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

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Attractions

Musician's Relief Fund and
the Keys Disease

Critters in Our Midst:
Key Largo Woodrat
by Carol Ellis

What's Hot & What's Not

Matecumbe Historical Trust
Labor Day Service

Ladies Let's Go Fishing
No Yelling School

Maps


Key Largo Locator Map Page
Getting from Here to There

All the Buzz

Coco-Nut Funnies
Business in the Keys
Conch Characters
Classifieds
Daily OM



The endangered Key Largo Woodrat is the focus of Carol Ellis' article this month. This stunning and rare photo was captured by Clay DeGayner. The Woodrat faces yet another threat from the invasive python population.



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Calusa Indians, Spaniards, wreckers, pirates, farmers, Bahamian fisherman, Conchs, homesteaders, hermits, land developers, the U.S. Government, collectors and conservationists have all laid claim to the Upper Keys. Each in

their own way have left their mark. US1, the main route to the Florida Keys, contained the tourism and development for those seeking an exotic world of tropical adventure, and spared North Key Largo

from much attention. I arrived in the Florida Keys in 1984 in my red Pinto station wagon containing all my belongings, including a windsurfer strapped to the roof. I took a left at the intersection of US1 and CR

"Collapsed Conch Cottage in 2022" Carol Ellis Photo. With Ralph's help, it became a productive nesting site containing multiple woodrat nests.

and the acquisition of Port Bougainville by the State of Florida in 1982 were pivotal events securing the future of a natural N. Key Largo. The CLNWR is home to the endangered Key Largo woodrat, Key Largo cotton mouse, Stock Island tree snail, Schaus' swallowtail butterfly and American Crocodile.

There are many misconceptions about one of the protected species: the Key Largo woodrat. Very dissimilar from the black rat, the Key Largo woodrat is a nocturnal animal, that lives away from humans in the hammocks of North Key Largo. The woodrat is greyish

Key Largo Woodrat CONTINUED



"Conch Cottage in 2008 | Ralph DeGayner" Carol Ellis Photo. A two-room cottage belonging to an early settler prior to its collapse in 2011.

Some people see black rats like the ones attacking a bird feeder, and claim they are woodrats. A woman seated at the local bar was overheard saying: "I don't understand why the government is building houses for those rats in N. Key Largo". Her vision of woodrats occupying a three room dollhouse, complete with front porch, and a tin roof, is totally false.

Yes folks, they walk among us. Prior to the 1980s, on both sides of CR-905 there were wheel-worn finger roads, about six ft. wide and as high as a pick-up truck, etched in the coral rock. These roads of formerly platted subdivisions became the dumping grounds for old refrigerators, discarded vehicles and construction debris. With public acquisition came cleaning up of the trash, some of which included piles of sticks indicative of nesting Key Largo woodrats.

Ralph and Clay DeGayner signed on to volunteer at the refuge because they wanted to see a woodrat. They became curious as to why the woodrats were not piling sticks, but instead making homes in the hollowed out bases of trees and under debris.

It became obvious that supplemental nests were needed. Ralph's idea of using discarded jet skis as nests was frowned upon by researchers, however he persisted, and jet skis were hauled into the woods, and covered with natural materials such as coral rock and tree debris. When they began working as nesting sites, Ralph says "some of my

best breeders," it changed everyone's minds.

Rodents are at the bottom of the food chain and their natural predators include snakes and raptors, along with non-native predators such as feral cats, and Burmese Python. Cameras were placed in the nests, which provided researchers with valuable information pertaining to reproduction, and what predators were in the vicinity, and eventually implicated feral cats as a major predator, attracted by the commotion the woodrats made while building their stick nests.

CAROL ELLIS has lived in South Florida her entire life and Key Largo for 37 years.

She has a degree in Journalism from the University of Florida and is the resident photographer/artist at Ocean Reef Club.



"Jet Ski Supplemental Nest" - Carol Ellis Photo. Supplemental nests constructed with a jet ski covered by natural materials such as coral rock and tree debris. I

Ralph, born during the Great Depression, dedicated two decades of his life toward improving a habitat, that during his lifetime was nearly destroyed, so that a future generation could see a woodrat. Ralphs most memorable moment as a volunteer, came while spending time with conservation icon Jane Goodall, visiting thriving woodrat nests in the hammocks. After the visit, Goodall wrote: "a small group of dedicated persons, even volunteers with little scientific training, can help turn around an extinction event just by persisting in intelligent efforts."

Personally, I am not particularly bothered if I see an actual woodrat in my lifetime; I am just reassured by the passionate efforts of many to ensure their survival.



"Bug in the Woods" - Carol Ellis Photo. Roads of formerly platted subdivisions along CR-905, became the dumping grounds for old, discarded vehicles.

RATS OF NORTH AMERICA

NORWAY RAT (aka Brown Rat)

Color: Black or brown, with a lighter gray or brown underside.

Appearance: Ranging anywhere from 15 to 20 inches total, including the tail. Short ears.

Diet: Norway rats will eat nearly anything they can get their paws on. This includes small birds, eggs, all types of plants and small invertebrates.

ROOF RAT (aka Ship Rat, Brown Rat)

Color: Black, medium or light brown with a lighter underside.

Appearance: About 5 to 7 inches long, with a tail that measures up to 8 inches. Long ears.

Diet: Seeds, fruit, stems, leaves, insects, and small animals such as birds. Especially attracted to dog and cat food left out for pets.

WOODRAT (aka Pack Rat)

Color: Typically grayish-brown.

Appearance: Woodrats have a distinctively rat-like appearance, with a long tail, large ears and big black eyes. Their size varies depending on their location.

Diet: Seeds, nuts, leaves, berries, twigs, insects, birds, small mammals, and more.

