101425 Overseas Hwy. · PMB #628 · Key Largo, FL 33037 · 305-304-2837 · www.theconchtelegraph.com · December 2014

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Attractions

Holiday Shopping: Keep it Local! Twas a Florida Keys Christmas

What's Hot & What's Not

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Key Largo Locator Map Getting from Here to There

All the Buzz

Coco-Nut Funnies
Mangrove Galley
Conch Characters
Business in the Keys





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Coconut Telegraph

December 2014 Volume 9 Issue #94

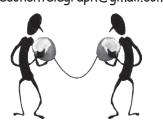
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Contact Denise at 305-304-2837 theconchtelegraph@gmail.com



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For comments please visit The Conch Telegraph on Facebook.

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Editorial: Protect Yourself

The Florida Keys is a chain of laid-back islands that have always been a magnet for pirates, thieves and grifters. Every week you hear about someone who got swindled. Thieves swoop down on us like vultures, coming from the mainland to cruise our neighborhoods looking for boats, waverunners, or motors to steal. Some live here. Our police do a great job but they need our help.

Where is it safe to shop? Every advertiser in this publication has been personally tested by me and recommended. They are very proud of their hard-earned reputa-

For cute, quality nautical items and stocking stuffers check out the new Island

Market behind the Dollar Tree. It is an air-conditioned upscale specialty gourmet market that offers free cheese tastings. There are fresh baked goods, art, doit-yourself solar panel systems, teak furniture, island clothing, jewelry and much more! It is a fun and friendly place open Friday, Saturday and Sundays 9 to 5 pm.

Stay away from tourist trap businesses that seemed to have popped up overnight along the highway with a lot of things in the yard to draw your attention and suck you in. Are they compliant with county regulations? Do they have an occupational license on display? If you are not sure about them, call Monroe County at 305-453-8734 and find out. If you feel uncom-

fortable with someone, do a free background check on them through the Sheriff's Dept. website keysso.net. Under the "civil" link through Clerk of the Court, for example, you can find out just how many times that creepy boat canvas quy has been sued for bad or incomplete work. Tell all your neighbors! It is our civic duty to keep our homes safe from crooks and con artists.

So after the holidays if you wind up with some gifts you can't use or you just need to downsize your household, we recommend selling them on Ebay, Craig's list, a yard sale or on one of the local Facebook groups unless they are really valuable... then visit the Coral Financial Pawn Shop. They have been

in business in the Upper Keys over 30 years are the only ones licensed to make loans.

If you want to consign household items and clothing, pick a consignment shop that has run a reputable business for many years. Make sure you make a complete list and/or photograph every item you take there. Sign a contract. You are entitled to an accounting of your sold items and you should be paid by check at the agreed-upon time. If the consignment shop does not provide those things, do not do business with them!

And if you're feeling generous, remember that the Salvation Army Store and Marc Thrift Shop are happy to accept your items as donations.

continued, page 4

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Editorial continued

You don't want to unknowingly buy stolen items. If you feel that you have been sold something stolen, or if you have been cheated or treated unfairly, file a report with the Sheriff's Department or talk to an investigator with the State Attorney's office. It takes a few minutes, but can help save someone else from getting hurt.

It was only a few months ago that a friend of mine called me very upset. He had received an email that said I was out of the country and desperately needed money and to wire it quickly. I was at home, safe and sound! It was a scam, of course.

Recently people have been getting calls that their electric bill is about to be shut off and needs to be paid immediately by a cash card.

Another scam! Listen to your gut feeling. Investigate evervthina!

Send me an email at The Conch Telegraph@amail. com or call 305-304-2837 and let me know what happened. We will add your complaint to the list and keep your name confidential if you want but we will address the issue.

We are into our 9th year publishing the Coconut Telearaph and we want to thank all our advertisers and readers. Thousands of people read it free on line each month at www.theconchtelegraph.com.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!





