

# 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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Dan Lawler

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Three Key Largo businesses came together to help honor the five servicemen lost on July 16, 2015. Sean McMahon of Key Largo, a Marine veteran, initiated the project, which was completed with help from (L-R) Cheryl Conger of Keys Images, Sue Beal of Island Information Services, and Cathy Johnson of Printing Plus. Read all about it on page 10.

## BLUESFEST

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Schedule and artist information inside.

Look for ad inside or check the calendar at [keylargo-baysidegrill.com](http://keylargo-baysidegrill.com) for all of our live music on the beach.



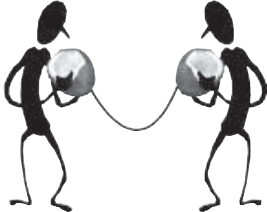
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Editorial: Social Media Relations

It's been 20 years since I watched TV and I don't even know how to turn one on, let alone work a remote. Television makes you lazy and stupid anyway. When 9/11 happened I had to drive to Gilbert's to see the news, as I didn't even have a TV or want one. I don't listen to the radio either. Every day my job takes me up and down the Keys and I love the silence as it helps calm my nerves while I am carefully driving amongst the speeding Miami crazies partying in the Keys. If I need to hear music I could simply pop in a CD or get an iPod with my favorite tunes. I actually prefer elevator music to that rap crap. Over the years I've worked for a few Keys radio stations

and one boss made me listen to them all, so that I could potentially steal the advertisers, and that was sheer torture for me. It was very embarrassing because the customer had to spend a fortune to get very little return. One of the greatest things about Key Largo is that you can listen to the best live music without having to travel more than 10 miles in either direction. Gilbert's, Big Chill, Bayside Grill, Pilot House, Mandalay, Sharkey's, and Snook's all have the best live music the Keys have to offer all year long! We are truly blessed. Things are different these days. Here in the Keys we have several newspapers that

come out once a week. I don't have time to pick them up or to read them every week and I don't miss anything because I get all the news I need right through Facebook any time I want it. The one thing I can't live without is reading. Every spare minute I read. There is nothing worse than stopping alone for a bite to eat and not having anything around to read but your phone. That is why we deliver the Coconut Telegraph to so many restaurants and bars. They get shared by the locals and the visitors take them home. I really appreciate all the people that take the time come up to me to tell me how much they love the Coconut Telegraph. Please tell the business

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All she has to do is sign up and have her doctor fax a note confirming the treatment. Cleaning for a Reason may have a participating maid service in her zip code area and can arrange for the service. Please share this information. Check out the details at [cleaningforareason.org](http://cleaningforareason.org).



BPW members with their August luncheon speaker, Glenn Hoover. (L-R) Gina Boilini, Laura Maupin, Glenn Hoover, Theresa Sutter and Cheryl Lee-Talbert at Holiday Inn Hotel Key Largo.

Many thanks to BPW speaker Glenn Hoover for sharing his experiences in Vietnam and the photos he took while he was there, capturing such vulnerable moments. Without having been there to experience, one can only imagine the fear and suffering the villagers and soldiers were enduring in that terrifying place and time. His photos gave us a real glimpse of what they lived through; brave people with unfathomable life experiences. Thanks again to Glenn Hoover for everything he has done, not only for our country, but in remembrance of Vietnam war soldiers and civilians.

## HUGE NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE

Saturday, September 6th  
8 AM - 2 PM  
MM 106 Bayside: Follow signs



LOCALS' FAVORITE

## Ship Wrecks

305-453-3153 45 Garden Cove Drive, Key Largo, MM 106

### DAILY SPECIALS

Wednesday - Live Music 5:30 - 8:00  
Friday - All You Can Eat Fish (fried, grilled or blackened)  
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Every Day 4 to 6pm featuring... \$1 Drafts  
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Featuring Stereo Underground and DJ Joey Naples  
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Happy Hour 4-7pm daily Sunday Breakfast 8-11am \$7 Bottomless coffee included

2 Seagate Boulevard • MM 99.6 • Key Largo • 305-451-0307



## SHOES, SHOES, SHOES!



### The Humane Society at MM 101 is collecting old shoes.

The Upper Keys Humane Society has joined Funds2orgs to collect old, usable shoes. They will be sent to areas where there is a need and the Humane Society will be able to receive donations for all the shoes collected. Any size, shape, color. All are greatly appreciated.

Please take your shoes to the Upper Keys Humane Society at MM 101.5 Ocean Side (next to Upper Crust Pizza) or call Marlyn Beyer 305-522-1057 [mortisia@comcast.net](mailto:mortisia@comcast.net). We have 30 days to collect as many shoes as possible. Thank you for helping homeless animals.



Vintage post card of Key Largo



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**Get your Pilot's License today!**



# 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.



Gypsy



Mandy



Rio



Charlie



Layla



Misha



Violet



Paco



Charlie H

MARC Needs YOU to Clean Out Your Closets!



**The MARC Thrift Shop at the Coral Isles Church**  
*(next to Coral Shores High School)*  
**is in need of clothing and household items – anything new or slightly used, excluding large furniture.**

*If you don't have the time to personally deliver it to the store, give the MARC folks a call and they will schedule a volunteer to come to you and pick it up, from Ocean Reef to Islamorada – 305-852-3282.*

The Monroe Association for ReMARCable Citizens is a non-profit agency that serves adult clients within Monroe County who have developmental disabilities that include mental retardation (I.Q. 69 or below), cerebral palsy, spina bifida, Prader-Willi Syndrome, and traumatic brain injury sustained prior to age 18.

MARC provides numerous services for their clients. These services are designed to insure that each client receives training and support that enhances his or her individual abilities to understand daily community routines and learn social, self-care, vocational skills and help to increase a client's ability to develop friendships with non-disabled persons.

M.A.R.C., Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization providing life services for Monroe County residents with Developmental Disabilities.

