The Conch Republic COCONUT ELEGRAPH

101425 Overseas Hwy. · PMB #628 · Key Largo, FL 33037 · 305-304-2837 · www.theconchtelegraph.com · January 2013

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Uncorked Festival Kick Off Jan. 10 Seafood Festival Jan. 26-27

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All the Buzz

Dear Anny Bannanny Coco-Nut Funnies Conch Characters



View from the Morada Bay Beach Cafe - home of the Full Moon Party. See ad on page 9.



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Coconut Telegraph

January 2013 Volume 8 Issue #71

Prestige Publishing, Inc 101425 Overseas Highway PMB #628 Key Largo, FL 33037 Phone 305-304-2837

Deadline

for the Coconut Telegraph's December issue is Friday January 25, 2013

Call Denise at 305-304-2837 The Coconut Telegraph@yahoo.com

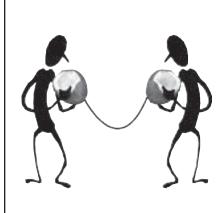
Cast of Characters:

Editor/Sales/Distribution

Denise Malefyt

Advertising Production

Sue Beal



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Editorial: Security/Mental Health Exam

In the wake of the Newtown, CT tragedy I see where many people are calling for stricter gun laws. I do not think that is the answer. It will not stop a mentally ill person from finding a way to kill innocent people and children.

So how do we protect our schools? I think the answer is a simple one. A few years ago a friend of mine applied for a job at Turkey Point Nuclear Plant run by Florida Power and Light. She had to go through a stringent background check including a MENTAL HEALTH EXAM She got the job. Now she carries a card that lets her

enter the building once she passes SECURITY.

Each and every school in this country simply needs better security. I got lost in Homestead

one day and wound up on the road going to Turkey Point. I stopped and asks some men working on the road directions. They told me to turn around and head in the opposite direction because if I kept going towards Turkey Point I would meet some armed guards who would search my car. Now that is what I call SECURITY.

In November a nanny working for a wealthy family in New York City murdered 2

young children she was hired to care for. She had been a trusted employee of the family for a couple of years.

My question is: did that family insist on the nanny getting a mental health exam prior to entrusting their children to her? Probably not. They probably didn't even think about it.

Many people are putting blame on the media. The Coconut Telegraph is a newspaper and is indeed media but we differ from the norm. I have been subject to rants from people that don't agree with my words. Some of them are simply looking for attention. Negative attention is better than no attention. They see murderers' names blasted all over the television, newspapers and radio air waves. If the culprits names were withheld, what incentive would there be for an insane person? Instead of flaunting the criminals name, why not have a headline that reads "crime committed by a jackass"?



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Entertainer of the Month: Jess Atkins

Jess Atkins moved to the Florida Keys four years ago from his home in Bozeman, Montana. Jess is a self-taught musician who has been performing music since he was 12 years old. At 36 years old his lyrics and compositions have been said to hide his young age, sounding more like someone who's been at it for 45 years. His proficient finger and flat picking style immediately brings to mind such players as Leo Kottke, John Fahey, Keller



thews. Pulling a subject out of thin air, his songs reflect melodies and interpretations of subjects we all think about but can't articulate. Along with his self-penned compositions, he easily blends in timeless classics

that paved the way for acoustic singer/ songwriters. His adept versions of songs like Danny O'Keffe's "Good time Charlie's Got the Blues," Santo and Johnny's "Sleepwalk" and other blues and country classics, make you feel like he wrote them himself.

A stunning instrumentalist and true showman with a great voice, Jess Atkins plays weekly in the Keys at The Island Grill, Marker 88, Sundowners and the Lorelei. Catch the Jess Atkins Band every Friday night at Morada Bay Cafe. Jess Atkins is a "must see" for any music enthusiast.

2013 Tide Charts Available at KeysBank.com

As a community service, First State Bank of the Florida Keys is continuing its commitment to local fisherman and boaters by providng printed Keyswide Tide Charts.

For two decades, First State Bank has been providing the valuable reference guides consisting of daily low and high tide predictions and moon phases.

"All of us at First State Bank ealize the significance that marinas and fishermen play in ne Florida Keys, and it is our

pleasure to provide them with the tide predictions to ensure a safe and fun boating experience," said Don Lanman, First State Bank of the Florida Keys Senior Vice President and Marketing Director.

2013 January through June Tide Charts will be available online beginning December 31, 2012 at www.KeysBank.com and in printed form at First State Bank of the Florida Keys branches throughout the Keys.

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William H. "Daddy Bill" Saylor

of Key Largo, 76, passed away on December 5th from sudden illness.

Born in Kingsport, TN, he attended Bluefield College and completed military service with the US Army, then worked with the National Park Service in VA, NC, YN, VA AR, MD and Washington, DC,. He retired as Administrative Officer of Everglades National Park in 1989.

Bill enjoyed a second, parallel career producing world-class firework productions. Among these were centennial celebrations at the Brooklyn Bridge and the Statue of Liberty, 3 presidential inaugurations and 6 Independence Days on the National Mall, as well as some concerts by well-known groups.

A rememberence will be held at the American Legion Post 154, in Marathon, tentatively January 12th. Donations to honor his memory may be made to Child Welfare Foundation at www.Legion.org/donate.

