzards Roost for their amazing Sunday Brunch. Kathie Lee was so impressed with entertainer Brenda Starr that she got up and sang a song with her.



Sunset at Bayside Grille



Realtor extraordinaire Jane Wasmund and husband Jerry at the Caring for Cats benefit at the Elks Club



The fabulous Bob Bonnen at Gilbert's Resort



Brenda Starr at the Elks



Louis, Dave and Luke at Bayside Grille



Bolivar at the Pilot House



Joel DaSilva & the Midnight Howl at Bayside Grille



Rockin Jake Band at Bayside Grille

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# Coco'Nut' Funnies

## Negative attitude!

This is something to think about when negative people are doing their best to rain on your parade. So remember this story the next time someone who knows nothing and cares less tries to make your life miserable.

A woman was at her hairdresser's getting her hair styled for a trip to Rome with her husband. She mentioned the trip to the hairdresser, who responded:

"Rome? Why would anyone want to go there? It's crowded and dirty. You're crazy to go to Rome. So, how are you getting there?"

"We're taking Continental," was the reply. "We got a great rate!"

"Continental?" exclaimed the hairdresser. "That's a terrible airline! Their planes are old, their flight attendants are ugly, and they're always late. So, where are you staying in Rome?"

"We'll be at this exclusive little place over on Rome's Tiber River called Teste."

"Don't go any further. I know that place. Everybody thinks it's gonna be something special and exclusive, but it's really a dump."

"We're going to go to see the Vatican and maybe get to see the Pope."

"That's rich," laughed the hairdresser. You and a million other people trying to see him. He'll look the size of an ant. Boy, good luck on this lousy trip of yours. You're going to need it."

A month later, when the woman again came in for a hairdo, the hairdresser asked her about her trip to Rome.

"It was wonderful," explained the woman, "not only were we on time in one of Continental's brand new planes, but it was overbooked, and they bumped us up to first class. The food and wine were wonderful, and I had a handsome 28-year-old steward who waited on me hand and foot. And the hotel was great! They'd just finished a \$5 million remodeling job, and now it's a jewel, the finest hotel in the city. They, too, were overbooked, so they apologized and gave us their owner's suite at no extra charge!"

"Well," muttered the hairdresser, "that's all well and good, but I know you didn't get to see the Pope."

"Actually, we were quite lucky, because as we toured the Vatican, a Swiss Guard tapped me on the shoulder, and explained that the Pope likes to meet some of the visitors, and if I'd be so kind as to step into his private room and wait, the Pope would personally greet me. Sure enough, five minutes later, the Pope walked through the door and shook my hand! I knelt down and he spoke a few words to me."

"Oh, really! What'd he say?"

He said: "Who f---ed up your hair?"



MALE PROSTITUTE

New Email Address  
for the Coconut Telegraph:  
theconchtelegraph@gmail.com



Left Field  
by J.S. McKinna

"...As I recall, the bet was a thousand bucks that I couldn't sit in here all night without drinking..."

"First one home wins."

"Shit."

A CLEAN HOUSE IS THE SIGN OF A BROKEN COMPUTER

Perspective...

### Math in 2013

Last week I purchased a burger at a fast food restaurant for \$1.58. The counter girl took my \$2 and I was digging for my change when I pulled 8 cents from my pocket and gave it to her. She stood there, holding the nickel and 3 pennies, while looking at the screen on her register.

I sensed her discomfort and tried to tell her to just give me two quarters, but she hailed the manager for help. While he tried to explain the transaction to her, she stood there and cried.

Why do I tell you this? Because of the evolution in teaching math since the 1950s:

- Teaching Math In 1950s**  
A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is 4/5 of the price. What is his profit?
- Teaching Math In 1960s**  
A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is 4/5 of the price, or \$80. What is his profit?
- Teaching Math In 1970s**  
A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of produc-

tion is \$80. Did he make a profit?

- Teaching Math In 1980s**  
A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is \$80 and his profit is \$20. Your assignment: Underline the number 20.
- Teaching Math In 1990s**  
A logger cuts down a beautiful forest because he is selfish and inconsiderate and cares nothing for the habitat of animals or the preservation of our woodlands. He does this so he can make a profit of \$20. What do you think of this way of making a living?
- Teaching Math In 2000s**  
Un hachero vende una carretada de maderapara \$100. El costo de la producciones es \$80. Cuanto dinero ha hecho?

Topic for class participation after answering the question: How did the birds and squirrels feel as the logger cut down their homes? (There are no wrong answers, and if you feel like crying, it's ok. )

- Teaching Math In 2013**  
Who cares, just steal the lumber from your rich neighbor's property. He won't have a gun to stop you, and it's OK anyway cuz it's redistributing the wealth.



AIRLINE TRAVEL TRUISMS

No flight ever leaves on time unless you are running late and need the delay to make the flight.

If you are running late for a flight, it will depart from the farthest gate in the terminal.

If you arrive very early for a flight, it inevitably will be delayed.

Flights never leave from Gate #1 at any terminal in the world.

If you must work on your flight, you will experience turbulence just as soon as you touch pen to paper.

If you are assigned a middle seat, you can determine who has the seats on the aisle and the window while you are still in the boarding area. Just look for the two largest passengers.

Only passengers seated in window seats ever have to get up to go to the washroom.

The less carry-on luggage space available on an aircraft, the more carry-on luggage passengers will bring aboard.

The best-looking woman on your flight is never seated next to you.

The crying baby on board your flight is *\*always\** seated next to you.

Thank you Thad Bowling

Shakespearean Insults

To create a Shakespearean insult, combine 1 word from each of the 3 columns below, prefaced with "Thou":

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
artless	base-court	apple-john
bawdy	bat-fowling	baggage
beslubbering	beef-witted	barnacle
bootless	beetle-headed	bladder
churlish	boil-brained	boar-pig
cockered	clapper-clawed	bugbear
clouted	clay-brained	burn-bailey
craven	common-kissing	canker-blossom
currish	crook-pated	clack-dish
dankish	dismal-dreaming	clotpole
dissembling	dizzy-eyed	coxcorn
droning	doghearted	codpiece
errant	dread-bolted	death-token
fawning	earth-vexing	dewberry
fobbing	elf-skin	flap-dragon
froward	fat-kidneyed	flax-wench
frothy	fen-sucked	flirt-gill
gleeking	flap-mouthed	foot-licker
goatish	fly-bitten	fustilurian
gorbellied	folly-fallen	giolet
impertinent	fool-born	ludgeon
infectious	full-gorged	laggard
jarring	guts-gripping	harp
loggerheaded	half-faced	hedge-pig
lumpish	hasty-witted	horn-beast
mammering	hedge-born	hugger-mugger
mangled	hell-hated	jointhead



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