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

#### Inside:

#### **Attractions**

Conch Republic Strong
Hunk of the Month: Max Trent, KLI

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

Irma, The Unwanted Visitor
Healing After Irma
with Good Vibrations
Hurricane Irma - Where is
my Home? by Kimberly Lahr

#### Maps

Key Largo Locator Map Page Getting from Here to There in the Keys

#### All the Buzz

Dawn Wiggins, Ed. S. Coco-Nut Funnies Conch Characters Business in the Keys The Mangrove Galley





**FREE** 

 $\supseteq$   $\bigcap$  Welcome back to the Florida Keys! The Upper Keys reopened to tourism October 1st.



### Coconut Telegraph

October 2017 Volume 11 Issue #128

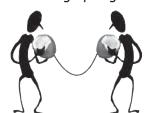
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#### Deadline

for the Coconut Telegraph's next issue is

Friday, October 20, 2017

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IRMA!

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2017** 

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### 20th Annual Free Keys Kids Fishing Derby Rescheduled!

The Keys Kids Fishing Derby has been rescheduled for Sunday October 15th at the Lorelei for anglers ages 10 and under. There is no charge to enter but anglers must be Monroe County residents. There are three fishing divisions: Shoreline, Backcountry and Offshore and awards for three age divisions, 4 and under, 5-7 and 8-10.

There are lots of prizes with winners in all divisions! Sign up early as the first 100 registered anglers are guaranteed ditty bags. Sign up at Tackle Center of Islamorada Caribee Boat Sales at the Lorelei in person or on line, or you can find the application on Facebook "Keys Kids Fishing Derby"

Shoreline fishing will be allowed at the Lorelei with waters chummed by Tackle Center of Islamorada. Bait for shoreline anglers will be supplied by Tackle Center of Islamorada and there will be plenty of folks on hand to help bait hooks, tie lines etc. Each angler will receive a fishing rod so you do not have to have fishing tackle for your kids to fish!

Pick up your ditty bag any time after 7AM. Lines are in at 9AM and weigh in closes promptly at 1PM. Hot dogs

I don't want to

I can still fit into the earrings I wore in high school.



and Cokes will be supplied compliments of Lorelei with donations going to support the Coral Shores Cheerleaders starting at 11:00. There will be a casting contest starting at 10AM. Key Breeze Engraving awards sponsored by IFACT and other prizes will be handed out to the winners on the Lorelei beach at 2PM.

To donate to help defray costs, please make checks to the Islamorada Charter Boat Association a 501-c-3 organization and mail to P.O. Box 462, Islamorada, FL 33036. To donate items, or for more information call Dianne Harbaugh 305-522-4868 or stop and see her at Caribee Boat Sales in Islamorada.

brag or make anybody jealous, but...

#### I NEED AN **ALCOHOLIDAY**



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Woke up with my credit card laying across my keyboard. I can't wait to see what drunk me bought for sober me.

I don't mean to brag, but I just put a puzzle together in 1 day and the box said 2-4 years.

"LEAD ME NOT INTO TEMPTATION..."

Oh who am I kidding? Follow me, I know a shortcut!

THE CHAINS ON MY MOOD SWING JUST SNAPPED.

RUN.

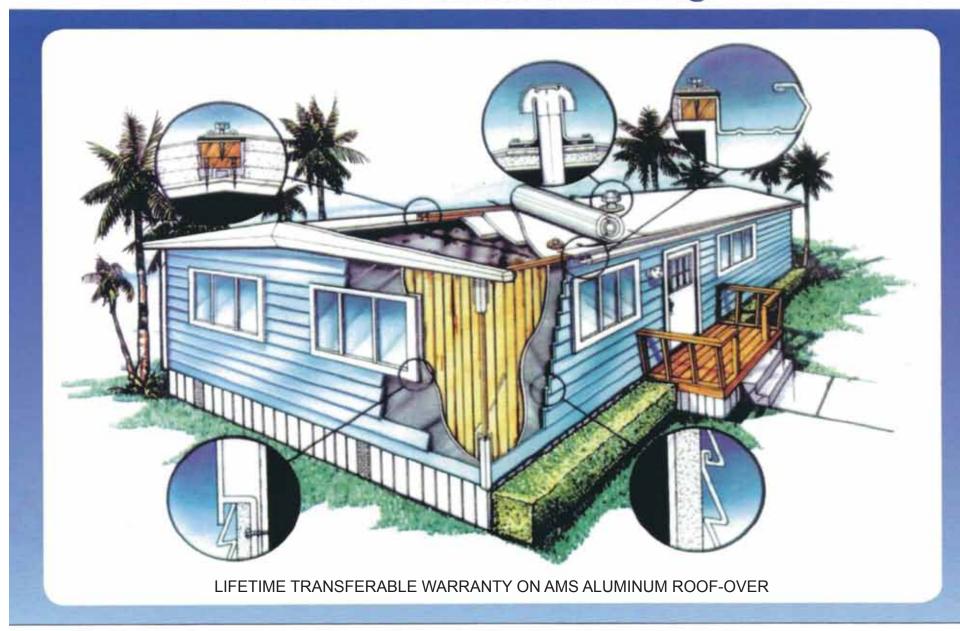
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For those arriving to the Gilbert's party fashionably late, you can park on the main access road and take the FREE air-conditioned shuttle to and from Gilbert's on Saturdays and Sundays from noon-8pm.



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### **SATURDAYS IN OCTOBER:**



**UNCLE SMOKEY** 



Saturday, Oct. 14 BOMBSHELL



Saturday, Oct. 28 STATIC 1-5 PM



Saturday, Oct. 21 THE STONE CRABS



Saturday, Oct. 28 SHANE DUNCAN BAND

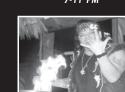


**span** 

Saturday, Oct. 14

SPANK THE BAND

Saturday, Oct. 21 STALL 4



MICHAEL TRIXX IS BACK! 8pm • Oct 14, 21 & 28

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### Why Be Polite?

I was riding to work yesterday when I observed a female driver, who cut right in front of a pickup truck, causing the driver to drive onto the shoulder to avoid hitting her.