Free Flu Shots Available At Good Health Clinic

DONATIONS

gladly accepted!

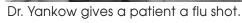
Keys Community Thrift is

a 501(c)3 organization.

Donations are tax deductible

and written receipts are given

Qualified residents and workers of the Upper Keys can now receive free flu shots at the Good Health Clinic while supplies last. To qualify for a free shot you must prove you have been a resident or have been employed in the Upper Keys for



the past six months, have no insurance of any kind and meet the Good Health Clinic's financial guidelines.

The Good Health Clinic is located at 91555 Overseas Highway, Suite 2 in Tavernier, Oceanside, and is open Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Call 305.853.1788 to make an appointment

The Good Health Clinic is the only 501(c) (3) not-forprofit organization providing FREE healthcare to the uninsured, low-income residents of the Upper Keys. In order to provide these services, the clinic relies solely on funding from grants and contributions from the private and public sector.

To make a charitable tax-deductible contribution in support of the community's only free healthcare facility, contact the Good Health Clinic at 305.853.1788, or via www.thegoodhealthclinic.org.

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If you lived and worked in THE FLORIDA KEYS in April 2010 there's a good chance you have some money coming to you. It's easy to find out!

The Deepwater Horizon Settlement Program has extended claim acceptance until April 2014.

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Islamorada

81681 Old Highway MM 81.6 Call Burgess Warren 305-393-6493

Marathon

5107 Overseas Highway In the Plaza Center MM 49.7 (Next to the Post Office) Call Tom Theisen 575-779-1456

November 2012.

\$500,000.

In the Big Pine Winn Dixie Plaza (Next to the tax office) Call Tom Griffin 305-896-0042

Key West

MacDonald Avenue Suite 10 (Clear Channel Bldg.) Call PT Farmum 305-394-4108



10 Days of Food & Wine Events in Key Largo & Islamorada, Florida Keys

January 10th 19th 2013

Thursday 1/10

Tradewinds Liquors Tradewinds Plaza, MM101.5 **TGIF Happy Hour** 4-7pm Festival kick off & Complimentary wine tasting. Free Entry 305-451-5958

Key Largo Fisheries Backyard Café 1313 Ocean Bay Drive

Lobsterfest 6-9pm Florida Lobster every which way, live music and wine!! 305-451-3782

Green Turtle Wine and Spirits Shop

Happy Hour 5-7pm nentary happy hour wine and liquor tastings. 305-664-2006

Island Grill MM85.5 From the Dock to the Plate 7-9pm. 3-course, prix fixe hogfish dinner with wines. 305-664-8400

Friday 1/11

Island Time Paddlewheel Riverboat Next to the Caribbean Club MM104 A Caribbean Night at Sea 7-9:30pm. Tropical hors d'oeuvres, cocktails, music & fun. 305-453-0001

Doc's Diner MM99.6 A Trip to Italy 6-8pm Great Italian home-cooked delicacies & Italian wines. 305-451-2895

Bentley's Restaurant MM82.8 **Cajun Shrimp Boil** 7pm Louisiana style spicy shrimp boil paired with wines. 305-664-9094

Saturday 1/12

Outback Steakhouse MM 80 **Bondi Beach Party** 6pm An Australian Beach party with

Australian wines. 305-664-3344

Sundowners MM104 Night in New Orleans 6:30pm 4-course Cajun French menu paired with wines and The Sauce Boss. 305-451-4502

Hilton Hotel, Tree Tops MM97 Chino Keys

5-6 Happy Hour • 6-10 Prix Fixe dinner Florida Keys/Chinese fusion menu. 305-852-5553 x 522

Sunday 1/13

Key Largo Conch House

Sunday Breakfast Special 8am-Noon. Lobster Bene favorite! 305-453-4844

Snapper's Waterfront Restaurant MM94.5, 139 Seaside Dr

Jazz Brunch 11am-4pm Bloody Mary Bar and Mimosas. 305-852-5956

Marker 88 MM88 **Charity Chopped** 6pm The Keys' own version of the

popular TV show. 305-852-9315

Monday 1/14

Key Largo Conch House MM100.2 Seafood, Wine & Art in the **Garden** 7-9pm. Fresh seafood buffet paired with wines & art/artists. 305-453-4844

Pilot House MM99.5, 13 Seagate Blvd. **Beer and Bites** 6:30pm Chefs small plates paired with unique craft beers. 305-451-3142

Pierre's Restaurant MM81.6 **Chef's Tasting** 6-10pm Fabulous 3 course Chef's tasting with wine flight. 305-664-3225

Tuesday 1/15

Islamorada Progressive Dinner **Dine Around Town** 6:30pm A traveling, 5-course gourmet dinner paired with wines. Transportation included. 305-394-3736.

Island Grill at the Mandalay

Paella Night 6pm Traditional paella with Spanish

wines and sangria. 305-852-0595 **Ballyhoo's Historic Grille** MM 97.8

Chef's Dinner 7pm Chef prepares 3 gourmet courses before your eyes, paired with wines.

> Check the website for all the details!