"A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800-435-7352) within the state. Registration does not imply endorsement, approval, or recommendation by the state."



*Make a Difference!*  
**DONATE**





The Florida Keys Elks Lodge initiated 17 new members for the month of August. Members must be United States citizens who pledge allegiance to and salute the American Flag, who are of good character, over the age of 21 and who believe in God. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is a fraternal, charitable and social organization. For more information please call the Lodge 305-852-1872.

## MARC Monthly Chair Raffle

At the Music for MARC benefit, which was held at the beautiful Island Grill Mandalay in August, MARC drew a winner of this chair. Pictured with it is Beau Thomas and Lucia (Lucy) Garcia-Romeu.



Beau Thomas, who owns Saltwater Accents, a custom outdoor furniture business, is donating one chair each month for MARC employees to paint and raffle off.

Lucia painted the first one with the sea horse, the second one with a sea turtle is almost finished, painted by Sharon and Lucia. The chairs will be raffled off at the MARC Thrift Store at our Upper Keys MARC location, MM 90 oceanside, look for the big red chair out front.

Proceeds from the chair raffles will go to the Pasta Pantaleo Fund, aimed at financing a much-needed Group Home for the Upper Keys MARC Program.

MARC thanks all who bought tickets for the first chair raffle, and Coordination Corinne Triviski says, "Thanks for your continued support, and please look for more chair raffles coming soon."

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Beau Thomas' beautiful work can be found locally at stores. He is also on Facebook, and can be reached at 904-219-4344.



# Reptile Dysfunction.

Iguanas are filthy, disgusting creatures but that isn't why I hate them. I hate iguanas because they are assholes. They are not indigenous to the Florida Keys and they are a big nuisance if you ask me.

The scaly buggers eat my plants and poop on my dock. They are always in the road too. I don't know how many times I have swerved to avoid hitting one with my car. When I found out they bite and carry salmonella I started aiming for the little assholes. Haven't got one yet but just in case I do come across some decent road kill I purchased a healthy supply of Iguana Helper at the grocery store. It makes cooking them so much simpler. Yum yum yum! You too can get some.

Seriously, the strains of salmonella that iguanas carry can cause symptoms ranging from very mild to potentially lethal. Even mild strains can be deadly to humans who have compromised or immature immune systems: infants, toddlers, the elderly, anyone with a suppressed immune system due to illness, organ-transplant recipients receiving anti-rejection drugs, or cancer patients receiving chemotherapy.

Most instances of salmonella transmission from pets to humans take place because humans don't know that a risk exists. Knowing



about it and taking proper precautions can greatly reduce, but not completely eliminate, the risk. Fortunately, you can take precautions such as washing your hands before and after handling an iguana or better yet, wear gloves. Several years ago I had a friend that bought an iguana for her kids. It bit her and caused a very bad infection. She could have lost a finger or died!

All kinds of animals carry diseases that can be passed to humans. Reptiles are no exception. Most, if not all, reptiles carry salmonella, which can cause serious illness, hospitalization, even death, in humans, despite the reptile appearing to be perfectly healthy. If you have or are planning to have babies or have or work with young children or other

at-risk humans, you may want to rethink



getting an iguana for a pet. If you do purchase one as a pet and later find it is not for you please do not let it go, cook it instead!

Thoroughly cooking iguana meat can most likely get rid of the salmonella however, if the iguana you are chomping at the bit to grill looks sickly, it's probably best to wait till a better looking one comes along.

Stock up on some Iguana Helper with compliments of the Coconut Telegraph. If your local grocer doesn't have it in stock ask them to please order it and be sure to get a rain check.

These days when the little assholes poop on my dock I don't go into shock. I get out my pooper scooper and make some delicious iguana poop soup. It tastes like chicken!



Trying to look innocent.

**NEW! Iguana Helper**  
**FREE SNACK SIZE**

TAKE THIS COUPON TO YOUR LOCAL SUPERMARKET AND DEMAND THEY STOCK THIS PRODUCT! DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS PROTEIN-RICH RECIPE POPULAR IN ALL THE TROPICAL CLIMATES. NOW THAT IT'S SO EASY TO PREPARE. KEEP SEVERAL BOXES ON THE SHELF TO COMBAT IGUANA INVASIONS IN YOUR YARD! AND THE BONUS? YOU MIGHT ACTUALLY HAVE SOME VEGETABLES LEFT IN YOUR GARDEN TO SERVE WITH IT!



Limit one per customer, must present coupon. Offer ends 4/1/2016.



## Iguana Rid

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### HELPS PROTECT:

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Spray IGUANA-RID thoroughly in all areas where Iguanas bask, feed, or have caused damage to flowers or plants. Spray on decks or docks where feces is found, and any other areas where control is desired. Iguana-Rid is not harmful, and works by producing an odor and taste which is disagreeable to Iguanas and many other garden pests. Reapplication is recommended every 3 to 5 weeks.

On sale at Ebay. Seriously!



# Downtown Key Largo Readies for 4th Annual Songfest Columbus Day Weekend

This three-day event is a unique opportunity for music lovers to enjoy songs as sung by their creators as well as "the story behind the song"—how and why they got written. Songfest was created by Robert DiGiorgio, owner of DiGiorgio's Café Largo and Bayside Grille. The Festival is sponsored by the Key Largo Downtown Association, and in 2015 takes place at three fabulous waterfront venues in Downtown Key Largo, representing some of the best of what the area has to offer.

Mark your calendar for Columbus Day weekend—October 9th to 11th. This year's singer-songwriter line-up includes Mark Bryan, founding member and lead guitarist of Hootie & The Blowfish. We also have returning, Nashville songwriter Jon Nite, hot off his 4th #1 single "Smoke" with country band, 1000 Horses. Speaking of #1 writers from Nashville... new to the Festival this year is Jim McCormick, writer of two recent number one hits: Brantley Gilbert's "You Don't Know Her Like I Do," and Jason Aldean's "Take A Little Ride."

