

# The Conch Republic COCONUT TELEGRAPH

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

101425 Overseas Hwy. • PMB #628 • Key Largo, FL 33037 • 305-304-2837 • [www.theconchtelegraph.com](http://www.theconchtelegraph.com) • February 2017

## Happy Valentine's Day

### Inside:

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Artist of the Month:  
Cris Sandifer

Entertainer of the Month:  
Stephen Lundberg

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

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Lola Yong's Unexpected Present

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Getting from Here to There

#### All the Buzz

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



Celebrate Valentines Day with a gorgeous Florida Bay sunset!

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Highlights



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Great  
Beachfront  
Entertainment...

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(Dan Ackroyd) and back by popular demand!



### Kat Riggins

Saturday, February 25  
A bluesy songstress with a  
hip-hop heart beat and a  
rock star flair!

Check the calendar at [keylargo-baysidegrill.com](http://keylargo-baysidegrill.com) for all of our live music on the beach.

J. Skolnick Photography



Coconut Telegraph

February 2017

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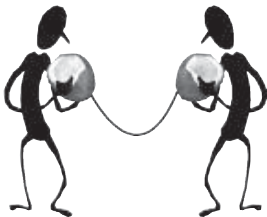
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Editorial: FKA, Nationwide Plumbing and Key Largo Moose - Thank you!

Knock, knock. "Bad news, your house is leaking," says my neighbor. "Look in your back yard and turn off your water." Then they were gone and I still wasn't awake yet. I ran to the back yard and water was pouring out from under the house. Yikes! I called the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority and they came right out and showed me how to turn off the main.

Ok, now what do I do? Call a plumber. I grabbed the Coconut Telegraph and flipped to the Biz Card section and called Nationwide Plumbing while I was still in a un-caffeinated daze. The nice lady who answered assured me they would have someone there very soon. Whew! I popped a pod in the Keurig and just as I'd had a few sips of creative bean juice, Chris the plumber arrived. I showed him the problem and not only did he have it fixed in less than an hour, but I was able to drink my coffee in peace and work on my computer without interruption. The price was very reasonable! 305-853-1848.

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CHRIS



Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority



Key Largo Moose Lodge Follow-up. Fantastic news!

After the article I wrote in the November issue of the Coconut Telegraph regarding the bed bug problem at the Key Largo Moose, the awesome new Governor Ed Guman stepped up to the plate and got a home run for Team Moose! He thanks District 1 for their financial help, Tony Zidar, the Women of the Moose and everyone else who helped out.

The Key Largo Moose Lodge was able to have the entire building tented in December and it passed inspection in January with flying colors! They then hired a crew to clean from top to bottom and purchased all-new bedding, towels, etc. Even with help, this was a very costly procedure and they could still use some financial help.

If you would like to participate and donate please send a check to Key Largo Moose Lodge #2287, P.O. Box 1611, Key Largo, FL 33037; 305- 451-1333. It is a non-profit organization and it's all for a great cause. Stop in and celebrate!

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A ROCK



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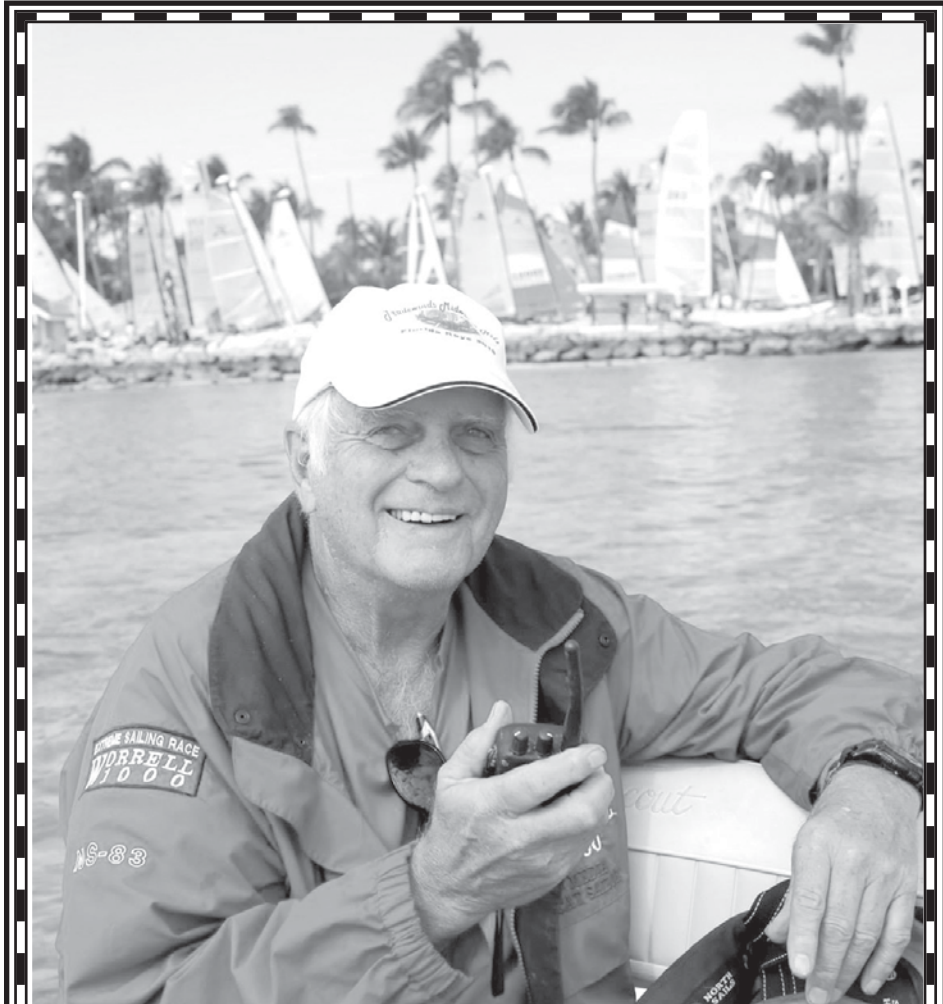
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*Rest in Peace, Rick White*

You know you're in the Keys when...

The only shoes you own are different varieties of flip flops.

You have driven at least one Keys Cruiser.

You're constantly passed by vehicles with out of state license tags.

There are only 3 levels of sobriety: sober (morning), stoned (afternoon) and smashed (anytime).

You've gone through crib death (an all-nighter at the Caribbean Club), and though you swear you won't again, it just keeps happening.

Your land is worth more than your house.

Someone asks, "Where is Iz-luh-more-a-day?"

Every bartender knows you and what you drink.

You only put on sun block when you are on a boat because otherwise you are always in the shade.

You know everyone everywhere you go and you've known them for 3 generations.

You and your grocery store cashier are on a first name basis.

You party with your car salesman, doctor and house-keeper at the same place.

In order for it to be bad weather, it's got to be a hurricane at category 3 or higher.

In some way or another your income depends on tourism.

You can get anywhere by boat but you have to drive an hour to get to a mall.