Wednesday 1/16

Morada Bay Beach Café MM 81.6 **Sunset Lobster Celebration** 5pm. Lobster 2 ways paired with craft beers. 305-664-0604

Snapper's Waterfront Restaurant MM94.5, 139 Seaside Dr. **Sushi 101** 6pm

Cooking demo and sushi making tutorial with saki tastings. 305-852-

Ziggies and Maddogs MM83 An evening with Pasta Panteleo 6-8pm. See the artist and his work; hors d'oeuvres and wine. 305-664-3391

Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill MM104 Bartender Flair Contest 6pm Enter Best Bartender contest and try to win \$500 CASH. 305-453-9066

Thursday 1/17

Snook's Restaurant MM99.5 Going Green on the Bay

Sunset gourmet organic food and wine experience. 305-453-5004

Num Thai MM103.2 An Oriental Experience 6pm Sushi & Thai dishes, *complimentary* saki and wine. 305-451-5955

Lazy Days MM80 A Mexican Fiesta 6-9pm Mexican buffet & margaritas 305-664-5256

Moose Lodge & Caribbean Catering 5-course Gourmet Dinner

6:30pm. Each course expertly paired with fine wines. 305-664-8120



Friday 1/18

Holiday Inn, Bogies Café MM100 Flavors of the East 6-9pm Traditional Eastern buffet paired with wines. 305-451-2121 x 445

Senor Frijoles/Key Players MM104 Murder Mystery Dinner 7pm 4-course gourmet Mexican dinner with wines. 305-451-1592

Postcard Inn Resort & Marina MM84 TGIF Horizon Happy Hour

4-7pm. A really, really, happy, happy, hour! 305-664-2321 x 521 Marker 88 MM88

Chef's Dinner 7pm Chef prepares 3 gourmet courses before your eyes, paired with wines. 305-852-9315



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The Reporter





Saturday 1/19

\$57 General Admission Purchase tickets on line.



The Mangrove Galley: Cheddar Beer Soup

by Sandi Mieszczenski

It's January and winter has set in. Yes. it is the Keys and the weather can still be warm but those who have experienced the Keys during the winter months know it can get cool or downright cold (at least for a Floridian.) What better way to endure a cool evening than a bowl of homemade soup.

Soup is a great meal. It is comforting, hearty and there are so many variations. Soup is also easy to prepare in a boat galley. This soup is so tasty. It serves four to six people and don't forget a side of crusty bread. Enjoy!

Cheddar Beer Soup

2 medium leeks. The white and pale green parts only. (Be sure to clean well between the layers then cut into 1/4 inch strips. This should measure 2 cups.)

1 cup medium carrots diced into 1/4 inch pieces.

1 cup celery diced into 1/4 inch pieces.

2 teaspoons finely chopped garlic

1 bay leaf

Half a stick (1/4 cup) unsalted butter

1/3 cup all-purpose flour

2 cups whole milk

1 ³/₄ cups chicken broth

1 (12-oz.) bottle of ale such as Bass or Key West Ale

1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce

1 tsp. dry mustard (such as Coleman's)

1 tsp. salt (or to taste)

1/4 tsp. pepper

1 pound of extra sharp cheddar, grated

4 slices of bacon, cooked and crumbled

Sautée the leeks, carrots, celery, garlic, and bay leaf in butter in a large pan. When the vegetables soften (about 5 minutes), reduce the heat and sprinkle the flour over the vegetables. Stir for 3 minutes. Add the milk, broth and beer, whisking then simmer whisking occasionally for 5 minutes. Stir in the Worcestershire sauce, mustard, salt and pepper.

Add the cheese, stirring constantly and cook until the cheese in melted, 3 to 4 minutes (do not boil.) Discard the bay leaf and serve with the bacon crumbled on top.

Sandi Mieszczenski is a recently retired school teacher and a live-aboard boater in Key Largo. She is the favorite contributing food columnist of the Coconut Telegraph.

















For more info: 305-394-3736

The Art Box's Featured Artist: Harry Stinger

Sometime in 1959 I was perusing my then-current edition of Time Magazine and I came across an ad for Chivas Regal scotch. Apparently the company had commissioned an artist to create it and he had chosen to depict Robert the Bruce at the Battle of Banneckburn. What really caught my eye was that he had chosen to render it in the art form of ancient Byzantium, in other words, mosaic.

It occurred to me that it would be an interesting challenge to produce the picture as shown. At the time I had a friend who was a tile importer from whom I was able to obtain what I needed. I enlarged my mosaic three and a half times the size of the picture, and using an ordinary grinder (two carborundum wheels, one coarse and one fine) I proceeded to reproduce the painting as a mosaic.

Although I enjoyed it very much, I was engrossed in my painting contracting business, so I did not pursue that interest for another 25 years. When I retired, my wife presented me with a kiln, and then I was off at a run. I tried to choose various subjects and avoid repeating them and the techniques exactly. Then, about three years ago, I accidentally pixilated a picture on my computer, and recognized it as a potentially new style. Though it proved more time consuming to reproduce pictures this way, my love of colors made the additional effort worthwhile.

Come March the sixth I will be 90 years old, a veteran of World War II. and I am no longer engaging in sports made for younger men, so a gentle hobby like this suits me perfectly. My wife is enthusiastic about my work, but also my sweetest critic. As she says, "At least it keeps him out of the bars and pool halls."

