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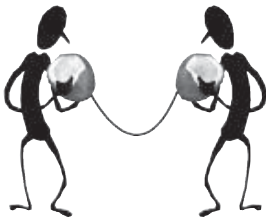
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Editorial: Community Spirit, Keys Disease and the Musicians Relief Fund - How you can help

The Coconut Telegraph is grateful to all the generous businesses that donate to local benefits, the people who volunteer to help out and the ones who show their support by being there. Please see our thank-you on page 9 and be sure to support the businesses who help us all.

As of press time we do not have a dollar amount total from the Musicians Relief Fund Benefit and Book Signing, as many people have not yet picked up their silent auction items. However, much more money will be needed to fund this cause. See the ad on page 9 if you would like to contribute. We are planning a concert at the Elks in the near future, and we are looking for ways to keep the funds coming in.

Here is where you can help. Perhaps you would like to hold a benefit at your venue? Hold a yard sale. Have a bake sale. Use your imagination.

Definition of a musician:
One who drives a \$500 car
100 miles with \$5,000 worth of equipment to play a \$50 gig.

Part of my job is to go and photograph these hard-working artists at their gigs. Rarely are they working under perfect conditions. The sun is in their eyes, they are drenched with sweat from the heat, they have a major headache or a cold coming on. They cover themselves with bug spray or are fresh meat for mosquitoes. If the

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clouds suddenly turn black and dump buckets of rain on them they have to scramble to try to cover their equipment to keep it safe. They deal with drunk customers who run up to the stage spilling their drinks on them yelling "Play Freebird, dammit!" or "let me sing a song!" If the weather report is predicting rain, their gig may be cancelled and they don't get paid after lugging all their equipment to the venue. If they get sick or hurt and cannot work, they are at the mercy of their friends to help. Performers rarely have a backup plan. Most of these entertainers are the first to volunteer their services when needed for a benefit to help others. 100% of the money we raise goes into the

Musicians Relief Fund. If you have a particular skill call us and volunteer to help.

What do you call a musician without a girlfriend? Homeless.

We had someone come to the last benefit and sit down and berate us for 20 minutes because I had set up a Facebook event and had somehow listed it as private so others could not invite more people. Sorry, I'm not that computer savvy. A simple phone call could have solved that problem and helped us out. I have had a extremely painful torn sacroiliac tendon and I'm wearing a back brace that slows me down but I still managed to get it done. They say "no good deed goes unpunished," and ain't it the truth?

DAD



What we'd give if we could say
Hello, Dad, in the same old way
To hear your voice, see your smile
To sit with you and chat awhile ..
Those of you who have your Father
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For you'll never know the heartache
Till you see his vacant chair.

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Welcome to the world, Iris Olivia Besil!



Welcome Iris Olivia Besil born 5/24/2016 with her proud parents Adrian and Stephanie Dreaver Besil. Iris Olivia's grandparents, Ted and Laura Dreaver, own the Key Largo Conch House and Laura is our featured Artist of the Month in June.

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