CORAL FINANCIAL

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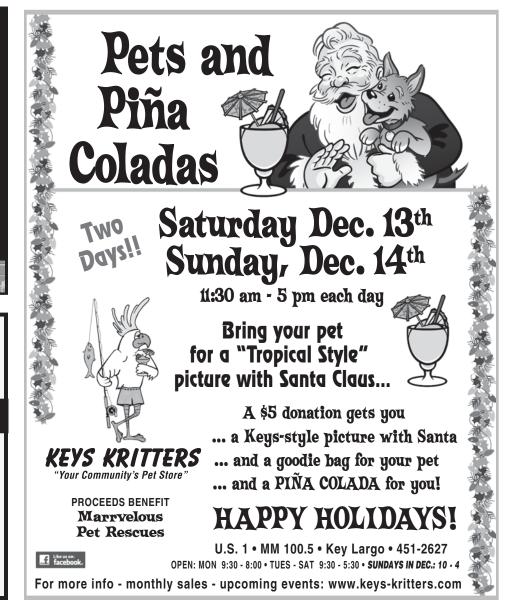
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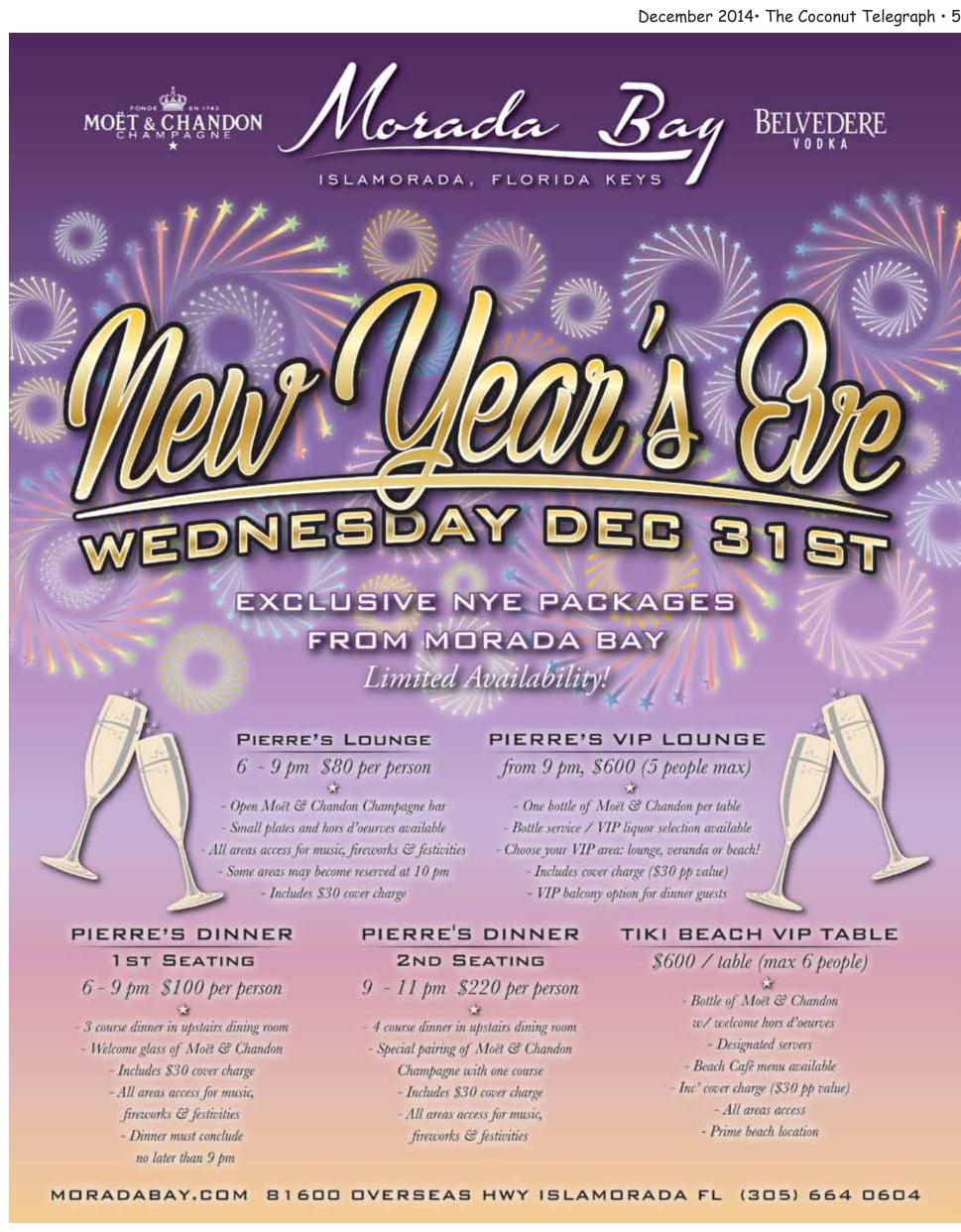
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MM 99.5 Bayside, behind Cafe Largo

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•

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Sounds of the Keys-



Kenny Channels at the Island Grill at Mandalay.



The fabulous Mr. Nice Guy Band at Gilbert's Resort



Kim Bankston live at the Pilot House Photo Kimberly Etheridge.



Sweetwater at Snooks Bavside



Bobbe Brown and Michael Holler entertain at the MARC benefit at the Elks



Selwyn Birchwood blues band at Bayside Grille.



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Hunk of the Month



Stump in a Dump!