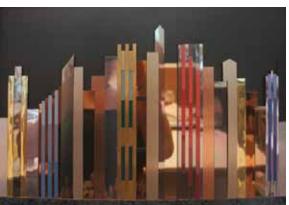
(Written by the artist.)

















DAILY SPECIALS

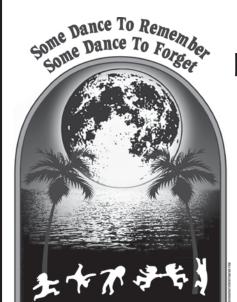
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Hunk of the Month Robin Schaupp - Steamer's



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Local Sailors Win Hobie National Championship

Key Largo's Leah White and husband Dave White took year's North American Cham-First and Third Places respectively for the 15th Annual Hobie Wave National Championships held in Islamorada in early December.

There has only been one triple winner of the Hobie Wave Nationals since its inception until now. Leah White of Key Largo, only the second woman to win overall, sailed very consistently, winning four first place finishes out of the eleven races sailed.



Leah White so far ahead in one race there was no one near her!

Marina, Restaurant & Glass Bottom Bar^{*}

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She was pushed hard by this pion from Pensacola Beach Tom Whitehurst.

Going into the last day of racing, Whitehurst was only 4 points behind White, but in the last three races on Sunday, White finished ahead of Whitehurst in every race, taking the victory by 9 points.

Leah's husband. Dave White, was in the hunt the entire weekend as well. At the start of the last race, he needed three positions to tie and beat Whitehurst, but he had to settle for 3rd place overall.

The Wave National Championships were hosted by Islander Watersports and the Islander Resort over the weekend of Dec. 6-9. The event was sponsored by Catamaran Sailor Magazine, OnLine MarineStore.com and CABB (Catamaran Assn. of Biscayne Bay)

Past National and North American Champ Jack Woehrle of Gainesville leading around the weather mark.



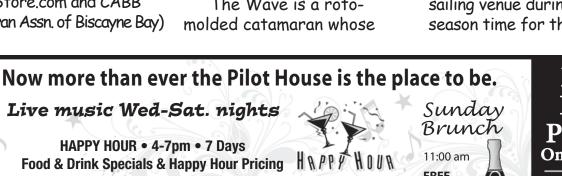
Winds were 8-12 mph on Friday and Saturday, which made for some excellent sailing off the beach of the resort on the Oceanside of the Keys. Sunday eased off quite a bit, but the Race Committee was able to get in three good, fair races to round out the weekend

John Sherry of Miami worked his way into the trophies, taking 5th place overall and 2nd place in the Masters Division, for ages 60 and over.

The Wave is a roto-

class has been growing rapidly in the U.S. and is considered one of the most active fleets in the country, with a very active fleet at the Upper Keys Sailing Club in Key Largo. The boat is 13 feet long, has one sail and is sailed by one person.

This national event has been held in the Florida Keys area on the first weekend of December for 15 years now, bringing lots of sailors and their friends to this great sailing venue during the off season time for the Keys.



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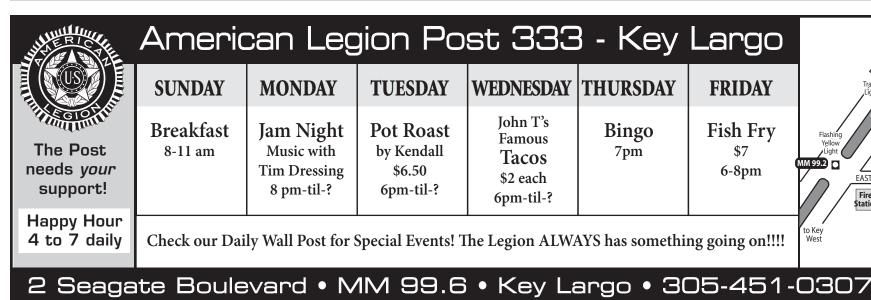
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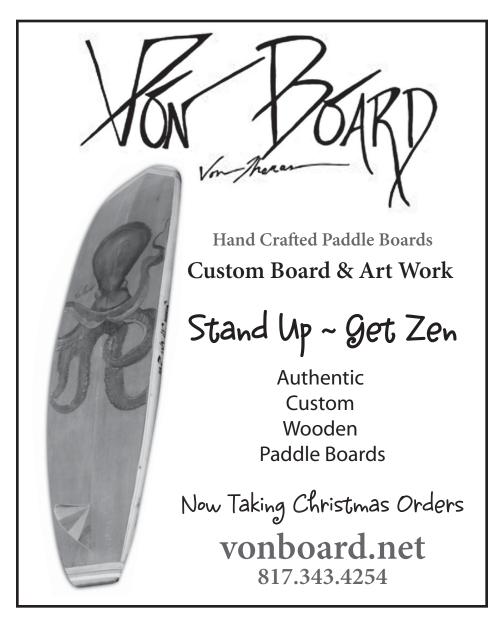
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Bloody Marys









