

The Conch Republic

COCONUT TELEGRAPH



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THE COCONUT TELEGRAPH IS PROUD TO BE THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE NORTHERNMOST TERRITORIES OF THE CONCH REPUBLIC

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Ocean Vue Glass Bottom Boat Tours



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Hunk of the Month:

Mike Padula

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Reef snorkeling and dolphin encounters are available aboard this exciting, futuristic hydrofoil glass bottom boat with Keys Adventure Watersports. Read all about the new Ocean Vue on page 15.

BLUESFEST

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**World class entertainers, in Key Largo on the beach.
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Memorial Day Weekend

May 24: Ghost Town Blues Band

A power house of raw energy & intensity;
2014 Int'l Blues Challenge 2nd Place
Winner; Best of Memphis nominee.

Don't Miss!



May 15, 16 & 17: Mac Arnold

"Corn Bread & Collard Greens Festival"

Famous for his old-school blues, soul & funk, Mac Arnold toured/re-recorded with Muddy Waters Band, Otis Redding & B.B. King & more!

Coconut Telegraph

May 2014
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Thank you **Robert DiGiorgio**,
Commander of the Conch Republic
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appointing the Coconut Telegraph
the official newspaper of the
Northernmost Territories. For
more information on the Conch
Republic Military visit [www.
ConchRepublicMilitary.com](http://www.ConchRepublicMilitary.com) or stop
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Editorial: Crazy But Not Stupid

Well, knock me down and steal my teeth! The long-lost daughter I never conceived or gave birth to must have found me. A strange woman called me on the phone and said "Is this Denise?" "Yes" I hesitantly replied. She then excitedly proceeded to exclaim "I love the Coconut-Telegraph and the article you wrote last month was great. My husband and I are opening a business (about 30 miles from my home) and we are inviting YOU to come there on Saturday!" Me: "Saturday, huh. Why?" (Weekend mornings are the best time for uninterrupted writing, which I covet, although it has practically become a myth).

Her: "Because we are opening a business and we want you there. You can write a nice

article about us!"

Me: "Ohhhhh, aha. Do you want to advertise?" I ask.

Her: "No, we don't want to spend any money we just want you to come Saturday take some pictures and write a nice article."

Me: "Highly unlikely that I can make it. Mighty nice of you to offer to let me come down there and do that for you but I'm pretty busy."

JUST HOW BUSY AM I?

Smartass answer: I'm busier than a cucumber in a women's prison. Busier than a dog with two dicks. Busier than a one-legged man in a butt-kicking contest. Busier than a Jehovah's Witness at Doors Unlimited. Busier than a mosquito at a nudist colony. Busier than a cross-eyed air traffic controller. You get it.

The truth: When you are self employed and mostly work from home there is always something that needs to be done. So, I will be delighted to drive my gas guzzler 30 miles to your place and do a nice "write up" for you if you will come and spend the equal amount of time cleaning my house. Time is money. Money talks, BS walks.

Sometimes I even get people who advertise in other publications who want me to write an article about them. Now that is stupid and crazy, but funny. We have to pick ourselves off the floor from laughing so hard we fell off our chairs!

The #1 stupidest question most often asked the Coconut Telegraph is "Exactly HOW do you make money when the paper is FREE?"

Smartass answer: We don't make any money. I work for


tips at the local strip joint to support my newspaper habit. We are so rich that if things get any better we may have to hire someone to help us enjoy it.

The truth: Intelligent business people purchase advertising from us. We print 8,000 copies that are distributed all month long, so we have an extremely high penetration. Our rates are surprisingly low. Our worldwide website www.theconchtelegraph.com is an added benefit for our advertisers. We still deliver to Ocean Reef. This is our 8th year and sometimes we have to turn potential customers away. Either they don't fit our profile, they don't pay their bills or they just plain suck and we can't recommend them.

If you have a question about a local business call us 305-304-2837. No Hablamos Español. We do not speak Spanish.

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Telegraph assumes in good faith that all editorial and advertising material submitted are the original property of the advertiser. The Coconut Telegraph may not be held responsible for errors, omissions, or for circumstances beyond our control that may affect the distribution schedule.



How to tell if you are a drunk

1. You never have a hangover because you are always drunk.
2. Empty beer bottles serve as home decorations.
3. You always piss clear.
4. Tequila worms fear your name.
5. The only time you read newspapers is to find the cheapest beer in town.
6. You're on your 5th liver transplant operation.
7. You frequently urinate outdoors.
8. You are so dehydrated from drinking that your genitals are shrunk.
9. No one of the opposite sex at the bar looks ugly at last call.
10. The space on your drivers license that tells your eye color reads "bloodshot."
11. You check your smart phone photos to see what you did last night.
12. If liquor companies gave frequent flier miles you would own an airline.
13. You fall asleep taking a dump.
14. You pour some beer in your hand and your friend asks, "what are you doing?" and you say "I'm giving my date a drink!"
15. You have had to return to the bar the next day to sift through the pearock to find your missing teeth.
16. Your organ donor recipient wakes up with a hangover.
17. It takes 6 weeks to put the fire out after your cremation.
18. For once you are dumb enough to come home sober and you get attacked by your dog.
19. You quit smoking pot to buy more beer.
20. You rate women by the number of beers needed to make you want to get on her.
21. Your morning breath keeps the house free of bugs.
22. Your ideal woman is one that can outdrink you.
23. You don't drink and drive for fear you will spill some.
24. You've given your mother a case of beer for Mother's Day.
25. At your funeral they yell "Last Call" instead of playing Taps.



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ISLAND GRILL

Culinary Scholarship Fundraiser



DATE: Friday, June 20th from 6PM-10PM

WHERE: 85501 Overseas Hwy, Islamorada MM 85.5

TICKET PRICE: \$30.00 per person which includes soup, salad, entrée & dessert
\$50.00 per person which also includes an open bar generously donated by our liquor, beer & wine suppliers
Tickets are limited to 250 people. Every penny raised will be going to these two students.

