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## Inside:

### Attractions

Artist of the Month:

Sam Whittle

Hunk of the Month:

Jim Marcotte, USCG Ret.

### What's Hot & What's Not

Songfest's 5th Annual  
Columbus Day Line-Up

Igor and Red Elvises Return  
to Upper Keys

### Maps

Key Largo Locator Map Page

Getting from Here to There

### All the Buzz

Coco-Nut Funnies

Conch Characters

Sounds of the Keys

Business in the Keys

Mangrove Galley



Ladies aboard *Blue Chip Too* at the Ladies, Let's Go Fishing® Keys University in 2015: Pat Kucera, Mary Metcalf, Cindy Campbell, Janet Steiner, and Theresa Mathis. The Ladies, Let's Go Fishing Foundation is a national charitable 501C3 organization dedicated to attracting women and families to fishing while encouraging conservation and responsible angling. See page 4 for more information on upcoming events. Photo submitted.

Happy  
Halloween

# SONGFEST



Key Largo FISHERIES  
Harvested in the Keys • INC.



Top hit songwriters performing live and sharing their stories at Bayside Grille and two other Key Largo venues. See inside!

## Songfest

Columbus Day Weekend

# OCT 7,8,9

Nine artists, three venues and three days!  
Schedule & artist information at [keylargosongfest.com](http://keylargosongfest.com)



Coconut Telegraph

October 2016

Volume 10 Issue #116

Prestige Publishing, Inc

101425 Overseas Highway

PMB #628

Key Largo, FL 33037

Deadline

for the

Coconut Telegraph's

next issue is

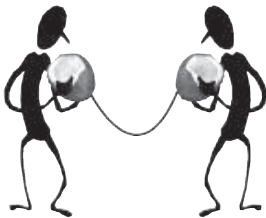
Thursday,

October 27, 2016

Contact Denise at

305-304-2837

theconchtelegraph@gmail.com



Cast of Characters:

Editor/Sales/Distribution

Denise Malefyt

305-304-2837

theconchtelegraph@gmail.com

Advertising Production

Sue Beal

305-451-4601

beal\_s@bellsouth.net

Notice: We do not mail out the Coconut Telegraph and we do not sell subscriptions.

It is available for free online at [www.theconchtelegraph.com](http://www.theconchtelegraph.com).

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Articles

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Editorial: Dennis Ward: A Checkered Record .....   | 2     |
| Hunk of the Month: Jim Marcotte, USCG Ret. ....    | 4     |
| Ladies Let's Go Fishing!® No-Yelling School .....  | 4     |
| Take the Shuttle to Gilbert's Resort.....          | 4     |
| Adopt An Animal, Key Largo Shelter .....           | 6     |
| Halloween! Top Cash Prize at Gilbert's.....        | 7     |
| Igor and Red Elvies Return to Upper Keys .....     | 9     |
| Sounds of the Keys.....                            | 10    |
| Brew on the Bay is Coming! .....                   | 10    |
| Labor Day Service at Hurricane Monument .....      | 11    |
| Getting from Here to There - Keys Map Page.....    | 12-13 |
| Songfest's 5th Annual Columbus Day Line-Up.....    | 15    |
| Rest in Peace: Dottie Hill & Vince Leishman.....   | 16    |
| Artist of the Month: Sam Whittle .....             | 16-17 |
| Coco "Nut" Funnies.....                            | 18-19 |
| Classified Ads.....                                | 19    |
| Key Largo Locator Map Page .....                   | 20    |
| Conch Characters.....                              | 21    |
| Business in the Keys .....                         | 22    |
| Drug Awareness Day at the Elks Lodge .....         | 23    |
| Florida Keys Quilters Support Long Walk Home ..... | 23    |
| Mangrove Galley: Hot German Potato Salad.....      | 23    |

Editorial: Dennis Ward: A Checkered Record

Congratulations to Catherine Vogel for once again receiving the Ocean Reef endorsement for State Attorney. The super-exclusive Ocean Reef community, whose membership roster has been described as a Who's Who of Fortune 500 company CEOs, and which is predominately Republican, has chosen to endorse Vogel. They've chosen a Democrat over Dennis Ward, who switched to being a Republican after losing four years ago.

Vogel has 30 years of experience as a prosecutor and has proven her professionalism many times, which is exactly why we need to keep her working for us.

Some more disturbing

facts about Dennis Ward's lack of professionalism have come across my desk that the public deserves to know.

When Ward was a Miami policeman, on April 16, 1985 at 12:30 PM, Ward was a passenger with other off-duty police officers, in a vehicle that was involved in an accident in Miami. According to the police report, all 3 officers appeared to have been drinking heavily.

"Upon determining that Officer Dennis Ward was a passenger in the vehicle, it was realized that he was supposed to have been working on this date but had called off (due to) sickness in family," the report says. Ward received a reprimand

for conduct unbecoming to a police officer and he was never promoted off the street. That was reported in July 2009.

Ward's office investigated and determined that a violation had occurred. The case sat unprosecuted until the statute of limitations expired.

During the time he was serving as Monroe County State Attorney, one of his buddies on the School Board violated the Sunshine Law (in 2007). The case was closed on June 14, 2013 because the statute of limitations had run out. Do you think Ward dragged his feet to protect his buddy?