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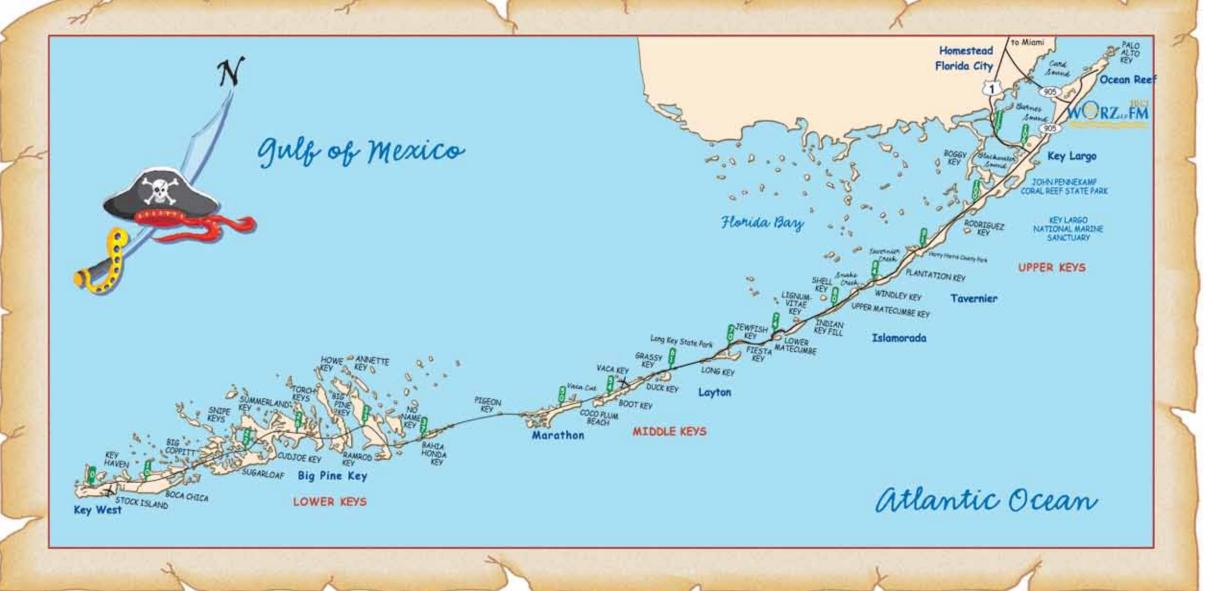
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'Viva La Vida' wins 49th Annual Islamorada Sailfish Tournament

Rough seas and windy conditions didn't stop great sailfish action in the 49th Annual Islamorada Sailfish Tournament, 157 Sailfish were released out of the 199 called in hook-ups over the three-day event and more than \$83,000 was paid out to the winners. Captain Nick Ewald led anglers Eric Darville of Cutler Bay, FL fishing with Travis Upchurch and Jimmy Fickling of Islamorada to the winner's circle. With the help of mate Clyde Upchurch, the team released a total of 14 sailfish over the three-day event. Captain "Wild" Bill Wichrowski of the fishing vessel Cape Caution from the Discovery Channel television show, 'Deadliest Catch,' handed over the beautiful glass trophies created by Sandstorm Art Studio and a welldeserved check to the Viva La Vida team at the awards ceremony.

Captain Paul Ross of the charter boat Relentless battled fish for fish with the Viva La Vida with both boats releasing 9 sailfish on the first day. Captain Alex Adler on his famed Kalex would do his best to keep up with "the boys," releasing 7 sails. Day two blew in as rough as day one with winds 20-25 gusting upwards of 30 kts. Captain Brian Cone moved up on the leaders, releasing 5 fish on day two bringing his total to 7 releases. Viva La Vida swapped fish one for one again with the Relentless, but at the end of the day Relentless was in the lead with 13 fish.

On the final day, Captain Augie Wampler's **Predator** lived up to its name as the team hunted down the competition. Closing in on them was



High Point Angler (I-r) Wild Bill Withrowski, Eric Darville, Tournament Director Dianne Harbaugh

last year's winner, Bodacious. While the two were passing the remaining 21 teams, Viva La Vida released a sailfish, propelling them into 1st place ahead of the Relentless. At 1:22 p.m. angler Shay Danzig aboard the Bodacious hooked up to a Sailfish. If this fish was released it would put them ahead of the Predator. Captain Augie called the committee boat at 1:27 p.m. as he, too, was hooked up. It was a release for angler Don Gaytos of Medford, NJ aboard the Predator, before the release on the Bodacious that secured their third place win.

Relentless anglers Fenton Langston from Ocean Reef, fishing with Jimmy and Debbie David of Hollywood FL, and Jimmy Hendrix from Islamorada, took home second place honors. Captain Paul Ross with the help of mate Mike Walter released 9 fish the first day and 4 fish on the second day. The **Relentless** took home 2nd place trophies with a total of 13 releases.

Captain Augie Wampler's **Predator** anglers Jeff Moore (Jacksonville, FL), Mike Cook (Broomall, PA), Don Gaytos (Medford, NJ) and Ross Demarzo (Islamorada, FL) with the help of mate Tim Arse, released 3 sails on the first day, 2 the second day and 5 on the final day. The team took home third place honors with a total of 10 releases.

The prestigious Bill Hirni Memorial Trophy and a stunning lighted glass trophy went to High Point Angler Eric Darville aboard the Viva La Vida with a total of 7 releases on time. Angler Debbie David won the Top Lady Angler Award with her 3releases aboard the Relentless. Junior angler and last year's High Point Angler Shawn MacMullin Jr., fishing with his father aboard the Prime Time, took home the top junior angler award with 3 sailfish releases.