FOOD & DRINKS
Prizes
SILENT AUCTION
Great Entertainment





WE LOOK FORWARD TO MAKING THIS A NIGHT TO REMEMBER FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR STUDENTS!

If you'd like to donate, please contact Frank, Angie or Tiki at Island Grill 305-664-8400. Tickets (by credit card) 305-664-8400 or in person at the Island Grill by cash, check or credit card.

ALL proceeds will be distributed to two Coral Shores High School students who will be furthering their education in the culinary arts and hospitality industry.

1st Annual Island Grill Culinary Scholarship Fundraiser

Island Grill proudly announces their first-ever culinary scholarship fundraiser. The event will take place on Friday, June 20th from 6-10pm. Tickets can be purchased in advance. The evening will be filled with food, drink, prizes and a silent auction, and it will include great entertainment generously donated by your favorite local entertainers.

ALL of the proceeds will be distributed to two Coral Shores High School students who will be furthering their education in the culinary arts and hospitality industry. Tickets are limited to 250 people. There are two types of tickets available for the evening: \$30.00 per person which includes soup, salad, entree and dessert; or \$50.00 per person which also includes an open bar generously donated by the Island Grill's liquor, beer and wine suppliers. Every penny raised will be going to the two students to further their culinary education.

The staff of Island Grill is looking forward to making this a night to remember for the future of our students.

If you are a business or individual who would like to donate an item or service for the auction, please contact Frank, Angie or Tiki at Island Grill 305-664-8400. Tickets can be purchased by credit card by calling 305-664-8400 or in person by cash, check or credit card.

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**Lower Matecumbe Mermaids
Help VNA/Hospice**



The ladies of the Lower Matecumbe Mermaids and the Safari Lounge present a \$3,186 Easter Basket to COO Kathleen Ryzoc. L-R: Sara Blackburn, Kim Campbell, Etta Fend, Mary Smith, Lauren DeMichiel, Sue Fournier, Krissy Gustinger, Casey Fletcher, Kathleen Ryzoc, Ann Haber, Kathleen Hamilton. (Missing: Pam Gode, Michele Morris, Brenda Williams.)

The Lower Matecumbe Mermaids, a group of community minded ladies who enjoy giving back to their community, recently held their inaugural Easter Hop benefit at the famed Safari Lounge in Islamorada in support of Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice of the Florida Keys (VNA/Hospice).

The event raised over \$3,000 in celebration of VNA/Hospice's 30th Anniversary of providing dedicated and compassionate care to all residents of Monroe County. They honor all the wonderful clinical and administrative support personnel who give tirelessly toward VNA/Hospice's mission of caring.

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.



Scruffy



Tango



Athena



Jordan



Peppy



Blossom



Jasmine



Lucas



Bessie

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Mile Marker 106 - Oceanside
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Saturday, May 17th
11:00AM - 3:00PM
For information call 305-451-0088

Bayside Blues Concerts
Concert Showtime: 6:30pm

SATURDAY May 3: The Livesays
Billy Livesay: Singer/Guitarist for 'Clarence Clemons Temple of Soul.'

SATURDAY May 10: Harper & Midwest Kind
Didgeridoo, Harmonica, World Blues Fusion!

THU-FRI-SAT - May 15,16&17: Mac Arnold
"Corn Bread & Collard Greens Festival"
Old-school blues, soul & funk; toured/recorded with Muddy Waters Band, Otis Redding & B.B. King.

WED-THU May 21-22: Candye Kane
She belts - growls - shouts - croons and moans - humor/revival meeting/sexuality celebration!

SATURDAY May 24: Ghost Town Blues Band
Raw energy & intensity; 2014 Int'l Blues Challenge 2nd Place Winner; Best of Memphis nominee.

SATURDAY May 31: Iko Iko
An eclectic mix of southern music; a backbeat-driven powerhouse of "Urban Swamp Blues."

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Memorial Day Weekend

Morada Bay

SATURDAY MAY 24TH

LIVE MUSIC • BEACH BBQ • SIGNATURE COCKTAILS • DJ'S • PERFORMERS • FIREWORKS

No. 1 ISLAND PARTY

"21 & Over For This Ride"

Morada Bay Beach \$20

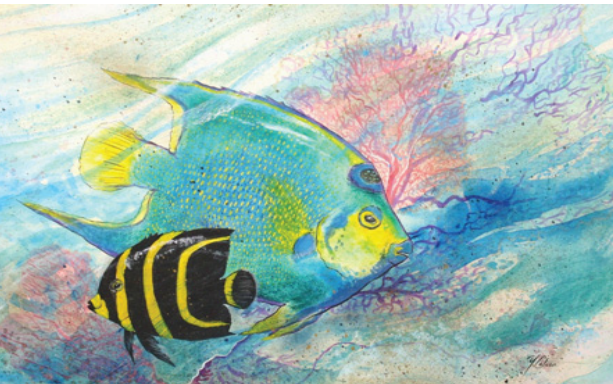
Pierre's Lounge \$30

Captain Morgan

Morada Bay

Art Box Artist of the Month: **Yvette Cotera**

Yvette Cotera is a first generation Cuban-American born in Norfolk, Virginia. She has a past 35-year Hershey connection as her great-grandfather, grandfather, grandmother and five of her great aunts and uncles worked at the Milton Hershey's Sugar Central in Cuba. Her mother and uncle were also both born in one of the Hershey town homes, which was modeled after the town in Hershey, PA. As her family traveled, Yvette spent her early years between Cuba, Virginia and Maryland in the US



before moving to south Florida where she has now lived for over 43 years. Inspired by her Caribbean island roots, the colorful tropics in Miami and her ocean home in Key Largo, Yvette creates sea life paintings that connect her to the many places of her life.