Returning as well is Grammy nominee, Greg Barnhill, famous for his incomparable hit song for Trisha Yearwood, "Walk Away Joe."

"New blood" this year is Bob Regan—one of Nashville's most successful and beloved writers. Bob's

also a Grammy nominee as well as a Dove award nominee (Christian music "Grammy"). Bob's songwriting credits include two #1s, six top-5, and eleven top-20 country hit songs (at last count!!). Regan is a past President of the Board, and past legislative chair, of the Nashville Songwriters Association International. In 2006, he helped pass the Songwriters Capital Gains Tax Equity Act. He is currently the director of Operation Song, a program which brings songwriters together with veterans and active duty military to help them turn their stories into songs.

Ralph Murphy joins us again too. A performer at Songfest in the past, Ralph's bio is almost impossible to condense: he has had #1 hits as both a writer and publisher. Artists from all genres, and all over the world, have cut Ralph's tunes (even Shania Twain!!). Ralph's been in bands, had label deals as a band member, produced artists, and worked for ASCAP for many years as a writer rep and traveling ambassador to the music world teaching innumerable songwriters what makes a song a hit (which knowledge he has distilled into an amazing book titled Murphy's Laws of Songwriting).

Songfest's "field" this year is rounded out by a true member of the Nashville "musical family"—Amanda Williams. Fresh off

her latest cut on Garth Brooks' comeback album ("She's Tired of Boys"), Amanda learned songwriting from a unique perspective. Her daddy Kim Williams, wrote such memorable hits as "Ain't Going Down 'Til The Sun Comes Up," "Beer Run," "Three Wooden Crosses" and the list goes on and on!

The organizers are also pleased this year to have a singer-songwriter sent from the European country full of hit makers—through an arrangement with the Swedish government—Rebecca Digerwall, an artist getting

a great deal on attention in her home country as well as the US.

Finally, Bud Tower, co-founder of Key Largo Songfest will do a special Sunday evening show with Hootie & The Blowfish founding member Mark Bryan (did we mention Mr. Bryan co-wrote all of Hootie's massive hit songs?) and Drew Young—songwriter, artist, producer, publisher, college music professor, and all-around music industry guy. Drew will as well play shows Friday and Saturday night. See below for the schedule.



Columbus Day Weekend

FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY:

**October 9-10-11**

Bayside Grille, Pilot House, and Key Largo Fisheries host a group of professional songwriters at three different venues simultaneously.

**Key Largo Downtown Association:**  
The mission of Key Largo Downtown Association Inc. is to foster a vibrant commercial and cultural district with strategic capital improvements, enhanced maintenance and security, effective marketing and promotions, historic preservation, education, and effective administration.  
www.keylargodowntown.com

### SCHEDULE

Showtimes Run 7-10pm

#### Bayside Grille

99530 Overseas Hwy.,  
Key Largo, FL 305-451-3380

<b>Friday, October 9</b> Mark Bryan Jim McCormick Jon Nite	<b>Saturday, October 10</b> Ralph Murphy Jon Nite Amanda Williams
<b>Sunday, October 11</b> Mark Bryan • Bud Tower • Drew Young	

#### The Pilot House

13 Seagate Blvd.  
Key Largo, FL 305- 451-3142

<b>Friday, October 9</b> Rebecca Digerwall Amanda Williams Drew Young	<b>Saturday, October 10</b> Greg Barnhill Mark Bryan Bob Regan
--	---

#### Key Largo Fisheries Backyard Cafe

1313 Ocean Bay Drive,  
Key Largo, FL 305-451-3784

<b>Friday, October 9</b> Greg Barnhill Ralph Murphy Bob Regan	<b>Saturday, October 10</b> Rebecca Digerwall Jim McCormick Drew Young
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\*Schedule subject to change without notice

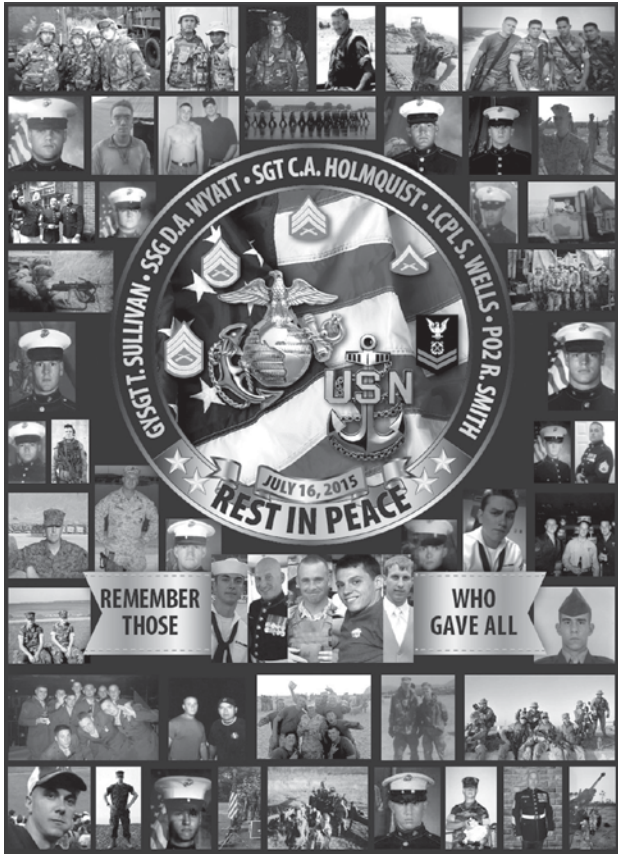


# Four in Key Largo Honor Fallen Servicemen with a Unique Tribute

When a gunman armed with an AK-47 opened fire at a military recruiting center and then a Naval reserve center in Chattanooga, Tennessee on July 16, 2015, he left 4 servicemen dead, and wounded several others, one critically. He left many Americans wondering how this could have happened, outraged at the lack of security, and saddened by the loss of those who proudly served our country. The four Marines slaughtered that day were all combat veterans: Thomas Sullivan, of Hampden, Massachusetts; Squire "Skip" Wells, of Marietta, Georgia; David Wyatt, of Burke, North Carolina; and Carson Holmquist of Grantsburg, Wisconsin. U.S. Navy Petty Officer Randall Smith died three days later from injuries sustained that day.