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4 pm-10 pm

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Entertainment calendar at [keylargo-baysidegrill.com](http://keylargo-baysidegrill.com)

**305-451-3380**  
MM 99.5 Bayside, behind Cafe Largo





**Want to win this car?**

**1964 Ford Galaxy 500 XL 2-door Hardtop , only 10,055 miles!**  
\$100 for each raffle ticket. Limited to 500 tickets . Drawing to be held on St. Patrick's Day. Go to the VFW in Key Largo at 102255 Overseas Hwy for tickets.

## Facebook

from Jane Wasmund

I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles. Therefore, every day I walk down the street and tell passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel at the moment, what I have done the night before, what I will do later and with whom. I show them pictures of my family, my dog and of me gardening, taking things apart in the garage, watering the lawn, standing in front of landmarks, driving around town, having lunch and doing what anybody and everybody does every day. I also listen to their conversations, give them the "thumbs up" and tell them I like them. And it works just like Facebook! I already have four people following me: two police officers, a private investigator and a psychiatrist.

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LEXOPHILIA

Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!  
How does Moses make tea? Hebrews it.  
I tried to catch some fog, but I mist  
I changed my iPod's name to Titanic.  
It's syncing now.  
Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.  
I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid,  
but he says he can stop any time.  
I stayed up all night to see where the sun  
went, and then it dawned on me.  
This girl said she recognized me from the  
vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbivore.  
When chemists die, they barium.  
I'm reading a book about anti-gravity.  
I just can't put it down.  
I did a theatrical performance about puns.  
It was a play on words.  
When you get a bladder infection, urine trouble.  
Broken pencils are pointless.  
Velcro - what a rip off!  
Don't worry about old age; it doesn't last.

Sent in by  
Kathy Miller

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VFW POST 10211

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FRIDAY:  
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THU FRI SAT

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7:30pm 7:30pm 7:30pm

Produced in conjunction with



Presented by the Key League National Bureau

At Murray Nelson Center

More info/online tickets: [www.thekeyplayers.org](http://www.thekeyplayers.org)

Five Rules to Remember in Life

Forgive your enemy but remember the bastard's name .  
Money cannot buy happiness but it's more comfortable  
to cry in a Mercedes than on a bicycle .  
Help someone when they are in trouble and  
they will remember you when they're in trouble again .  
Many people are alive only because its illegal to shoot them .  
Alkohol does not solve any problems ,  
but then again , neither does milk .  
These should assist you with most daily decisions.

Upper Keys Homeless Prevention Program



FLORIDA KEYS  
OUTREACH COALITION  
FOR THE HOMELESS

FLORIDA KEYS OUTREACH COALITION

Upper Keys Office 305-916-5454  
93911 Overseas Hwy.  
Tavernier, FL 33070

The Florida Keys Outreach Coalition's Upper Keys Homelessness Prevention Program is currently providing coordinated social service assistance (basic needs services, outreach, and homeless prevention services) to Upper Keys residents (individuals and families) who are currently homeless and/or at risk of losing housing.

Services Offered:  
**BASIC NEEDS SERVICES:** FL State ID's, drivers' licenses, and birth certificates, transportation assistance for work-related activities, family reunification assistance, prescription assistance, medical and dental co-pays, treatment and diagnostic testing, and clothing.  
**OUTREACH/MAINSTREAM RESOURCES:** On-going outreach efforts assisting with Food Stamp (SNAP) applications, SSI/SSDI applications, assistance accessing to ACA, Medicare/Medicaid assistance and financial, housing and employment counseling.  
**HOMELESS PREVENTION SERVICES:** Temporary rental and mortgage payment assistance and assistance to those living on boats to ensure habitability standards are obtained or maintained to remain housed. Call for availability.

Eligibility:

If you would like us to assess your needs for eligibility, please call our Upper Keys Office at 305-916-5454 (Monday-Friday; 9am-5pm) and we would be happy to schedule an appointment to meet with you. Applicants will be asked to provide documentation to show need.

We look forward to serving you!

Our Mission is to provide homeless individuals and families with the resources and opportunities by which to attain residential, financial and personal stability and self-sufficiency. The FKOC further seeks to address the underlying causes of homelessness and work toward its elimination in Monroe County, Florida.

## Interview with Vincent Tubiana, Esquire

Vincent Tubiana is a local attorney who has created quite a name for himself in the Upper Keys and Miami and comes highly recommended. We at the Coconut Telegraph thought our readers would enjoy his story.

CT - You grew up in the Keys?  
VT - Yes. Although I was born in Paris, France, I grew up and lived the majority of my life between Islamorada and Key Largo. I attended elementary school, and high school at Island Christian School, graduating in 1995. The Keys was a wonderful place to grow up.  
CT - You were inspired by the late great Attorney Russ Cullen?  
VT - I was privileged to first meet Russ while I was in high school. I was close friends with his sons and we spent many weekends on the water. It was during this time that Russ first sparked my interested in the law. Over the years, while I was in college, we would have many conversations about the law as a profession. He was a big influence in my decision to ultimately go to enroll in law school.

CT - Where did you attend law school?  
VT - Even though the Keys were home, I wanted a change of scenery. Never having been to the state, I drove over 1,500 miles and moved to Oklahoma to attend the University of Tulsa. Looking back, It was the best decision I could have ever made. I was very fortunate to have had wonderful professors who took a great interest in their craft and made it a point to always be available for questions, or simply to discuss the law and its eventual real world application.

Law school is known for having a cutthroat environment. However, that was not my experience as I made so many wonderful friends that I still spend

time with to this day. Although I never became used to the crazy weather (High of 82° and low of 24°), the Sooner State will always hold a place close to my heart!

CT - Why did you choose personal injury to specialize in?  
VT - I decided to specialize in personal injury after a close friend of mine became seriously injured. I began assisting with his case and was first exposed to the great power wielded by insurance companies. Although he paid premiums every single month, the moment he needed his insurance carrier to compensate him for his claims, he was denied any relief. The insurance carrier refused to provide him with reasonable value for his injuries. Instead, the carrier drew the process out as long as possible. I realized that this was the M.O. of the insurance company - frustrate the claimant so that they eventually either go away and abandon their claim, or accept a minimal offer. The only chance my friend had to level the playing field was to hire an attorney to vigorously represent his interests. It was this experience - the ability to have a real impact in someone's life - that ultimately led me to spending the majority of time representing individuals who have been injured in car accidents, slip and falls and medical malpractice actions.

CT - Are you limited to just personal injury?  
VT - It's not the only type of law that I practice. In addition to personal injury, I also represent individuals in the area of criminal defense, landlord/tenant, wills/trusts, worker's compensation, social security disability, commercial litigation, family law, and several other areas. The reason the Keys is a nice place to practice is that in such

a small community, you cannot specialize in a single area. You must diversify your practice. As a result, as an attorney, you must stay sharp by constantly staying current with various areas of law so that you are familiar with any changes. Although I spend the majority of time representing individuals in personal injury cases, I enjoy the opportunity to represent individuals in other matters. The diversification is not only interesting, but helps one become a better attorney.

CT - You and David Hutchinson make a great team, I hear.  
VT - David Hutchison has been my partner since 2005. However, well before that (in 2000), I was answering telephones in David's office. I was trying to decide whether I really wanted to enter this industry, or perhaps pursue a Ph.D. in Sociology, and continue in that field. After spending a few months learning under David, going to court with him, and assisting him in trials, I knew that I wanted to become an attorney. David ran a very busy general practice, so this is where I was first exposed to many areas of the law. I was able to get much experience in both criminal and civil matters that I would not have had in other offices or working for the State. David taught me not only how to practice law, but also the business aspect of being an attorney. This is not taught in law school and is necessary to maintaining a successful practice. The practice of law goes well beyond the classroom.