A good friend of mine recently had one of his legs amputated at Doctor's Hospital in Miami. John Timiriasieff, known as John T to his friends, had injured his ankle while working for Monroe County. During a visit to a hospital in 2008 he contacted a MRSA infection that, after several years in intense pain and many operations, did not heal. The infection returned with a vengeance. On October 6th the doctors amputated his infected ankle and John T was putting his best foot forward on the road to recovery as he anxiously awaits a prothesis that will enable him to walk away from his wheelchair and crutches.

Now that his health was returning and his sense of humor was back, his feet were itching to get back to his old life. And all was fine until two homicide detectives from Miami came searching for him. When they were finally able to reach John's wife, Laura Carroll, by phone, they told her that John's mangled, bloody, severed, pulverized foot stump had turned up in a dump and was now at the coroner's office. They wanted

to know exactly where the rest of his body was.

Surprised and almost spilling her glass of wine she stuttered "My husband only has ONE FOOT!" The officer replied "You're lucky, my wife complains I only have 5 inches."

When the shock wore off Laura explained that they had just been out to the Pilot House for a delicious dinner and cocktails, and that John was indeed alive... and contentedly sound asleep on the couch.

The next day John T and Laura thought of calling their lawyer but knew they didn't have a leg to stand on, so they cooled their heels and didn't drag their feet, they went to the hospital right away to straighten things out and see who was going to foot the bill for the bloody footed faux pas. The doctor practically got down on his knees and apologized and said it was a mistake. and that it would not cost them an arm and a leg.

The hospital would have the bad foot removed from the coroner's office and dispose of it properly in the

John T "Stump of the Month"

Sorry, we couldn't resist! -- Shirts by Ugly Fish Apparel

incinerator for free. (I bet a foot in the grave, John T has lot of trap fishermen are crying in their beer right now as they would've liked to busier than a one-legged man have had this juicy morsel of a sumptuous sea leg for crab bait! I would have made it into a lucky key chain or sold it to a Miami Zombie. Talk about biohazardous WASTE!)

These days, while his wife waits on him hand and foot... instead of having one

the world at his feet and is recovering nicely. He is in an ass-kicking contest. He is back calling Bingo at the VFW, attending Orchid Club again and he is getting measured for his new leg. We heard him practicing a new karaoke song ..."I can see clearly now my leg is gone..."

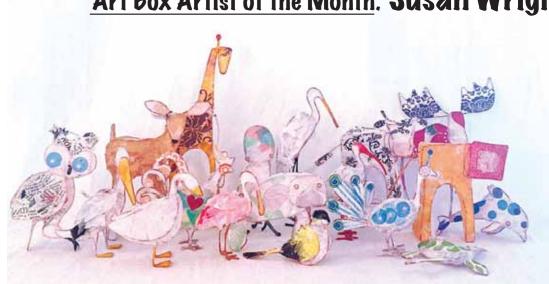
When you hear it be sure to give him a hand.



John Timiriasieff, looking forward to a prosthesis.



Art Box Artist of the Month: Susan Wright





Susan Wright has always had a soft spot for anything old or broken, or anything that can simply be repurposed and given a new life. She says there is an energy that comes with old things.

Susan began exploring recycled materials and art while working at The Greenhouse School in Salem, MA, a small, private school serving all socioeconomic levels and nationalities. On a perpetual budget, they would use anything free that could get



their hands on to make art with the kids, ranging from infants to eighth grade. Inspired by a close friend, Julia, who "can make anything out of anything," Susan began working with tissue paper and it played a large part in many of the projects.

She started out making paper and wire dresses until a brief encounter with a Martha Stewart producer, who inspired her to experiment with animals. Since then, she has tissued over

> forty different animals, and the list is still growing. Everyone has an animal they connect with and she loves seeing people's faces when they find it.

> Susan's sculptures are hand formed, often from a continuous strand of non-tarnishing copper

wire, and then layered with her current stock of tissue paper, making each one unique. The tissue is torn into small pieces, brushed with glue, then delicately layered on the frame. Made in a style similar to paper maché, the tissue dries stiff, creating a hollow shell, while still retaining its papery, transparent quality. (The tissue paper she uses is all recycled, collected from parties, stores, friends, etc. so special patterns are in limited supply.)

Susan's designs were originally inspired by the final print in the "Bull" series by Picasso, a simple line drawing depicting the barest minimum of features. She says, "I like the multi media aspect of it, working with color and form. It's like drawing with wire."

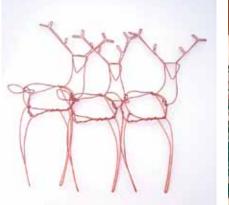
A professionally trained gardener and a lover of plants and nature, it's hard for Susan to stay in the studio for too long. She is currently experimenting with vertical succulent gardens, growing them on old frames and anything she can repurpose that will hold a plant.