Florida Statute 112.313(3)

prohibits any government agency from purchasing goods or services from any business entity in which an employee of the agency has a material interest or ownership. Matthew Gardi was employed as the IT Director hired by former State Attorney Dennis Ward from Apr. 16, 2010 to Dec. 31, 2012.

During his time of employment Gardi's starting pay was \$5,833.33 per month. On 8 separate occasions, while employed by Dennis Ward, Matt Gardi submitted invoices totaling \$5,291.66 from ViaVende, LLC. Matthew Gardi was sole owner, the registered agent and

continued on page 3

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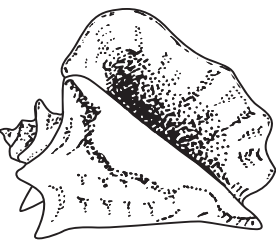
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Editorial continued

manager of that corporation.

Those invoices were paid by the Monroe County Clerk of Court using funds allocated to the State Attorney's county budget. On Dec. 6, 2012 Dennis Ward wrote Gardi a glowing reference that still appears on Gardi's ViaVende website under customer comments. On Dennis Ward's campaign website it says that he wants to "Bring back integrity and transparency to the State Attorney's office." Oh really!?

After Ward lost the Democratic primary to Catherine Vogel he went on US1 Radio 104.1 for an interview with radio host Bill Becker. When asked to comment on the race, Ward replied, live on the air and heard as far away as Orlando, (and while he was still State Attorney), "They got this little guy named Eddie Perez, got like a heroin bag on his side, going around tearing down my signs and ... they just put [their signs] up wherever they wanted to put them up, and that's sad to say for the chief law enforcement officer of the county to be doing that stuff," according to the lawsuit filed by Perez in Orange County Circuit Court. None of Ward's



tirade was true, and Perez filed a \$15,000 lawsuit for slander against the disgraced babbling former State Attorney.

Ward dragged his feet on that too, and he finally settled out of court for \$10,000 a week before the court date. In addition he was fined \$2,500 by the Orlando judge for Contempt of Court.

In 2014, Ward won a seat on the Islamorada Village Council after losing the State Attorney race to Catherine Vogel.

Last year his co-councilwoman and the mayor of Islamorada Deb Gillis was beaten by a man with a toilet plunger stick at her home. The man who beat her hired Dennis Ward to represent him. Ward took the case, once again showing how much he likes to make things uncomfortable for those around him.

Ward is no longer a member of the Masonic Temple in the Florida Keys.

For more information read my editorial in last month's Coconut Telegraph at [www.theconchtelegraph.com](http://www.theconchtelegraph.com).

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# Hunk of the Month



Jim Marcotte US Coastguard Retired

## Anglers to Learn from Fishing Legends at Keys "Ladies, Let's Go Fishing!" No-Yelling School

It's about one-on-one opportunities with the pros in Islamorada and Tavernier, plus fishing, rigging, conservation and more!

Anglers will learn skills from fishing champions at the award-winning "Ladies, Let's Go Fishing!" Keys University, Oct. 21-23 in the Sport Fishing Capital of the World. Presenters for the nonprofit conservation-minded university include fly fishing legend Stu Apte, offshore tournament ace Stephanie Osgood Choate, world class IGFA Hall of Famer Capt. Gary Ellis, accomplished female angler Capt. Lee Lavery and more. The program offers classroom presentations, networking events, hands-on skill practice, door prizes and optional charter fishing trips on Friday and Sunday. Classes will be held at the waterfront BPOE Elks Lodge in Tavernier FL and fishing is out of Islamorada.

Activities launch Friday evening with a networking social. Saturday morning indoor presentations begin at 10 am, including Offshore, Inshore and Bottom Fishing, plus Fishing Basics. Setting this program apart from typical fishing classes are the hands-on fishing activities



Janet Steiner with a yellowtail.

taught by several guides for releasing, knot tying, dehooking, bait rigging, spin casting, gaffing grapefruits, cast netting, trailer backing, boat handling, reel maintenance and more. A second party will be held afterwards at Sea-side Glassworks.

On Friday and Sunday are optional fishing trips out of Whale Harbor and Robbie's, followed by a fillet demonstration.

Ladies may register a male guest or teen to include the whole family.

2016 Let's Go Fishing!® events also include Costa Rica Nov. 11-16 and Chokoloskee/Everglades National Park Nov. 19-20. Contact the at: LLGF, phone 954-475-9068, email: fish@ladiesletsgofishing.com, www.ladiesletsgofishing.com, or www.facebook.com/ladiesletsgofishing



For those arriving to the Gilbert's party fashionably late, you can park on the main access road and take the FREE air-conditioned shuttle to and from Gilbert's on Saturdays and Sundays from noon-8pm.