Under the gunman's siege, the Marines went into combat mode, had everybody drop to the floor, and then "cleared the room" by having everyone go out the back, the official said. All seven people in the center survived, and reports indicate those Marines helped save lives.

All over the US, including here in the Keys, people expressed their outrage, sadness and sympathy for the families of the fallen men. Sean McMahon, a Marine veteran in Key



The original 24"x30" piece before framing.

Largo, said that he and his fellow former Marine vets were calling and texting each other, and posting to their Facebook site (which is private, for vets from conflicts ranging from Vietnam to the present).

The group was particularly upset by what they called the "whitewashing" of the incident in the press, and the inability of servicemen at recruiting centers to bear arms for defense. As the discussion evolved over a period of days, it was discovered that seven of the members of the group had served with "Gunny" Sullivan, five in Iraq. They call him the "cannon cocker."

After a lengthy discussion of what action to take, the group settled on a heartfelt and unique expression of sympathy to Sullivan's family, who owns an Irish pub in Boston. McMahon took the lead on the project, as the group gathered photos of themselves and their brothers in service, featuring as many of Gunny Sullivan as they could find.

Sean went to see Cathy Johnson, the manager of Printing Plus in Key Largo (at MM 99 in the Cedar Towers building), and explained what they wanted to do. Cathy's late husband was a veteran of the Vietnam war, and Cathy was eager to help. She called

Sue Beal of Island Information Services to help organize all the pictures into a cohesive piece and make it communicate the message of solidarity that the Marines wanted. A 24x30 inch poster was made showing the service logos, uniform insignias, the names of the fallen servicemen, their pictures, and a message of remembrance. Arranged around this were about 80 photos of the men sending the message, many taken with Gunny Sullivan.

Once the poster was made, it needed to be framed, and Cheryl Conger of Keys Images in Plaza 103 in Key Largo came forward as the last part of the Key Largo team. A beautiful mat and frame made the completed piece perfect. All three of the local businesses donated their services to the project.

The original 24"x30" piece will be shipped up to the Sullivan family in Boston by Sean, and additional pieces will be presented to key people and organizations. It is planned to give one to the American Legion in Key Largo, where everyone is encouraged to stop by and see it.

The project is another example of how our local community comes together to help others, and how we are proud to help.



Why wouldn't the lobster share his drink? Because he was Shellfish!

# John Popper of Blues Traveler joins The Regs at Gilbert's, September 20th

If you turned on an FM radio in the mid to late 90s, you know this band. If you don't, then the rock you lived under must have been pretty big. Blues Traveler gained international fame in 1994 with the release of their 4th album, appropriately named "Four." They had already found success with their first hit single "But Anyway" a few years earlier, then with the addition of chart busters like "Run Around" and "Hook" the band really hit their stride. Their breakthrough album went platinum SIX times.

David Letterman often referred to them as his favorite band, and they played on The Late Show more times than any other band. They played the 1995 season premiere of Saturday Night Live instead of Prince. They played on soundtracks for great 90s movies like Ace Ventura, Speed, Blues Brothers 2000, and Kingpin. They headlined festivals like Woodstock 94, and H.O.R.D.E.



Photo by Gage Skidmore

Grammy-winning harmonica player and vocalist John Popper will join The Regs on Gilbert's stage on Sunday, September 20th. Don't miss it!



They even toured with The Rolling Stones. Oh yeah... they won a Grammy too, the highest honor for musicians.

John Popper is one of the best harmonica players in the world, and is the lead singer of Blues Traveler. The driving force behind Blues Traveler, John's harmonica playing is so fast that many guitar players can't keep up. His rendition of the Star Spangled Banner is unique, and it will be great to see Scotty Migone of The Regs go toe-to-toe with John.

You can see them all on Sunday, September 20th at Gilbert's Resort. The show starts at 1pm, and carpooling is recommended, as parking will fill up quickly.



(L-R) Cheryl Conger of Keys Images, Sue Beal of Island Information Services, Sean McMahon of Key Largo, a Marine veteran, and Cathy Johnson of Printing Plus.



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<b>Special Saturday Night Show!</b> Mr Nice Guy 7-11pm	<b>Monday, September 7:</b> Rogue Theory 1-6pm