Most Tagged Fish went to the Catchalottafish. Captain James Chappell and mates Marc Toledo and Brian Jamison tagged 3 of the 7 sailfish they released for anglers Lee Robertson (Chattanoogo, TN), Brad Perra (Rock Springs, GA), Mike Sisto (Key Largo, FL) and Steve Pere (Sarasota, FL).



1st place **Viva La Vida** (I-r) Travis Upchurch Wild Bill Wichrowski, Clyde Upchurch, Eric Darville, Capt. Nick Ewald, Jimmy Fickling.



2nd Place **Relentless** (L-R) Dianne Harbaugh, Jimmy Hendrix, Fenton Langston, Wild Bill Wichrowski, Mike Walter, Paul Ross. (Front row I-r) Grayden, Paul and Konnor Ross.



3rd Place Team **Predator** with Wild Bill Wichrowski.

The Islamorada Sailfish Tournament is the first leg of the Florida Keys Gold Cup Sailfish Championship. Viva La Vida is currently in the lead with 14 fish. Second place in the Gold Cup is Relentless with 13 releases and third is the Bodacious with 10. The next leg of the series is the Cheeca Lodge Presidential Sailfish Tournament January 17-19. The champions will be crowned at the Islamorada Fishing Club's Sailfish Tournament on the January 24, 2013.

More information on the Islamorada Sailfish Tournament can be found on the web site www.islamoradasailfishtournament.com



Dear Anny Bannanny,

You ridiculous bimbo! I went out to watch the annual lighted boat parade on Blackwater Sound with my friends this year and was so embarrassed. It was a spectacular show as usual and the highlight of the parade was Captain Sterling Kennedy's boat. When it stopped in front of the judges all eyes were upon it, as this is the boat that has for years taken first place. I could not believe my eyes! You, Anny Bannanny, had stowed aboard the boat and were cavorting in the nude with reckless abandon behind a curtained window that said Coconut Telegraph! Have you no shame? You are nothing but a media slut. They should have made you walk the plank 20 miles out in cement shoes. If the publisher of the Coconut Telegraph has any brains they would fire you for such wanton disrespect. You really suck jellyfish ass!

Yours Truly, Your Mother

Dear Mom,

Anny Bannanny was working hard! How was I to know they let you out of rehab that day? Have you no holiday spirit? We just barely survived the End of the World and you have your granny panties in a knot because I chose to support the fleet behind a sheet in my birthday suit in hot pursuit of a trophy? I suck jellyfish ass? I can see that we are going to need some family therapy again soon. I love you too.

Your favorite daughter, Anny Bannanny



RAISE A GLASS AND SHAKE SOME ASS! Congrats to Captain Sterling and friends for winning "Best Overall" in the Boat Parade!

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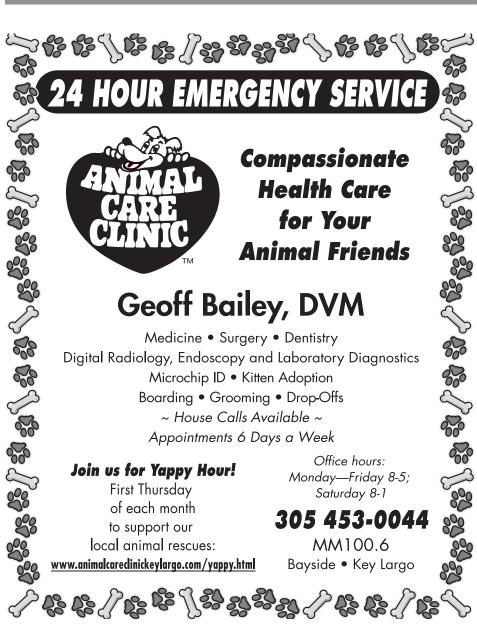


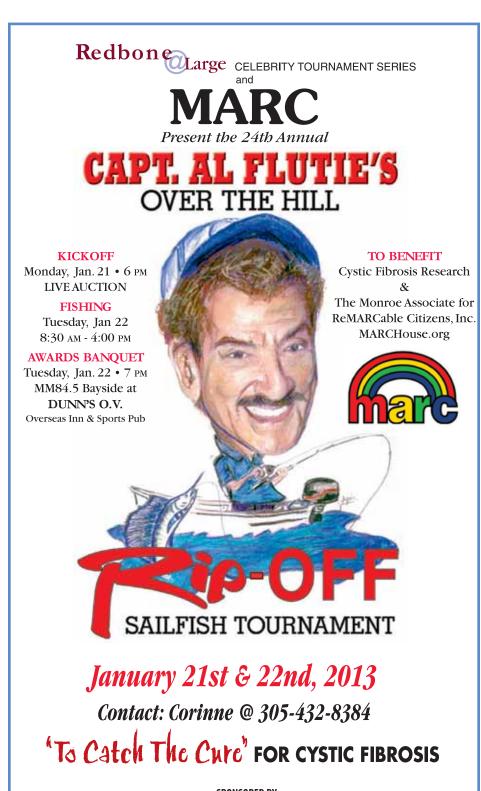
Chef Roger Potvin is the new Executive Chef for both Island Grill Restaurants. He comes with impressive credentials, as Chef for Gordon Ramsay's in Beverly Hills, The Malibu Beach Café and Ranchin L.A. and the Ivy Manor Inn located in Bar Harbor Maine, a Four Diamond resort.