MARSH RICE RAT

Color: Usually gray to grayish brown, with the head a bit lighter, and the underbelly and feet are often off-white.

Appearance: Medium-sized, with a total length of up to 12 inches.

Diet: Green vegetation, fungus, rice, and marsh grasses, as well as insects, snails, fish, and even fiddler crabs.



"Key Largo Woodrat" - Clay DeGayner Photo. The woodrat is greyish brown, with a hairy tail and big ears; it resembles a mouse.

905 and headed northeast, eventually ending up in a small conch cottage in Gulfstream Shores named "Somewhere Else." It was in the middle of future conservation lands.

The establishment of Crocodile Lake NWR in 1980,

brown, with a hairy tail, big ears and resembles a mouse. The black rat, a nuisance species, has a long scaly tail and is found in populated areas, around dumpsters, or even in your tool shed or attic.

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Anglers To Learn Plus Tackle Fishing at Keys Oct. 7-9 Ladies, Let's Go Fishing No-Yelling School

Ladies will be learning from the pros in Islamorada and Tavernier, FL plus there will be fishing, rigging, conservation and a fun Fishing Fever competition for beginners!

Aspiring anglers can learn, practice skills and go fishing at the award-winning "Ladies, Let's Go Fishing!®" Keys University and Fishing Fever Tournament, Oct. 7-9 in the Sport Fishing Capital of the World. Hosted by the nonprofit Ladies Let's Go Fishing Foundation, the "No-Yelling School of Fishing" offers classroom presentations, two networking events, hands-on skill practice and optional charter boat fishing. Classes will be held at the waterfront Elks Lodge in Tavernier. No equipment or experience is necessary.

Optional offshore or inshore charter fishing out of Islamorada, FL is offered on Friday and Sunday with prizes awarded for the LLGF Fishing Fever tournament. Participants can also choose to fish from their own boats.

Activities launch Friday evening with a networking social. Saturday morning indoor presentations begin, covering Offshore, Inshore and Bottom Fishing, plus Fishing Basics and Conservation. Speakers include Captains Lee Lavery, Jeanne Towne and more. Setting this program apart from typical fishing classes are the hands-on fishing activities taught by several guides for releasing, knot tying, dehooking, bait rigging, spin casting, cast netting and more. A second networking party will be held afterwards at Sea-side Glassworks.

(L-R) Doghouse with Capt. Jesse Cromer Friday – Robin Christian, Sanibel, FL; Robin Hinote, Avon Park, FL; Sherry Strickland, Punta Gorda, FL. Lizette Leiter, Miami, FL and Shelley Hughes, North Fort Myers, FL.

(L-R) Julie Duncan, Pinecrest, FL; Dawn Miller, Punta Gorda, FL; Lori Limberg, Odell, IL; Donna Langston, Satellite Beach, FL (in back) on Capt Chris Hanson's Scales2Tails.

Graduates of Ladies Let's Go Fishing Florida Keys 2021 from several states.

Sea Horse Sunday: Capt. Rick Rodriguez: Holly Smith, Key Largo, FL; Donna Langston, Satellite Beach, FL; Diane Odell, Cocoa Beach, FL; Meghan Brunelli, Islamorada, FL; Lizette Leiter, Miami, FL; Dawn Miller, Punta Gorda.

269 fish were caught at the 2021 Fishing Fever event, including mahi, tuna, wahoo, snook, redbfish, trout and a first-ever sailfish release.

Featured on national network television and more, the series is supported by major partners. Class-specific contributors are listed on the website.

Online early registration rate is \$125 per person. Regular entry is \$145. VIP registration of \$180 offers special gifts and discounts. The registration fee includes instruction, the use of equipment, a welcome reception, lunch, Saturday party and \$20 in gifts. Reservations made far in advance are recommended. The host hotel is Breezy Palms Resort, Islamorada, FL. The Tavernier Elks Club is located at 92600 Overseas Hwy, Tavernier, FL 33070, MM 92 Bayside. Ladies may register a male guest or teens to include the family.

Upcoming 2022 LLGF events, with optional or included fishing are:

Sept. 23-24 Guy Harvey Outpost Bass Seminar & Tournament Camp Mack, Lake Wales, FL.

Oct. 7-9 Keys Saltwater Weekend Seminar, fishing and Fishing Fever tourney Islamorada, FL.

Nov. 19-20 St. Augustine Surf Fishing Academy and Night of Lights tour.


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do years from now, we now want to do asap! If you want a hands on, try before you buy experience, we highly recommend the experience on License to Chill."

Liz Hilton 3/30/2022

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Tuesday, September 6, 2022, 9-11 AM
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Membership Meeting & Garden Tour
Tuesday, September 20, 2022, 11 AM
Speaker: Jason L. Downing, PHD/Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Topic: Million Orchid Project

Fall Festival 2022
Saturday, November 12, 2022

Garden Walk 2023
Saturday, February 18, 2023

see info on monthly Cleanup Days and Meetings at www.gardenclubupperkeys.org

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Image of Poeppig's Rosemallow from the Francis Tracy Gardens by photographer Louise Lindsay

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God & The Settlers

This is why we have pearock.

GOD to ST. FRANCIS: Frank , you know all about gardens and nature. What in the world is going on down there on the planet? What happened to the sea oxeeye, Passion flower vine, mangroves and stuff I started eons ago? I had a perfect no-maintenance garden plan. Those plants grow in any type of soil, withstand drought and salt air, and multiply with abandon. The nectar from the long-lasting blossoms attracts butterflies, honey bees and flocks of song-birds. I expected to see a vast garden of colours by now. But, all I see are these green and white rectangles.

St. FRANCIS: It's the tribes that settled there, Lord, from all over North America. They started calling your flowers 'weeds' and went to great lengths to kill them and replace them with grass.