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1-6pm**



THE REGS are playing and we have a special performer  
**JOHN POPPER**  
the lead singer and harmonica player for the famous band  
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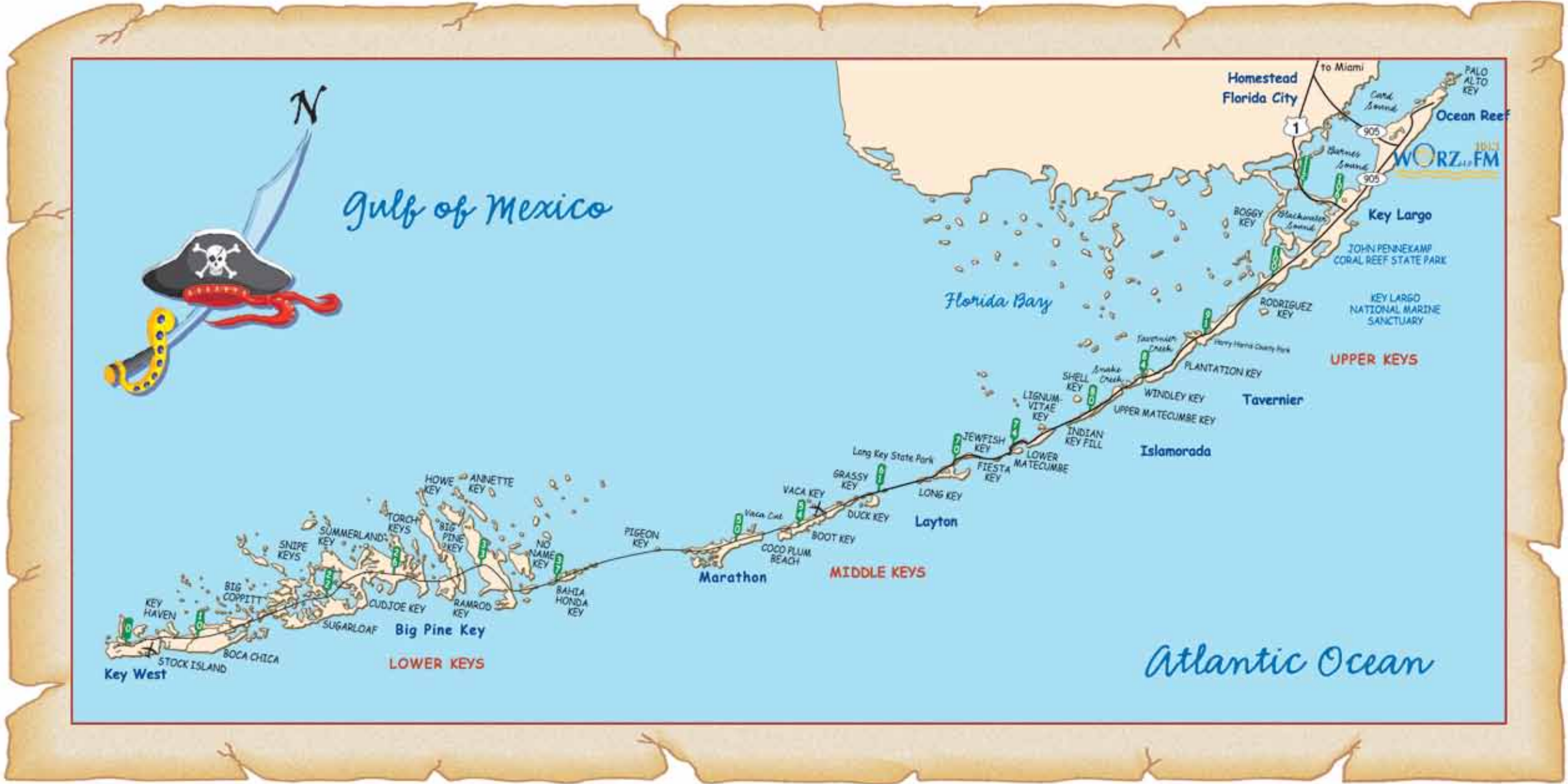
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# The Mangrove Galley

by Sandi Mieszczeni

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



As we enter the month of September, we continue to endure high temperatures. A favorite way to break the heat is to sit back and enjoy a bowl of ice cream. Nowadays there are so many great brands on the market, all with an incredible selection of flavors to chose from. Sometimes it is just fun to put together your own concoction such as a good old fashioned ice cream sundae. I found this recipe years ago and it is still one of my favorites. It puts a tropical spin on just plain vanilla ice cream. Try it and enjoy!

## HAWAIIAN ICE CREAM WITH COCONUT AND BANANAS

- 3/4 cup sweetened flaked coconut
- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup dark rum
- 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
- 6 firm bananas, sliced
- 1 quart of high quality vanilla ice cream

On medium low heat, brown the coconut in a sauté pan. Watch carefully, stirring constantly as it can burn quickly. Combine the butter, sugar, rum, and cinnamon in a saucepan. Cook while stirring until the mixture begins to boil. Remove from heat then add the sliced bananas.

Scoop out a generous portion of ice cream and place in a bowl. Top with the rum mixture and sprinkle the toasted coconut on top.

Then dig in!



# Conch Characters



Pirate mermaid spotted at Gilberts. Photo by Janet Reynolds.



Mr. 305 AKA Pit Bull stopped by Bayside Grille and was kind enough to pose with bartenders Mike and Corey.



Island Grill at Mandalay is oceanfront dining at its best with a great view.



Always a fun time at Sharkey's with owners Paul and Adam.



Meet Savanna, a new bartender upstairs at Bayside Grille, offering a great selection of craft beers and cocktails.



Michael Trixx and Jimmy Johnson are mutual fans at the Big Chill.



Live remote broadcast with Skip from Sun 103 at the Island Market. Sun 103 always draws a crowd.



Mark Wheaton and Island Market Manager Alice with some of the furniture he bought for his patio.



Billy Davidson plays for Music for MARC at the Island Grill Mandalay in August.



John McKinna, always a favorite at Bayside Grille.



Dale Henderson rocking with the Outer Band at the Pilot House.



Jonathan Bogue sings and plays the ukulele at Music for MARC at the Island Grill Mandalay.

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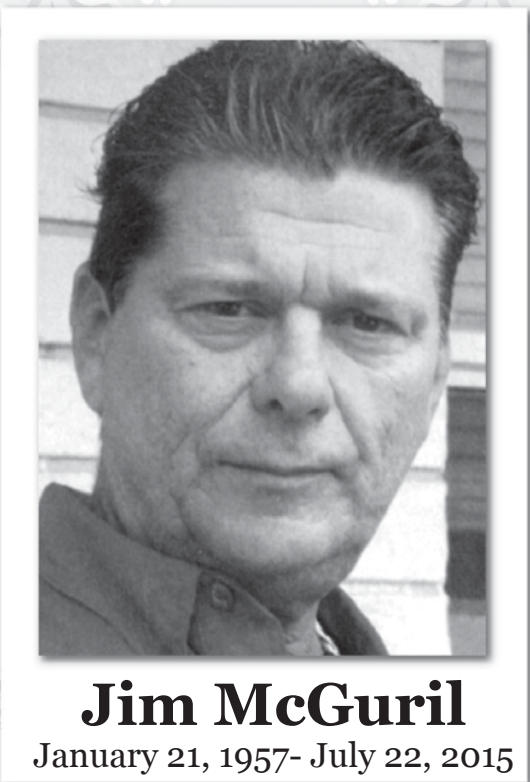
Key Largo 305 852-0595

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# In Loving Memory and Gratitude

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,  
Or sat quietly in a chair.  
Perhaps you sent a donation our way  
If so, we saw it there.  
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words  
As any friend would say.  
Perhaps you were not there at all;  
Just thought of us that day.  
Whatever you did to console our hearts,  
We thank you very much from  
the bottom of our hearts.