She sells her sculptures at Sisters We Three Artisan Shop in Newburyport, MA, where she has lived for the last 8 years. Susan also has an online store: bookeesue.etsy .com, where she takes custom orders and special requests.

Susan will be available for a meet and greet at the Morada Way Art Walk on the third Thursday of December, and her work will be on display at The Art Box all month. Contact or drop by The Art Box for questions about Susan or her art.



A palette of recycled tissue paper.



Copper wire frames.



Application of paper to frame. Finished sculptures



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Today, We Are All A Little Poorer

In the early morning of November 20th, in Ocala FL, Kenny and Jayanna Cohan perished in an terrible traffic accident. Kenny was 63 and Jayanna was 53.

Kenny Cohan was a long time backcountry fishing guide at Bud 'n' Mary's Marina in Islamorada. Jayanna was key in organizing many fishing tournaments and she them in our hearts and thoughts was a staple to this community.

The loss of Kenny and Jayanna is felt by all who knew and loved them. These islands are poorer with their passing. We will keep



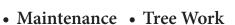
for all time.

Services, or any gathering of friends for a remembrance of the couple will be announced on www.sparrownestus.com.



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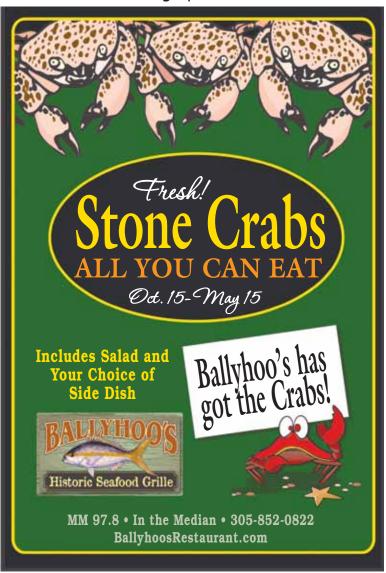
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MM 106.5 Oceanside

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Friday and Saturday November Sunset Cruises 5:15PM - 7:15PM cruise - MM 104, Bayside 2 bars. DJ + the only dance floor on the water! www.lslandTimeCruises.com Reserve Now 305-453-0001



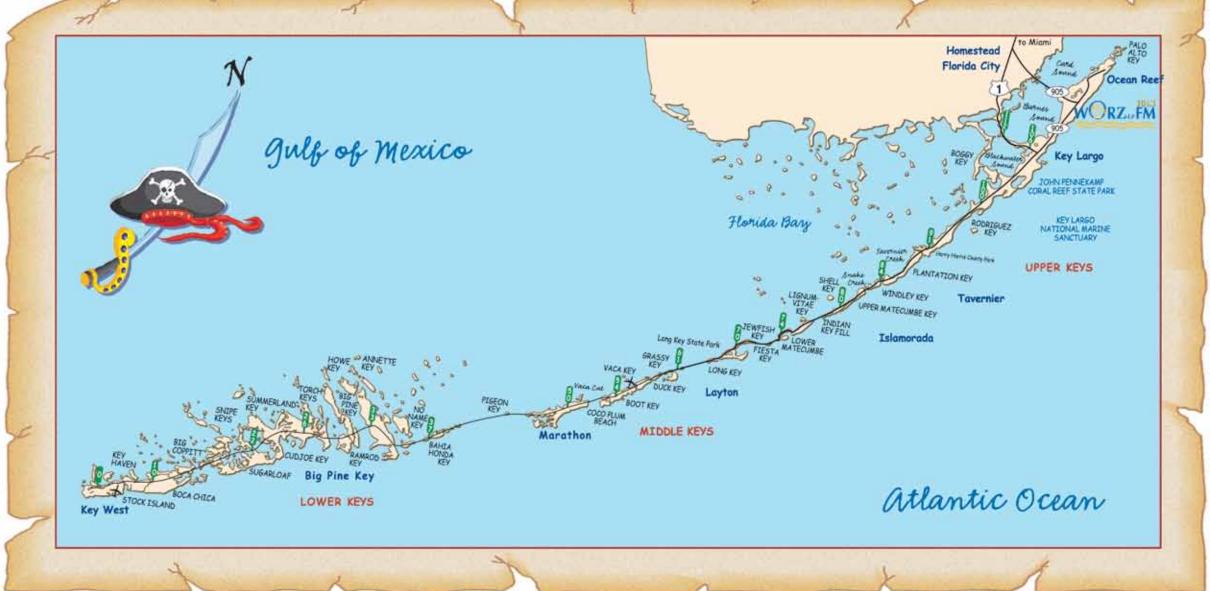
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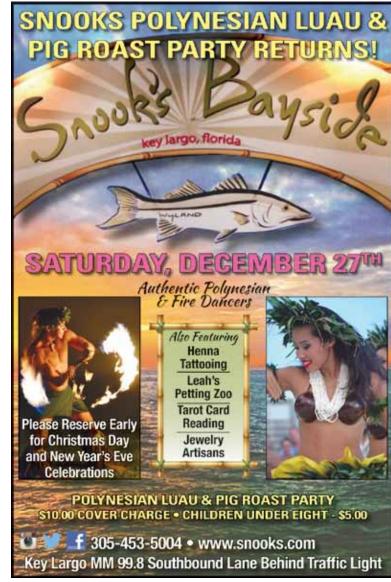
What are you waiting for?