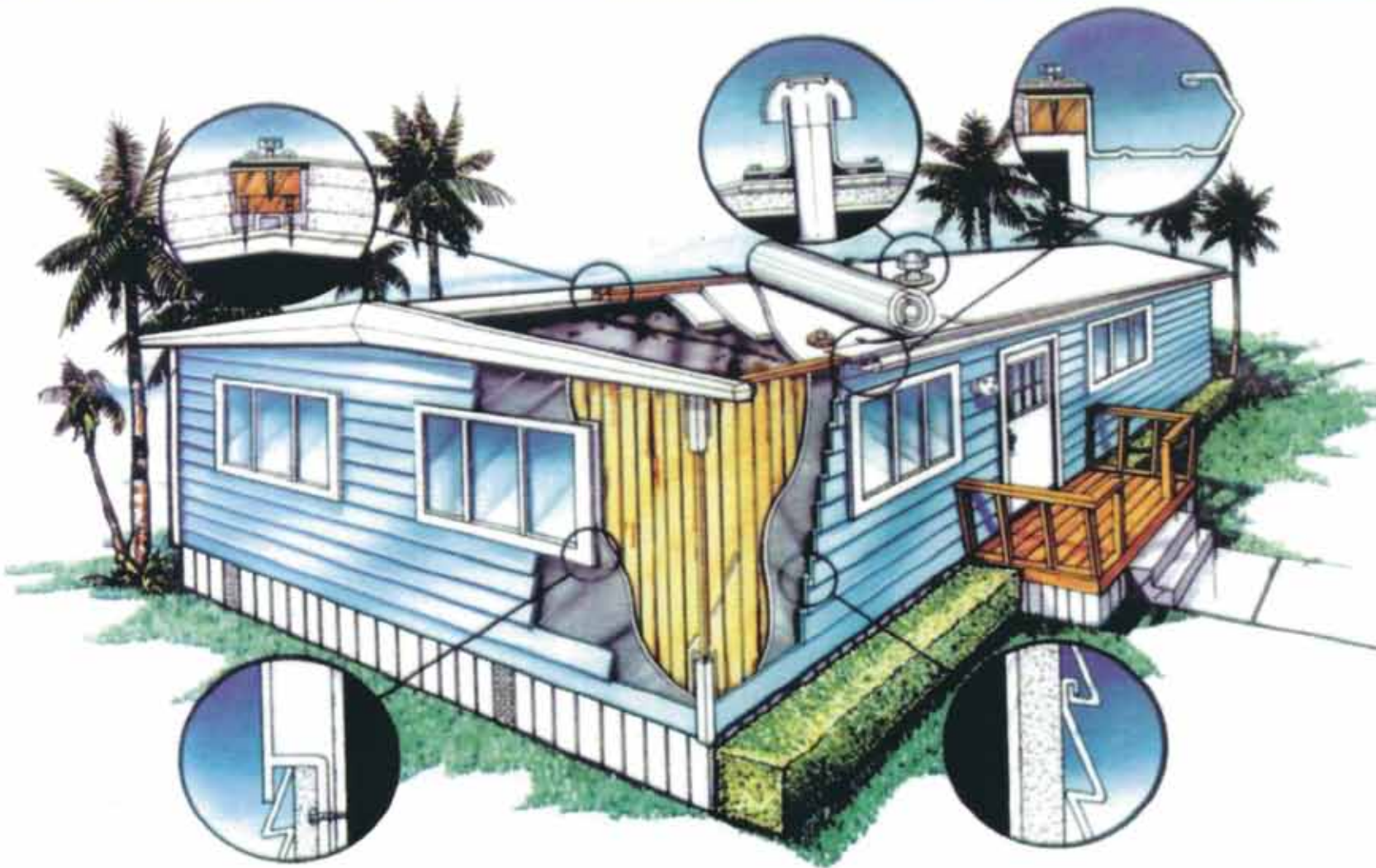
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Key Largo's 5th Annual  
Top Hit Songwriters  
Music Festival

# Songfest

Columbus Day  
Weekend

FRIDAY & SATURDAY AT PILOT HOUSE  
7-10 PM

|                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Friday, Oct. 7</b> | <b>Saturday, Oct. 8</b> |
| Amanda Williams       | Bud Tower               |
| Drew Young            | Amanda Williams         |
| Beth McKee            | Beth McKee              |

MORE INFO: [keylargosongfest.com](http://keylargosongfest.com)



## PILOT HOUSE

KEY LARGO, FLORIDA



**Hocus Pocus  
Halloween Party**

**Saturday Oct. 29th  
6-11pm**

**COSTUME CONTEST**  
Music by DJ Reggae Ronnie



**PIRATEHEADS**

**Pirate's Bash**  
Friday, October 28  
6 to 11 pm

Wild Wench Competition  
Bad Ass Pirate Competition  
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## Gilbert's has Top Prize Money on Halloween!



GILBERTS  
2015 winners Tiffany Maher and Alex Newkirk

Gilbert's Resort's Halloween Party is Saturday October 29th from 7-11pm, featuring the music of The Dropouts, and the area's best-paying Costume Contest!

Contestants 18yrs and up will be judged by the band members and crowd participation. The winner of the Costume Contest will receive \$500 CASH. The second place is a Basket of Cheer valued at \$300, and third place is a \$150 Gilbert's Resort gift card.

The first round of judging will start at 9 pm. You must be here for the first round in order to move on to the final rounds. (Late arrivals will not be allowed to enter the contest, in fairness to the others.

Wear your best, most creative costume... last year's winners Tiffany and Alex were just spectacular.

## 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.



Zoey



Sophia & Sophie



Zena



Sharkey



Salem & Samantha



Sabrina



Radar



Carley



Blossom



## It's Halloween! Have Fun With It!

For dinner  
we have  
**FEETLOAF**  
on the menu!



And for  
dessert  
vampire  
donuts!



Happy  
Halloween



**Wed @ Gilbert's 5-9**  
**Thurs @ Snooks 5:30-9:30**  
**Fri @ Gilbert's 12:30-4:30**  
**Sat @ Mandalay 5:30-9:30**  
**Sun @ TBA**  
(will Facebook)

**305-360-1127**  
[bobbEBrown.com](http://bobbEBrown.com)

## SHIPWRECKS

KEY LARGO'S HIDDEN TREASURE!