GOD: Grass? But, it's so boring. It's not colourful. It doesn't attract butterflies, birds and bees; only sandspurs and chinch bugs. It's sensitive to salt and drought. Do these settlers

really want all that grass growing there?

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently so, Lord. They go to great pains to grow it and keep it green. They pamper it by fertilizing grass and poisoning any other plant that crops up in the lawn.

GOD: The rains and warm weather probably make grass grow really fast. That must make the settlers happy.

ST. FRANCIS: Apparently not, Lord. As soon as it grows a little, they cut it-sometimes twice a week.

GOD: They cut it? Do they then bale it like hay?

ST. FRANCIS: Not exactly, Lord. Most of them rake it up and put it in bags.

GOD: They bag it? Why? Is it a cash crop? Do they sell it?

ST. FRANCIS: Just the opposite. They pay to throw it away.

GOD: Now, let me get this straight. They fertilize grass so it will grow. And, when it does grow, they cut it off and pay to throw it away?

ST. FRANCIS: You better sit down, Lord. The settlers have created a new cycle. As soon as the leaves fall, they rake them into great piles and pay to have them hauled away.

GOD: No!? What do they do to

ST. FRANCIS: Yes, Sir.

GOD: These settlers must be relieved in the winter when we cut back on the rain. That surely slows the growth and saves them a lot of work.

ST. FRANCIS: You aren't going to believe this, Lord. When the grass stops growing so fast, they drag out hoses and pay more money to water it, so they can continue to mow it and pay to get rid of it.

GOD: What nonsense. At least they kept some of the trees. That was a sheer stroke of genius, if I do say so myself. The trees grow leaves in the spring to provide beauty and shade in the summer. In the dry season, they fall to the ground and form a natural blanket to keep moisture in the soil then rot to create fertilizer. It's a natural cycle of life.

ST. FRANCIS: After throwing away the leaves, they go out and buy something which they call mulch. They haul it home and spread it around in place of the leaves.

GOD: And where do they get this mulch?

ST. FRANCIS: They cut down trees and grind them up to make the mulch. And some settlers get so frustrated that they scrape away even the grass and create the white squares of pearock. When the small plants try their best to grow in these rocks, they poison them.

GOD: Enough! I don't want to think about this anymore.

St. Catherine, you're in charge of the arts. What movie have you scheduled for us tonight?

ST. CATHERINE:

'Dumb and Dumber,' Lord. It's a story about....

GOD: Never mind, I think I just heard the whole story from St. Francis.





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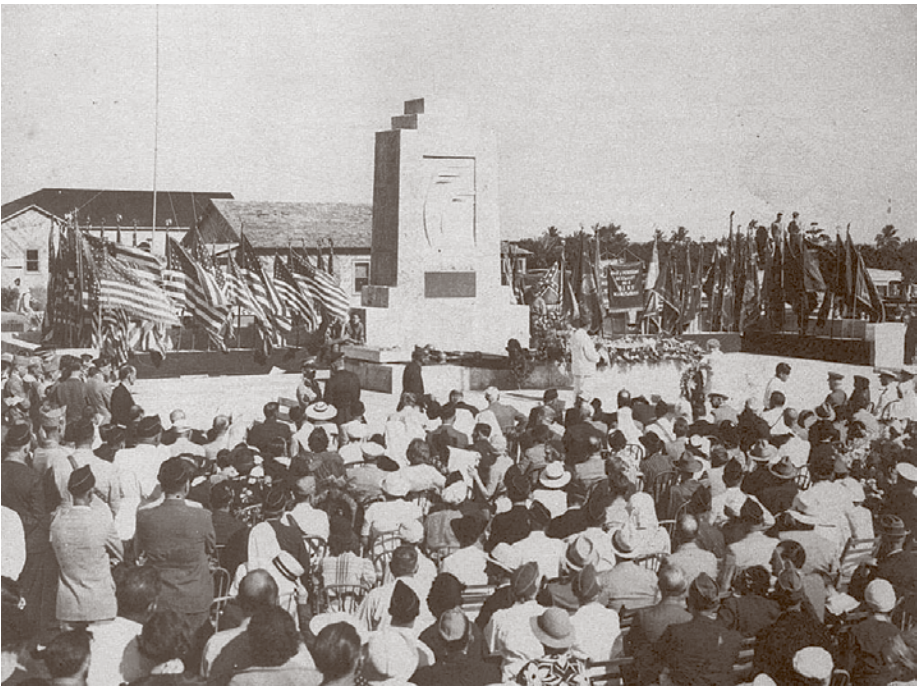
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Matecumbe Historical Trust Labor Day Service In Memory Of Those Who Perished.

The Hurricane Monument memorializes hundreds of American Veterans and local citizens who died in the Great Hurricane of September 2, 1935. After World War 1, returning veterans were promised bonuses but were not paid. As the misery of the depression overtook the country, many remained unemployed and large groups assembled in Washington in 1934, demanding their money. The newly created Federal Emergency Relief Administration offered the unemployed veterans jobs. Over 600 of these men came to the Keys to help complete U.S. Highway One, adjacent to the railroad.

On September 2, 1935, many of the civilians and war veterans perished in the 200



The 1937 dedication of the Hurricane Monument.

mph winds and huge storm surge.

Each year the Matecumbe Historical Trust holds a service to pay tribute to those who lost their lives.

The service will start at the Islamorada Hurricane Monument at mile marker 81.5 at 9 am. The service will include the introduction, Invocation, Presentation of Colors,

National Anthem, guest speakers, history of the hurricane, the laying of the memorial wreath, Taps, America the Beautiful, God Bless American, and the Benediction. Please join us in remembering those who perished. The Wreath is sponsored by Centennial Bank. For more information, please call Barbara at 305-393-0940.