This evidently angered the driver enough that he hung his arm out his window and gave the woman the

"Man, that guy is stupid," I thought to myself. But I ALWAYS smile nicely and wave in a sheepish manner whenever a female does anything to me in traffic, and here's

I drive to Miami - 48 miles each way every day to work. That's 96 miles round trip.

Of these, 16 miles each way is bumper-to bumper, and most of the bumper-to-bumper is on an 8-lane hiahway

There are 7 cars every 40 ft. for 32 miles. That works out to 982 cars every mile, or 31,424 cars.

Even though the rest of the 32 miles is not bumper-to-bumper, I

figure I pass at least another 4000 cars. That brings the number to something like 36,000 cars that I pass every day.

Statistically, females drive half of these. That's 18,000 women drivers! In any group of females, 1 in 28

has PMS. That's 642.

According to Cosmopolitan, 70% describe their love life as dissatisfying or unrewarding. That's 449.

According to the National Institute of Health, 22% of all females have seriously considered suicide or homicide. That's 98.

And 34% describe men as their biggest problem. That's 33.

According to the NRA, 5% of all females carry weapons and this number is increasing.

That means that EVERY SINGLE DAY, I drive past at least one female that has a lousy love life, thinks men are her biggest problem, has seriously considered suicide or homicide, has PMS, and is armed.

Give her the finger? Not me!

# Irma, the Unwanted Visitor



The Key Largo Moose has that Conch Strong spirit!



Bye-bye ugly billboard!



The American Legion got an unexpected surprise.



The Salvation Army did not intend to stay open.





Thank you Monroe County for quickly clearing the roads.



Bartender Jamie at the Moose and some Irma survivors.

Wells Fargo bank had a jungle to clear!



Max Trent's floating home completely sank!



Island Grill at Mandalay - their appliances blew down the street!



Ron Skrumbellos, owner of Hobo's, who donated food and ice to the survivors at the Moose, with former bartender Eddie Rothbard.



Kristie Walter, Commander of the VFW, with some of the items donated for hurricane victims

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### **KEYS ADVENTURES**

Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill, 104000 Overseas Highway www.keysadventureswatersports.com

305-731-9472







# 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.



**Sheldon & Leonard** 











# WHAT'S YOUR "BLUES" NAME?

#### 1. Use your first initial to find your first name

N = Peg LegA = FatO = RedB = BuddyP = SleepyC = StickyD = OldQ = BaldR = SkinnyE = TexasF = Hollerin S = BlindG = UglyT = BigU = Yella H = BrownI = HappyV = ToothlessJ = BoneyW = Screamin' K = CurlyX = Fat BoyL = PrettyY = Washboard M = Jailhouse Z = Steel-Eye

#### 2. Use your middle initial to find your middle name

A = BonesN = FootB = MoneyO = MamaP = BackC = HarpQ = DukeD = LegsR = DogE = EvesF = LemonS = Bad BoyT = BabyG = KillerU = Chicken H = HipsV = Pickles I = LipsJ = Fingers W = SugarX = WillyK = BovY = ToothL = LiverZ = SmokeM = Gumbo

#### 3. Use your last initial to find your last name

A = Iackson

B = McGeeO = KingC = HopkinsP = BradleyD = DupreeQ = Hawkins E = GreenR = IeffersonF = BrownS = DavisG = JonesT = Franklin H = RiversU = WhiteI = Malone V = Jenkins J = Washington W = BaileyK = SmithX = JohnsonL = ParkerY = BlueM = LeeZ = Allison

N = Thompkins

# Conch Republic Strong!

Before the storm the words from a popular sona by The Clash stuck in my head ... "Should I stay or should I go?" Though I knew I could not stay in a trailer, the thought of driving through the state of Florida and running out of gas alone on a dark Florida highway was more frightening to me than to ride out the hurricane in Key Largo where I have friends and can get help. When I inquired about a room at the Moose, and was able to secure the last one available. I felt blessed and safe. After all, the building was built by Henry Flagler and had survived two previous hurricanes. It is made from coral rock, concrete and Dade County pine, making it a virtual fortress. As time ticked by, the TV news channels all predicted doom and gloom for the Upper Keys... as they advertised duct tape and lumber yards(!) But my weather guru, Vivian Kay, had NOAA on her phone and the outlook for Key Largo kept looking better as Irma continued to push west.

KLI donated flashlights and lamps. As I retired in my room that night to ride out the storm I put the flashlight on the bedside stand and the shadow of an angel appeared on the wall, that is when I knew my cat Tuna and I were not alone and through all the wind, rain and tornados, the Moose Lodge remained Conch Republic Strong.

The most frightening and disturbing thing that is once the power went off and we could no longer charge our phones, we were all concerned about conserving our batteries so our families could keep contact as long as possible. Well-meaning friends continued to call and text, sucking up our juice... even when we pleaded with them to

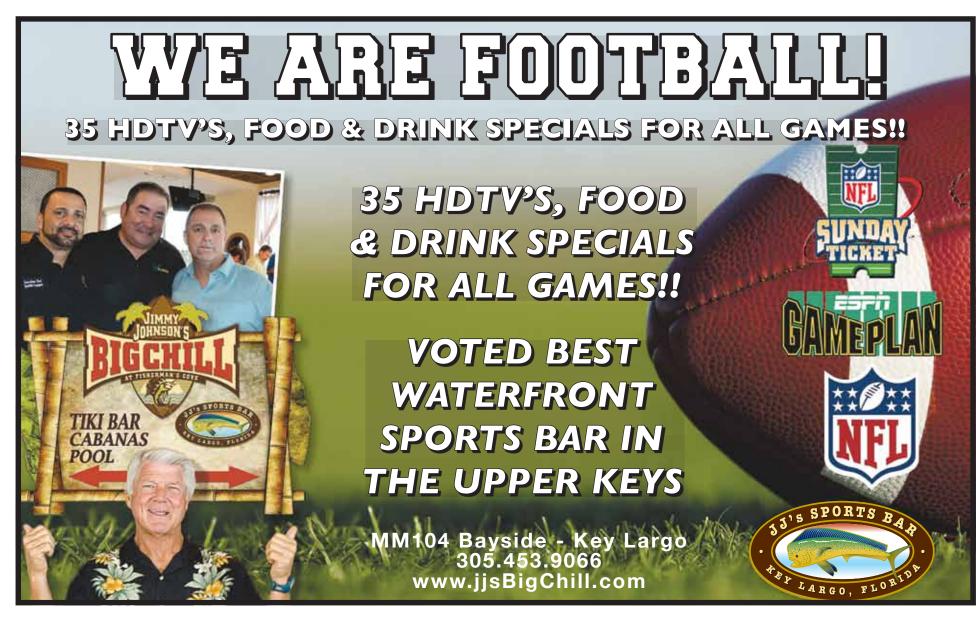
Heros are born from disasters and this one was no different. Max Trent, a manager at KLI and the new administrator of the Moose, kept the lodge open throughout, offering happy hour prices and free breakfast, lunch and dinner every day. He was there from morning until late night, either cooking with his friend Greg Elliott or taking a shift tending bar. The lodge was open to the public and they fed grateful families with small children, retired