CT - You also have a lot of cases in Miami?  
VT - I have an office in Miami, as well as the practice David Hutchison and I maintain. I split my time between the Keys and Miami depending the case load for a particular week.

CT - What exactly is personal injury? Chasing ambulances?  
VT - Personal Injury is, essentially, the practice of law that assists individuals who are injured by others in making a claim to recover the damages to which they are entitled. In English, it is helping others make a claim against the negligent party that caused them harm. Usually, it is making a claim against an insurance carrier, or filing a lawsuit and attempting to convince a jury that the Defendant injured your client, and that your client should be compensated for those injuries. While chasing an ambulance may seem like good business sense, it is unethical conduct and strictly forbidden by the Florida Bar! It is considered solicitation, and is a big "no-no"! An attorney could face serious trouble from the Bar if he or she literally followed prospective clients to the hospital and attempted to sign them up. While you are, of course, allowed to visit clients in the hospital, you cannot walk the halls to attempt to get new business.  
CT - If you need to consult a lawyer call Vincent Tubiana 305-731-9269 (Vincent@FloridaKeysLegal.com). The Coconut Telegraph is impressed with his confidence, perseverance, dedication, compassion and kindness. He truly cares about his clients.



Cruise & Casino Night at the Elks

All Welcome Aboard!



Saturday, February 11th

Call for Boarding Pass  
305-852-1872  
Call between 4pm & 8pm

Happy Hour 6pm-7pm at the Sunset Piano Bar

MM 91, BAYSIDE, TAVERNIER, FL

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Music by DEL SOL

\$25 Ticket Donation ~ Includes Dinner, Dessert, Casino  
&  
Entertainment

ELKS PIG ROAST PARTY



Fundraiser for Keys Musicians Fund

Saturday, March 11

from 3pm, at the Elks Lodge in Tavernier

Live Music by Sweetwater & Friends

Book Signing • Raffles • Auction

Hawaiian Themed Food & More



How You Can Help

Raffles and auction donations are still needed.  
100% of all monies go to the Musicians Relief Fund.  
Helps local musicians and their families, in times of need.  
—B.P.O.E. Elks Lodge, PO Box 255, Tavernier, FL 33070-0255—  
You can also donate by check.

Contact Denise at 305-304-2837 if you can help.

Donate Raffle and Auction Items • Attend • Buy a Book • Send a Check

## Entertainer of the Month: Stephen Lundberg at the Mindful Mermaid Cafe

To be truly happy you must follow your heart wherever it takes you. Lucky for us, Stephen Lundberg does just that. Every year he and his wife pack their car from their home in California and drive across the country.

Stephen plays acoustic guitar and entertains at personally selected cafés, markets, wineries and restaurants at various stops while making their way to their home in Key Largo for the winter months.

Here in the Keys he has chosen the eclectic Mindful Mermaid Cafe at the Tradewinds Plaza next to Publix. It is the first red light going south in Key Largo. On Friday and Saturday you will find Stephen and his guitar outside the café making beautiful music for all ages.

This traveling troubadour is a great fan of the Beatles and Led Zepplin, and hits from the 60s and 70s, but his taste is all over

the map... including the bos-sanova! He says one of his first memories was listening to his mother play guitar or piano and sing. He is self taught, but did take a music course in college.

When he is not playing music Stephen enjoys restoring furniture.

The Mindful Mermaid, owned by Lori Cretsinger is one of my favorite breakfast and lunch venues. They were Restaurant of the Month in November of 2015 and you can read about it in our online archives at TheConchTelegraph.com.

For a menu visit [www.TheMindfulMermaid.com](http://www.TheMindfulMermaid.com). The Mindful Mermaid is open Monday - Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. The mermaid meditates on Sunday. For take outs and catering call 305-451-2929. Delicious healthy food, a great vibe and soothing guitar by Stephen Lundberg.

IF YOU'RE GOING TO CHILL, CHILL BIG!

Valentines Day Specials

Dinner Specials Available February 14<sup>th</sup>

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Ladies' Drink FREE 6-7 PM - Tuesdays

HAPPY HOUR 4-7 PM Monday - Friday

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## Sounds of the Keys



The Blues Brothers at the Elks.



Sweetwater Band at VFW in Key Largo.



Dave of the Stone Mojo Band hams it up, performing at Gilbert's (photo: Ron LeBrun).



Beatleman Jimmy O'Shea performs at Gilbert's Resort.



Johnny O from Mr. Nice Guy joined Bobbe Brown on stage at Gilbert's (photo: Rob LeBrun).



Kenny Wendland joined Mr. Nice Guy on stage at Gilbert's Resort



Patrick Farinas of The Flyers plays the slide guitar at Gilbert's (photo: Rob LeBrun).



Selwyn Birchwood ends the band's set at Bayside Grille with a lap steel number, "Hoodoo Stew." Contributed photo.



Voted **Best Happy Hour in the Keys!** 4-7 Daily



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**10:30 Every Sunday**

Complimentary Mimosa,  
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www.pilothousemarina.com  fb.com/pilothousekeylargo

Lola Yong gets an Unexpected Present

Young entrepreneur and aspiring baker Lola Yong entered the Key Largo Cook-off using a slightly modified shortbread recipe from the Bouchon Bakery, created by the famous chef, Thomas Keller.

After winning 1st place in the Junior Division, she took a picture of herself with the trophy and included it with a letter of thanks addressed to him at his famous restaurant, The French Laundry, in

Yountsville, CA. A few short weeks later, and totally unexpectedly, Lola received a copy of Chef Keller's book, "Ad Hoc at Home," with an inscription and his autograph. She was totally surprised and thrilled that he responded so generously. She didn't expect to hear back from him at all, let alone, to receive a copy of his famous cookbook! Lola is the daughter of talented and popular local restaurateurs Theresa and Jeremy Yong.



RUSS HEASLEY



Photo by Robert DiGiorgio

You will be missed!

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.



Peanut



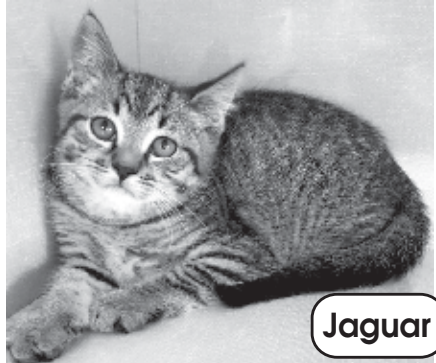
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www.gilbertsresort.com

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Saturday, Feb 4  
**SHANE DUNCAN**  
BAND • 7-11 PM



Sunday, Feb 5  
**MR. STIX** and  
The Spurience 1-6 PM



Saturday, Feb 11  
**GYPSY LANE BAND**  
7-11 PM



Sunday, Feb 12  
**APACHE DRAGON**  
1-6 PM



Saturday, Feb 18  
**SIPPIN' FIRE**  
7-11 PM



Sunday, Feb 19  
**MR. NICE GUY**  
1-6 PM



Saturday, Feb 25  
**CHAIN REACTION**  
Journey Tribute Band 7-11PM



Sunday, Feb 26  
**THE REGS**  
1-6 PM



**MICHAEL TRIXX**  
IS BACK!  
Saturdays at 8pm



HAPPY HOUR

MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

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

Join us!