**DAILY FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS**  
Wednesday - Live Music 5:30 - 8:00  
Friday - All You Can Eat Mahi (fried, grilled or blackened)  
Saturday - Prime Rib

**HAPPY HOUR**  
Every Day 4 to 6pm featuring Bud & Bud Light  
**▶▶▶ \$1 Drafts ◀◀◀**  
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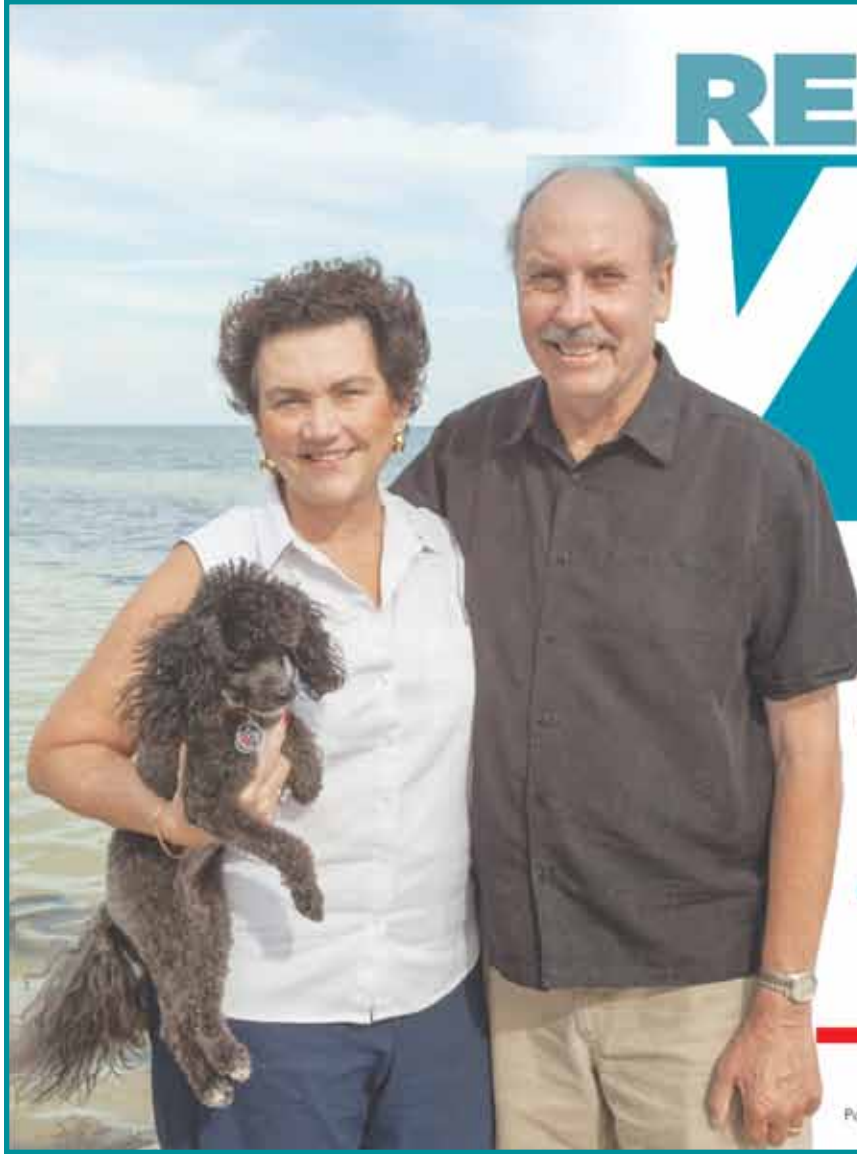


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# PIRATES on the Water

10TH ANNUAL

## PIT STOP PARTY

KEY LARGO • 2016

**MONDAY, OCT. 31<sup>ST</sup> NOON TO 10PM**  
**& TUESDAY NOV. 1<sup>ST</sup> NOON TO 6PM**

AT THE CARIBBEAN CLUB, MM 104 BAYSIDE

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HUNDREDS OF 'PARROT HEADS' FROM ALL OVER WILL BE PASSING THROUGH KEY LARGO ON THEIR WAY TO THE ANNUAL "MEETING OF THE MINDS" (A JIMMY BUFFETT FAN CLUB CONVENTION), HELD IN KEY WEST STARTING NOV. 2ND.

BE ON HAND TO MEET, GREET AND PARTY!

POTW IS FUNDRAISING TO BENEFIT ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH.  
LOOK FOR THE POTW TEAM PARTICIPATING IN THE ALZHEIMER'S WALK IN MIAMI ON NOV. 5<sup>TH</sup>.

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### FEATURED BANDS IN OCTOBER



**Monday, Oct. 16**  
**MR. NICE GUY**  
1-6 PM



**Saturday, Oct. 22**  
**CHAIN REACTION**  
JOURNEY TRIBUTE BAND  
7-11 PM



**Sunday, Oct. 23**  
**THE REGS** 1-6 PM  
Gilberts' Favorite



**SPECIAL EVENT**  
**Sunday, Oct. 30**  
**IGOR & RED ELVISES**  
**ROKENROL!**  
1-6 PM

October 2016 • The Coconut Telegraph • 9

## Igor & Red Elvises Return to Gilbert's Stage on Sunday, October 30th



**SIBERIAN SURF ROKENROL**

For those of you who decide to skip the wild Fantasy Fest party in Key West this month... but still want to have a great time... come and see one of the best internationally touring musical acts in the world!