The Mangrove Galley by Sandi Mieszczenski

Sandi's recipes are featured monthly in the Coconut Telegraph. For previous issues go to http://www.theconchtelegraph.com

The holidays are upon us again and that means getting together with family and friends to celebrate. The two recipes below are well suited for a get together such as a pot luck. Both are perfect as a appetizer for a New Year's Eve party, football play offs, or even the Super Bowl. Try them both and enjoy!

MUSTARD SHRIMP WRAPPED IN BACON

This recipe is so simple but so tasty.

Large, cleaned raw shrimp with the tail removed (the number of shrimp depends on how many people you are serving)

Dijon mustard

bacon, half a slice for each shrimp toothpicks

Place the half slices of bacon on a work area and smear with the Dijon mustard. Also smear the shrimp with the mustard. Place a shrimp on a bacon slice and roll up. Secure with a toothpick. Lay the shrimp on a broiler pan and cook on a low broil for approximately 15 minutes. The shrimp should be pinkish-white and the bacon crisp. Turn the shrimp over and broil for an additional 2 minutes. Serve. This can also be prepared on a grill.

APPLESAUCE MEATBALLS

This recipe can also serve as a meal - spoon over noodles or rice.

2 pounds lean ground chuck

1/4 cup chopped onions 1/4 chopped parsley

1 1/2 cups toasted bread crumbs

1/2 cup applesauce

1 garlic clove, finely chopped

2 teaspoons salt

1/2 teaspoon black pepper 1 teaspoon celery salt

2 eggs

1 cup milk

4 tablespoons flour

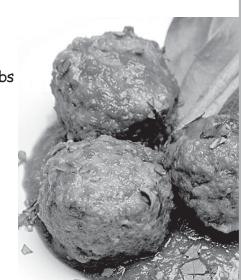
3 tablespoons shortening

1 can undiluted consomme

1 to 2 tablespoons cornstarch

Thoroughly, but lightly, mix together all ingredients EXCEPT for the flour, shortening, and consomme. Form into 1 inch balls. Roll in flour to coat lightly. Brown in the hot shortening. Place in a baking dish using all the drippings. Pour the consomme

over the meatballs. Cover and bake at 350 for 45-60 minutes. Remove from oven. Drain the liquid into a saucepan and place on medium heat. Slowly add the cornstarch and whisk until thickened. Serve with the gravy over the meatballs.





patients at Plantation Key Nursing Center make Thanksgiving Day flower arrangements. he flowers were donated by Winn-Dixie in Tavernier. Pictured: Club members Nicole MacLean, Jean Simmons and Lonell Rice.





THANK AOni

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Thank you to everyone who helped, donated, performed, contributed, supported, attended, and worked for the NASCAR Tailgate Party Raffle and Veteran's Day Party at the Elks Lodge to raise money for MARC.

Matt Meise The Elks Club Tavernier Ray Eubanks

Keys Diver Island Time Cruise

Bayside Grill Café Largo

Wheaton's Shiloh's Tire and Lube Vic's Auto Tech

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Thanks, ELKS for hosting

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Officer of the Quarter: Det. Manuel Cuervo

Monroe County State Attorney Catherine Vogel recently presented Monroe Sheriff Detective Manuel

the designation of "Officer of the Quarter" for his outstanding service and dedication to the residents of Monroe County. "Detective Cuervo is an outstanding example of someone who does their job well. His service has not gone unnoticed," said State Attorney Catherine Vogel.





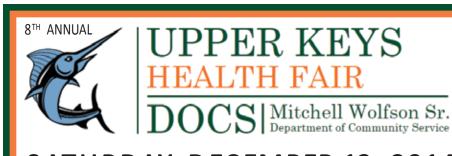
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CLUBS

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

The Key Players, Inc. Community Theater Group needs volunteers to work behind the scenes and audition for roles! Go to: www.thekeyplayers.org

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PERSONALS

Send us your ad to go into the Classifieds.

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own an iPad.

Also, I'm out of wine.

Please send me a baby brother

HUSBAND TO BUY

by J.S. McKinna

Coco'Nut' Funnies

I know ..

I can Hear

IT SNORING

RETURNS

The Spoon:

How consultants can make a difference in an organization.