LEGENDARY SUNDAY FUNDAY PARTY:

Great Bands Every Sunday 1-6 pm

Ribs & Beer

EVERY FRIDAY NIGHT  
5-9 PM

1/2 rack of Baby Back Ribs,  
Fries, Coleslaw and  
a beer of your choice



Only  
\$9.99



The advertisement is split into two main color sections: black at the top and yellow at the bottom. The top section contains the headline 'BRUNCH IS BACK AT SUNDOWNERS' in large, bold, yellow, sans-serif capital letters. Below this, the text 'Scrumptious new brunch fare, outrageous drinks, and a view that won't quit!' is written in a white, serif font. Underneath that, 'Sundays 10am 'til 3pm' and 'Live Music' are listed in a smaller white serif font. On the right side of the top section is a large, detailed image of a mimosa glass filled with a red liquid, garnished with a lime wedge, a cucumber slice, and fresh herbs. In the center of the top section is the Sundowners logo, which consists of the word 'SUNDOWNERS' in a stylized, outlined font above a graphic of a sun with horizontal stripes. The bottom section of the ad is a solid yellow band. On the left side of this band is a tall, slender glass filled with an orange mimosa. To the right of the glass, the text 'ENDLESS MIMOSA' is written in large, bold, black, sans-serif capital letters. At the very bottom of the yellow band, the text 'Endless champagne during Brunch with your choice of juice' is written in a smaller, black, serif font.



Beautiful pendants made in Key Largo.

  
 Key Largo  
 Sea Glass Jewelry

**FLORIDA KEYS VISITOR CENTER:** 106240 OVERSEAS HWY.  
**KEYS DIVER:** MM 99.7      **THE ART BOX •** MM 100.6



**KEY LARGO CHOCOLATES  
& ICE CREAM**


**HANDMADE CHOCOLATES  
KEY LIME PIE ON A STICK  
PREMIUM ICE CREAM MADE HERE  
FUDGE  
KEY LIME PIES**

**FREE  
SAMPLES  
with this ad  
CT 2017**

**MM 100 $\frac{1}{2}$  BAYSIDE**

**KEY LARGO'S  
FAVORITE PLACE  
FOR ICE CREAM!**

**[www.keylargochocolates.com](http://www.keylargochocolates.com) • 305-453-6613**



**COME BY LAND OR SEA • IN THE GARDEN COVE MARINA**  
**ENJOY CASUAL WATERFRONT DINING AT ITS FINEST!**


**Waterfront Dining • Indoors or Outdoors**

**FEATURING  
 FRESH FLORIDA  
 LOBSTER**


- Fresh, Local Seafood
- Steaks & Ribs
- Conch Chowder & Key Lime Pie

**305-453-3746 • buzzardsroostkeylargo.com**  
**MM 106.5 Oceanside**  
**121 Garden Cove Dr. • Key Largo**

**FULL  
 LIQUOR  
 BAR**



**• Open 7 Days •  
 Champagne Sunday Brunch**



**2014 Winner**  
**Certificate of Excellence**

# SNOOKS FAMOUS POLYNESIAN LUAU & PIG ROAST PARTY

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>



**BE SURE TO TRY OUR  
SMIRNOFF VODKA  
CHERRY ADJITO  
SHOTS!**

**FREE SHOTS  
FROM THE  
*Sexy Stoli Girl!***

*Pictured Phillippe & his wife Ashlin  
Dance with the Luau dancers!*

---

<i>Also Featuring for Your Entertainment...</i>				
Henna Tattooing	Leah's Petting Zoo	Tarot Card Reading	Jewelry Artisans	Caricature Artist

**COVER CHARGE - \$10.00 • CHILDREN UNDER SIX - \$5.00**

---



## Celebrate Your Love this Valentine's Day at Snooks!

**COMPLIMENTARY SPLIT OF CHAMPAGNE  
FOR THE LADIES ON VALENTINE'S DAY!**



**305-453-5004 • [www.snooks.com](http://www.snooks.com)**

**Key Largo MM 99.8 Southbound Lane Behind Traffic Light**



**the advisor**  
RESTAURANT

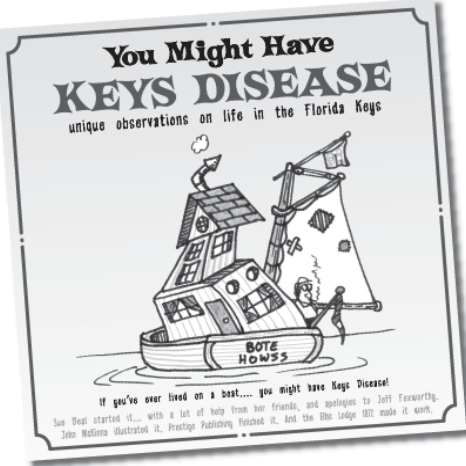


# ELKS PIG ROAST PARTY



Fundraiser for Keys Musicians Fund  
**Saturday, March 11**  
from 3pm, at the Elks Lodge in Tavernier

Live Music by Sweetwater & Friends  
Book Signing • Raffles • Auction  
Hawaiian Themed Food & More



### How You Can Help

Raffles and auction donations are still needed.  
100% of all monies go to the Musicians Relief Fund,  
Helps local musicians and their families, in times of need.  
—B.P.O.E. Elks Lodge, PO Box 255, Tavernier, FL 33070-0255—  
You can also donate by check.

Contact Denise at 305-304-2837 if you can help.

Donate Raffle and Auction Items • Attend • Buy a Book • Send a Check

## DEAR ALCOHOL...

I thought I'd take a minute to discuss some troubling factors with you. First and foremost, let me tell you that I'm a huge fan of yours... your many sides and dimensions are mind-boggling (different than beer goggling, which I'll touch upon shortly.) Yes, my friend, you always seem to be there when needed -- the perfect post-work cocktail, a beer with the game -- and you're even around in the holidays, hidden inside chocolates you warm us when we're stuck in the midst of endless family gatherings.

Yet lately, I have been wondering about your intentions. You see, I want to believe that you have my best interests at heart, but I feel that your influence has led to unwise consequences briefed below for your review:

**PHONE CALLS:** While I agree with you that communication is important, I question the suggestion that any conversation of substance or necessity occurs at 5 am.

**EATING:** Now, you know I love a good meal, though cooking is far from my specialty, why you suggested that I eat a kebab with chilli sauce couple with a pot noodle and some stale crisps

(washed down with chocolate milk and topped off with a couple of chocolate bars) is beyond me. Eclectic eater I am, but I think you went a bit too far this time.