In 1978 she earned a degree in Advertising Design at the Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale, and was employed 4 years as a creative artist working at Tropix Togs and Wellington Apparel. There she designed whimsical art for apparel using licensed characters such as the Smurfs, the Jetsons, the Flintstones, Chilly Willy, Woody Woodpecker and Donald Duck. Her designs were sold all over the US!

While raising her 3 children, Yvette continued to work part time as a free-lance artist for over 6 years at Pffafco Inc. creating logos. She taught Art at St. Paul Lutheran K-8 School in Miami for over 4 years. Her art students participated and received awards in national duck stamp drawing contests, yearly school art shows and at the Miami Dade County Youth Fair.

Drawn toward the rewarding field of teaching, she returned to school, studied art history and computer art and earned her BA in 2010 at Miami Dade College in Exceptional Student Education.

Encouraged by her father, a doctor who passed away from MS, Yvette returned in 2013 to her passion of creating art. She is now affiliated with VSA Florida as a teaching artist and inspires people of all abilities to express themselves through the visual arts. Yvette has completed three visual art teaching residencies working with special need students. Many of her students have their work on exhibit; ask her where you can see it.

Yvette continues to grow as an artist and now takes her camera everywhere, including underwater, where she has taken images as inspiration for her paintings from her recent trips to Italy, Australia, New Zealand, Hawaii and the Caribbean Islands. Working from her home studio or plein air, she prefers to paint in mixed media using acrylics, water colors, dyes and inks on canvas and crescent acrylic board.



You can find Yvette at the Art Box teaching watercolor to children twice a month on Saturdays, as part of the kids' Saturday painting class (held every week, from 1:00 pm- 2:30 pm, for \$15). Look for Yvette's participation in the Art Box's upcoming Summer Program as well.

The summer kids art program starts June 9th and sessions are held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 9:30 am to noon or 12:30-3 pm; or both. Ages 5-12. The classes cover media from watercolors, acrylics, and drawing, to clay pottery. The summer program runs weekly throughout the summer; please call for reservations and pricing 305-451-5461.



Yvette with a few of her students at the Art Box Saturday painting class.

Sounds of the Keys



The great Kevin Hurley performs at the Island Grille at the Mandalay.



During last year's Musc Fest, Jamie Morgan plays as Robin Grant looks on. See page 14 for this year's schedule.



Stereo Underground every Thursday in May at Gilbert's.



Allan Truesdell at the Big Chill.



Lee Sharp at the Pilot House.



DJ Soars and the Red Hots at Bayside Grille.

Hunk of the Month



Mike Padula
Seacoast Engineering & Design

Garden Club Spreads Easter Cheer



The Garden Club of the Upper Keys held a flower arranging session in April for the patients of the Plantation Key Nursing Center. Members assisted patients in making beautiful flower arrangements for their rooms, complete with lilies and Easter decorations. The flowers, donated by Winn-Dixie in Tavernier, made for a cheerful Easter at PKNC.

Nicole MacLean, Jean Simmons and Mary Powell with patients' arrangements.

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MAY ENTERTAINMENT

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 4 THE DROPOUTS 2-7 | 5 MABEL & TONY 6-10 | 6 KARAOKEE 6-10 | 7 BOBBE BROWN 6-10 | 8 STEREO UNDERGROUND 6-10 | 9 BOBBE BROWN 1-5 THE REGS 7-11 | 10 SCOTTY MEYER 2-6 EGO 7-11 |
| 11 Mother's Day STALKING MILDRED 2-7 | 12 MABEL & TONY 6-10 | 13 KARAOKEE 6-10 | 14 BOBBE BROWN 6-10 | 15 STEREO UNDERGROUND 6-10 | 16 BOBBE BROWN 1-5 COLBERT 7-11 | 17 SCOTTY MEYER 2-6 NO RESTRICTIONS 7-11 |
| 18 SAINTS OF HAVANA 2-7 | 19 MABEL & TONY 6-10 | 20 KARAOKEE 6-10 | 21 BOBBE BROWN 6-10 | 22 STEREO UNDERGROUND 6-10 | 23 BOBBE BROWN 1-5 MOJO SCOUNDRELS 7-11 | 24 SCOTTY MEYER 2-6 THE CYCLONES 7-11 |
| 25 THE REGS 2-7 | 26 MEMORIAL DAY !! STALKING MILDRED 1-6 | 27 KARAOKEE 6-10 | 28 BOBBE BROWN 6-10 | 29 STEREO UNDERGROUND 6-10 | 30 BOBBE BROWN 1-5 THE POSSE 7-11 | 31 SCOTTY MEYER 2-6 THE DROPOUTS 7-11 |

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305.451.1141 KeySCastaways@gmail.com