The shadow from a flashlight in my hotel room let me know I was not alone.

citizens and veterans. It was then that the true Keys spirit took hold and people started bringing in whatever they had to share. The Hideout donated food, Hobo's donated food and ice, someone brought generators and another brought gas. Max orchestrated it all. Even the Florida Highway Patrol were sending people there. Everyone helped each other. Soon people came in reporting the damages to their homes and the devastation they had seen. It was then that Max Trent found out that the houseboat he had been renting by the Hideout had completely sunk, including everything he owned! Never uttering a word of self pity, Trent kept his focus on helping the community.

Several other restaurants including the Conch House, the Big Chill and the VFW offered free food to the community and the VFW served as a hub for donations. Thank you to the Florida Keys Electric Cooperative and Monroe County for getting us up and running fast. Congratulations to all our advertisers who quickly restored their businesses so they could serve the influx of people who came here to help, as well as those in the process of repairing their homes. We are Conch Republic 10 · The Coconut Telegraph · October 2017 October 2017 October 2017 · The Coconut Telegraph · 11



#### **October Calendar of Events VFW Post 10211 Public Welcome!!!** 102255 Overseas Highway Phone #: 305-451-2120 MONDAY WEDNESDAY **THURSDAY** FRIDAY SATURDAY **TUESDAY** \$1 Drafts all day -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm -Bingo 2-5 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Members Appreciation -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm \$1 drafts all day -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm 1/2 off prices all day -Live Band 7pm-? -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm -Ladies Night 7-9 pm 13 -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Bingo 7 pm -Bingo 2-5 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Members Appreciation -Happy Hour 4-6 pm \$1 drafts all day \$1 Drafts all day -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm 1/2 off prices all day -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm -Ladies Night 7-9 pm -NFL Drink Specials -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm 20 21 \$1 drafts all day -Live Band 7pm-? \$1 Drafts all day -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm -Bingo 2-5 pm -Members Appreciation -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm 1/2 off prices all day -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm -Bingo 7 pm -Ladies Night 7-9 pm -NFL Drink Specials -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm 22 27 23 25 26 28 \$1 drafts all day \$1 Drafts all day -Bingo 2-5 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Members Appreciation -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm -Bingo 7 pm -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm 1/2 off prices all day -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm -Show me the \$ 6-8 pm -Ladies Night 7-9 pm -NFL Drink Specials 29 31 **Hours:** Daily **Daily Specials:** Wed: Chicken Parmesan Sun - Thu: -Bingo 2-5 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm \*\*HALLOWEEN\*\* Food Specials Sun: 6 oz Sirloin **Thu:** 6 oz Sirloin -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$6-8 pm -Members Appreciation 2pm - 10pm at the Mon: Meatloaf **Fri:** Spaghetti -NFL Drink Specials 1/2 off prices all day Fri - Sat: Show me the \$ 6-8 pm Freedom Cafe!!! **Tue:** Tacos / Burritos Sat: BBQ Chicken/Ribs 2pm-12am

### Hunk of the Month



Max Trent - K.L.I.

### Ladies, Let's Go Fishing!

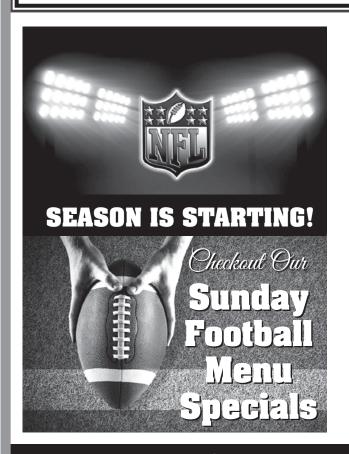
Keys saltwater fishing university, Oct. 20-22 at BPOE Elks, MM 92 Bayside, Tavernier, FL. Registration, available online, includes two networking receptions, classes, hands-on skill practice, door prizes and gifts. Men

and teens welcome. No equipment or experience is required. Optional fishing charters are on Friday and Sunday out of Islamorada. Contact: phone (954) 475-9068; email info@ ladiesletsgofishing.com; www.ladiesletsgofishing.com



Ladies aboard *Blue Chip Too* with fish at the *Ladies, Let's Go Fishing* Keys University last year. Janet Steiner, St. Augustine, Rebecca Hill, St. Augustine, Tracy McCandless, Islamorada, and Theresa Mathis, St. Augustine.

### Yoted Best Happy Hour in the Keys! 4-7 Daily





NOW



As seen on Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives on Food Network!!