Special thanks to:  
**Kathy, Kristie & Donnie**  
at the Caribbean Club  
  
and  
  
Very Special Thanks to:  
**Clara & Pastor Ralph**  
of the Key Largo  
Christian Center  
  
and to everyone else  
for their support

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## Art Box Artist of the Month: Dan Lawler



Dan Lawler is inspired to capture the spirit of what he sees for others to see. As you travel through his work you will see the common thread of a lifetime painting and exploring hew subject matter, and what has made him one of the Florida Keys' favorite painters.

Dan has been a resident of the Keys for over 50 years, having moved here from Chicago. He received his

formal training at the Chicago Art Institute. While there, he received several scholarships and continued his education taking various classes and workshops.

When coming to the Keys he started painting on driftwood planks. As interest in his painting grew, he sold his work in restaurants and gift shops. He became an avid weekend painter. He also bought and refurbished yachts and resold them. He earned a 100-ton master license from the Coast Guard, and began to design and build homes.

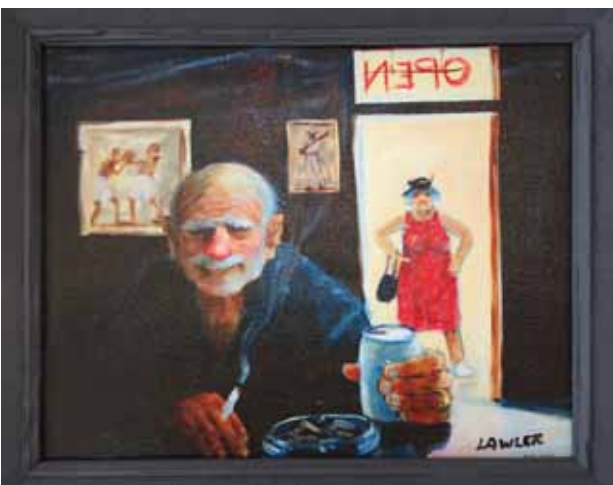
His artwork expanded and he did illustration work for a history column in the Key West Citizen newspaper. In 1987, he was commissioned by the Tourist Development Association for a project at the State Fair in Tampa depicting "Key West and the Florida Keys." This was a huge display, at 8 ft. high by 20 ft. long.

His work often depicts historical scenes like wreckers, smugglers, seascapes, and local characters. He has painted in the Bahamas, Caribbean, South America, France, England, Italy, and even the Soviet Union. When he travels he uses watercolors and his sketch book, but his main medium is oil color.

Dan has received numerous awards and ribbons for his work and won a grant for four murals that now hang in the Freeman Justice Center in Key West.

As a multi-talented artist, Dan doesn't hesitate to reach. He says, "It's the search... the spiritual thing that I want others to feel and see in my work. When you've seen my work, you will know me."

Stop by the Art Box at MM 100.5 Bayside in Key Largo in September and see what Dan Lawler sees!



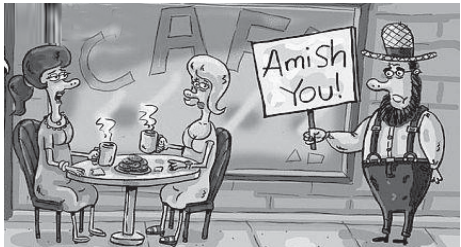


Another Blonde,  
Another Day

A blonde in a bar is hunched over her martini, spearing at the olive with a cocktail stick.

A dozen times the olive eludes her until a man sitting next to her grabs the stick and skewers it for her. "That's the way to do it," he says.

"Big deal," replies the blonde sulkily. "You'd never have gotten it if I hadn't tired it out first."



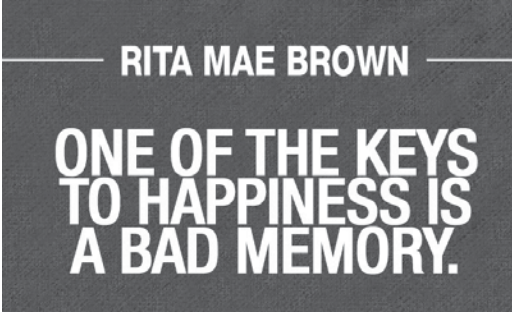
"Don't look now but it's that guy from Pennsylvania you dumped last month."



Coco'Nut' Funnies



Did you hear? Baby's Coffee was robbed last month! No joke.