Gilbert's Resort is proud to announce that the world famous Igor & Red Elvises will be performing Live on

Sunday October 30th from 1-6pm.

Gilbert's legendary "Sunday Funday" party will be rocking more than usual that Sunday. With songs like: *Bacon, Closet Disco Dancer, Strip Joint is Closed, Twist Like Uma Thurman, and I Want To See You Bellydance* there is no shortage on laughter and entertainment.



## HALLOWEEN PARTY

**Sat. Oct. 29**  
**7-11pm**

### COSTUME CONTEST

**9PM**

**\$500 CASH 1st Place Prize**  
**Basket of Booze 2nd Place • \$150 Gilberts Gift Card 3rd Place**

First round of judging begins at 9:00. (Must be present at 9:00 to be a contestant.)

## HAPPY HOUR

**\$2 Bud Light & Miller Lite Drafts**  
**1/2 off Well Drinks and**  
**\$2.30 Fireball Shots!**

**MONDAY THRU FRIDAY**





# Sounds of the Keys



Florenza Campos of 'FloVox' sings to the Gilbert's crowd.



'Stereotomy' singer serenades an audience member during 80's night at Gilbert's.



Dave Scully from the Shane Duncan Band plays to the crowd at Gilbert's.



Mr Nice Guy performs regularly at Gilbert's. Stop by and see this amazing band.



Ariel of 'Spank The Band' belts out some Janis Joplin for the Gilbert's crowd.



Capt. Josh Ramsteck & Bass Man Bill Wissinger at Snook's.



Steve Molnar plays the steel pedal at Gilbert's.



Albert at the VFW.

Support  
Live  
Music  
in the  
Keys

Gilbert's photos by Rob LeBrun

# Labor Day Service for 1935 Hurricane Victims

Photos from the Matecumbe Historical Trust Labor Day Service on September 6th to honor those who perished in the Hurricane of September 2, 1935. Photos by Dave Purdo.



Boy Scout Troop 914 and Honor Guard Paul Mosczynski during the presentation of colors.



Clay Crockett, Pastor Tony Hammon and Jill Zima Borski placing flags with the names of those who perished.



The beautiful wreath was sponsored by Centennial Bank.



Boy Scouts and participants placing flags.

On September 2, 1935, Labor Day, the hurricane reached a peak intensity of 892 mb, making it the third most intense Atlantic hurricane on record. The hurricane made landfall later that night as a Category 5 storm, crossing the Florida Keys between Key West and Miami, FL. As it made landfall, the hurricane delivered maximum sustained winds of approximately 185 mph.



The Labor Day Hurricane caused massive amounts of destruction and had a high death toll. This image shows men standing near a large stack of coffins during the cleanup following the storm. Source: Florida State Archives

# Brew on The Bay is Coming!

Ticket sales are now open for the 6th Annual Key Largo Brew on the Bay. An expansive array of seafood dishes prepared by local chefs will for the first time be available at this year's festival which will be held at Rowell's Marina on Saturday, January 7, 2017.

The waterfront event is considered one of the best values of the Florida Keys because a \$40 ticket (\$50 at the gate) includes unlimited tasting of over 100 interesting beers. The event has grown a cult following of beer lovers of all ages who travel from across South Florida and from a number of different states.

Music by the Regs and other local bands puts everyone in the mood for fun, and the event is famous for its sunset finale on Florida Bay.

Wine will also be available for sale by the glass. VIP tickets are available with VIP perks, see the website for more info.

Brew on the Bay veterans say their favorite part is getting up close and personal with the people behind the craft at the annual home brew competition, to be held Friday, January 6 from 6-8 p.m. at the Key Largo Lion's Club. Admission is \$25 per person and includes appetizers from the Key Largo Conch House, music, and unlimited sampling of over 35 homebrews, the majority of which are not available to buy or taste anywhere else.

Tickets can be purchased at KeyLargoBrewontheBay.com. Funds go to education grants of \$500-1000+ for Upper Keys residents of all ages by the Rotary Club of Key Largo.

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LADIES NIGHT**  
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**FRIDAY:  
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**SATURDAY:  
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LEVI HUMMON



THE LOCKWOODS



BETH MCKEE



JON NITE



JAMES SLATER



BUD TOWER



AMANDA WILLIAMS



DREW YOUNG

## Downtown Key Largo's 5th Annual Songfest Columbus Day Weekend



Oct. 7-8-9

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 Café Largo and Bayside Grille.

The Festival is sponsored by the Key Largo Downtown Association, takes place at three fabulous waterfront venues in Downtown Key Largo, representing some of the best of what the area has to offer.

The venues are Key Largo Fisheries' Backyard Cafe, Bayside Grille, and The Pilot House.

This year's singer-songwriter line-up includes:

**Scooter Carusoe:** Scooter was born in North Carolina, grew up in Knoxville, and currently lives in Nashville. He's a songwriter with skills, just ask Kenny Chesney, Lady Antebellum, Montgom-

ery Gentry, Sugarland, Gary Allan, David Nail and many more.