Episode: "Succulent Sandwiches"

This trip, Guy Fieri's diggin' into succulent sandwiches! In Oakland, a real-deal butchery stacking up killer cheesesteak and off-the-chain chicken. In Modesto, Calif., a funky food truck putting pastrami on pretzel bread and cooking pulled pork in root beer. **And in Key Largo**, **Florida**, a seafood staple servin' up a sandwich that's become a local legend. (Episode: DV2407H)

13 Seagate Blvd., Key Largo, MM 99.6, 305-451-3142 www.pilothousemarina.com **f** fb.com/pilothousekeylargo

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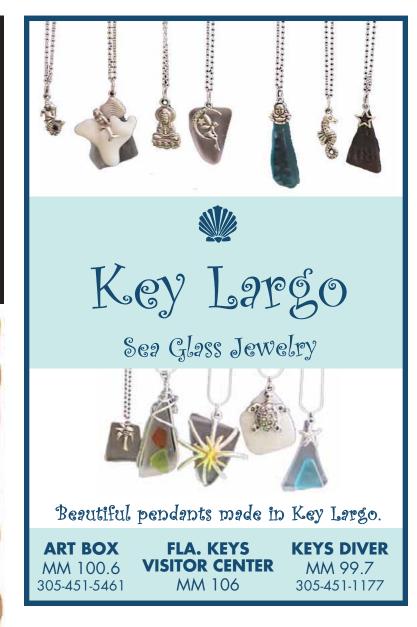


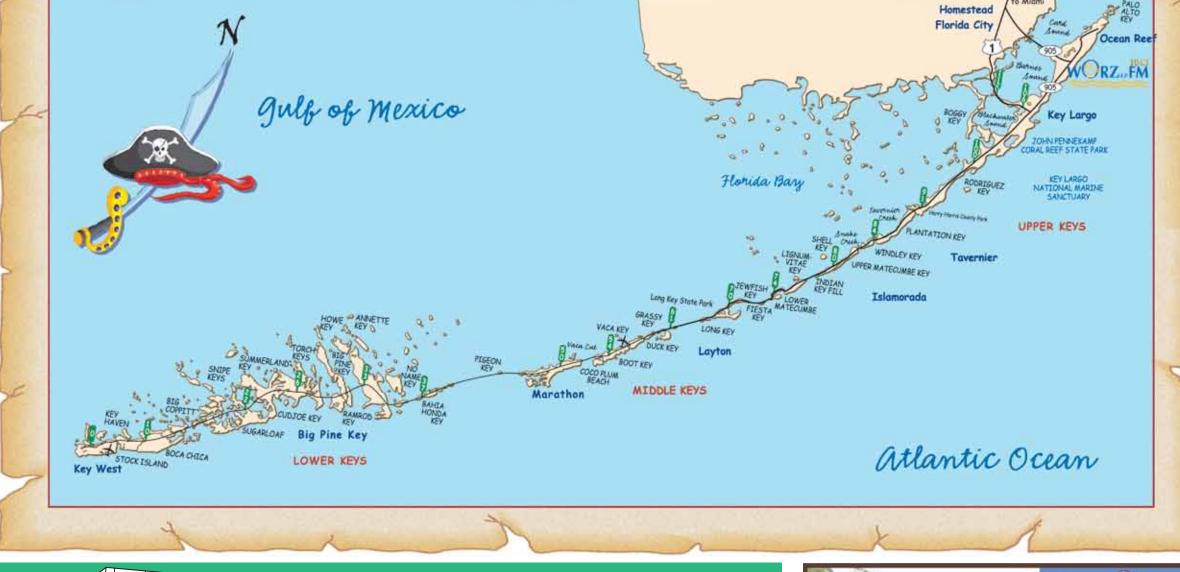


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Key Largo MM 99.8 Southbound Lane Behind Traffic Light



### Former Hooters waitress settles suit

Hooters likes to motivate its staff with prizes for top sellers. Playing on a classic pun, management at The Panama City, FL restaurant promised a "Toyota" (never in writing), but delivered a toy Yoda.

Jodee Berry, 27, won the beer sales contest at the Panama City Beach Hooters. She believed she had won a new Toyota and happily was escorted to the restaurant's parking lot in a blindfold.

But when the blindfold was removed, she found she had won a new toy Yoda — the little green character from the Star Wars movies.

After the stunt, Berry quit the restaurant and filed a lawsuit against Gulf Coast Wings, the restaurant's corporate owner, alleging breach of



Jodee Berry with her prize "toy Yoda."

contract and fraudulent misrepresentation.

The restaurant's manager, Jared Blair, has said the whole contest was an April Fools' joke.

David Noll, her attorney, said that he could not disclose the settlement's details, although he said Berry can now go to a local car dealership and "pick out whatever type of Toyota she wants."



**Wed @ Gilberts Thurs @ Snooks** Fri @ Gilbert's (day) Fri @ Skippers (late) Sat @ Skippers (day) Sat @ Mandalay (late) Sun @ TBA

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## Gilbert's HALLOWEEN PARTY



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Michael Trixx 8pm **Costume Contest** STARTS 9 PM

\$500 CASH 1st Place Prize **Basket of Booze 2nd Place** \$250 Gilberts Gift Card 3rd Place

LIVE MUSIC 7-11 PM Shane Duncan Band

### Feeling Under the Weather

Doing our difficult emotional cleansing can take a toll on us and make us feel run down, but this too will pass.

At times when we are detoxing our bodies, or going through the ascension process, we experience aches in our bodies and manifest flu like symptoms. We may find ourselves feeling fatigued and even sad, as if we might be coming down with something. This is a natural part of any cleansing process and commonly accompanies deep inner-work.

As we are called to examine our emotions and our beliefs, which often prompts deep inner-changes as well as external shifts, our bodies grow tired. Feeling under the weather is the way they let us know that it's time to take a break. It's best to be easy on ourselves at times like these and not to keep pushing forward. Learning to listen to and honor our bodies is part of the process of becoming more conscious.

As soon as you notice you are not feeling well, make an effort to get extra sleep, whether by going to bed earlier than usual or working cess.

naps into your routine. You can also support your body by eating as healthy as possible, drinking plenty of water and herbal teas, and taking vitamins. Vitamin C is especially galvanizing to the immune system. Homeopathic remedies can also aid you in assisting your body in its time of rest and recovery.

Talking lovingly to yourself, and your body, will also help. Beyond that, simply letting go of thinking and resting in the deep silence of your true self will speed your recovery. In addition, you can always call upon your guides and angels, asking them to ease the symptoms.

It is natural to go through times of feeling under the weather, so there is no reason for you to worry. On the contrary, feel free to let go of worry and rest peacefully in the knowledge that this too shall pass, leaving you stronger, healthier, and further along in your healing pro-

Reprinted from DailyOM - Inspirational thoughts for a happy, healthy and fulfilling day. Register for free at www.dailyom.com

### **More Ponderables**

Why do drug stores make the sick walk all the way to the back of the store to get their prescriptions while healthy people can buy cigarettes at the front?

Why do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and a diet coke?