Stay Updated On  
Political Correct Terms

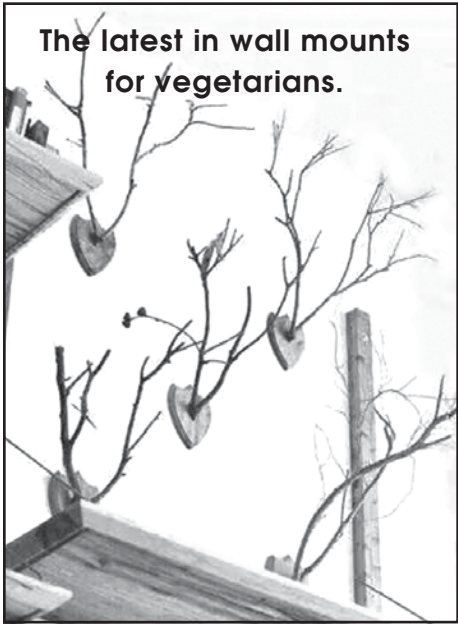
How to speak about women and be politically correct:

- 1. She is not a 'babe' or a 'chick' - she is a 'Breasted American.'
- 2. She is not 'easy' - she is 'Horizontally Accessible.'
- 3. She is not a 'dumb blonde' - she is a 'Light Haired Detour Off the Information Superhighway.'
- 4. She has not 'been around' - she is a 'Previously-Enjoyed Companion.'
- 5. She does not 'nag' you - she becomes 'Verbally Repetitive.'
- 6. She is not a 'two-bit hooker' - she is a 'Low Cost Provider.'

How to speak about men and be politically correct:

- 1. He does not have a 'beer gut' - he has developed a 'Liquid Grain Storage Facility.'
- 2. He is not a 'bad dancer' - he is 'Overly Caucasian.'
- 3.. He does not 'get lost all the time' - he 'Investigates Alternative Destinations.'
- 4. He is not 'balding' - he is 'Follically Challenged.'
- 5. He does not act like a 'total ass' - he develops a case of 'Rectal-Cranial Inversion.'
- 6. It's not his 'crack' you see hanging out of his pants - it's 'Trouser Cleavage.'

Thank you  
Trader Dick!



About That "Procedure"

A plastic surgeon invented a radical new face lift procedure and was explaining it to a prospective patient.

He told her, "I'll install a special screw in the top of your skull. Your hair will cover it, so it will be unnoticed. Whenever you need a little tuck, we'll just tighten the screw a little, and the wrinkles will disappear!"

The woman was enthused and told the doctor to go for it.

The surgery was a resounding success, and the woman went home happy.

A few months later, the woman returned in a great state of agitation. She pointed to her face and said, "Just look at these bags under my eyes! Where the hell did they come from?"

The surgeon looked at her closely and said, "Those are not bags under your eyes. Those are your breasts. And if you don't stop messing around with that screw, pretty soon you'll have a goatee!"

Thank you Thad Bowling!



From the Back Pew

A pastor's wife was expecting a baby, so he stood before the congregation and asked for a raise. After much discussion, they passed a rule that whenever the pastor's family expanded; so would his paycheck.

After 6 children, this started to get expensive and the congregation held another meeting to discuss the pastor's expanding salary. A great deal of yelling and inner bickering ensued, as to how much the pastor's additional children were costing the church, and how much more it could potentially cost.

After listening to them for about an hour, the pastor rose from his chair and spoke, "Children are a gift from God, and we will take as many gifts as He gives us."

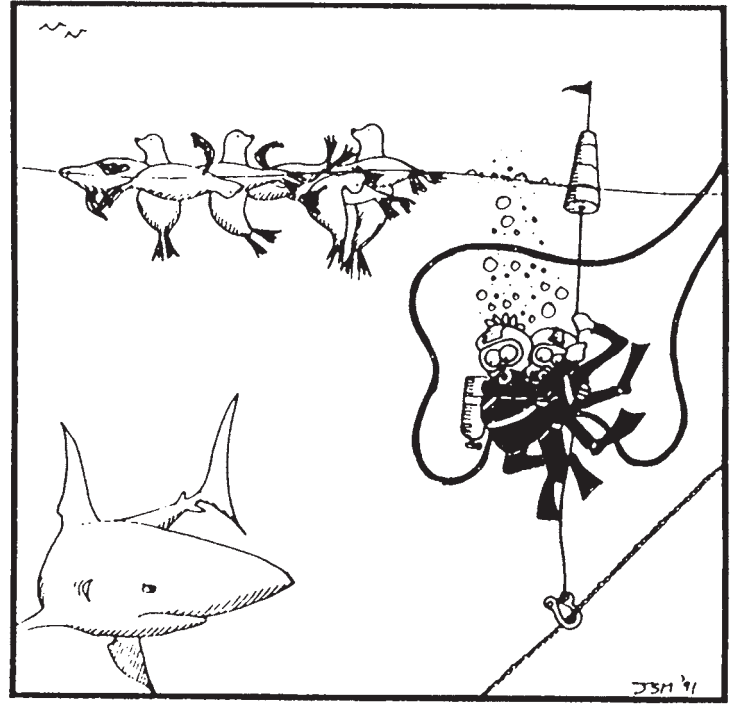
Silence fell over the congregation.

In the back pew, a little old lady struggled to stand, and finally said in her frail voice, "Rain is also a gift from God, but when we get too much of it, we wear rubbers."

The entire congregation said, "Amen."



Left  
Field  
by J.S. McKinna



Marine mammals band together for protection...

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!

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The MARC Thrift Shop at the Coral Isles Church is in need of clothing and household items - anything new or slightly used, excluding large furniture.

If you can't take it to the store, call 305-852-3282 (Ocean Reef to Islamorada).

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ON THE MAP

**Russ Cullen, Rest in Peace**  
Key Largo lost a remarkable resident in August when attorney, ambulance volunteer and American Legion officer Russ Cullen passed.

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September 2015 • The Coconut Telegraph • 21

# Getting Back to What You Love

## It's Never Too Late

Nothing can fill the emptiness that remains in a space vacated by a passion that we have tossed aside.

There are times in life when we are committed to pursuing our passions. Every molecule in our body is focused on doing what we love. At other times, necessity and responsibility dictate that we put our dreams aside and do what needs to be done. It is during these moments that we may choose to forget what it is that we love to do. There are many other reasons for why we may leave our passions behind. A hobby may lose its appeal once we've realize it will never turn into our dream job. Someone important to us may keep telling us that our passions are childish and unsuitable - until we finally believe them.

tossed aside. Besides, life is too short to stop doing what you love, and it is never too late to rediscover your favorite things. If you gave up playing an instrument, painting, drawing, spending time in nature, or any other activity or interest that you once loved to do, now may be the time to take up that passion again.