Island Time Key Largo



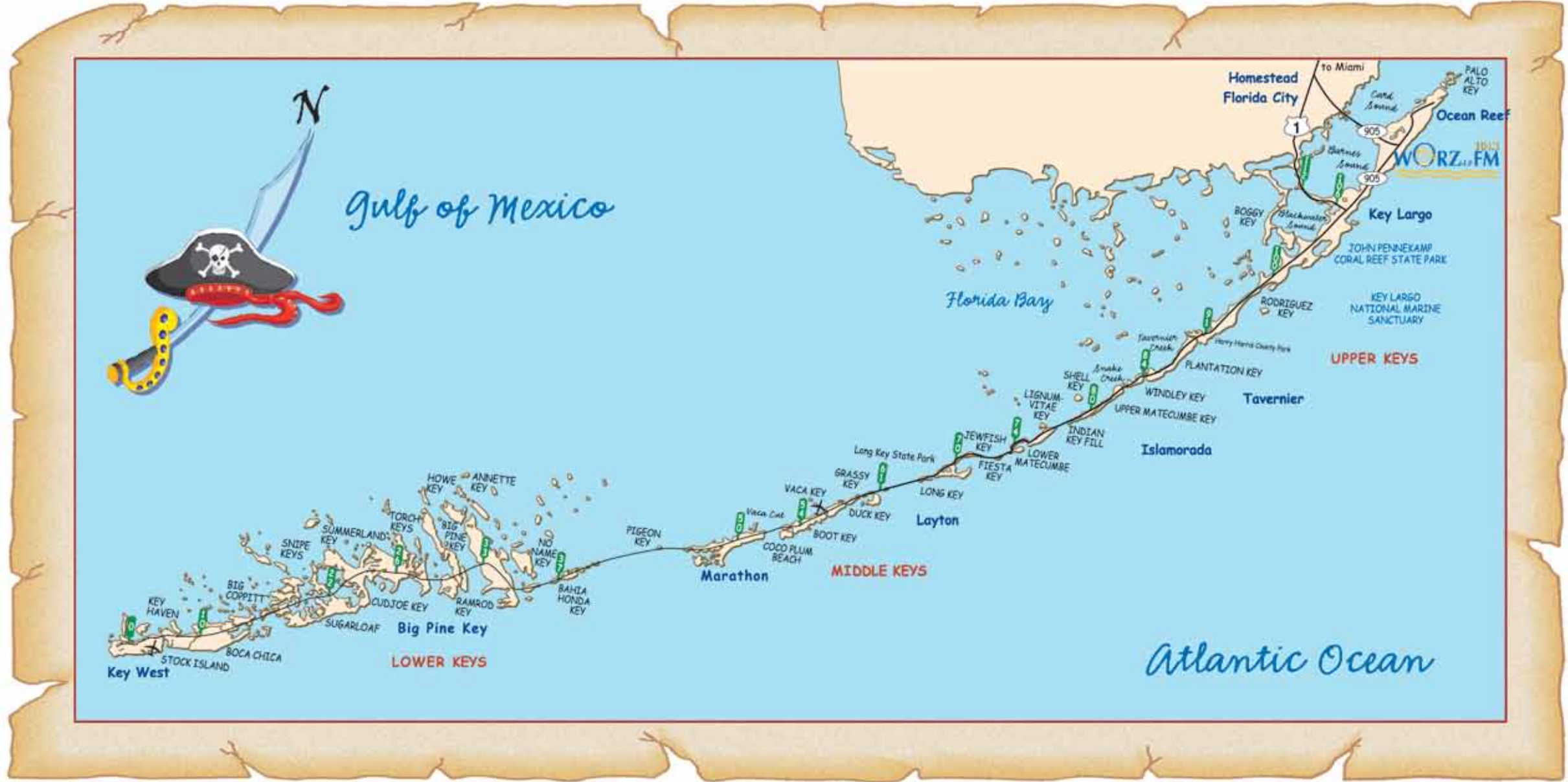
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Music Fest Lights
Key Largo Stages
May 15-18

Multiple original music offerings are the highlight of the annual Key Largo Original Music Festival, with live performances Thursday through Sunday, May 15-18. Presented on various intimate stages, it features acclaimed individual hit songwriters as well as bands from around the US. Admission is free to all venues.

Among the elite group of musicians are performers who have helped shape the contemporary music industry, excelling in genres such as pop, rock, blues, jazz and country.

Audiences will enjoy the return of nearly a dozen songwriters and Americana rock lyricists as well as several festival newcomers. Highlights include Nashville's Saints of Havana and Jer Gregg; from Texas, the earthy and folk-inspired Jim Halfpenny; and Dianna Corcoran, one of Australia's most distinguished country vocalists and songwriting talents.

Several South Florida and Florida Keys country, rock, bluegrass and tropically flavored favorites are to light up the stages as well, notably: 33 Years, Dave Feder and Maggie Baugh, a 13-year-old teen guitarist and fiddle player who has shared the stage with Charlie Daniels.

This year's venues include Snapper's, Sundowners Restaurant, Cactus Jack's and Señor Frijoles.

On Sunday, May 18 there will be a VIP Sunset Cruise aboard the 78-foot Island Time paddle wheel boat, with food and libations. Festival songwriters will be aboard to relax and jam. Cost is \$35 per person, and the cruise departs at 5:30 p.m. from the dock at Sundowners.

Key Largo's Original Music Fest

may 15-18

4 Days of Live Original Music in Key Largo



Thursday, May 15

Snapper's Restaurant & Raw Bar - MM 94.5 Oceanside

3:00 - 5:00 Dianna Corcoran, Jer Gregg, Leland Grant, Megan Conner, Melody Guy, Natalie Noone, Nikki Shannon Fernandez, Stephen Salyers, Scott Youngberg, Shane Hines, Julie Gribble