Why do we leave cars worth thousands of dollars in our driveways and put our useless junk in the garage?

Why does the sun lighten our hair, but darken our skin?

Why can't women put on mascara with their mouths closed? Why don't you ever see the headline 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?

Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?

Why is it that doctors and attorneys call what they do 'practice'?

Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavoring, and dishwashing liquid made with real lemons?

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

Why is the time of day with the slowest traffic called rush

Why isn't there mouseflavored cat food?

Why didn't Noah swat those two mosquitoes?

Why don't sheep shrink when it rains?

Why are they called apartments when they are all stuck together?

If flying is so safe, why do they call the airport the terminal? Is it good if a vacuum really

sucks?

Why is the third hand on the watch called the second hand?

If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?

If Webster wrote the first dictionary, where did he find the words?

Why do we say something is out of whack? What is a

Why does "slow down" and "slow up" mean the same thing? Why does "fat chance" and

Why do "tug" boats push their

barges?

"slim chance" mean the same

Why do we sing "Take me out to the ball game" when we are already there?

Why are they called "stands" when they are made for

Why is it called "after dark" when it really is "after light"? Doesn't "expecting the unexpected" make the unexpected expected?

Why are a "wise man" and a "wise guy" opposites?

Why do "overlook" and "oversee" mean opposite things? Why is "phonics" not spelled

the way it sounds? If work is so terrific, why do

they have to pay you to do it? If all the world is a stage, where is the audience sitting? If love is blind, why is lingerie

If you are cross-eyed and have dyslexia, can you read all

so popular?

Why is bra singular and panties plural?

Why do you press harder on the buttons of a remote control when you know the batteries are dead?

Why do we put suits in garment bags and garments in a

Why do we wash bath towels? Aren't we clean when we use

Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?

Why do they call it a TV set when you only have one?

Why do we drive on a parkway and park on a driveway?

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#### House Cleaning call Danielle 305-393-2728

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Write today for free help. PO Box 999, Key Largo

3-year-old teacher

before you go to Europe. 1-800-SFRIOUSLY

### SERVICES

ILLITERATE?

#### JOBS

need for pre-school. Experience preferred. 305-451-HUH?

PIZZARIA HELP WANTED DO NOT APPLY if you'll need nights off because your band has a gig. DO NOT APPLY if vou'll need weekends off because you have a gallery opening, DO NOT APPLY if you iust want to work a few weeks

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

**MUSICIANS** 

WANTED

Amateur & seasoned

#### FREE

#### Free - International Ketchup Packet Collection

This is a collection of ketchup packets from around the world, approximately 25 countries are represented including Japan, Finland, Estonia, Greenland, Brazil, and Portugal. None of the packets have been opened and they are labelled with their home country. Collection comes in decorative box with ducks on it. 305.454.FREE

#### FOR SALE

Mixing bowl set designed to please a cook with round bottom for efficient beating

### PERSONAL

#### **Looking for Bridesmaids** My fiancee and I are getting married in February. He has 8 groomsmen lined up and I

only have one bridesmaid. So, 1 need some girls who are attractive and around my age (30) to stand up in my

wedding. You can be single or taken. It doesn't matter....you just have to be hot. But not hotter then me! Email me for more information. The wedding will be in Islamorada and you won't have to pay for a

### VESSEL SAFETY

thing. Hope to hear from you!

bride@delusional.com

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.

Florida Keys Orchid, Fern and Bromeliad Society meets the 3rd Thurs. of every month at Key Largo Library Comm. Room 7pm. Open to public. 305-451-3000

The Key Players, Inc. Community Theater Group needs volunteers to work behind the scenes and audition for roles! thekeyplayers.org

### FOR SALE

Dog for Sale. Eats anything and is fond of children. 1-800-DOGE

## JOB OFFER

#### I'm afraid of Clowns.

I need someone to help me

rid me of this fear. I will provide a clown costume and all you need to do is follow me around wherever I go all day everyday until I kick this fear. I'm talking, to work, to the mall, to the store, to church. You will follow me dressed as a clown and acting in a clown mannerism. You can pick your own clown name, but you must have one. You must be prepared to take a pie in the face, and make balloon animals. As that is all of the responsibilities of normal clown behavior. If you have a small car, and several friends that are willing to dress like clowns we may be able to work out some temp work with them as well.

Location: Tavernier, FL Compensation: This a paid by the week position, temporary until my fear goes away.

Classified ads will not be ccepted without payment

## HEALING AFTER IRMA WITH GOOD VIBRATIONS - Oct. 6, 7, 8

The non-profit Waypoint Foundation of Key Largo announces a free weekend Sound Healing and Therapy Study Group beginning late Friday afternoon, October 6th at St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church at MM 87.5 in Islamorada. Sound Therapy was first described in ancient scriptures, has been a powerful and effective session and a short sound tool for promoting good health and wellbeing for thousands of years.

"New science supports what mystics and others have known for years" comments Clarice Yentsch, President of The Waypoint Foundation. "We are honored that Rhonda C. Selvin a nurse practitioner and expert in energy work from Boothbay Harbor, Maine will lead

this Study Group. The intention is to learn and share various tools, techniques and practices for self care and care of others. This Study Group, focusing on



Rhonda C. Selvin, nurse practitioner and energy work expert from Maine will lead the Sound Healina & Therapy Study Group event

Best pick up line

in the

Florida Keys today:

"Want to sleep in A/C?"

Ce De le

Moist people aren't

offended by the

occasional typo

Jan Mulvihill, an exceptional education teacher at Key Largo School and a few of her students. Saturday the sessions will be from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Lunch will be available. Sunday morning, October 8th from 9:00 AM to noon the group will be quests of Deena Hoagland. founder and director of Island Dolphin Care and her staff at IDC, 150 Lorelane Place, Key Largo. Please pre-register with claricemyentsch@gmail.com.

to share why they have

Therapy.