**Levi Hummon:** Born and raised in Nashville, Levi began songwriting as a way to navigate his life and relationships. He developed his personal sound, often with the help of his father, Grammy-Award winning songwriter Marcus Hummon, and found himself working with many notable songwriters.

**The Lockwoods:** Patrick and Molly Lockwood are graduates of Nashville's Belmont University music curriculum. They write, record, and perform their music at church and around the country. Their message gives real hope to people everywhere through their songs. Their new record, "HOPE" will be available at Songfest!

**Beth McKee:** McKee has been compared to Bonnie Raitt, Linda Ronstadt, and Loretta Lynn. Her music is influenced by blues, Zydeco, Southern rock, country, and gospel. She backed up Jimmy Buffett's summer tour in 1990, and later opened for Buffett and his Coral Reefers Band, as a member of the New Orleans band, Evangeline.

**Jon Nite:** A 15-year "overnight success" story Nashville style, Jon's written #1 songs for Keith Urban & Miranda Lambert, David Nail, Jake Owen, and A Thousand Horses. Not only a great writer, his is one of the most soulful voices you will ever hear.

**James Slater:** James is a Grammy-nominated, piano-playing, bilingual singer-songwriter of Bolivian-American descent. In Nashville, his songs were recorded by many country superstars. James' songs have also been recorded by Rascal Flatts, Kellie Pickler, Reba McEntire, Julio Iglesias Jr., Sheila E (co-writer), and Chris Brown.

**Bud Tower:** Nashville-based singer-songwriter whose latest major cuts are "Gods and Guns," the title track of Lynryd Skynryd's album and "Red, White & Pink-Slip Blues" by Hank Williams, Jr. Co-founder of the Downtown Key Largo Songfest.

**Amanda Williams:** A Cosmopolitan Country performing songwriter based in Nashville, she is co-writer with Garth Brooks on "She's Tired of Boys." Amanda travels teaching songwriting to kids in k-12 rural public schools, and at-risk kids.

**Drew Young:** This Singer/Songwriter toured for 10 years, producing 4 CDs, then went on to produce countless legendary musicians. Recently, as Director of Product Development/ American A&R at Putumayo World Music, he finished a full length CD of all original songs with appearances from New Orleans legendary artists Dr. John, Anders Osborne, Jon Cleary, Marc Broussard and Brady Blade.

Go to the web for schedule, artist links, & more: [keylargosongfest.com](http://keylargosongfest.com)

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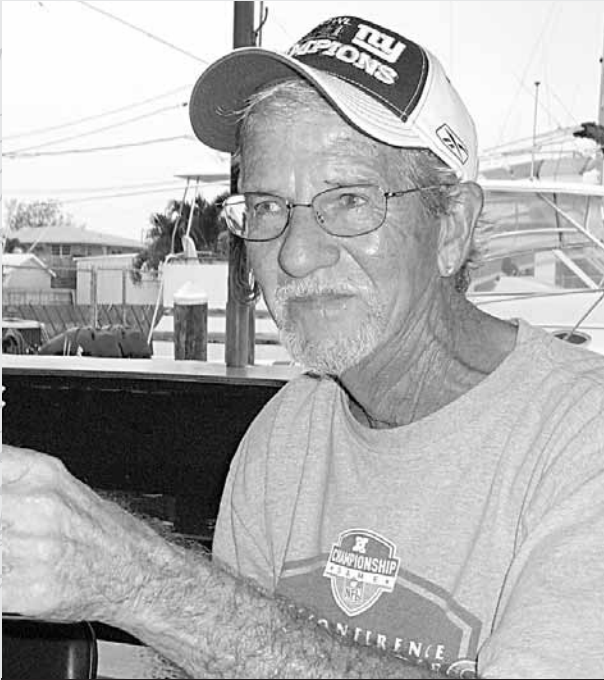


Photo by Video Dave

**Dottie Hill**



**Vince Leishman**

*"It's been a long day, without you, my friend.  
But I'll tell you all about it when I see you again."*

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## Featured Artist of the Month: Sam Whittle

Sam Whittle is a contemporary landscape painter. Living in the UK, Sam studied Fine Art at university and based his studies and inspiration from the landscape and the environment of the Florida Keys.



Sam comes over several times a year to visit his brother, soaking in the sun whilst cracking out his brushes to study and paint the sublime and picturesque landscape!

The sunset has been fundamental in many of his paintings which he depicts with linear, bold brush stroke and color combinations

continued on the next page

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## Featured Artist: Sam Whittle

continued

to create the vivid setting. He uses his technical drawing skills and abstract brushwork to build layers of color to reflect the renaissance of impressionist art. The American sublime landscape painters of the 18th century together with the romantic sublime landscape paintings of J.M.W Turner continue to fuel Sam's approach to his work, forming a juxtaposition between his practical and theoretical motivation.


The Florida Keys will always be his favorite place to paint with its subliminal atmosphere and tranquil environment. Together with visiting his brother, it seems to be the perfect excuse to keep flying back to Florida, escaping the doom and gloom of the UK!



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Paid for and approved by David Purdo for Village Council Seat 2





Coco’Nut’ Funnies



What did our parents do to kill boredom before the Internet?

I asked my 26 brothers and sisters, and they don't know either!