He is the Chef at Island Grill South (Islamorada) and has been working with Chef Justin at the Island Grill Mandalay. Together they have created new menus at both restaurants, and they invite you to come and try them!

Come out and sample the new menus, at both Island Grills, starting the first of the year.

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Artist of the Month: Robert Silk



Ironically, the Coconut
Telegraph is very proud to
feature Robert Silk, reporter
for Cooke Communications'
Free Press and Key West
Citizen as Artist of the Month.

Robert, or Robby to his friends, was born in Indianapolis. IN and grew up in Louisville, KY. He earned his Bachelor's degree at the University of California and a Master's in Journalism and Communications at the University of Miami. After graduating in 2003, he was was hired as lead reporter for the Times, a bold new newspaper with its base in Key Largo serving the Upper Keys. It was there that he honed his skills as a journalist and grew to love the Keys. "The no-hassle lifestyle with water all around and the high number of eccentrics per capita makes life interesting," says Silk. "I just wish there were more golf courses." he adds.

A reporter is a type of journalist who researches, writes, conducts interviews and reports news. You must have a passion for events shaping the world around you because today's news travels faster than ever.

After the Times folded,
Silk went to work for the Free
Press in Tavernier, covering
important town meetings and
county-wide hard news. When
Ed Bozarth was murdered in
2007 Silk was first to investigate and report the story.
After 5 frustrating years

hounding the police, an arrest was made and Silk said that it was one of the highlights of his career to personally inform Bozarth's daughter that her father's killer was finally being brought to justice.

Another case he pursued with a passion was when Monroe County inmate Clayton Link was found unresponsive in a bath tub at the Stock Island Correctional Facility. Link had a history of epileptic seizures yet was left alone and unsupervised. Silk covered the story until its conclusion in September of 2012 when Link's family received settlements from Monroe County and the Health Care contractor. When it comes to muckraking, Silk is one of the best; he never gives up. "I really like having the opportunity to inform the public and to hold our leaders accountable.

"I hope people will still keep reading local newspapers. They're vital to communities," says Silk.

In his spare time Silk likes to follow horse racing, play golf and tennis, and read.

When we asked about his plans for the future he replied, "I'm not very good at planning... one day I hope to be an entrepreneur and make my own ice cream and call it Silky Smooth Ice Cream." Whether he remains a humble starving artist or makes a fortune in the ice cream business one thing is for sure, he will always get the scoop!



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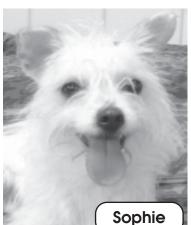
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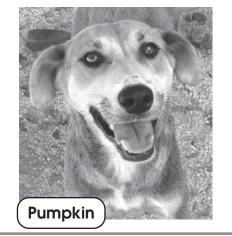


















International Recording Artist "The Barefoot Man" Spotted!

On a trip to the U.S. From Grand Cayman, International recording artist "The Barefoot Man" stopped at the well-known local establishment Lobster Trap Gift Shop and Art Gallery. Owners Nadine & Glenn Lahti met The Barefoot Man more than 25 years ago when he was playing at the Holiday Inn on Seven Mile Beach in Grand Cayman.

Glenn and Nadine and the The Barefoot Man stayed in contact throughout the years, even as The Barefoot Man and his record label began to grow. According to his website. The Barefoot Man is to the tongue-in-cheek lyrics. Caribbean what Jimmy Buffet is to Key West, but everyone knows him only as "Barefoot." He has composed about 2,000 songs and recorded 500, as well as having written two books.

The Barefoot Man was asked by Paramount Pictures to write music for the film "The Firm" and was mentioned in the novel by John Grisham of the same name. His music is

described as "like an island drink concoction: a mixture of calypso with a bit of reggae and soca, garnished with a little country and plenty of humor... put it in a blender and you dance to the beat."

When the Lahti's decided to open their Art Gallery in 2009, they could think of no better music or artist to play than The Barefoot Man and his unique brand of fun island music. Just about any time you walk into the Lobster Trap Gift Shop & Art Gallery, open 7 days a week 8am-6pm, you can hear the island-inspired chords and

The employees of the Lobster Trap Gift Shop & Art Gallery got to meet The Barefoot Man when he stopped in to say hello to old friends Nadine & Glenn. He chatted with some of the customers and took a picture with the employees.

The Lobster Trap Gift Shop & Art Gallery carries all of The Barefoot Man's records; they are also available for purchase from www.LobsterTrapArt.com.



The employees of the Lobster Trap Gift Shop & Art Gallery got to mee The Barefoot Man when he stopped in to say hello to old friends.



End of the World Party at Gilbert's.

Are we lucky to live here or what?

Conch Characters



Capt. Skyler back from Italy with friend Chris.



Sallie and friends help raise money for the Upper Keys Humane Society.