Highlights will include Robin Hanbridge, Burlington, Vermont, and Big Pine Key. with his Tibetan singing bowls, gongs and handcrafted didgeridoos. Kathleen Merfeld, of Key Largo Florida with Mike Twyford and Kip Irvine of Miami. Florida will lead a session with strings using Viola da Gamba and other instru-

vibrations vs. music per se, is a practicum that will give the presenters the opportunity become advocates of Sound The Study Group will convene Friday afternoon at 4:00 - 6:00 PM on October 6th at St. James the Fisherman for a meet and greet therapy drumming treat with

Robin Hanbridge from Big Pine Key and Burlington VT with his Tibetan singing bowls, gongs and digeridoo.

for Sunday afternoon, October 8th at St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church MM 87.5 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Please join in our Community Healing and give your mind, body and cell phone a rest.

ments. Carol and Ken Schryver of Key Largo will share how humming and the human voice enrich the soul and Jean-Charles Genet. Islamorada, FL will share his research on sound.

Following Hurricane Irma, a public Community of Compassion Sound Healing is planned

> Collection of Sound Therapy tools as photographed by Glenn R.



Hoover of Key Largo

#### **Hurricane Procedures at the Coconut Telegraph Offices** Office procedures concerning tropical sandals when coming to work.

#### Category 1 Hurricane No excuse for being late. Leave home

are our guidelines based upon the

tropical cyclone's intensity.

earlier to give extra time to avoid fallen trees and limbs.

systems and office closing. The following

#### Category 2 Hurricane Due to the horizontal rain, you may dress casual.

**Category 3 Hurricane** Whereas most of the area will be flooded, we suggest you avoid wearing open toe

Canoes/kayaks will be provided to get in to the building safely.

#### **Category 4 Hurricane**

More than likely there will be no electricity. Office personnel will be given manual typewriters and rotary dial phones. If you choose to wear make up, we suggest waterproof.

#### **Category 5 Hurricane**

Velcro will be provided to keep you in to your seat when the windows and doors blow out. For those who survive, we will have cake at 3:30 in the conference room A Message From The Typesetter:

If I ever

use "there" instead of "they're" and "your" instead of "you're" in the same article, T've been kidnapped and am signaling for help.

# Coco'Nut' Funnies

A baby can drink a bottle, fall asleep and people say it's cute. If I do it, I'm an alcoholic.

A man goes to a Halloween costume party wearing nothing except his underwear with a woman on

His friends see him and ask, "Hey man, what are you meant to be?".

He replies "Oh I'm dressed as a

His friends respond, "A turtle? How are you a turtle? Who's that woman on your back?"

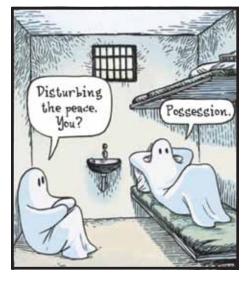
The man replies, "Oh, that's just Michelle."



My wife told me to go to the doctor and get some of those tablets that help get an erection.

You should have seen her face when I came back and tossed her some diet pills!

I'm still looking for a place to live..





#### Help with an Embarrassing Problem

I've always wondered about these ads. You've seen all the commercials..

But what really happens when you ask for help with an erection lasting more than 4 hours?

I walked into a drug store and asked to talk to a male pharma-

The woman I was speaking with said she was the only pharmacist and since she and her sister owned the store, there were no male employees. She asked if she could

I said that I really would have preferred to speak with a male phar-

She assured me that she was completely professional and whatever it was that I needed to discuss, I could be confident that she would treat me with a high level of professionalism

I reluctantly agreed and began by saying, "As a shy man, this is tough for me to discuss, but here goes.

I get erections every day that last more than four hours. This condition causes me a lot of problems and severe embarrassment.

was wondering what you could give me for it?"

The pharmacist said, "Just a minute, I'll talk to my sister."

When she returned, she said, "We discussed it at length and this is the absolute best we can do:

- 1/3 ownership in the store,
- a company pickup truck,
- a king size bed and
- \$3,000 a month in living expenses.

#### **SPEEDING TICKET**

A police officer stops a blonde for speeding and asks her very nicely if he could see her driver's license.

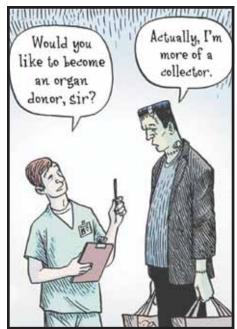
She replies in a huff, "I wish you guys would get your act together! Just yesterday they took my license away and now today you expect me to show it to you?"

Thank you Trader Dick!

You can name her whatever you like, but be sure it's something you can remember. You'll be using it as a security question answer for the rest of your life.



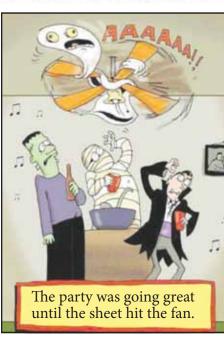








THE NIGHT EDDIE BECAME A TOAD.



#### **Doctor Visit**

A guy walked into a doctor's office and the receptionist asked him what he had. He said, "shingles." So she took down his name, address, and medical insurance number and told him to have a seat.

Fifteen minutes later a nurse's aide came out and asked him what he had. He said, "shingles." So she took down his height, weight, a complete medical history and told him to wait in the examinina room.

A half-hour later, a nurse came in and asked him what he had. He said, "shingles." She gave him a blood test, a blood pressure test, an electrocardiogram, told him to take off all his clothes and wait for the doctor.

An hour later the doctor came in and asked him what he had. He said, "shingles." The doctor said, "Where?" He said, "Outside in the truck. Where do you want them?"



#### A Bad Day at the Pharmacy

Upon arriving home, a husband was met at the door by his sobbing wife. Tearfully she explained, "It's the pharmacist. He insulted me terribly this morning on the phone."

Immediately the husband drove downtown to confront the pharmacist and demand an apology. Before he could say more than a few words, the druggist told him, "Now, just a minute, please listen to my side of it...

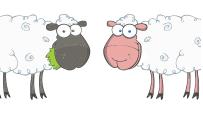
This morning the alarm failed to go off, so I was late getting up. I went without breakfast and hurried out to the car, just to realize that I locked the house with both house and car kevs inside. I had to break a window to get my keys. Then, driving a little too fast, I got a speeding ticket.