**CLUMSINESS:** Unless you're subtly trying to tell me I need to do yoga more to increase my balance, I see NO need to hammer the issue home by causing me to fall down the stairs. Completely

cups, inflatable balloon animals, traffic cones, bras

**BEER GOGGLES:** If I think I may know him/her from somewhere, I most likely do not. PLEASE do not request that I go over and see if in fact, I do actually know that person. This is similar to the old "Hey, you're in my class" syndrome circa 1996 at SU, and should heretofore be rendered

bility is completely unacceptable. I ask that if the proper steps are proactively taken on my part (i.e. water, vitamin B, bread products, aspirin) prior to going to bed/ passing out facedown on the kitchen floor with a bag of popcorn, the hangover should be quite minimal and no way interfere with my daily Saturday or Sunday (or any day, for that matter) activities. Come on now, it's only fair - you do your part, I'll do mine.

Alcohol, I have enjoyed our relationship for some years now, and want to ensure that we remain on good terms. You've been the invoker of great stories, the provocation for much laughter, and the needed companion when we just don't know what to do with the extra money in our pockets. In order to continue this relationship, I ask that you carefully review my grievances above and address them immediately. I will look for an answer no later than Thursday at 5pm (pre-happy hour) on your possible solutions and hopefully we can continue this fruitful partnership. Thank you for your prompt attention to these matters.

Sincerely...  
"Your Biggest Fan"

*You can thank Thad Bowling for this one!*

Dear Alcohol,  
We had a deal where you  
would make me funnier,  
smarter, and a better dancer...  
I saw the video...  
  
WE NEED TO TALK.

unnecessary. Similarly, it should never take me more than 30 seconds to get the front door key into the lock.

**PICTURES:** This is a blessing in disguise, as it can often clarify the last point below, but the following costumes are heretofore banned from being placed on my head in public: Indian Wigs, Sombreros, Bows, Ties, Boxes, upside-down

illegal. Coupled with this is the phrase "Let's shag". While I may be thinking this, please reinstate the brain-to-mouth block that would keep this thought from being a statement, especially in public.

**HANGOVERS:** The hangovers have GOT to stop. Now, I know a little penance for our previous evenings' debauchery may be in order, but the 2pm hangover immo-

## SHIPWRECKS

KEY LARGO'S HIDDEN TREASURE!

**DAILY FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS**  
Wednesday - Live Music 5:30 - 8:00  
**FRIDAY - ALL YOU CAN EAT MAHI** 5-9pm • fried \$13.99 • blackened or grilled \$15.99  
Saturday - Prime Rib  
**HAPPY HOUR**  
Every Day 4 to 6pm featuring Bud & Bud Light  
▶▶▶▶ \$1 Drafts ◀◀◀◀  
**OPEN 11 AM to 10 PM EVERY DAY**  
**LOCALS' FAVORITE** 305-453-3153 45 Garden Cove Drive MM 106



Tues @ Gilbert's  
Weds @ Snook's  
Thurs @ TBA  
Fri @ Gilbert's  
Sat @ Island Grill (KL)  
Sun @ TBA

305-360-1127  
bobbiebrown.com



# The Mangrove Galley

by Sandi Mieszczenski

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



The month of February brings a time of love and romance as Valentine's Day approaches. One of my favorite ways to celebrate this holiday is with a special dinner. My favorite part of the dinner is the dessert, especially if it is a chocolate dessert. A friend of mine shared this delicious but easy recipe with me that really ends the meal on a high note. Try it for Valentine's Day or any other time of the year. Enjoy!

## "SIXTY SECOND" CHOCOLATE MOUSSE

- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 2 eggs, separated
- 1 teaspoon vanilla OR 1 tablespoon of a liqueur such as Grand Marnier, Amaretto, Kahlua, or Crème de Menthe
- 1 cup heavy cream

Place the chocolate chips, egg yolks, and flavoring in a food processor or blender. Scald the cream in a small saucepan until little bubbles form around the edge. (DO NOT BOIL.)

With the machine running, pour in the hot cream. Blend one minute. Pour the mousse into four serving bowls and cover with plastic wrap.

For a lighter mousse, beat the two egg whites until they form soft peaks. Gently fold into the mousse before pouring into the serving bowls.

Cool in the fridge for several hours.



## Artist of the Month: Cris Sandifer

This month we salute Cris Sandifer, one of the Keys most outstanding personalities, contributor, artist, mentor and friend. Cris has, for years, been the unsung hero behind major events and activities involving the world of art in the community from Key West to Ocean Reef.

Cris' work is seen in many public places throughout the Keys, including a series of six paintings designed for the Murray E Nelson Government and Cultural Center, MM 102, and held in private collections. They include oils, acrylics, watercolors and computer-generated art.



acclaimed instructors to teach local artists, worked to place original art in public buildings and spearheaded Art in Public Spaces. She designed and was art director for the Flagler Railroad Centennial mural at MM 95.3, a 60-foot outdoor depiction of the Henry Flagler Railroad painted by Cris with artists of the Guild and local high school students.

Cris served six years on the Board of Directors of Florida Keys Council of the Arts and created the Connection Project, an annual Mosaic of the Keys that



Cris' First Place Winning Entry 2015 Art Guild of the Purple Isles Members Only Show

Cris was a Fine Arts major at the University of Kansas, which she followed with a career as a designer with Hallmark Cards, and then positions as Art Director for various advertising and electronics firms. She continued her private commercial art design company, Eldorado Graphics, during her 30 years in Key Largo.

Cris has been active in the community and served as President of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles, and Chairwoman of the Florida Keys Council of the Arts. She taught painting at Ocean Reef and was Commodore of the Upper Keys Sailing Club.

Among her many contributions was her enthusiasm, creativity and tireless support of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles in the Upper Keys. She brought internationally



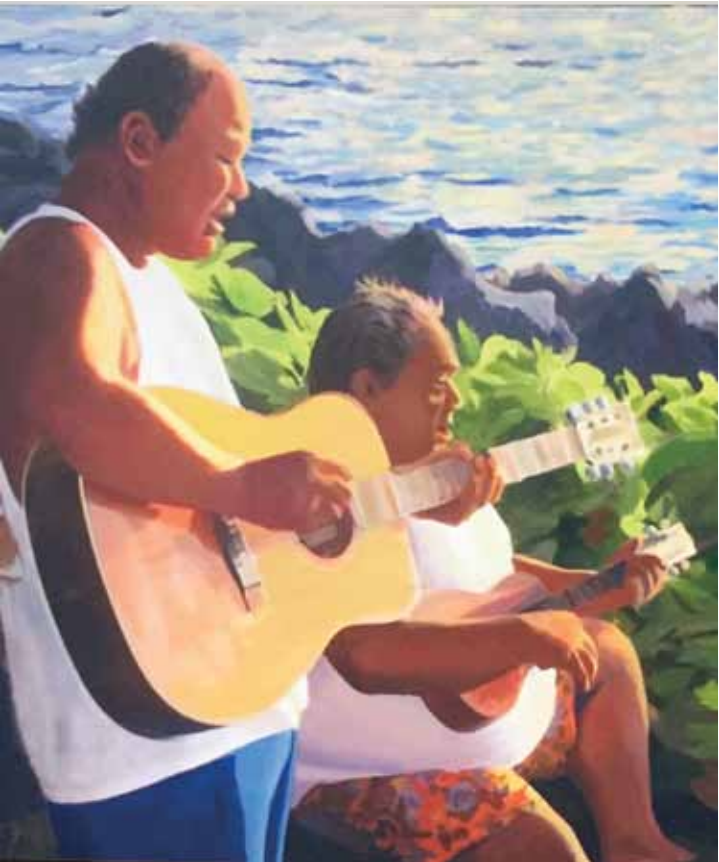
Adams Waterway Key Largo by Cris Sandifer, in the Public Art Collection at Murray Nelson Gov't & Cultural Center.

travels throughout Monroe County, connecting artists and community.