5:00 - 6:00 Tim Dee & Jim Hill

7:30 - 9:00 Megan Conner, Shane Hines, Dianna Corcoran

9:00 - 10:30 Scott Youngberg, Melody Guy

Sundowners Restaurant - MM 104 Bayside

6:00 - 7:30 33 Years

7:30 - 9:00 Stephen Salyers, Jer Gregg, Nikki Shannon Fernandez, Maggie Baugh

9:00 - 10:30 Julie Gribble, Leland Grant, Natalie Noone

Friday, May 16

Señor Frijoles - MM 104 Bayside

5:00 - 6:30 33 Years

6:30 - 8:00 Stephen Salyers, Jer Gregg, Nikki Shannon Fernandez

8:00 - 9:30 Leland Grant, Melody Guy, Maggie Baugh

Sundowners Restaurant - MM 104 Bayside

3:30 - 5:00 Devinshire

5:00 - 6:30 Davin McCoy and the Coming Attractions

6:30 - 8:00 Dave Feder, Megan Conner, Shane Hines, Dianna Corcoran

8:00 - 9:30 Cecilia Lauren & the Ocoee River Band

9:30 - 11:00 Saints of Havana

Cactus Jack's - MM 104 Bayside

6:30 - 8:00 Leland Grant, Melody Guy, Maggie Baugh

8:00 - 9:30 Jim Halfpenny, Natalie Noone, Adrienne

9:30 - 11:00 Sandbox Jam: Hosted by Jer Gregg & Stephen Salyers

Saturday, May 17

Señor Frijoles - MM 104 Bayside

3:30 - 5:00 Stephen Salyers, Jer Gregg, Nikki Shannon Fernandez

5:00 - 6:30 Jim Halfpenny, John Bartus, Maggie Baugh

6:30 - 8:00 Megan Conner, Shane Hines, Dianna Corcoran

8:00 - 9:30 33 Years

Sundowners Restaurant - MM 104 Bayside

2:00 - 3:30 Debbie Tassone & Gary Frost

3:30 - 5:00 Rose Island Band

5:00 - 6:30 Davin McCoy and the Coming Attractions

6:30 - 8:00 Melody Guy, Scott Youngberg, JJ Crowne, Billy Davidson

8:00 - 9:30 Stephen Salyers, Jer Gregg, Nikki Shannon Fernandez, Natalie Noone

9:30 - 11:00 Saints of Havana

Cactus Jack's - MM 104 Bayside

5:00 - 6:30 33 Years

6:30 - 8:00 Debbie Tassone & Gary Frost

8:00 - 9:30 Jim Halfpenny, John Bartus, Maggie Baugh

9:30 - 11:00 Sandbox Jam: Hosted by Megan Conner & Shane Hines

Sunday, May 18

Snapper's Restaurant & Raw Bar - MM 94.5 Oceanside

3:30 - 4:30 Stephen Salyers, Jer Gregg, Nikki Shannon Fernandez, Natalie Noone

4:30 - 5:30 Davin McCoy and the Coming Attractions

5:30 - 6:30 Joe Mama, Adrienne, Scott Youngberg

Sundowners Restaurant - MM 104 Bayside

3:30 - 5:00 Megan Conner, Shane Hines, Dianna Corcoran, Melody Guy

Grayson Rogers Band

5:00 - 6:30

6:30 - 8:00 Maggie Baugh, Jim Halfpenny, JJ Crowne

8:00 - 9:30 Grayson Rogers Band

CRUISE
Sunday 5:30-8:00
Jam by
various performers

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

For More Info: www.keylargooriginalmusicfest.com or call: 305-394-3736

May 2014 • The Coconut Telegraph • 15

COVER STORY

Ocean Vue Glass Bottom Boat Tours

Snorkel & Glass Bottom Tours Oceanside • Eco and Dolphin Encounters Bayside

What is there to do in Key Largo? That is something we locals hear all the time from visitors who are looking forward to enjoying the Upper Keys during their limited time.

Naturally, they want to take in everything: shopping, dining, tropical drinks, and most importantly some time on the water because Key Largo is the "Dive Capital of the World" and we are world famous for our pristine coral reef. Here you can admire thousands of tropical fish and living coral in all their colorful splendor. The National Marine Sanctuary is home to over 55 varieties of coral and 500 species of fish in our crystal clear waters.

Key Largo residents Dave and Christie Sheehan, who have been operating Keys Adventure Watersports renting boats and wave runners for the last 6 years, have come up with the ideal excursion: Ocean Vue Glass Bottom Boat Tours! There is something for everyone.

Imagine a fast-paced glass bottom boat ride, gliding over the sea to John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park's protected underwater paradise. Where other boats take an hour and a half just to get there, this futuristic, thrilling new hydrofoil boat with its massive 6 ft by 9 ft viewing area will whisk you

out to the reef in only 15 minutes!

You will visit the Christ Statue of the Abyss and at least two other locations for either snorkeling or just viewing through the crystal-clear glass bottom of the boat. The viewing glass magnifies the sea life so that it appears so close that it seems you could reach out and touch the fish.

This family-friendly boat also offers combo tours so those who want to snorkel can while others may choose to view the sea life in the comfort of the plush salon.

After a good hour and a half in the water on the reef, enjoy a quick trip back to the island ,traveling at a top speed of 42 knots (or for you landlubbers, an exhilarating 50 miles per hour). After over two hours on the water, you are back in Key Largo with plenty of time to experience the local flavor, visit gift shops, and feast on fresh seafood at some of South Florida's finest restaurants while you relax and take in the sunset.

Imagine those who don't know about Ocean Vue Glass Bottom Boat Tours... they are just getting off their boat after spending all day on the water, sun toasted, burned out and ready to crawl into bed . You, on the other hand, are about to

Dave and Christie Sheehan and the Ocean Vue Glass Bottom Boat

kick off your shoes and dance the night away under the stars. The evening is yours.

Ocean Vue Glass Bottom Boat Tours is now offering Bayside Eco Tours and Dolphin Encounter Tours. Take a relaxing backcountry trip through the mangroves to enjoy the aquatic wildlife that is home to osprey, eagles, roseate spoonbill and the elusive saltwater crocodile. This is a nature photographers dream trip.

The backcountry is also home to a large pod of curiously playful wild bottlenose dolphins. There is something magical and spiritually healing about dolphins that few experience in their lifetime. Well now you can cross it off your bucket list. If you are looking for an opportunity to view wild dolphins in their natural habitat this is the most affordable way to get up close and personal with them.

Bruce Herpich created the Keys most romantic engagement party ever when he surprised his beautiful fiancé Tanya with an engagement ring aboard the Ocean Vue at the Christ Statue of the Abyss

The Ocean Vue Glass Bottom Boat Tours will only take 6 people at a time, so you are guaranteed comfort and the special attention from the friendly and experienced crew that makes for a fabulous Florida Keys vacation memory.

The Sheehans want to cater to your special events. Recently Dave's brother Bruce created the Keys most romantic engagement party ever when he surprised his beautiful fiancé Tanya with an engagement ring aboard the Ocean Vue at the Christ Statue of the Abyss (see photos). She said yes!

