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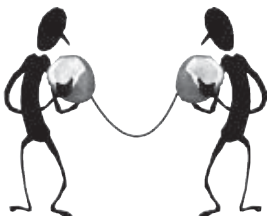
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Editorial: Rumors Run Rampant

“PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE DON'T DO THAT!” screeched a woman at a local watering hole where I had stopped in for a cold beer. “Do what?” I replied while looking around the room. Yes, it was me she was talking to.

Almost in tears she sniffled “I heard that you are going to stop printing the Coconut Telegraph and it will only be available on line! Please don't do that!” A couple of others in the peanut gallery piped in and said “We heard that too!”

“Don't get your panties in a knot, it isn't true,” I said. “Furthermore it is the Reporter and Keynoter who are going to stop printing hard copy on March 25th, not us.”

We at the Coconut Telegraph understand the needs of our readers. They like to have the paper in their hands or on the coffee table at home where they can share it with their family and friends. Many of them cut out the jokes or mail the entire paper to folks out of town. The Coconut Telegraph gets passed around and is also available on line at theconchtelegraph.com at no charge.

There is nothing so obnoxious as getting a news update online and the copy is shifting up and down trying to trick you to click on an advertisement by mistake. Then when you finally get it to hold still, it bleeps off and the entire page is filled with an ad.

Or, even worse they make you subscribe and pay for the news! That is what this world is coming to. Once the luxury of the printed newspaper is lost, there is no getting it back.

Heartbreaking, I say. Both the Reporter and Keynoter are/were great papers but printing them is very expensive. It is getting harder each year to compete and many papers are folding, pardon the pun. We at the Coconut Telegraph have kept our prices low and we struggle to keep our heads above water living at sea level.

One Key West online newspaper, the Blue Paper requests donations from the public to just stay afloat. We are in our 12th

year and hope to continue to print and distribute the paper for free in partnership with our advertisers for many years to come.

Reporter and Keynoter cease printing March 25th and the Miami Herald stops home delivery. —McClatchy Company.

THERE ARE

1,500 NEWSPAPERS

1,100 MAGAZINES

9,000 RADIO STATIONS

1,500 TV STATIONS

2,400 PUBLISHERS

ALL OWNED BY JUST SIX CORPORATIONS

AND THEN THERE'S

THE COCONUT TELEGRAPH!

The early part of the year is when all kinds of statistics are released, and we thought our Coconut Telegraph readers should know about these:

Doctors

(A) The number of physicians in the U.S. is 700,000.

(B) Accidental deaths caused by Physicians per year are 120,000.

(C) Accidental deaths per physician is 0.171

Statistics courtesy of U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services.

Guns

(A) The number of gun owners in the U.S. is 80,000,000. (Yes, that's 80 million!)

(B) The number of accidental gun deaths per year, all age groups, is 1,500.


(C) The number of accidental deaths per gun owner is 0.0000188!

Statistics courtesy of FBI

So, statistically, doctors are approximately 9,000 times more dangerous than gun owners!

Not everyone has a gun, but almost everyone has at least one doctor. This means, you are over 9,000 times more likely to be killed by a doctor than by a gun owner!!!

Out of concern for the public at large, we withheld the statistics on lawyers for fear the shock would cause people to panic and seek medical attention!




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