Roberta Cris Sandifer passed away January 12, 2017. "She left a legacy of stunning graphic arts, logos, brochures, invitations, gallery guides and more, all designed to perfection for us," said Elizabeth Young, Director of Florida Keys Council of the Arts. "Cris made this world a brighter and more colorful place for all of us."

Cris Sandifer will be honored at this years AGPI Annual Members Judged Art Show, held at the Florida Keys History and Discovery Center, MM 82.1 on Thursdays through Sundays, March 9-26, 2017.

Her art may also be viewed during February at the Art Box, MM100.6, Overseas Highway, Bayside, Key Largo.



An award-winning, whimsical, mixed media collage. Left: This piece hangs at the Tassell Building in Tavernier.

### KEYS PARASAIL & WAVE RUNNERS

Key Largo Bay Marriott Beach Resort, 103800 Overseas Hwy.  
[www.keysparasail.com](http://www.keysparasail.com)  
**305-731-9472**

Jetski & Boat Eco Tours  
Sunset Cruises  
Stand Up Paddleboards  
Boat Rentals

### KEYS ADVENTURES

Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill, 104000 Overseas Highway  
[www.keysadventureswatersports.com](http://www.keysadventureswatersports.com)  
**305-731-9472**

JON & JOANNA DREAYER

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FRAMING SUPPLIES • CANVAS STRETCHING

Checkout our FEATURED ARTISTS

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Key Largo 33037 [artlife@artboxkeylargo.com](mailto:artlife@artboxkeylargo.com)



# Coco'Nut' Funnies

### THINK FAST

A woman and her husband were having a dinner party for some important guests. The wife was very excited about this and wanted everything to be perfect, so she planned an exquisite French feast. At the very last minute, however, she realized that she didn't have any snails for the dinner party. She asked her husband to run down to the beach with the bucket to gather some.

He agreed, begrudgingly, so he took the bucket, walked out the door, down the steps and out to the beach.

As he was collecting the snails, he noticed a beautiful woman strolling alongside the water just a little further down the beach. He kept thinking to himself, "Wouldn't it be great if she would even just come down and say hi to me."

He went back to gathering the snails. All of a sudden he looked up, and the beautiful woman was standing right over him. They started talking and she invited him back to her place. They ended up spending the night together.

At seven o'clock the next morning he woke up and exclaimed, "Oh shit! My wife's dinner party!" He gathered all his clothes, put them on real fast, grabbed his bucket, and ran out the door. He ran down the beach all the way to his apartment. He ran up the stairs of his apartment. He was in such a hurry that when he got to the top of the stairs, he tripped and dropped the bucket, leaving snails scattered everywhere.

Then the door opened with a very angry wife standing demanding where on earth he's been all this time. He looked at the snails all down the steps, then he looked at her, then back at the snails and said, "Come on guys!!! We're almost there!"

Thank you Thad Bowling!



Alcohol is not in my vodkabulary. However, I looked it up on whiskeypedia and learned if you drink too much of it, it's likely tequilya.

### The Amish and the Elevator

A fifteen-year-old Amish boy and his father were in a shopping mall.

They were amazed by almost everything they saw, but especially by two shiny silver walls that could move apart and then slide back together again.

The boy asked, "What is this Father?"

The father (never having seen an elevator) responded, "Son, I have never seen anything like this in my life, I don't know what it is."

While the boy and his father were watching with amazement, a fat old lady in a wheelchair moved up to the moving walls and pressed a button. The walls opened, and the lady rolled between them into a small room. The walls closed and he boy and his father watched the small numbers above the walls light up sequentially.

They continued to watch until it reached the last number. and then the numbers began to light in the reverse order. Finally the walls opened up again and a gorgeous blond stepped out.

The father, not taking his eyes off the young woman, said quietly to his son, "Go get your mother."

Alcohol does not make you FAT It makes you Lean... Against tables, chairs, floors, walls and ugly people.

WHY THE HELL ISN'T THE IPHONE'S BATTERY LIFE CALLED APPLE JUICE?

You call it "Possession of Marijuana." I call it Joint Custody.

THE REAL REASON EVOLUTION STARTED.... Don't walk away when I'm talking to you!

Some People Should Use a Glue Stick Instead of Chapstick

Every morning, Stan wakes up at the crack of Dawn.

**BLESS YOUR HEART!**  
I'm fixin' to tell you something about being southern. Being southern doesn't mean that I'm not educated. I may say "ain't" and "y'all" and call you "Sweetie" or "Honey" and I might "bless a lot of hearts" and I might even "piddle around". I'll greet you with a big "Howdy". All soda pop is "Coke" and I keep them in my "icebox" and I might refer to my grocery cart as a "buggy" and by golly that's okay. I'm polite and say "Ma'am" and "Sir". And if you hear a southerner say, "Oh, HELL no!!" you'd better run. Y'all have great day now, ya hear?!

I wonder why we are so so obsessed with trying to find intelligent life on other planets, when we can't even find intelligent life here?

Tell me. How are the chicken fingers? Thank you Thad Bowling!

**PAPER OR PLASTIC?**  
People mess me up every time I go to the grocery store. You would think they could figure it out for themselves, but now they ask "paper or plastic?" every time I check out. This just knocks me for a loop. I bought some of those cloth reusable bags to avoid looking confused, but I never remember to take them with me.

So now I toss it back to them. When they ask me, "paper or plastic?" I just say, "Doesn't matter to me. I am bi-sacksual. Then it's their turn to stare at me with a blank look!

Thank you Elise Henline

**Physical Therapy for Golfers**  
Two women were playing golf. One teed off and then watched in horror as her ball headed directly toward a foursome of men playing the next hole.  
The ball hit one of the men. He immediately clasped his hands together at his groin, fell to the ground and proceeded to roll around in agony. The woman rushed down to the man, and immediately began to apologize. "Please at least allow me to help. I'm a Physical therapist and I know I could relieve your pain if you'd allow me," she told him.  
"Oh, no, I'll be all right. I'll be fine in a few minutes," the man replied. He was in obvious agony, lying in the fetal position, still clasping his hands there at his groin.  
At her persistence, however, he finally allowed her to help. She gently took his hands away and laid them to the side, loosened his pants and put her hands inside.  
She administered tender and artful massage for several long moments and asked, "How does that feel?"  
"Feels great, he replied; but I still think my thumb's broken!"

"I'm stuck in an elevator. Wait, it gets worse."

Left Field by J.S. McKinna  

" Don't come crying to me when your heartburn kicks in..."

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

COCONUT TELEGRAPH CLASSIFIEDS

**BUYING**  
Buyers agent is buying old things. Costume jewelry, furniture, antiques and anything old of value. Call now and leave message 305-304-2837

**SERVICES**  
House Cleaning call Danielle 305-393-2728

**MUSICIANS WANTED**  
Amateur musicians wanted! The Keys Community Concert Band begins rehearsals for its new season in the fall. If you want to participate, call 305-451-4530.