Last week, we took some friends to a new restaurant, and noticed that the waiter who took our order carried a spoon in his shirt pocket

It seemed a little strange.

When the busboy brought our water and utensils, I observed that he also had a spoon in his shirt pocket.

Then I looked around and saw that all the staff had spoons in their pockets. When the waiter came back to serve our soup I inquired, "Why the spoons?"

"Well," he explained, "the restaurant's owner hired a consulting company to revamp all of our processes. After several months of analysis, they concluded that the spoon was the most frequently dropped utensil. It represents a drop frequency of approximately

3 spoons per table per hour. If our personnel prepared, we can reduce the number of trips back to the kitchen and save 15 man-hours per shift."

As luck would have it, I dropped my spoon and he replaced it with his spare. "I'll get another spoon next time I go to the kitchen instead of making an extra trip to get it right now.

I was impressed.

string right there?"

I also noticed that there was a string hanging out of the waiter's

Looking around, I saw that all of the waiters had a string hanging from their flies.

So, before he walked off, I asked the waiter, "Excuse me, but can you tell me why you have that

"Oh, certainly!" Then he lowered his voice. "Not everyone is so observant. That consulting firm I

mentioned also learned that

we can save time in the restroom.

By tying this string to the tip of our you-know-what, we can pull it out without touching it and eliminate

the need to wash our hands, shortening the time spent in the restroom by 76.39%.

I asked quietly, "After you get it out, how do you put it back?"

"Well," he whispered, "I don't know about the others, but I use the spoon."

SHOULD CHILDREN **WITNESS** CHILDBIRTH?

Due to the recent power outage, only one Monroe County paramedic responded to the call of a woman unexpectedly giving childbirth at her home in Islamorada.

The house was very dark (with the electric disabled), so the paramedic asked Kathleen, a 3-year-old girl, to hold a flashlight high over her Mommy, so he could see while he delivered the baby.

Very diligently, 3-yearold Kathleen did exactly as she was asked.

Mommy pushed, and pushed, and after a little while Kathleen's baby brother, Connor, was born.

The paramedic lifted him by his little feet, spanked him on his bottom. and Connor began to cry.

The paramedic thanked Kathleen for her help and asked the wide eyed 3-year-old what she thought about what she had just witnessed.

Kathleen quickly responded. "He shouldn't have crawled in there in the first place... smack his ass again!"



Procrastibaking:

Making Christmas cookies when you know you should be doing something else!





Dear friends,

With the Holidays upon us I would like to share a personal experience with everyone about drinking and driving. As you may know some of us have been known to have brushes with the authorities from time to time on the way home after a "social session" out with friends.

Well two days ago I was out for an evening with friends and had several beers followed by some rather nice whiskeys. Feeling jolly, I still had the sense to know that I may have been be slightly over the limit. That's when I did something that I've never done before - I took a taxi

Sure enough on the way home there was a police road block but since it was a taxi they waved it past. I arrived home safely without incident. This was a real surprise, as I had never driven a taxi before, I don't know where I got it and now that it's in my garage I don't know what to do with it.



Marriage Counseling in the Keys

After 35 years of marriage, a husband and wife came for marriage counseling. When asked what the problem was, the wife went into a tirade listing every problem they had ever had in the years they had been married. On and on and on: neglect, lack of intimacy, emptiness, loneliness, feeling unloved and unlovable, an entire laundry list of unmet needs she had endured.

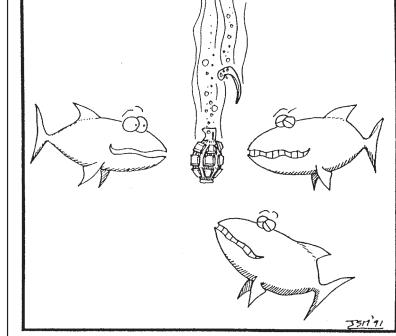
Finally, after allowing her to go on for a sufficient length of time, the therapist got up, walked around the desk and after asking the wife to stand, embraced and kissed her long and passionately as her husband watched - with a raised evebrow. The woman shut up and quietly sat down as though in a daze.



The therapist turned to the husband and said, "This is what your wife needs at least 3 times a week. Can you do this?"

The husband replied, "Well, I can drop her off here on Mondays and Wednesdays, but on Fridays, I fish!"

Reasonable Rates



Left

Field

"Haw! If that idiot can't catch us with those big, juicy worms, why does he think we'll eat this thing?..."