Later, about three blocks from the store, I had a flat tire. When I got to the store there was a bunch of people waiting for me to open up. I opened and started waiting on these people, and all the time the darn phone was ringing off the

He continued, Then I had to break a roll of nickels against the cash register drawer to make change, and they spilled all over the floor. I got down on my hands and knees to pick up the nickels; the phone was still ringing. When I came up I cracked my head on the open cash drawer, which made me stagger back against a showcase with bunch of perfume bottles on it...all of them hit the floor and broke

Meanwhile, the phone is still ringing with no let up, and I finally got to answer it. It was your wife. She wanted to know how to use a rectal thermometer...and, honest mister, all 1 did was tell her!"

I have enough money to live comfortably for the rest of my life.. if I die next Thursday.



Jn 1872 the Welsh invented the condom, using a length of sheep's intestine.

However in 1873 the English somewhat refined the idea by taking the intestine out of the sheep first!



BOSS: HOW GOOD ARE YOU AT POWERPOINT? ME: I EXCEL AT IT. **BOSS: WAS THAT A MICROSOFT OFFICE PUN?** ME: WORD.



MY JOKES ARE LIKE HOT CHICKS Hard to get and when you do, not nearly as good as you thought they would be.



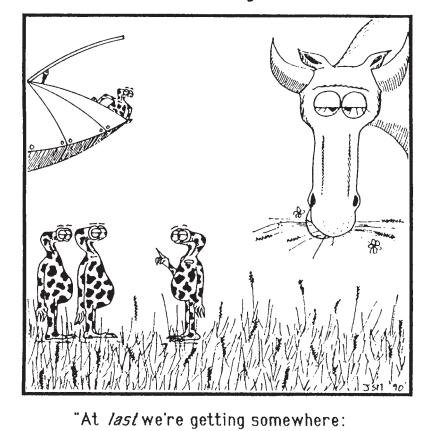
"Forgot my weed."





### Left Field

by J.S. McKinna



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

Their leader's name is 'Moo'...'

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THE ART BOX

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MM 99.7





**Live Music** 

**Craft Beer** 

#### never felt homesick—even when on extended vacations. But now that I don't have a home to come back to, I am beginning to under-

stand the full meaning of

like security, warmth, fa-

Things we sometimes take

others who have lost every-

thing on our television, and

it happens us, only then can

referred to as the unfortu-

nates. "Those poor people,"

we say. "It must be awful."

municated to me that I

Many people have com-

should be thankful for the

things I still have, i.e. my

on social media. But when

we can fully relate to all

those people to whom we

for granted. Yes, we hear and see the devastation of

miliarity, and friends.

Home conjures up words

the word.

It is.

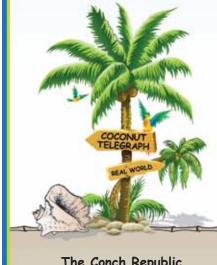
I used to say that I

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## Hurricane Irma—Where is my Home?

family, and my pet Amazon parrot, "Buckwheat." And yes, I am very grateful; and I am cognizant of the fact that it could have been worse. I could have lost everything.

But — when you return to the place that you have called home for so many years, and you see all of your things destroyed, well -it is a very painful and humbling experience.

I saw people standing by what used to be their homes and crying, or just staring in shock. There are so many things that run through your head all at once. Where do we go from here? I lost my job; where am I going to find another? Where are we going to live? Will I ever see my friends again? Will my insurance cover all this? Do we even have insurance?



It must have been a shock when the owners of this Marathon home returned.

This hurricane and other to all of you who have had disasters, some in the past, and some in the near future, make us aware of how tenuous our lives are, and that we are fully at the mercy of Mother Nature. The control that we think we have is ultimately nonexistent. My heart goes out up, nor do we back down.

a loss, and now truly comprehend the meaning of the

by Kimberly Lahr

I hope we never have to go through something like this again. But this is the Keys. We are tough, and we are resilient. We do not give

# Conch Characters





Friends gather at the Big Chill post-Irma. Photo by Kathy Ramsey.



Coach and Larry Calvano at the Big Chill served pizza to first responders.



Sharkey's showing that Conch Strong spirit!



Keys Adventure Watersports is open at the Big Chill



Callum Allison beside the beautiful landscapina he donated at the VFW pre-Irma.

### Coping with PTSD After a Natural Disaster

Having recently experienced hurricane Irma in the Florida Keys, I have a new vantage point on PTSD and natural disasters.

I watched our community live in fear of Irma's destruction in the days leading up to her arrival. We personified her - making her a target for our painful feelings. This was one way to cope with the powerlessness.

There were tears as people packed up and said goodbye to their homes. Children were asked to select their most cherished items.

Many evacuated, some stayed.

For those who stayed, we tried to enjoy ourselves while fending off criticism and concern. We knew we were taking a calculated risk.

The uncertainty of Irma's track created intense frustration. Fears were compounded by the recent images of devastation in Houston. Another struggle was the sheer size of Irma. It made it nearly impossible to evacuate within the state of Florida. The entirety of Florida was to be tormented in this cat 4/5 hurricane.

As the hurricane moved through the Keys, you could hear the intensity of the wind, the trees cracking under pressure. Many of us were in dark rooms with shutters.

Following the storm, witnessing the devastation was overwhelming. We watched loved one's sort through their damaged belongings. Water soaked piles of debris grew along neighborhood streets. The images of Keys-wide destruction tugged at our hearts. We saw our favorite people and places affected. We grieved with them.

We worked hard in the sun

and had no electricity to cool us. We felt hot and took cold showers.

These sights, sounds and experiences are important to note. They become potential triggers for trauma responses.

Each disaster has its own footprint of devastation. You don't have to lose your home or belongings to experience this type of trauma. The intense fear of the experience is enough to leave a lasting impression.

So many people had no idea what they were coming home to. This produced intense levels of anxiety for the folks who evacuated. The uncertainty associated with the potential of loss can leave a lasting impression.

It's important to know that experiencing a trauma does not mean you will develop PTSD. It is normal to have symptoms of PTSD that often resolve over time. Some folks may be more susceptible to developing PTSD. If you've experienced past traumas or have a history of mental illness or substance abuse, you are at greater risk.

# Signs or symptoms that you may be experiencing PTSD

Re-experiencing the traumatic event through flashbacks or bad dreams.

Avoiding things like not allowing yourself to feel painful feelings. Or staying away from places and things that remind you of the event.

Reactivity such as angry outbursts or being easily startled.