Regular tour times are 10am, 1pm, 4pm, and sunset, which varies a little but is usually 6:30-7pm. Also available by appointment.

A second boat is also available running eco tours and private trips. It runs regularly at 10am, noon, 2pm, 4pm, and 6pm. It runs private charters for groups up to six.

The trips run over two hours. The price is \$65 per person with a 2 person minimum. For more info visit topsecretkeylargo.com or keysadventureswatersports.com. Email them at sunsetsunlimited@comcast.com or call the direct line 305-731-9472.

Bartender of the Month: Jorge Gomez, Bartender/Realtor

Not necessarily in order of importance! The traits and skills of a great bartender are honesty, professionalism, personality, speed, accuracy, good memory, multitasking, flexibility, communication, self-discipline, dependability, enthusiasm, a good positive attitude and a good following or network, and a genuine concern for his customers. Jorge Gomez has all these skills and more and that's why he has become a successful realtor as well.

Gomez has lived in the Upper Keys since his family moved here from Nicaragua when he was a baby. Now he is raising a family of his own here among childhood friends in the town and country that he loves. When Jorge is not behind the bar at Cactus Jack's (CJ's to the locals), or at his desk or showing properties for Tropical Realty, he is enjoying precious time with his wife and two daughters, ages 7 and 1.

If you are looking for a place to have a cocktail and relax, stop by MM 104 and meet Jorge. CJ's is a locals hangout because it is locally owned and operated, prices are very reasonable, food is excellent, and everyone is friendly. They open at 4 pm daily and serve food till

closing at 2 am. Stop by for some fried green beans, mozzarella sticks, a fried mac and cheese plate, onion rings, wings, cheese pizza, burgers, grilled chicken sandwich or the bacon-wrapped jalapeños that almost killed this writer. They are delicious but deadly caliente. I ate three, how many can you eat?

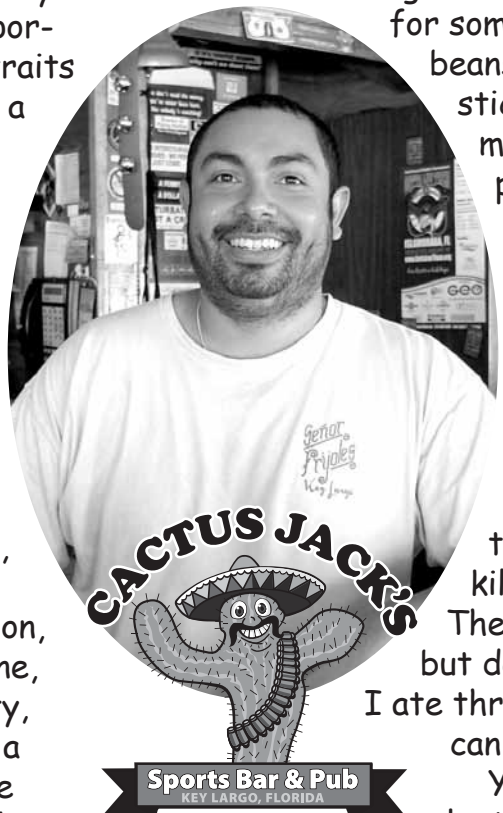
You'll need plenty of beer to

wash those down, so stop by for Happy Hour weekdays 4 to 7 for \$2 drafts, \$3 domestics, \$3 well drinks and \$3.50 call. Jorge recommends the \$2 shots of Dr. McGillicuddy's or Fire Balls, available all day long.

Jorge Gomez earned his realtor license and has been working with Tropical Realty since last October, but is already successful, says 30 year real-estate veteran and Tropical Realty owner Jane Wasmund, "He is a true professional." Nobody knows the market like a life-long resident.

And of course, if you are interested in a home in the Keys stop by Tropical Realty at 102901 Overseas Highway in Key Largo or call Jorge directly at 305-522-1921.

If you are looking for a drink and conversation stop by C.J.'s 103900 Overseas Highway and see Jorge. Or maybe you want a drink and a house? Just tell Jorge, "Make it a double!"



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Fifteen Things To Pass On To Your Daughters (in honor of Mother's Day, May 11th)

1. Don't imagine you can change a man – unless he's in diapers.
2. What do you do if your boyfriend walks-out? You shut the door behind him.
3. If they can put a man on the moon — they should put them all up there.
4. Never let your man's mind wander – it's too little to be out alone.
5. Go for younger men. You might as well – they never mature anyway.
6. Men are all the same – they just have different faces, so we can tell them apart.
7. Definition of a bachelor; a man who has missed the opportunity to make some woman miserable.
8. Women don't make fools of men – most of them are the do-it-yourself types.
9. Best way to get men to do something, is to suggest they are too old for it.
10. Love is blind, but marriage is a real eye-opener.
11. If you want a committed man, look in a mental hospital.
12. The children of Israel wandered around the desert for 40 years. Even in biblical times, men wouldn't ask for directions.
13. If he asks what sort of books you're interested in, tell him cheque books.
14. Remember, a sense of humor does not mean that you tell him jokes, it means that you laugh at his.
15. Sadly, all men are created equal.



How the world works lately...

If a man cuts his finger off while slicing salami at work, he blames the restaurant.

If you smoke 3 packs a day for 40 years and die of lung cancer, your family blames the tobacco company.

If your neighbor crashes into a tree while driving home drunk, he blames the bartender.

If your grandchildren are brats without manners, you blame television.

If your friend is shot by a deranged madman, you blame the gun manufacturer.

And if a crazed person breaks into the cockpit and tries to kill the pilot at 35,000 feet, and the passengers kill him instead, the mother of the crazed deceased blames the airline.

I must have lived too long to understand the world as it is.

So, if I die while my old wrinkled butt is parked in front of my computer, I want all of you to blame Bill Gates or Apple.

The Mangrove Galley by Sandi Mieszczenksi

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



May is here and that means Cinco de Mayo. One of my favorite breakfasts is a perfect way to begin the Cinco de Mayo celebration: Huevos Rancheros.