If you don't remember what it is that you used to be passionate about, you may want to think about the activities or interests that you used to love or the dreams that you always wished you could pursue.

You don't have to neglect your responsibilities to pursue your passions, and you don't have to neglect your commitments to do what you love. When you make an effort to incorporate your interests into your life, the fire within you ignites. You feel excited, inspired, and fed by the flames that are sparked by living your life with passion for what you love.

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

Another stunning aerial shot of Gilbert's Resort.



# Business in the Keys



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## Buck Dharma & Carmine Appice rock the Gilbert's stage! By Rob LeBrun

Sunday August 23rd proved to be a great day in Keys entertainment. Island Rock Entertainment, Bill Becker Consulting, and Gilbert's Resort were able to put on a great free concert for a packed house!

Local favorites "The Dropouts" started the show with an hour and a half of rock and classic rock tunes. After a quick break to switch instruments, The Regs with Benny Harrison warmed the crowd up before the main event.

Carmine Appice, legendary drummer for such bands as Rod Stewart, Kiss, Ozzy Osbourne, Vanilla Fudge and many more, sat on the drummers stool and showed the crowd why he was Jon Bonham's (Led Zeppelin's drummer) mentor and idol.

Carmine showed off his famous double-bass drum technique, and even sang his



Buck Dharma on stage with The Regs at Gilberts. Photo by Jesus D. Perez at jperezphoto.com

version of the hit song he wrote with Rod Stewart "Do Ya Think I'm Sexy." Buck Dharma, one of the best guitarists to ever play, and the lead singer of Blue Oyster Cult, took the stage to thunderous applause.

Buck grabbed his Kiesel "Vader" headless guitar and joined The Regs on "Hot Legs." Classic rock fans were lucky to see and hear Buck play a few Blue Oyster Cult favorites, like "Burnin for You," and of course

"Don't Fear The Reaper." Buck played for over two and a half hours straight, proving his rock-star god reputation is still intact.

Gilbert's Resort is proud to be hosting these free concerts with famous and talented special guests. If you missed Joe Lynn Turner or Buck Dharma, don't worry, there are more in the works.

September 20th, John Popper, harmonica player and lead singer of Blues Traveler, will be stopping by, and rumor has it that Chris Barron, lead singer of Spin Doctors, and Brian Johnson, lead singer of AC/DC, will be appearing sometime this fall.

Gilbert's Resort is the first and last stop in the Florida Keys... and now the premier spot to see live music! Keep up to date at www.gilbertsresort.com, and join their weekly email list.



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Celebration of Life: Sunday, September 13, 2015  
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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 "BOGO DAY" 11AM-9PM "THE BEATLEMAN JIMMY O'SHEA" 5-9	2 "BOGO DAY" 11AM-9PM DON IRWIN 5-9	3 LADIES NIGHT! 6-9PM (FREE WINE, DRAFTS, WELL) DJ RONNIE 6-10	4 RIBS & BEER 5-9PM \$9.99 COUNTRY NIGHT WITH "SOUTHERN DRAWL" 7-11	5 STONE MOJO 1-5 MR NICE GUY 7-11 (SPECIAL SATURDAY EVENING SHOW)
6 THE SHANE DUNCAN BAND 1-6 (STAFF FAVORITE)	7 Labor Day ROGUE THEORY 1-6 (AMAZING ROCK BAND FEATURING AN ELECTRIC FIDDLE!)	8 CLOSED FOR STAFF PARTY	9 "BOGO DAY" 11AM-9PM DON IRWIN 5-9	10 LADIES NIGHT! 6-9PM (FREE WINE, DRAFTS, WELL) DJ RONNIE 6-10	11 RIBS & BEER 5-9PM \$9.99 HARD LIQUOR BAND 7-11	12 DJ HERMEN & DJ BERT 1-5 TUXEDO JESUS 7-11 (NEW FROM PALM BEACH)
13 THE DROPOUTS 1-6	14 DALTON COLLINS 12-4	15 "BOGO DAY" 11AM-9PM SCOTT YOUNGBERG 5-9	16 "BOGO DAY" 11AM-9PM DON IRWIN 5-9	17 LADIES NIGHT! 6-9PM (FREE WINE, DRAFTS, WELL) DJ RONNIE 6-10	18 CUTLER STEW 12-5 RIBS & BEER 5-9PM \$9.99 RETROSKY 7-11	19 CAT DADDIES 12-5 CHAIN REACTION 7-11 (THE AMAZING JOURNEY TRIBUTE BAND RETURNS!)
20 THE REGS 1-6 WITH SPECIAL GUEST JOHN POPPER LEGENDARY HARMONICA PLAYER AND SINGER OF BLUES TRAVELER!	21 DALTON COLLINS 12-4	22 "BOGO DAY" 11AM-9PM SCOTT YOUNGBERG 5-9	23 "BOGO DAY" 11AM-9PM DON IRWIN 5-9	24 LADIES NIGHT! 6-9PM (FREE WINE, DRAFTS, WELL) DJ RONNIE 6-10	25 RIBS & BEER 5-9PM \$9.99 REGGAE NIGHT WITH "BAGA TRICKS" 7-11	26 THE CATCH 1-5 THE FLYERS 7-11 (FEATURING GUITAR GOD PATRICK FARINAS)
27 MR NICE GUY 1-6 (STAFF FAVORITE)	28 DALTON COLLINS 12-4	29 "BOGO DAY" 11AM-9PM SCOTT YOUNGBERG 5-9	30 "BOGO DAY" 11AM-9PM DON IRWIN 5-9	Special event on Sunday September 20th THE REGS with special guest JOHN POPPER, the lead singer and harmonica player for the famous Blues Traveler band		

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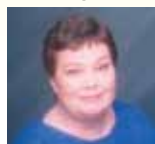
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