Difficulty with your thoughts and feelings. This could look like confusion, memory problems or inappro-

by Dawn Wiggins, Ed.S. **priate quilt.** 

Young children will have different symptoms while teenagers will respond similarly to adults. Take note If your child is struggling to sleep, toilet properly or communicate their thoughts and feelings. They may also "act out" their scary feelings during play. It's important to encourage kids to talk about their experience. Help them sort out what happened while pointing out that they are safe and have support.

True PTSD must include all symptoms for a duration of 1 month.

There are things you can do to reduce the risk of developing PTSD:

Use some coping strategies. This could be any number of things like doing something fun, connecting with others, finding a warm shower, a cool room or a hot meal. It's also helpful to practice mindfulness. This is staying grounded in the moment and not dwelling on your thoughts.

Find support in your family, friends and community. The giving and receiving of help is very powerful. When we share, it helps to reduce feelings of isolation and hopelessness. Helping others can add to a feeling of purpose during a time of loss. Even if you feel like you can't do much - that's ok. The little things matter. I can't rebuild homes like my husband can, but I made sure he stayed hydrated and feel!

Talk, share and process your experience. Allow yourself to cry or express your feelings. I often encourage others to cry if they need to. Though, when I found myself overwhelmed with tears, I



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felt the urge to hide. I didn't want to be a burden. Everyone had their own intense feelings. However, when I couldn't hold it in, it felt better to be accepted and supported by people who love me.

Keep going, even when you feel afraid. When you have scary thoughts or intense feelings avoid shutting down and becoming paralyzed. It is normal to fight, fly or freeze. Try to be aware if you are reacting one of those ways. Consciously choose to do something different.

Find a way to create meaning out of your experience - like learning or finding a silver lining. The night after the hurricane, we were so hot and tired. But when we went outside to fill the generator with gas, I was awe struck with the beauty of the stars. Writing this article is also helping me create meaning from my experience.

If you are concerned about PTSD, don't hesitate to reach out. You're not crazy or broken. You just need some help making sense of your experience. A professional therapist can help.

This was the stunning view of Gilbert's Resort from the Jewfish Creek Bridge before Hurricane Irma. After Irma, the Resort made the cover of the New York Postil They are rebuilding and will reopen September 30th. Conch strong!

# The Mangrove Galley by Sandi Mieszczenski

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



Finally fall is here and we have had to endure a powerful storm. Hopefully your fall will signal a return to normal. Fall to me means apple season. One of my favorite breakfasts is apple pancakes. They are so simple to make but yet very yummy. Try the recipe below and I'm sure that you will agree. Enjoy!

#### APPLE PANCAKES

- 1 box pancake mix
- 2 peeled and thinly sliced apples (I usually use Red Delicious apples)
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract Pinch of nutmea

Prepare the pancakes according to the instructions on the box and the amount of pancakes you want to cook. Add the apples and the remaining ingredients. Stir well.

Add butter to a hot skillet then cook the pancakes, again according to the instructions on the box. Serve up with your favorite syrup and a breakfast meat on the side.



For a more in-depth look at PTSD: www.nimh.nih.gov/health/topics/post-traumatic-stress-disorder-ptsd/index.shtml



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### There's Always Something Fun Going on at Gilbert's

Facebook

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8 MR STIX & THE SPURIENCE 1-6	9 HAPPY HOUR 4-7PM MON-FRI \$2 BUD LIGHT & MILLER LITE DRAFTS, ½ OFF WELL DRINKS, \$2.30 FIREBALL	SCOTT YOUNGBERG 5-9	BOBBE BROWN 5-9	12 DJ REGGAE RONNIE 5-9	13 BOBBE BROWN 12-4  RIBS & BEER 5-9PM \$9.99  MOJO SCOUNDRELS 7-11	14 SPANK THE BAND 1-5 Michael Trixx 8pm BOMBSHELL 7-11
MR NICE GUY 1-6 (STAFF FAVORITE)	16  HAPPY HOUR  4-7PM MON-FRI  \$2 BUD LIGHT &  MILLER LITE  DRAFTS, ½ OFF  WELL DRINKS,  \$2.30 FIREBALL	SCOTT YOUNGBERG 5-9	BOBBE BROWN 5-9	19 DJ REGGAE RONNIE 5-9	20 BOBBE BROWN 12-4  RIBS & BEER 5-9PM \$9.99  UNCLE SMOKEY 7-11	21 STONE CRABS 1-5 Michael Trixx 8pm STALL 4 7-11
THE REGS 1-6 (LOCALS FAVORITE)	23  HAPPY HOUR  4-7PM MON-FRI  \$2 BUD LIGHT &  MILLER LITE  DRAFTS, ½ OFF  WELL DRINKS,  \$2.30 FIREBALL	BOBBE BROWN 5-9	SCOTTY MEYER 5-9	26 DJ REGGAE RONNIE 5-9	27 BOBBE BROWN 12-4  RIBS & BEER 5-9PM \$9.99  EXIT LEFT 7-11	28 STATIC 1-5 Michael Trixx 8pm HALLOWEEN PARTY Costume Contest 9PM SHANE DUNCAN BAND 7-11
IGOR AND RED ELVISES 1-6 (SPECIAL EVENT)	30  HAPPY HOUR  4-7PM MON-FRI  \$2 BUD LIGHT &  MILLER LITE  DRAFTS, ½ OFF  WELL DRINKS,  \$2.30 FIREBALL	BOBBE BROWN 5-9	MICHAEL TRIXX is back! Oct 14-21-28	Try a Gilbert's "Boobie"	SATUR \$500 COSTUME Basket	OWEEN PARTY DAY OCTOBER 28 CASH 1st Place Prize t of Booze 2nd Place Gilberts Gift Card 3rd Place



**3RG MIAMI** Sun., Oct. 1 • 12-5pm

**MR STIX** & THE SPURIENCE Sunday, Oct. 8 1-6 pm

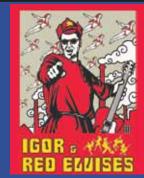


south florida classic rock **MR. NICE GUY** 

Sunday, Oct. 15 1-6 pm

THE REGS Sunday, Oct. 22 1-6pm





Sunday, Oct. 29 · 1-6pm