Key Largo Chamber of Commerce Holiday Members in Motion at Sundowners



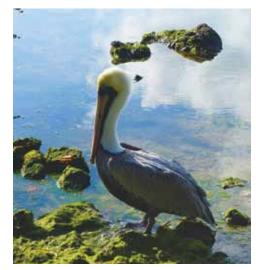
Captain Mark and friends enjoy a great time at Shipwreck's



Babes of Folly won Most Original in the boat parade: (I-r) Nancy Wells, Geri Luer, Joan Retzak and Kathy Miller with their captain, Barry Carter.



Island Time Cruise and a great island time it is!



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Franklin's Wheel at the Big Chill

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Democrat's Answer:

Well, that's not enough information to answer the question!

- · What is a Kimber 1911 cal. 45 ACP?
- · Does the man look poor or oppressed?
- Is he really a terrorist? Am I quilty of profiling?
- · Have I ever done anything to him that would inspire him to attack?
- Could we run away?
- · What does my wife think? What about the kids?
- · Could I possibly swing the gun like a club and knock the knife out of his hand?
- · What does the law say about this situation?
- · Does the pistol have appropriate safety on it?
- · Why am I carrying a loaded gun anyway, and what kind of message does this send to society and to my children?
- Is it possible he'd be happy with just killing me?
- · Does he definitely want to kill me, or would he be content just to wound me?
- If I were to grab his knees and hold on, could my family get away while he was stabbing me?
- · Should I call 9-1-1?
- Why is this street so deserted?
- · We need to raise taxes, have paint & weed day.
- · Can we make this a happier, healthier street that would discourage such behavior.
- · I need to debate this with some friends for a few days and try to come to a consensus. This is all so confusing!

shitty year we'll one day be



Left

Field

"You know, Honey-It's really sweet of you to keep taking me to the beach while I'm recovering from this temporary flash blindness...'

JOHN McKINNA is a local

and a published, syndicated

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musician, a best-selling author,

cartoonist. We'll be featuring

Southerner's Answer: BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Republican's Answer:

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Click.... (Sounds of reloading) BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

BANG!

BANG! BANG!

Click

Daughter: 'Nice grouping, Daddy!' 'Were those the Winchester Silver Tips or Hollow

Son: 'Can I shoot the next one?!'

Wife: 'You ain't taking that to the Taxidermist!

A geneticist worked long hours, secretly perfecting his greatest project: a perfect clone of himself; an utter copy with no noticeable differences in personality or appearance.

Having finished his work, the geneticist took off for Maui and sent his clone to work. Within days, reports came back from his friends in the know of bizarre behavior from his doppelganger. The duplicate had cussed out the boss and his receptionist, groped all members of the research team male and female, used the Xerox to copy his genitalia -- sending the results to all the company's affiliates -- and concluded all handshakes by forc-

ibly pressing the other's hand against the general area of his groin, then simulating caninefashion copulation while saying, "Nice to *meat* ya!"



The geneticist was, not surprisingly, horrified... and took the next plane back to the States.

by J.S. McKinna

He confronted the clone in their twentieth story office, and after a three-minute uninterrupted litany of expletives, he pushed his double out the window... where he fell to his death.

The police arrived, and once the situation was explained, the geneticist laughed, disbelieving any statute covered the destruction of one's genetic clone. After interviewing all concerned parties, the geneticist was arrested.

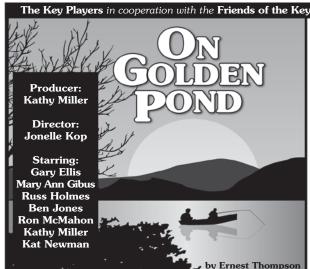
The charge? Making an obscene clone fall. Thank you to Thad Bowling Anglers Club & Ocean Reef Radio



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We all know that blam-

ing others is the opposite of taking responsibility, but we may not understand how to take responsibility for things that we don't truly feel responsible for. We may blame our parents for our low self-esteem, and we may blame our current partner for exacerbating it with their unconscious behavior. Objectively, this seems to make sense. After all, it is not our fault if our parents were irresponsible or unkind, and we are not to blame for

As we begin to truly

understand that the world

outside of us is a reflection

of the world inside of us, we

may feel confused about who

is to blame for the problems

difficult childhood, we may

responsibility for that, and

in our current relationships.

the same question arises.

in our lives. If we had a

wonder how we can take

with the activity of blaming. Whether we blame others or know we deserve. We leave blame ourselves, there is something aggressive and unkind about it. It sets up a situation in which it becomes difficult to move forward

our partner's bad behavior.

Burdensome Feelings Blaming Others

We cannot insist that someone else take responsibility for their actions; only they can make that choice when they are ready.

under the burdensome feel-

ings of shame and guilt that arise. It also puts the resolution of our pain in the hands of someone other than us. Ultimately, we cannot insist that someone else

take responsibility for their actions; only they can make that choice when they are ready. In the meantime, if we want to move forward with our lives instead of waiting around for something that may or may not happen, we begin to see the wisdom of taking the situation into our own hands.

We do this by forgiving our parents, even if they have not asked for our forgiveness, so that we can be free. We end the abusive relationship with our partner, who may never admit to any wrongdoing, because we are willing to take responsibility for how we are treated. In short, we love our-

Perhaps the problem lies selves as we want to be loved and create the life we the resolution of the wrongs committed against us in the hands of the universe. releasing ourselves to live a life free of blame.

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