

Florida Keys Farm - The Simpson Family Farm in Key Largo

From where the old Red Cross building has sat vacant for years, and all the way back to the Florida Bay, sits 6 acres of land belonging to the Simpson family and their investing partners that is the Florida Keys Farm. They hold the only wholesale farmers market license in the Keys! Just a few steps off the main highway, you take a step back in time to old Florida, before all the prime properties such as this were leveled to make way for the hundreds of sprawling hotels that now inhabit this once peaceful chain of islands.

Farming in the Keys is perhaps the second oldest profession and it dates back to the 1800s in Monroe County. The wreckers farmed the land when they couldn't be at sea.

I was enthralled when



Vicki Simpson and the goats.

OJ Simpson (not the infamous one) gave me a half-dozen, farm-fresh, free-range, organic eggs from his farm in Key Largo to try. Farm fresh eggs are healthier than store bought as they have less cholesterol. The eggs were delicious and I was able to visit the farm at MM 94 and meet the family.

OJ's son Jonathan, who runs the farm, is also a general contractor who builds pump stations throughout Florida's agricultural lands. He holds two Masters degrees, in Finance and Real Estate. Jonathan introduced me to his mother, Vicki... several pregnant Nubian goats, and a slew of friendly chickens! One of the goats was ready to deliver at any moment. When she stood up and shook her backside

we thought "Here it comes!" but it was a false alarm - just another biological function.

The family plans to use goat milk to make soap and other products. Jonathan pointed out dozens and dozens of pineapple plants, and 60 bee hives, and then rattled off a list of all the organic citrus they plan to grow in the rich soil they compost. They have great plans for the future, including turning the old Red Cross building into a Farmers Market where other locals can bring their organic fruit and vegetables to sell. They also plan to grow hemp plants.

According to the Florida Department of Agriculture, Hemp can replace plastic and has over 25,000 uses! They will also give tours of the

farm to local school children. What an asset this is to the community!

However, although they don't have any cows it seems Monroe County has a "beef" with them and is causing such a stink that the Simpsons have had to file a lawsuit to stop the harassment. Florida farms are regulated by the State of Florida, who is behind the family 100%.

In the lower Keys the Townsend Farms have two locations, the primary farm is located at 1605 N. Roosevelt Blvd in Key West and the other at 3180 US 1 at Baby's Coffee. A private farmer in Islamorada has a commercial citrus grove across the street from Founders Park, and in Big Pine Key there is an old tropical fruit Grove called Grimal Grove. Why shouldn't we have one here?



Jonathan Simpson



O.J. Simpson (not that one!)



The old Red Cross building, future site of a Farmer's Market.

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 Sat., Feb. 15 SPUNK THE BAND 1-5 PM	 Sat., Feb. 15 SHADOW CREEK 7-11 PM	 Sat., Feb. 22 SOUTHERN STAMPEDE 1-5 PM	 Sat., Feb. 22 MAINSTREET 7-11 PM
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Running a free-standing clinic, Dick has noticed many patients improvement with Hyperbaric Oxygen (HBO) and Isobaric High Pressure Surface Oxygen for approved and non-approved indications (no insurance).

In addition to treatments and teaching, Dick continues to study and conduct research in the following focused areas: physiology of existing HBO treatments and treatment tables, Isobaric Surface Oxygen Therapy, Traumatic Brain injuries, and all other dysfunctional brain injuries, as well as leukemia, lymphoma, and

other forms of cancer.

Research is also needed for the misuse of medical antibiotics, for animal injuries, toxins, infections, diseases, health concerns of humans with animals aboard aircraft, restaurants, etc. Published papers are available for most of these subjects.

100% of donations made to this campaign will contribute directly to Dick Rutkowski and Hyperbarics International to provide Hyperbarics Therapy sessions and education at no cost to those who are in need. This has been ongoing on for 45 years, but your help is needed to continue.

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