HE HAD IT ALL

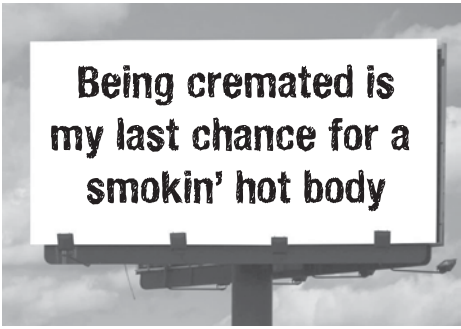
This morning I was sitting on a park bench next to a homeless man. I started a conversation by asking him how he ended up this way.

He said, "Up until last week, I still had it all. I had plenty to eat, my clothes were washed and pressed, I had a roof over my head, I had TV and Internet, and I went to the gym, the pool, and the library. I was working on my MBA on-line. I had no bills and no debt. I even had full medical coverage."

I felt sorry for him, so I asked, "What happened? Drugs? Alcohol? Divorce?"

"Oh no, nothing like that," he said. "No, no. I got out of prison."

Thank you Doug Myers



PROCAFFEINATING

(n.) the tendency to not start anything until you've had a cup of coffee.



I have kleptomania, but when it gets bad, I take something for it.

ONE NIGHT IN MEXICO

Three co-eds went down to Mexico to celebrate graduation. They got drunk and woke up in jail, only to find that they are to be executed in the morning, though none of them can remember what they did the night before.

The first one, a redhead, is strapped in the electric chair and is asked if she has any last words. She says, "I just graduated from Trinity Bible College and believe in the almighty power of God to intervene on the behalf of the innocent."

They throw the switch and nothing happens.

They all immediately fall to the floor on their knees, beg for forgiveness, and release her.

The second one, a brunette, is strapped in and gives her last words.

"I just graduated from Indiana University School of Law, and I believe in the power of Justice to intervene on the behalf of the innocent."

They throw the switch and again, nothing happens.

Again, they all immediately fall to their knees, beg for forgiveness, and release her.

The last one, a blonde (you knew it), is strapped in and says, "Well, I'm from the University of Kentucky and just graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering, and I'll tell ya'll right now, ya'll ain't gonna electrocute nobody if you don't plug that thing in."

Thank you Trader Dick

CHECKIN' THE GOALS

My goal for 2016 was to lose just 10 pounds. Only 15 to go.

Ate salad for dinner! Mostly croutons & tomatoes. Really just one big, round crouton covered with tomato sauce. And cheese. FINE, it was a pizza. I ate a pizza.

How to prepare tofu:

1. Throw it in the trash.
2. Grill some meat.

I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web.

I don't mean to brag but... I finished my 14-day diet in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel.

Senility has been a smooth transition for me.

Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero they closed school? Me neither.

I may not be that funny or athletic or good looking or smart or talented... I forgot where I was going with this.

I love being over 50. I learn something new every day... and forget 5 others.

A thief broke into my house last night. He started searching for money so I woke up and searched with him.

My dentist told me I need a crown. I was like: I KNOW! Right?

I think I'll just put an "Out of Order" sticker on my forehead and call it a day.



Remember back when Sarah Palin was the craziest person in politics? Good times.



I am a Nobody. Nobody is Perfect. Therefore I am Perfect.

Thank you Trader Dick!

Follow your dreams, except for that one where you're naked at work.

THE LAST FOUR

A U.S. Navy destroyer stops four Mexicans rowing towards Texas. The Captain gets on the loud-hailer and shouts, "Ahoy, small craft. Where are you headed?"

One of the Mexicans puts down his oar, stands up, and shouts, "We are invading the United States of America to reclaim the territory taken by the US during the 1800s."

The entire crew on the destroyer doubles over in laughter. When the Captain finally catches his breath, he gets back on the loud-hailer and asks, "Just the four of you?"\*

The same Mexican stands up again and shouts, "No, we're the last four. The other 12 million are already there!"

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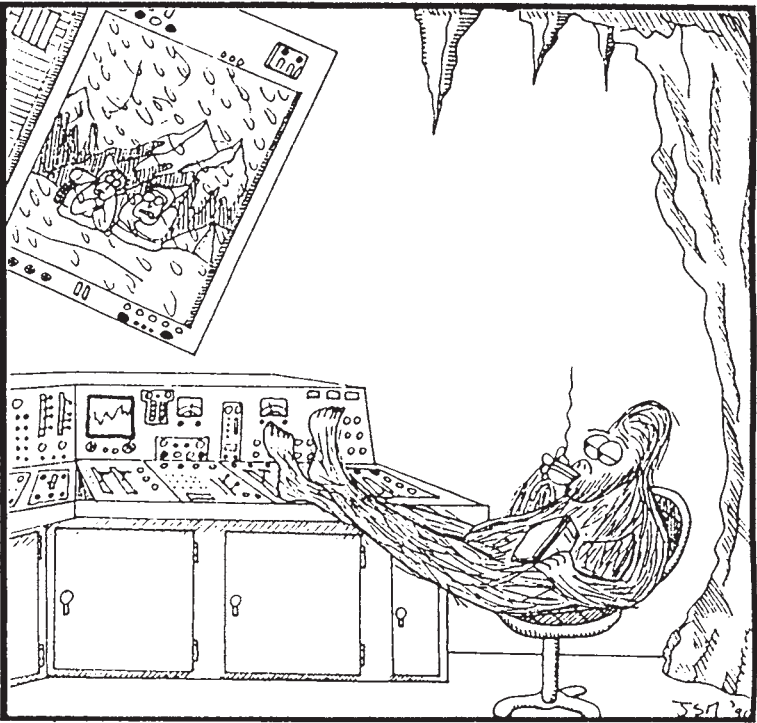
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JOHN MCKINNA was a local musician, a best-selling author, and a published, syndicated cartoonist. We feature his cartoons monthly.