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—Shel Silverstein



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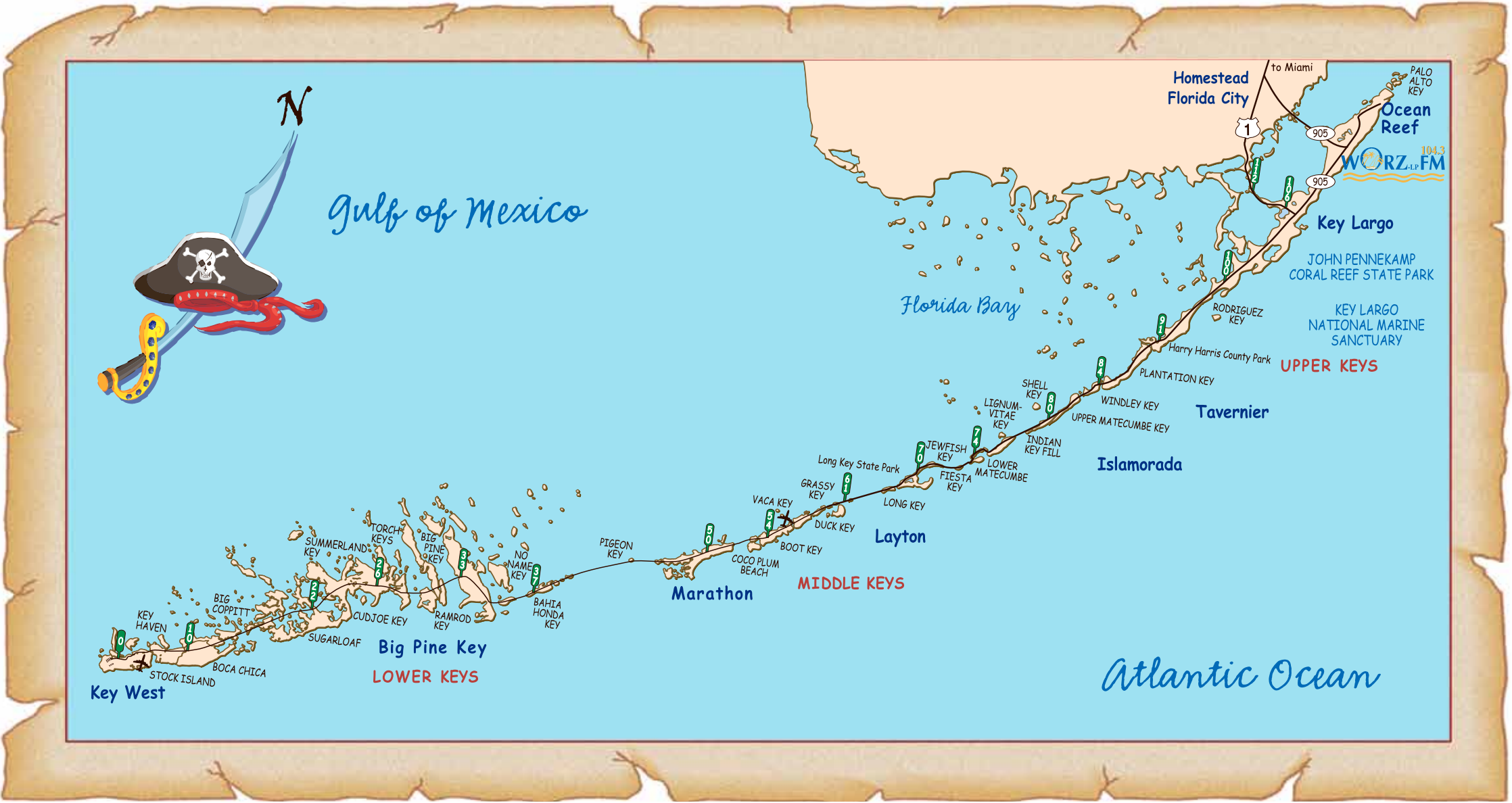
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Friends of the Key Largo Library

SEPTEMBER BOOK SALE

The entire month of September will bring old favorites and new authors for a (gently used) Friends Book Sale. Reacquaint yourself with "old friends:" Annie Wilkes, Clinton Tyree, Jason Bourne and others. Discover new friends that will entertain you over the next few months.

Take as many books as you like, and for a price you can't resist, just make a donation to the *Friends of the Key Largo Library*. If you donate \$10 or more you get a free book bag along with your choice of books.

The sale runs all month and new books will appear, so stop by weekly at the Tradewinds Plaza to get the fresh choices.

Key Largo Library is open Mon/Tue/Thu/Fri - 9-6; Wed 9-8; Sat 9-5. (Friends of the Key Largo Library fundraises to supplement and support community programs at the library.)

The Mystical Power of Moonstone

Throughout the world, moonstones have been imbued with mystical properties that help us align with the magic of the moon.

Moonstones, gems named for their resemblance to the familiar glowing orb in the night sky, offer us more than mere beauty. Their association with moon goddesses throughout the world may explain why moonstones' qualities seem to reach out to assist all those who find themselves under the moon's light, from travelers and those at sea to lovers and dreamers. Throughout the world, moonstones have been imbued with mystical properties that extend the fabled powers of the moon into daylight hours. In India, they are thought to give sweet, beautiful dreams by night but have gained a reputation for enhancing intuitive sensitivity and spiritual vision of the "third eye" at any time of the day. This connection to the subconscious was also recognized in the Middle Ages in Europe, where it was believed that gazing into a

moonstone would cause you to fall into a deep sleep that allowed you to see the future. This extends to the power of fertility, where in Arabia, women sew moonstones into their garments to enhance their fertility. This association with fertility even extends to the fertility of crops, which is why moonstone amulets have been seen hanging in fruit trees before harvest. To further enhance the power of your moonstone, try putting them outside in the light of the full moon. Moonstones, sometimes likened to a raindrop or tear, have long reminded people in Asia that the moon cannot be seen during the rain, just as it is difficult to see through our tears. By bringing love and abundance into our lives today and helping us to see the future, moonstones allow us to bring the hope of all good things into our lives.

