

Keys Kids Catch'em at the 21st Annual Derby

120 Keys kids, 10 years or younger, fished in the 21st Annual Keys Kids Fishing Derby on September 30th. Offshore, Shoreline or Backcountry and awards are given for three different age groups in each division.



Grand Champion Bryce Veath, 7 years old, weighed in the largest fish of the tournament, a 6.7-lb. Jack caught in the backcountry.

Most Outstanding Catch: Lyla Rohr with an estimated 4 -lb., 21" Bonefish. Lyla released a total of 3 bonefish to win a pile of prizes.

4-year-old Preston Walker caught a 1-lb. Snapper right at the docks of the Lorelei to win first place in his division.

The largest fish in the Shoreline 5-7 year olds was Delani Dean's 1.2-lb. Snapper. Alyssa Bonochea, age 9, released a 1.0 pound snapper to win first place in her age group.

Offshore winners were Eva McCadie, age 4 with a 1.7-lb. Mackerel; Cooper Slonin, age 7 also with a 1.7-lb. Mackerel; and Caleb Bokor, age 9 with a 5.4-lb. Tuna.



Photos by MJ Hudson.



Start 'em young!

The largest fish in the Backcountry division was caught by 4-year-old Julian Robertson with a 3.5-lb. Jack. Camden Goodwin, age 5, won the 5-7 year olds division with a 2.3-lb. Jack. Natalie Goodwin, age 9, won the 8-10 year olds division with a 2.5-lb. Jack.

The Keys Kids Derby's main purpose is to educate young anglers. This is the best day of the year, just watching these kids have fun catching and releasing fish. There are so many kids that get to catch their first fish! Thanks go out to Islamorada Fishing and Conservation Trust, the Islamorada Charter Boat Association, Jim and Mary Ann Bokor, Dr. Travis Bennett, and other local supporters. A special thank-you goes out to the local captains who came by to help the kids and all the volunteers, who did so much!



First fish of the day!

LOOKING FOR MUSICIANS!

Keys Community Concert Band



KCCB performs free outdoor Pops-in-the-Park concerts November through April.

Weekly rehearsals have just started! We rehearse Monday evenings at Key Largo School, 7:00-8:30 PM

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'Raise The Roof' Benefit Concert Starring Scott Kirby, Nov. 10



The Garden Club of the Upper Keys will host a benefit concert at the Murray Nelson Cultural Center, mm 102, Bayside Key Largo, Saturday November 10th from 7-10 pm. Come join us for a night of music, silent auction and refreshments featuring Scott Kirby, creative lyricist and accomplished finger-style acoustic guitarist. Proceeds will go to replacing the roof on the club's Francis Tracy Garden Center and are tax deductible. Donations \$35 and VIP (front row seats) \$100. Visit gardenclubupperkeys.org for ticket information.

Locals Team Up to Support Preschoolers in Key Largo

The Rotary Club of Key Largo has donated \$1,000 to help provide free child care for four and five year olds at Key Largo School.

The funds were a pass-through donation of unused campaign contributions from newly-elected school board member Sue Woltanski, who ran unopposed for District 5 of the Monroe County School Board, and will assume office in November.

"High quality childcare is scarce in the Upper Keys and I believe this program fills a vital need in our community," Woltanski said.

This makes life easier for working families, she explained. "The state only funds 3 hours per day but extended before- and after-care hours are a great example of a school serving its community's needs."



The voluntary Head Start program, also available in Marathon and two Key West locations, is open to children from low-income families who are not yet old enough for Kindergarten. It gives them a jump start at school success with pre-reading, pre-math, language and social skills.

"It was our honor to

assist Sue in making her donation happen by way of our charitable foundation. Key Largo School is close to our hearts and we've provided ongoing support to its programs for many years," said Key Largo Rotary president Jennifer McComb.

The Rotary Club of Key Largo donates a brand new book to the school library

every week, selected from the teachers' wish list and signed by a guest speaker. The club also funds incentives for students who exhibit good behavior. In total, thousands of dollars of supplies are donated annually, raised by club fundraisers as well as Rotary district grants.

The Rotary Club of Key Largo meets every Wednesday at 7:30 a.m., and now has a satellite club that meets on first and third Monday evenings at 6 p.m. For more info, visit keylargorotary.org

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

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