

(E) ON THE MAP

Living Dockside and Furloughed

by Ginny Jones

Of Hurricanes and Absent Friends

And here we go! Yep, its June and we all keep our ears and eyes tuned to NOAA's Hurricane web site, hoping and praying to whatever we believe in to avoid any major storms. She Breeze is decked out in her summer finery, which means white vinyl tarps, she looks like Sally Field from the Flying Nun, remember the funky white hat?

Vinyl tarps vs. poly-whatever tarps. Vinyl is heavy duty, very strong and very guiet; downside, very expensive. Also cannot find locally, so I order online, and the forward one is on its last season, damn it! They are very necessary during the summer months, it drops the temperature inside by 10 to 15°, the AC doesn't have to work as hard, and it's

a nice place to sit during a rain storm. Just ask my cat, Coco. Aaahh, cat you say, didn't know I have a cat, did you? That leads into the absent friends part of the article. Chef Tourette's has left the island, the nickname due to his explosive temper; artists, right? He also enjoyed baking from time to time. Those of you who knew him probably have some of his yard art. He made concrete pineapples, you'll see the colorful things all over. He figured if 10 were good, 100 were much better, and have you seen the lovely concrete skulls all over? There were so many I started taking one with me whenever I went diving and found a neat place to put it under water. Then he went on to bigger things,

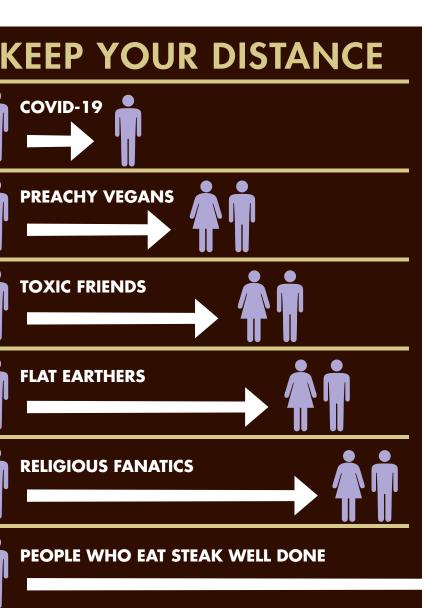
lighthouses. Not small cute desktop models; we're talking 6-7-ft. models! His mail box is a directional landmark, "just go down the street and turn at the lighthouse." Back to the cats, he was going to take Coco and Mouse with him, yes two cats. Mouse adopted his property long ago, and alas, he couldn't catch her the morning he left. Coco's been staying on She Breeze and she loves it. The thing is I haven't started the diesel up since she's been here. So I wait, until he gets settled in his new house and then make a road trip with the cats. Wish me luck on that trip!

So I and my lovely She Breeze wait patiently to get back out there and furl or unfurl the sails, I've always



been confused about that term. So I'll hoist the mainsail and let loose the jib and release the Kraken!

Wait, that's another movie! I'll see you out there when I am catless and free to go furl or unfurl my sails and try to stuff the damn Kraken back in his cage!



Why Grandfathers Are Special

Have you ever wondered what the difference is between Grandmothers and Grandfathers? Well, here it is:

There was this loving grandfa ther who always made a special effort to spend time with his son's family on weekends.

Every Saturday morning he would take his 5-year-old grandson out for a drive in the car for some quality time -- pancakes, ice cream, candy-just him and his grandson.

One particular Saturday, however, he had a bad cold and really didn't feel like being up at all. He knew his grandson always looked forward to their drives and would be disappointed.



Luckily, his wife came to the rescue and said that she would take their grandson for the drive and breakfast. When they returned, the little boy anxiously ran upstairs to see her Grandfather who was still in bed.

"Well, did you enjoy your ride with Grandma?" he asked.

"Not really, Papa, it was really boring. We didn't see any communists, pieces of crap, horse's asses, stupid bastards, idiots, dipshits, or son of a bitches anywhere we went!"

Almost brings a tear to your eye, doesn't it?