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

REST IN PEACE

Mike Rand

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

HAPPY HOUR - Daily 4:30-6:30 pm
LIVE MUSIC - Friday & Saturday nights from 5:00-9:00 pm
LOCALS DAY - Use your Pilot's License all day Wednesday for your discount and rewards
PRIME RIB DINNER - Make Thursday your #datenight \$28.95
SUNDAY - WATCH ALL YOUR NFL GAMES ON 15 TVs!

Dine-in or Take-out

12 Beers ON TAP Full Wine SELECTION

Locals Day Wednesday

Ask about our Daily Throw Back Specials!!!

Feed the fish! KID & PET FRIENDLY!

MM 99.6 Oceanside

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UPPER KEYS SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

This fundraiser is in lieu of sending students home with the task of selling door-to door, collecting money, and delivering goods. Please help us avoid that by supporting our PTA with your donation, and helping us achieve our goals to support our students and faculty.

Thank you in advance for your support!

___ \$15 I do not want to bake, so here is the money I would have spent on those cupcakes.

___ \$25 I do not want to hit up friends, family, and co-workers, so here is the money I would have spent buying wrapping paper.

___ \$50 I do not want to walk, swim or run in any activity that has the word "thon" in it. Here's the money I would have spent on my child's "free" t-shirt.

___ \$75 I don't want to attend any fancy balls, so here is the money I would have spent on a new outfit.

___ \$100 I really wouldn't have helped anyway, so here is \$100 to forget my name.

\$_____ I am making this donation to express my appreciation for having nothing to buy, sell, or do except fill out this form.

Name _____ Phone # _____

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Happy Trails, Hippy Mike

PHOTO BY TODD LOLLIS



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[E ON THE MAP](#)

[illegible]

The Conch Republic
COCONUT TELEGRAPH

RATES

KEY LARGE MAP PAGE

Vertical:

2.44" wide x 4.5" tall
\$125 per month

Horizontal:

4.5" wide x 2.75" tall
\$150 per month

Bottom Banner:

9.75" wide x 2.75" tall
\$225 per month

Surprisingly Affordable!

The Key Largo Branch of the Monroe County Library System is hosting the following programs this month. All library programs are free and open to the public. Program funding provided by the Friends of the Key Largo Library. Visit KeyLibraries.Org for books, streaming movies, ebooks, and more.

Monroe County Public Libraries
will be closed Monday, Sept. 5
in observance of Labor Day.

KEY LARGE BRANCH LIBRARY IS LOCATED IN TRADEWINDS SHOPPING CENTER AT MM 101.4 OCEANSIDE.

September 1, 2pm - 3:30 pm
Great Decisions topic of the month: Xi's China takes on the Quad. Join us for America's largest discussion group on world affairs. Visit the library to read an informative article about the topic ahead of time. At the event, we'll watch a brief video on the month's topic before breaking into groups to discuss the most critical global issues facing America today.

September 14, 6pm The Island of Key Largo Federation of Homeowner Associations meets on the 2nd Wednesday.

September 21, 10 am-2 pm
Monthly free Legal Help for
low-income residents of
Monroe County. Call (866)
686-2760, apply online
legalservicesmiami.org or

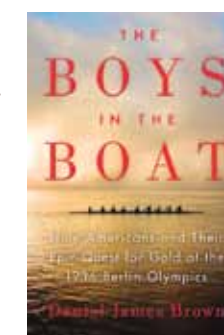


visit the library to pre-register. Sponsored by Legal Services of Greater Miami & the Florida Keys. Also Nov. 9 and Dec. 21.

September 21, 5:30pm The Keys Democrats meets at the Key Largo Branch Library.
Also Oct. 19 & Nov. 16.

September 27 Books on Tap
Join us at Keys' Meads to
discuss *Boys in the Boat: Nine
Americans and Their Epic
Quest for Gold at the 1936*

Berlin Olympics by Daniel James Brown. Copies of the book may be borrowed at the KL Library or Keys' Meads and returned to library staff the evening of the event. Drinks will be available for purchase. Light snacks & water will be provided.



Bookish Problem: Resisting the urge to pull your book out of your bag to read at social gatherings.



LEGO® Club
Mondays at 4pm.
Elementary-age children can be creative and build with LOTS of LEGOS. Work on your own creation or build as a team and test your skills with building challenges!



Storytime with Miss Haley
Tuesday & Thursday 10:30
am for ages 0-5.

Creative Tuesdays, 1-3 pm
Calling all Artists, new and experienced! Bring in items you are working on and help each other during this fun afternoon program. Sometimes a guest artist will have a project everyone can enjoy creating.



Wednesdays, 1-4 pm
Drop in for help
downloading library
apps to your smart
phone or tablet.

Learn how to download e-books and e-audiobooks; learn how to stream movies from Kanopy too. Basic computer help is also available. Bring your device and questions.

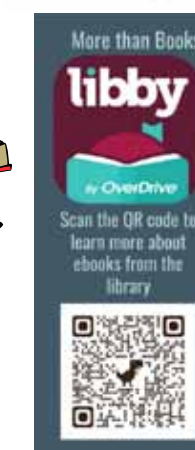
Quit Your Way -
Tobacco Free Florida

Wednesdays 1 pm hosted by
Beth Dunlap, RN and the
Florida Keys Area Health
Education Center (AHEC)

Sit + Sew



Fridays, 9:30 am - 1pm. Bring your sewing machine & current project.