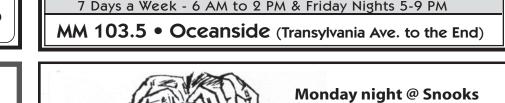
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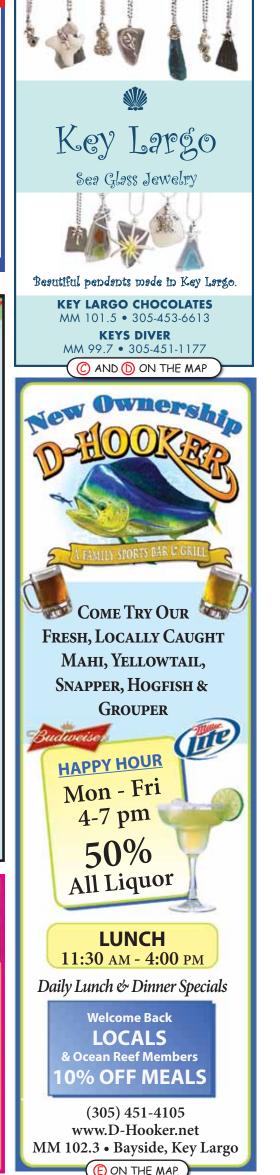
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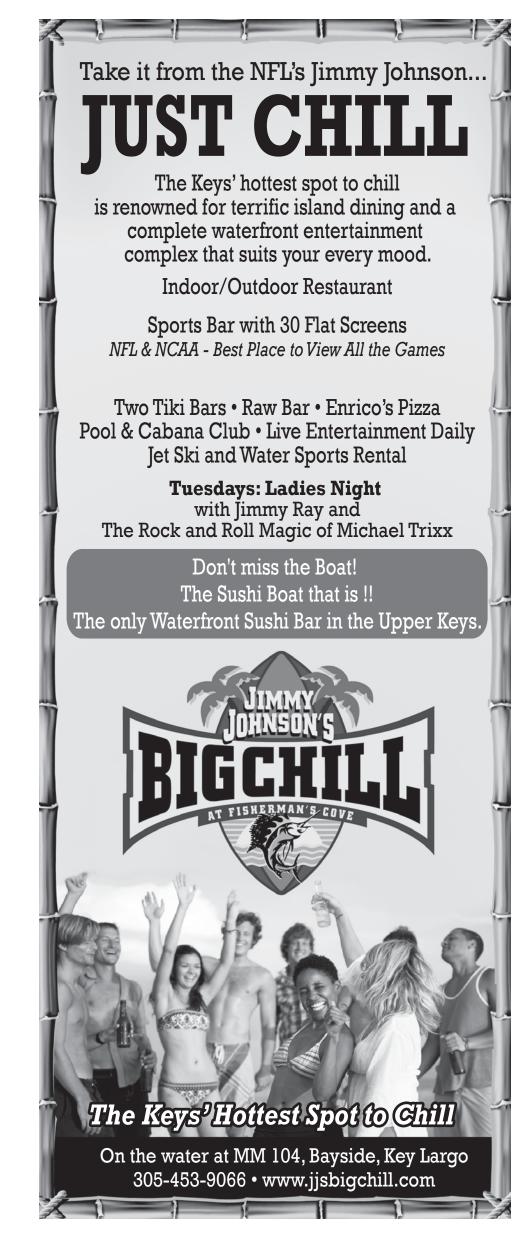






F ON THE MAP





T'was A Florida Keys Christmas

T'was the night before Christmas and all through the islands, no noses were frozen, no snow on the garlands, no children in flannels were tucked into bed, they all wore their skivvies instead.

To find wreaths of mangroves, t'was not very hard, for mangroves grew in every back yard.

In front of the houses, Dads and Moms were adorning the hibiscus' and coconut palms.

The sleeping kiddies were dreaming in glee, hoping to find paddle boards under the tree.

They all knew that Santa was well on his way, in a Keys Cruiser, instead of a sleigh

And soon he arrived and started to work, he hadn't a second to linger or shirk.

He whizzed down the stretch and zoomed up the road, in a rusty old pick up, delivering his loads.

The tropical moon gave the Keys sky a glow, and lighted the way for old Santa below.

As he jumped from the truck he gave a wee chuckle, he was dressed in shorts with an Ivy league buckle,

There weren't any chimneys, but that caused no gloom, for Santa came in through the screened in room.

He stopped at each house.... stayed only a minute emptying his sack of stuff that was in it.

Before he departed, he treated himself to a glass of Captain Morgan hid up on the shelf.

He turned with a jerk and bounced to the truck, having to leave paradise was really gonna suck. He shifted the gears and stepped on the gas and up US 1 he went like a flash And I heard him exclaim as he went on his way,

> **MERRY CHRISTMAS** Y'ALL, I WISH I **COULD STAY!**

> > MM 99.2



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Conch Characters



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A big THANK YOU from MARC to the Elks.



A great crowd at the Elks, celebrating Veterans Day and the NASCAR Tailgate Raffle for MARC.