**Your Ad Here**  
Send us your ad to go into the Classifieds.

**SAFETY**  
The USCG Auxiliary conducts vessel safety checks at Blackwater Sound Marina, MM 103.8 Bayside, every third Saturday of the month. The Public is Welcome. More info: 305-998-8400

**CLUBS**  
Fraternal Order of the Eagles meets every 1st and 3rd Monday 7pm at Elks Lodge in Tavernier.

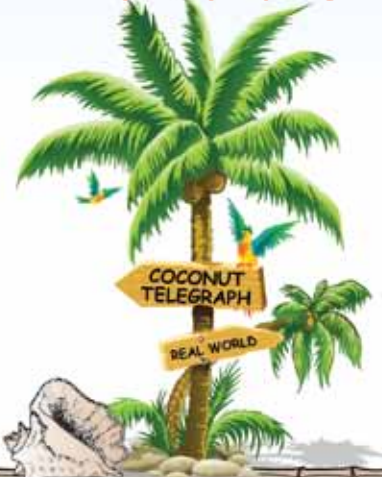
**WE BUY COINS**  
No collection too large or too small. We pay cash on the spot and we offer private consultation in our location or yours. Call Bill at 305.942.0911.

**GET CLASSIFIED**  
\$10 per col.inch per month! (generous 1.88 column width) Bold Listing \$12./inch per mo. MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE Classified Display Space available for logos and special artwork. \$15/inch. Drop off your ad and payment at The UPS STORE 101425 Overseas Highway, Next to Publix at Tradewinds Questions? Call 305-304-2837.

**Classified ads will not be accepted without payment.**



### This Space Available



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### MINOR & MAJOR REPAIRS

## 305-451-3500

MM 101.5 • KEY LARGO

ON THE MAP



## Key Largo

Sea Glass Jewelry



Beautiful pendants made in Key Largo.

FLORIDA KEYS VISITOR CENTER  
106240 OVERSEAS HWY.  
KEYS DIVER MM 99.7 THE ART BOX MM 100.6

ON THE MAP

Open Late!



## KEY LARGO

522 Caribbean Drive • 305.453.1905

**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**  
Featuring Fresh Local Fish

**Live Music**  
Happy Hour Every Day  
Craft Beer  
Sports Headquarters

Locals' Favorite! On the Water

ON THE MAP

## Key Largo

In Key Largo, we navigate by Mile Markers! Look for the little green signs and mile indicators on power poles to find your way.

### Legend

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



TO MIAMI TO OCEAN REEF

Legend: U.S. Highway, State Highway, Boat Ramp, Mile Marker, Point of Interest, Dive Site, Dive Wreck, Swim with Dolphins

Map labels: LITTLE BLACKWATER SOUND, BARNES SOUND, JEFFERSON CRK, GARDEN COVE, John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park, Carysfort, North The Elbow Dry Rocks, Christ Statue, City of Washington, FLORIDA KEYS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY, Alligator, Spiegel Grove, Benwood, French Reef, Mosquito Bank, Murray Nelson Government Center, Adams Cut, Pennekamp Entrance, Key Largo Public Library, African Queen Community Pool and Park, Post Office, Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center, Mariner's Hospital, Harry Harris Park & Beach, Duane, Molasses Reef, Rock Harbor, Buttonwood Sound, Sunset Cove, Bay Side, Oceanside

ON THE MAP

## KEY LARGO CHOCOLATES & ICE CREAM



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KEY LIME PIE ON A STICK  
PREMIUM ICE CREAM MADE HERE  
FUDGE  
KEY LIME PIES

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ON THE MAP



## Key Largo

Sea Glass Jewelry



Beautiful pendants made in Key Largo.

FLORIDA KEYS VISITOR CENTER  
106240 OVERSEAS HWY.  
KEYS DIVER MM 99.7 THE ART BOX MM 100.6

ON THE MAP

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#### RATES

KEY LARGO MAP PAGE

Vertical:  
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The Conch Republic  
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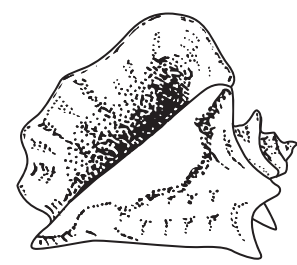
Denise Malefyf  
PUBLISHER  
305.304.2837

www.TheConchTelegraph.com  
TheConchTelegraph@gmail.com  
101425 Overseas Hwy., PMB #628  
Key Largo, Florida Keys 33037

# Conch Characters



Mermaids are popping up all over town! Pasta captured one at the Bluegrass Festival.



If T Rex can do this so can you. Check it out at the Big Chill..



A kayaker and paddleboarder enjoy the sunset just off the beach at Gilbert's Resort. Photo by Ron LeBrun.



Stacie Krupa holding "Mermaid Rockstar" in her studio.

Look for Stacie Krupa, M.F.A. to be on the 3rd feature of Home Improvements (HGTV) on Island Life Sunday March 5th at 9 PM. There will be an airing debut party sponsored by Bumby's in Islamorada. Please join us!



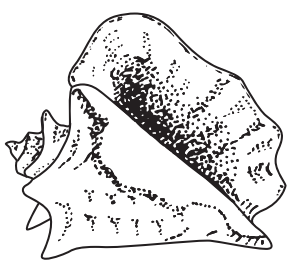
Valentine Krupettes by Stacie Krupa; proceeds go to the American Heart Association



Keith and Diana Miller (snowbirds from Wisconsin) enjoy blues at Bayside Grille.



Mermaid and merman hanging out in Key Largo. Photo by Marianne McManigal.



Toilet Seat Cut. Photo by Marcy Scott.



Do you think these new guys down from the mainland will give Allen-Beyers any competition?