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BARTENDER

American Legion in Key Largo has a bartender, part time, day position open.
Hours are 11:30am-5:00pm.
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No experience required but helpful..
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Dolphins Plus Bayside, Inc. has full-time and part-time Guest Service/Photographer positions available with benefits included. Responsibilities include taking photos of our guests during their encounters, making reservations and assisting our guests via phone and in person as they check in and out of our facilities. Dolphins Plus Bayside, Inc. is located at 101900 Overseas Highway Key Largo. Starting pay from \$13.50 - \$15.60 per hour. Apply in person, MM101.9 Bayside.

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**Position**
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The Key Largo Animal Shelter, operated by Humane Animal Care Coalition, has a full-time position open for an Animal Control Officer or Animal Caretaker.

The applicants must be energetic, flexible with duties and hours. Experience preferred but will accept an applicant that loves animals. HACC will provide the necessary training for the new applicant.



Salary based on experience/skills. Benefits include fully paid retirement program, paid holidays and annual leave; health insurance.

Apply at 105951 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, MM106 or call (305) 451-0088, ask for Marsha, the Shelter Director.

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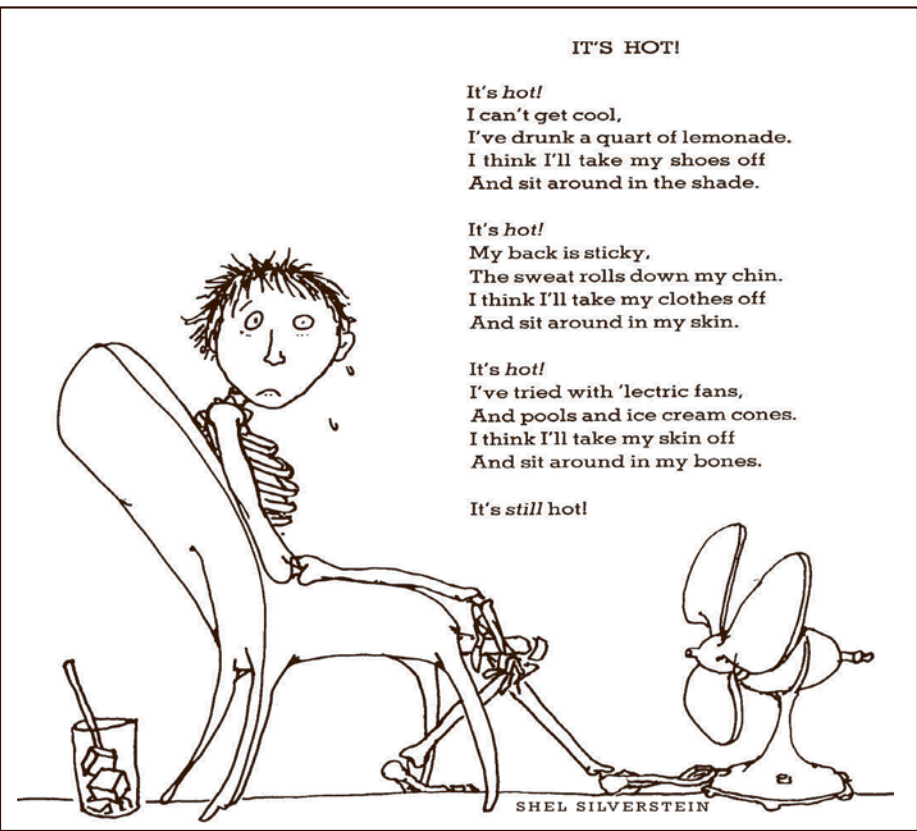
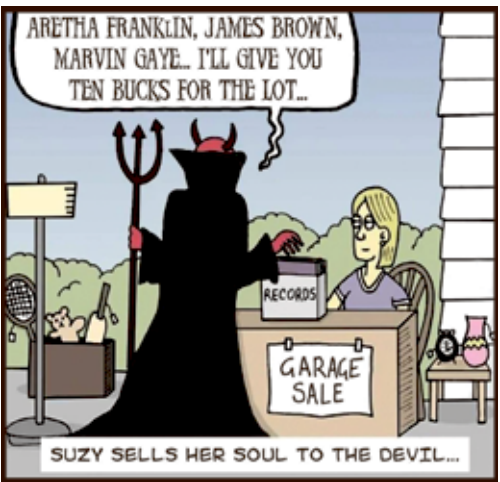


You can tell gas prices are ridiculously high when the dude in his lifted truck isn't rewiring the engine in the walmart parking lot during mating season



I get most of my exercise these days from shaking my head in disbelief.

Not saying it's really hot, but I was sweating so much I hydroplaned off the toilet seat and landed in the bath tub.



It's so hot today, I just saw a bird blow on a worm before it ate it.

Talk dirty to telemarketers. They will hang up faster than you.

TODAY'S HEAT INDEX IS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN OMG AND WTF



Coco‘Nut’ Funnies

A cougar went into a bar in Austin TX and saw a cowboy with his feet propped up on a table. He had the biggest boots she had ever seen. The older lady asked the man "Is it true what they say that men with big feet are well endowed?"

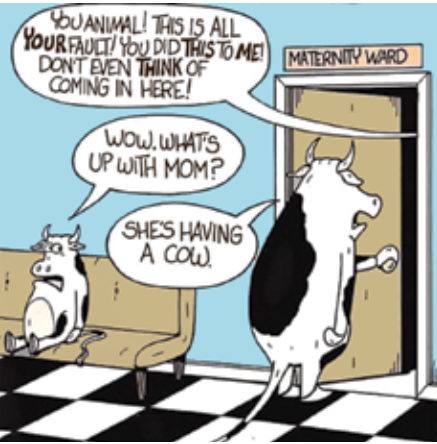
The man grinned and said, "Sure is little lady! Why don't you come to my apartment and let me prove it to you?"