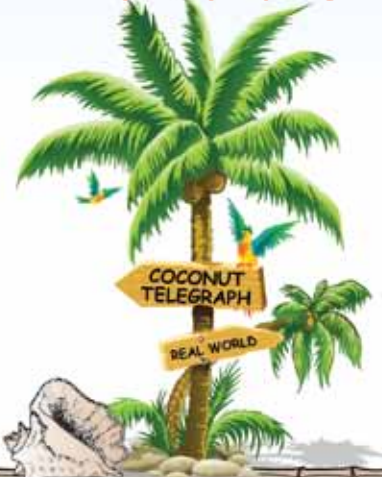
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- State Highway
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- Point of Interest
- Dive Site
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- Swim with Dolphins



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# Conch Characters



Stop by the Big Chill for all kinds of fun.



Gilbert's was the first stop for the 44th annual Peterson's Poker Run. The Luke Sommer Glenn band performed Friday especially for the bikers, and the Shane Duncan band performed Sunday.



Catherine Vogel having a great time at Key Largo Chamber luncheon at the Pilot House with David Ritz from Ocean Reef.



Pokemon hunters at Gilbert's Resort. Notice the ski goggles for better hunting vision! Photo by Rob LeBrun



Kristie Thomas at Key Largo Chocolates and Ice Cream at the Grand Opening of Winn Dixie on Big Pine Key at mm 30, a beautiful new store!



Connie Fisher shows off her Halloween costume at the American Legion.



Michael Trix is back in the Keys! Here he is showing a new trick to the crowd at Gilbert's.



Deb Gillis, Catherine Vogel, Joel Young and Jennifer Miller.



A random T-Rex takes a stroll through Gilbert's while Jimmy Stowe and the Stowaways perform. Photo by Rob LeBrun.



Fran from Australia feeds the tarpon at Robbie's. A must-do for visitors Photo by Rob LeBrun.



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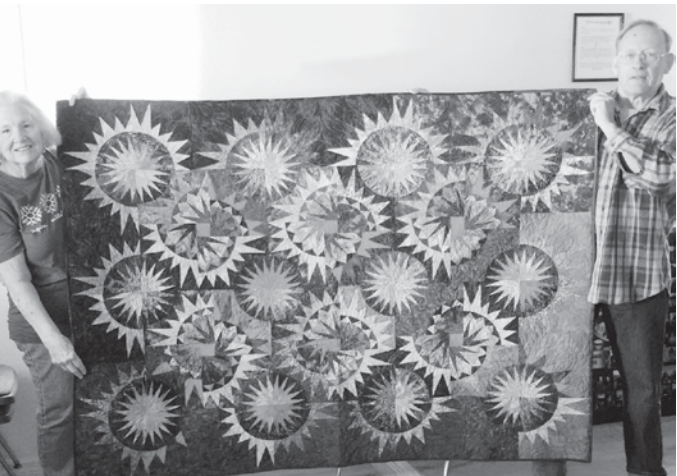
**Drug Awareness Day at The Elks**  
Volunteers included Elks and Masons members, Sheriff's Department Explorers, and High School student volunteers.



The Florida Keys Elks Lodge 1872 held a drug awareness event in cooperation with the Mason's Child Identity Program, on September 17. Forty seven children went home with a free DVD of personal information with their height, weight, picture, DNA swab, fingerprints and more. Drug identification displays were set up as well as helpful Elks brochures for parents. Hot dogs, hamburgers, cotton candy, popcorn, face painting and drug awareness items were given to all the children.


Pictured left to right, Frank Veltri, Past Exalted Ruler, as Elroy the Elk, Damian Vera, Sierra Acs, Jacob Matthews, Anthony Vera, Nancy Acs.

**Florida Keys Quilters Support Long Walk Home**  
The Long Walk Home provides programs for our Veterans. Judy Ebbert also personally donated a quilt to raffle, to assist in keeping the organization and facility going. Judy is a founding member of the Florida Keys Quilters and her generous donation is greatly appreciated.



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Salt and ground pepper  
Fresh minced parsley  
Peel the potatoes and slice into thirds. Boil in a large pan for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Using a fork, test the potatoes (they should be slightly al dente.) Drain the potatoes in a colander and rinse with cold water. While the potatoes are cooling, fry the bacon in a large skillet until crisp. Remove the bacon from the pan and drain on paper towels. In the bacon fat, sautee the diced onions until soft, about 5 minutes. Add the flour and sugar to the pan and stir until the flour is lightly browned. Stir in the vinegar and water.  
Slice the potatoes and add to the pan. Crumble the bacon and add as well. Mix all the ingredients, cover the pan and simmer for 20 minutes. Add more water if needed. Salt and pepper to taste.  
Serve with the minced parsley over top.





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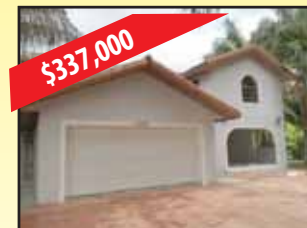
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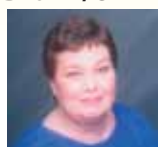


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