Murphy at Sundowners.



Bobby Stoky and Mayor Sylvia BJ & Tonya drive off into the sunset after their wedding at the Big Chill



Olive Morada's new store is open in downtown Islamorada!



Beautiful bartender Mary at the Legion.



JC and Sue at Bayside Grille for the Selwyn Birchwood Band.



Keys Adventures is proud to add Paradise Adventures to their activities! Day sailing excursions and sunset cruises.



MARC at the radio station promoting the Tailgate Veterans Day Party -Marla Brown, Dougie Hitchcock & Alain Quevedo



The D-Hooker bartender babes: Enly Alonso & Kristing Mointosh



Hyperbaric Dick and a friend order up some great food from Cindy at the American Legion,



Chef Justin & Laura Dreaver of Key Largo Conch House with their awards from the Key Largo Chamber's Cook-Off

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Waterfront Tiki Bar, Restaurant, Motel & Marina										
Now Featuring	LIVE ENTERTAINMENT - DECEMBER 2014									
www readd dry	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
Steak & Lobster Night	TUESDAYS & WEDNESDAYS ARE STEAK & LOBSTER	1110	STEAK & LOBSTER NIGHT! \$9.99	STEAK & LOBSTER NIGHT! \$9.99	4 LADIES NIGHT! 6-9PM KEVIN	5 BOBBE BROWN 1-5	⁶ NEIL FREESTONE 1-5 SHANE DUNCAN			
STEAK & LOBSTER DINNER	NIGHT! THIS SPECIAL WILL END ON DEC. 24TH	BEACH PARTY 1-6pm	LUKE SOMMER GLEN 5-9	BOBBE BROWN 5-9	HURLEY 5-9	THE REGS 7-11	BAND 7-11 (Staff Favorite)			
	7	8	9	10	11 LADIES NIGHT! 6-9PM	12	13 SCOTTY MEYER			
Only on the contract of the co		ITB BEACH PARTY	STEAK & LOBSTER NIGHT! \$9.99	STEAK & LOBSTER NIGHT! \$9.99	SHAUNA SWEENEY 5-9	BOBBE BROWN 1-5	1-5 Michael Trixx 8pm HARD LIQUOR			
*9.99	1-6	1-6pm	LUKE SOMMER GLEN 5-9	KIM BANKSTON 5-9	(New from Fort Lauderdale)	UNCLE RICO 7-11	BAND 7-11 (New from Broward)			
Limited time only, while supplies last, not valid with other discounts. from 5-9pm	14 ECLIPSE	1.0		17 STEAK & LOBSTER	18 LADIES NIGHT! 6-9PM	19 BOBBE BROWN	20 EVAN GRUSHKA 1-5			
and a c	1-6	1-6pm	NIGHT! \$9.99	NIGHT! \$9.99	MICAH	1-5	Michael Trixx 8pm			
Thursday is Ladies Night!	1=0	CLOSING AT 6PM FOR PRIVATE PARTY	LUKE SOMMER GLEN 5-9	BOBBE BROWN 5-9	GARDNER 5-9	COLBERT 7-11	ZERO POINT ZERO 7-11 (New from Broward)			
LADIES DRINK FREE FROM 6-9 PM	21	22				26 BOBBE BROWN 1-5	27 SCOTTY MEYER			
The state of the s	THE LIVESAYS 2-7	116	STEAK & LOBSTER NIGHT! \$9.99	STEAK & LOBSTER NIGHT! \$9.99	CHRISTMAS DINNER \$15		1-5 Michael Trixx 8pm			
(WINE, DRAFT BEER, WELL DRINKS)		BEACH PARTY			DALTON	REGGAE NIGHT WITH BAGA TRICKS	STONE MOJO			
Plus live entertainment from 5-9 pm.	(New from Broward)	1-6pm	LUKE SOMMER GLEN 5-9	BOBBE BROWN 5-9	COLLINS 5-9	7-11	7-11 (New from Palm Beach)			
	 28	29 SCOTTY MEYER	30	31 IRON MIKE			(New Holli Pallii Beach)			
and Palm Beach Counties, as well as nationally touring	THE REGS	1-5	LUKE SOMMER GLEN 1-5	NORTON BAND	NVE	REE HOURLY PRIZE GIV	EAWAYS! (8PM+12AM)			
acts. If you don't recognize their name, that means they	1-6	THE CATCH		1-6	e.	REE CHAMPAGNE TOAS REE PARTY FAVORS!	T AT MIDNIGHT!			
are NEW and usually rock the best bars/clubs outside of the Kevs. Fresh new music, only at Gilbert's!		7-11PM	LUKE & FELIX 7-11PM	THE REGS		ASKETS OF "CHEER" (E	OOZE) RAFFLES			