The lady considered she might never get an offer like this again and was curious to find out for herself so she spent the night with him.

The next morning she handed him \$100 bill.

Blushing, he said, "Well thank you I'm really flattered...no one has ever paid me for my 'services' before!"

"Don't be flattered," she replied, "Take the money and buy yourself boots that fit."



The other day my neighbor, who is blonde, came running up to me in the driveway just jumping for joy! I didn't know why she was jumping for joy. I thought, what the heck, and I starting jumping up and down along with her.

She said, "I have some really great news!" I said, "Great. Tell me why you're so happy." She stopped jumping and, breathing heavily from all the jumping up and down, told me that she was pregnant!

I knew that she had been trying for a while so I told her, "That's great! I couldn't be happier for you." Then she said, "There's more." I asked, "What do you mean 'more'?"

She said, "Well, we are not having just one baby. We are going to have twins." Amazed at how she could know so soon after getting pregnant, I asked her how she knew. She said, "That was the easy part. I went to CVS and they actually had a home pregnancy kit in a twin-pack. Both tests came out positive!"



So sister Rita was sitting by her convent window one evening as she opened a letter from home: inside the letter was a \$50 note from her parents. Sister Rita smiled but as she continued to read the letter by what was left of the last glimmers of daylight coming through her window, she noticed a shabbily dressed stranger leaning against a lamp post in the street below. Quickly she took a piece of paper and wrote, "Don't despair - Sister Rita". She then wrapped the \$50 note in it and having got the man's attention, she tossed the wrapped note out of the window to him. The stranger picked it up and read what was on the paper. He looked up, tipped his hat and slowly made his way down the street and into the darkness. Meanwhile, Sister Rita returned to her letter hoping he would use the money wisely.

The following day, Sister Rita was told that there was a man at the main door of the convent insisting that he should see her so, she made her way down the stairs to see what the commotion was all about. True enough, she found the stranger, who she had last seen standing in the street, waiting for her. Without a word, he handed her an envelope stuffed full with \$50 notes.

"What's this?" she asked.

"It's your winnings Sister," he replied, "Don't Despair came in at 80-to-1."



A lawyer from Islamorada boarded an airplane in Miami with a box of frozen stone crabs and asked a blonde flight attendant to take care of them for him.

She took the box and promised to put it in the crew's fridge.

He advised her that he was holding her personally responsible for them staying frozen, mentioning in a very haughty manner that he was a lawyer, and proceeded to rant at her about what would happen if she let them thaw out.

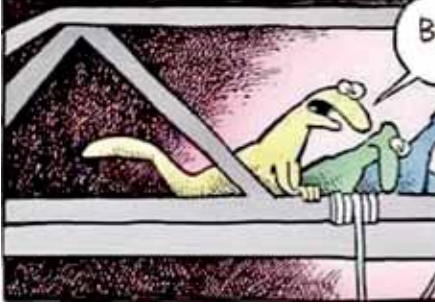
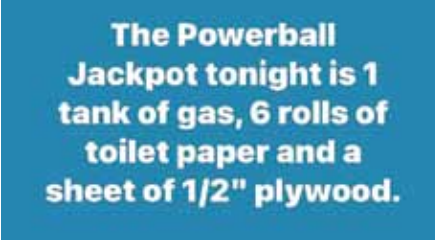
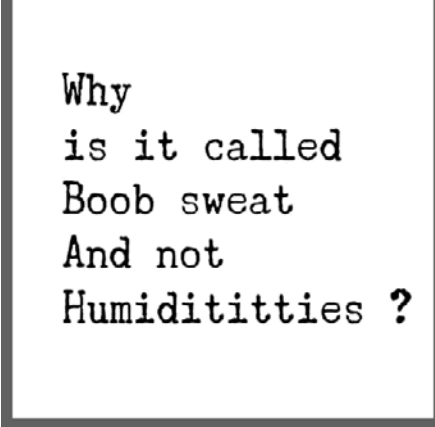
Needless to say, she was annoyed by his behavior.

Shortly before landing in New York, she used the intercom to announce to the entire cabin, "Would the lawyer who gave me the crabs in Miami, please raise your hand?"

Not one hand went up.... So she took them home and enjoyed them.

Two lessons here:

1. Lawyers aren't as smart as they think they are.
2. Blondes aren't as dumb as most folks think.



A text came in: Hi, Morris. This is Saul, next door. I've been riddled with guilt for a few months and have been trying to get up the courage to tell you face-to-face. When you're not around, I've been sharing your wife, day and night, probably much more than you. I haven't been getting it at home recently. I know that's no excuse. The temptation was just too great. I can't live with the guilt, and hope you'll accept my sincere apology and forgive me.

Please suggest a fee for usage and I'll pay you. - Saul.

Morris, feeling enraged and betrayed, grabbed his gun, went next door, and shot Saul dead. He returned home, shot his wife, poured himself a stiff drink and sat down on the sofa. Morris then looked at his phone and discovered a second text message from Saul.