# Business in the Keys

**Denny's Appliance**  
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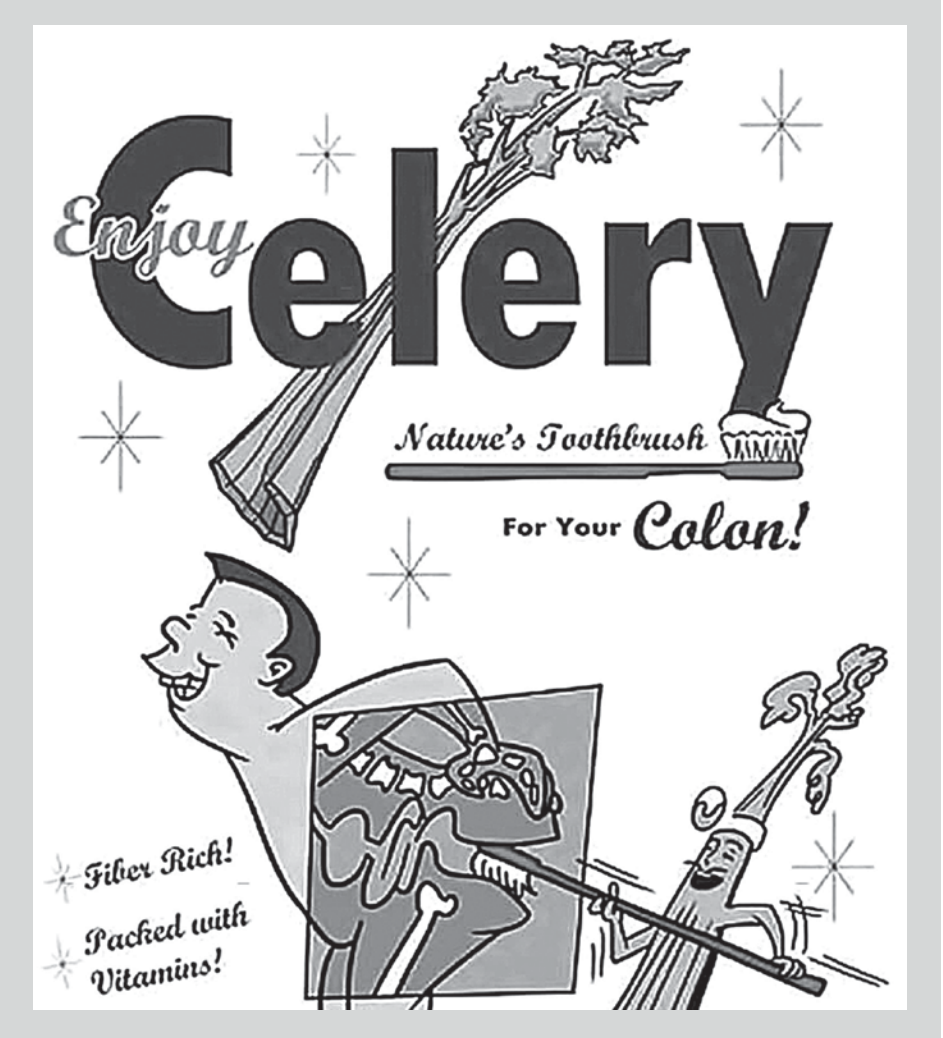
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**Pushing Buttons**  
When somebody continues to open our old wounds on purpose, they must be told that their behavior is no longer welcome.  
We've all had our buttons pushed to the point where we feel we can't take it any more, and chances are, we've all pushed somebody else's buttons, with or without knowing it. The button pusher may not be conscious of what they're doing, but in the end the buttons belong to us, and we are the ones who must deal with what comes up. The more we take responsibility for our own feelings and reactions, the less tender these buttons will be.  
We've all had the experience of having someone snap at us, seemingly out of nowhere. This happens when we unconsciously push a button in someone else we didn't even know was there. This can happen with a complete stranger and sometimes with a person we've known and been close to for years. We ourselves may have a relationship with someone whose buttons we secretly like to push. Buttons are just soft spots that have been touched one too many times, and they symbolize some pain that needs to be acknowledged and healed. This may be a wound from childhood, or some recent trauma, that we haven't adequately tended. Whatever the case, when our buttons get pushed, the person who most needs our attention and caring is us, and blaming the button pusher only distracts us from finding a true resolution to our suffering.  
At the same time, if someone continually opens our wounds so that they never have time to heal, we are well within our rights to set a boundary with that person. Compulsive button pushers, who seem to find pleasure or satisfaction in hurting us, are not welcome in our personal space. In the end, knowing where our buttons are enables us to do the work necessary to heal. Freedom comes when we deal with the pain behind the button, thus disconnecting our automatic reaction to being pushed.

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Enjoy Celery  
Nature's Toothbrush  
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"Celery: Nature's Toothbrush...for Your Colon!" This faux vintage ad gave us pause. Were they really so risque "back in the day"? Probably not. And at 5 cents a bunch, how could they ever sell enough to afford advertising?

## AS I GET OLDER I REALIZE:

I talk to myself, because sometimes I need expert advice.  
Sometimes I roll my eyes out loud.  
I don't need anger management. I need people to stop pissing me off.  
My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance of idiots that needs work.  
The biggest lie I tell myself is "I don't need to write that down. I'll remember it."  
When I was a child I thought nap time was punishment. Now it's like a mini-vacation.  
The day the world runs out of wine is just too terrible to think about.  
Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can muffle the sound.  
Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, and come out wrinkle-free and three sizes smaller?  
"Getting Lucky" means walking into a room and remembering why I'm there.

## MY NEXT LIFE by Woody Allen

In my next life I want to live backwards.  
You start out dead and get that out of the way.  
Then you wake up in an old people's home, feeling better every day.  
You get kicked out for being too healthy, go collect your pension, and then when you start work, you get a gold watch and a party on your first day.  
You work for 40 years until you're young enough to enjoy your retirement.  
You party, drink alcohol, and are generally promiscuous, then you are ready for high school.  
You then go to primary school, you play. You have no responsibilities, you become a baby until you are born. Then you spend your last 9 months floating in luxurious spa-like conditions with central heating and room service on tap, larger quarters every day and then, Voilà! You finish off as an orgasm!  
I rest my case.





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5 <b>MR. STIX 1-6 (SUNDAY DEBUT)</b>	6 <b>HAPPY HOUR 4-7PM MON-FRI</b> \$2 BUD LIGHT & MILLER LITE DRAFTS, 1/2 OFF WELL DRINKS, \$2.30 FIREBALL	7 <b>BOBBE BROWN 5-9</b>	8 <b>HARRY FRENCH 5-9</b>	9 <b>DJ REGGAE RONNIE 5-9</b>	10 <b>BOBBE BROWN 12-4</b> <b>RIBS &amp; BEER 5-9PM \$9.99</b> MOJO SCOUNDRELS 7-11	11 <b>CUTLER STEW 1-5</b> Michael Trixx 8pm <b>SPECIAL EVENT GYPSY LANE BAND 7-11</b>
12 <b>APACHE DRAGON 1-6</b>	13 <b>HAPPY HOUR 4-7PM MON-FRI</b> \$2 BUD LIGHT & MILLER LITE DRAFTS, 1/2 OFF WELL DRINKS, \$2.30 FIREBALL	14 <b>VALENTINES DAY DINNER SPECIALS</b> <b>BOBBE BROWN 5-9</b>	15 <b>HARRY FRENCH 5-9</b>	16 <b>DJ REGGAE RONNIE 5-9</b>	17 <b>BOBBE BROWN 12-4</b> <b>RIBS &amp; BEER 5-9PM \$9.99</b> FLOVOX 7-11	18 <b>UNCLE SMOKEY 1-5</b> Michael Trixx 8pm <b>SIPPIN' FIRE 7-11</b>
19 <b>MR NICE GUY 1-6 (STAFF FAVORITE)</b>	20 <b>HAPPY HOUR 4-7PM MON-FRI</b> \$2 BUD LIGHT & MILLER LITE DRAFTS, 1/2 OFF WELL DRINKS, \$2.30 FIREBALL	21 <b>BOBBE BROWN 5-9</b>	22 <b>HARRY FRENCH 5-9</b>	23 <b>DJ REGGAE RONNIE 5-9</b>	24 <b>BOBBE BROWN 12-4</b> <b>RIBS &amp; BEER 5-9PM \$9.99</b> DROPOUTS 7-11	25 <b>STONE CRABS 1-5</b> Michael Trixx 8pm <b>"CHAIN REACTION" (JOURNEY TRIBUTE BAND) 7-11</b>
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