This is a quick and easy dish and if you like eggs in the evening it makes a great supper.

HUEVOS RANCHEROS

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1/2 cup chopped peppers (green, red, yellow, or combo) | 1/2 teaspoon paprika |
| 1 diced cubano pepper | chopped cilantro |
| 1 small chopped onion | 4 drops of Tabasco (or more if you like it spicy) |
| 1 tablespoon butter | 4 eggs |
| 1 15-ounce can tomato sauce | 1 cup shredded Monterey jack |
| 1 teaspoon chili powder | 4 flour or corn tortillas |
| 1/2 teaspoon cumin | sour cream |
| 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper | |

To prepare on stove top: Just assemble the ingredients in a large skillet then after adding the eggs, cover the pan until the eggs are set. Sprinkle on the cheese, cover the pan until it melts. Serve and enjoy!

To prepare in the oven: In a large skillet saute the peppers and onion in butter. Mix the tomato sauce, chili powder, cumin, cayenne pepper, paprika, cilantro, and Tabasco in a bowl. Prepare a baking dish with cooking spray. Pour in the tomato mixture. Break the eggs over the sauce. Sprinkle with the paprika. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 15 to 20 minutes until the eggs are set. While the eggs are baking, in a skillet lightly toast the tortillas on both sides. Keep the shells warm. After the eggs are set sprinkle the shredded cheese over the top and bake an additional 5 minutes. Place the eggs with the sauce over the top of the tortillas. Add a dollop of sour cream and serve. A side of chorizo (Spanish sausage) compliments the dish nicely.



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- State Highway
- Boat Ramp
- Mile Marker
- Point of Interest
- Dive Site
- Dive Wreck
- Swim with Dolphins



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ON THE MAP

Conch Characters



Happy Howie at the Pilot House.



Mickey at the Mandalay.



Paul at The Galley Restaurant.



The beautiful Marilyn and Dave at Bayside Grille.



Art Students show off their seahorse watercolors at the Art Box with teacher Yvette Cotera. The summer kids art program starts June 9th and sessions are held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 9:30 am to noon or 12:30-3 pm; or both. Ages 5-12. Please call for reservations and pricing 305-451-5461.



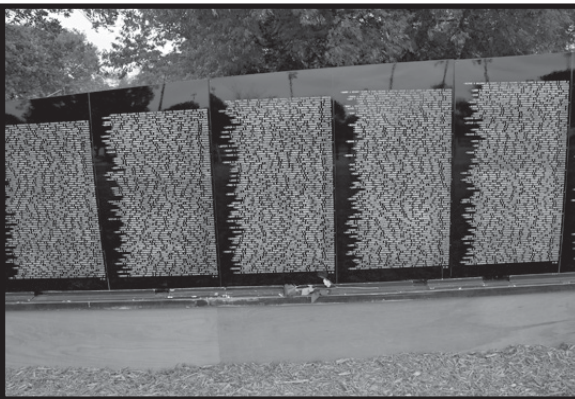
This happy mob was celebrating Doc Bolini's birthday at the Big Chill.



Boy Scouts Everglades Encounter at the Tavernier Elks. Photo by Brenda Cockrell.



The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall visited Key Largo in mid-April. American Legion Post 333 was one of the proud sponsors of this event.





The National Institutes of Health has just released the results of a \$200 million research study completed under a grant to Johns Hopkins.

The new study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.

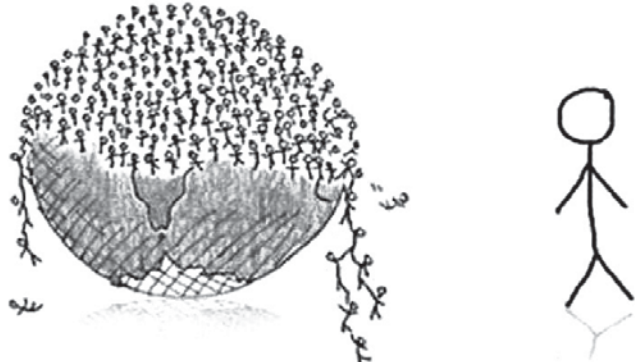


Coco'Nut' Funnies

Southern Sayings Translated

A whistling woman and a crowing hen never come to a very good end. (Be who you are.)
Ain't that the berries! (That's great!)
As easy as sliding off a greasy log backward. (Very easy.)
Busy as a stump-tailed cow in fly time. (Very busy.)
Caught with your pants down. (Surprised and unprepared.)
Chugged full. (Full and over-flowing.)
Do go on. (You must be joking.)
Don't count your chickens until they hatch. (First know the results.)
Don't let the tail wag the dog. (The boss is in charge.)
Don't let your mouth overload your tail. (Talking too much.)
Either fish or cut bait. (Work or make way for those who will.)
Even a blind hog finds an acorn now and then. (Everyone can be lucky.)
Every dog should have a few fleas. (No one is perfect.)
Fly off the handle. (Angry and lashing out.)
Get the short end of the stick. (Uninvited and treated wrongly.)
Give down the country. (Give someone a piece of your mind.)
Go off half-cocked. (Have only half the facts.)
Go to bed with the chickens. (In bed early.)
Go whole hog. (Go for it all.)
Gone back on your raisin'. (Deny heritage.)
Got your feathers ruffled. (Upset and pouting.)
Happy as a dead pig in the sunshine. (Clueless as to what's going on.)
Have no axe to grind. (No strong opinion.)
Holler like a stuck pig. (Make a fuss.)
I do declare. (Usually means nothing.)
In high cotton. (Rising up in society.)
In a coon's age. (Been a long time.)
Like a bump on a log. (Lazy and doing nothing.)
Like two peas in a pod. (Act and think alike.)
Mend fences. (Settle differences.)
Scarce as hen's teeth. (No such thing.)
Sight for sore eyes. (Looking good.)
Stomping grounds. (Familiar territory.)
Sun don't shine on the same dog's tail all the time. (You'll get what you deserve.)
That takes the cake. (Surprised.)
Too big for one's britches. (One taking themselves too seriously.)
Two shakes of a sheep's tail. (Done quickly.)
You're barking up the wrong tree. (You are wrong.)
Well, shut my mouth! (Shocked and speechless.)