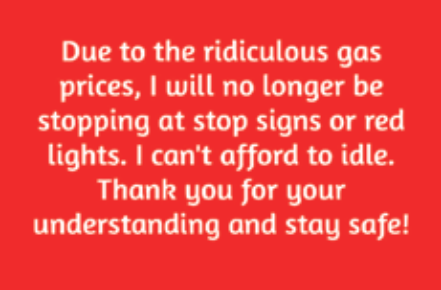
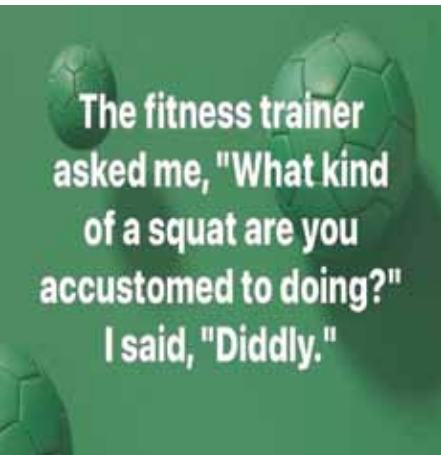
Saul here again. Sorry about the typo on my last text. I assume you figured it out and noticed that the darned autocorrect had changed "wi-fi" to "wife." Technology, huh? It'll be the death of us all.



"That's not what I meant when I asked you to spike the punch."

The son answers "Okay, give me 15 minutes and I'll be there." In exactly 15 minutes the son pulls up in a Jeep, Ten men jump out and beat the hell out of the expensive car owner.

Meanwhile the son walks over to his father and says "Dad I train Navy Seals not dolphins".



An old man with hearing problems crashed his car into a very expensive automobile. The owner of the expensive automobile jumps out and confronts the old man and says "Give me \$10,000 cash or I will beat you to a pulp!"

The old man replies, "Woah wait buddy, I don't have that much money but let me call my son, he trains dolphins."

The old man dials his son as he is about to speak the owner of the expensive car yanks the phone out of his hand and says "So you train dolphins, well your old man just hit and damaged my car, you bring me \$10,000 or I'm gonna beat the heck outta him!"

The son answers "Okay, give me 15 minutes and I'll be there." In exactly 15 minutes the son pulls up in a Jeep, Ten men jump out and beat the hell out of the expensive car owner.

Meanwhile the son walks over to his father and says "Dad I train Navy Seals not dolphins".

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.



Silvia



Frankie Oscar Felix



Rocky



Gilda & Gilbert



Madonna & Marley



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Humphrey



Shelley



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Leo

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Buyers agent is buying Vintage Costume Jewelry Call & leave msg. 305-304-2837

CLUBS

Florida Keys Orchid, Fern and Bromeliad Society meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the Key Largo Civic Club at 6:00pm. Open to the public. keysorchidclub@aol.com

FOR SALE

MY BOYFRIEND WENT TO JAIL SALE HIS LOSS, YOUR GAIN Tools, car stereo, dirt bike, electronics, CDs, drums, and more 305-555-SINGLE



I've found myself in a bind. I can't pay my rent and all I have is my prosthetic leg. We've had a good run but it's time to let her go. Serious inquiries only. 305-555-TEXT

OPPORTUNITY

SHAMED BY YOU ENGLISH? You can speak soon and write like a graduate college if me let you help for a day of 15 minutes! CALL 305-555-HELP

PERSONAL



LOOKING FOR LOVE Established gentleman. I own my own home. Hurricane proof, as long as it starts up. MM 110 - Stop by.

WANTED: Someone to hand feed me Doritos so my fingers don't get orange. No weirdos.

JOBS

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Conch Characters / Around Town



Alan Truesdell at the Big Chill. Photo by Dave Sheehan.



George Adrian Officer on duty for Jam night at the Legion.



Congrats to graduate Craig Beattie.



Post 333 Jam Band.



Full moon over the Big Chill.



Ukulele Joy practice session at St James the Fisherman Episcopal church.



Demolition of Kmart, preparing space for the new Publix in Key Largo.



Antique Car Show at the Elks to benefit the Musicians' Relief Fund



More from the Antique Car Show at the Elks.

VESSEL SAFETY

The USCG Auxiliary conducts vessel safety checks at Blackwater Sound Marina, MM 103.8 Bayside, every third Saturday of the month. Public welcome. 305-998-8400

Classified ads will not be accepted without payment.

THE KEY PLAYERS

Community Theater Group needs volunteers to work behind the scenes & audition for roles! thekeyplayers.org

MUSICIANS

Amateur & seasoned musicians wanted! The Keys Community Concert Band begins rehearsals in the fall. More info call 305-451-4530.

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Most MONDAYS • WEDNESDAYS • FRIDAYS at Sunset

This Month's Live Entertainment and Events at the Lorelei						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Lorelei can host private parties, weddings and rehearsal dinners. See our website for details.	"SUNDAY SCHOOL" \$3 Bloody Marys, Mimosas & Screwdrivers every Sunday, 7 to 11 am		1 Webb & Davidson 6-10	2 Shin Dig 6-10	3 Stereotomy 6-10	
	4 Davidson & Holt 6-10	5 Uncle Rico 6-10	6 Dennis Holmes 6-10	7 Davidson & Kingsley 6-10	8 Davidson & Stacey 6-10	9 Brothers Of Others 6-10
10 Abstract Radio 6-10						
11 Davidson & Kingsley 6-10	12	13 Dennis Holmes 6-10	14 Davidson & Holmes 6-10	15 Davidson & Stacey 6-10	16 Switch & Whisky 6-10	17 Spank The Band 6-10
					Michael Trixx @Sunset	
18 Davidson & Holt 6-10	19 Michael Trixx @Sunset	20 Dennis Holmes 6-10	21 Davidson & Holmes 6-10	22 Davidson & Kimball 6-10	23 Michael Trixx @Sunset	24 Christopher Dean Band 6-10
			Michael Trixx @Sunset			
25 Webb & Davidson 6-10	26 Michael Trixx @Sunset	27 Dennis Holmes 6-10	28 Webb & Davidson 6-10	29 Webb & Davidson 6-10	30 Brothers Of Others 6-10	Waterfront Dining!
			Michael Trixx @Sunset		Michael Trixx @Sunset	



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