There are over 7 Billion people on earth...



and you're going to let ONE PERSON ruin your day?

Mom's Wisdom:

"Instead of John,
I call my bathroom
Jim. It sounds so
much better to say
I went to the Jim
in the morning."



Happy Memorial Day!

Tina's Terrific!



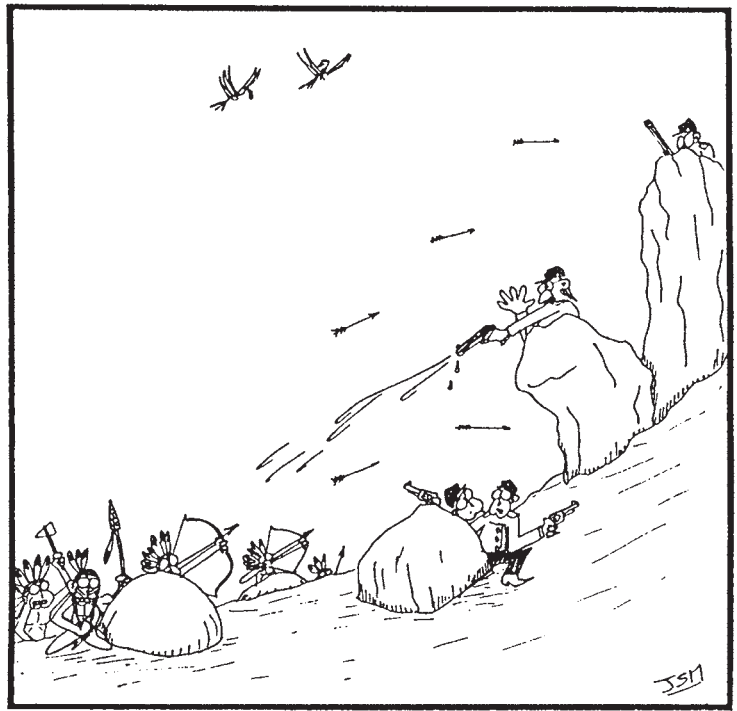
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Color & Highlights
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Free Consulation

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Left Field

by J.S. McKinna



JOHN MCKINNA is a local musician, a best-selling author, and a published, syndicated cartoonist. We feature his cartoons every month in the Coconut Telegraph!

LOCAL'S FAVORITE! Best-kept secret for 30 years!

Keys Eating at Its Finest...
Overlooking the Water



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ALL YOU CAN EAT
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5-9 PM • Bev. Incl.

—Daily Specials—
Breakfast Served 'til 2PM Daily



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Wednesday night @ Gilberts
Thursday night @ The Creekside
Fridays @ Gilberts
Saturday night @ Snooks with "That" Band

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bobbiebrown.com

“Once you find us, DON'T TELL ANYONE we're here”

Happy Hour 4 - 7

**Daily Food &
Drink Specials**



**Opens @ 11 AM Tues.-Sun.
Closed Mondays**

**Friday
One Pound Snow
Crab Dinner \$15
Add'l pound \$10**

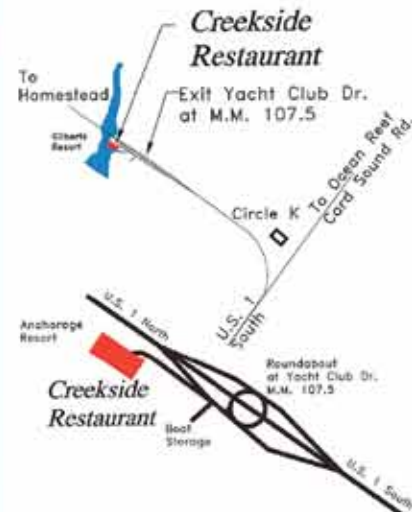
**Cook Your
Catch**

**Includes a soup or salad
and one side for \$12.**

Wednesday:

**\$5 Burger and Fries
Choice of Steak, Turkey
or Vegetable**

We're open Memorial Day Weekend



Follow the road until you get to us!

Thursday

**Live music, pizza, and beer
Large pizza & 2 domestic drafts
Additional toppings \$1**

**Enjoy the tunes delivered by
Bobbe Brown from 5 to 8**

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**ONE NIGHT STAY @
GILBERT'S RESORT.**

Ticket's \$5.

Must be present to win!

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YOU choose which one you want - one done
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Lots of upgrades and custom features.



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DRASTIC PRICE REDUCTION - 2 LEGAL SIDES
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BEAUTIFUL MOBILE HOME ON A CANAL
Well maintained, decorator perfect,
great for full time or weekend. You
won't find one nicer!! **OWNER SAYS SELL!!**



OWNER FINANCING - CANAL FRONT MOBILE
Fenced - updated - plenty of room for parking



CANALFRONT IN TROPICAL ATLANTIC SHORES -
STRAIGHT OUT TO THE OCEANFRONT. Updated
kitchen. 2 bdrm up and an apartment down, plus
workshop. Porches on street side and canal side.
Concrete roof. Beautifully landscaped. Fenced.
Very close to schools... **TAVERNIER**

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**We have cash investment buyers
looking for properties in Key
Largo... ready to buy!**



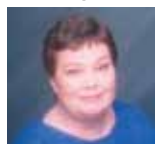
CANAL FRONT KEY LARGO HOME.
Direct access to the bay. 2 bedrooms up.
Workshop and storage down. \$489,000.

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what your home
is worth?**

Call us for a free market analysis.

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BROKER/OWNER



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