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2024

• H A P P Y • N E W • Y E A R •

Attractions

Critters in Our Midst:
Christmas Bird Count
by Carol Ellis

Past & Present:
The Key Largo Civic Club

What's Hot & What's Not

Rain and Roller Coasters;
Blog by Luke Sommer Glenn
KL Library Programs in January

Maps

Key Largo Locator Map Page
Getting from Here to There

All the Buzz

Coco-Nut Funnies
Business in the Keys
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Coconut Telegraph

January 2024
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Before You Pop Your Cork...

Did you know that Champagne corks can fly at 50 mph?

It's impossible to pinpoint just how much that tension-bursting "pop!" adds to the enjoyment of a bottle of Champagne, but human ingenuity has found ways to measure the speed at which a cork shoots from its mooring.

In 2008, a German scientist calculated that the average speed of a Champagne cork is just under 25 mph, though they also noted that 62 mph could be reached under the right conditions. Other sources, including the American Academy of Ophthalmology, have noted that champagne corks can easily go flying at around

50 mph.

This high-speed bedazzlement is the result of the way Champagne (and all sparkling wine) is created. Since that magical late 17th-century day when Dom Perignon discovered the recipe — and likely even before that — the beverage has been made by adding yeast and sugar to an existing base of wine. Sealed tight in a bottle, this mixture undergoes a second fermentation that produces its signature carbon dioxide bubbles.

That second fermentation swells internal pressure to 90 pounds per square inch — approximately three times the level of an inflated car tire. Upon finally achieving release when the

bottle's wire is unwrapped and its stopper nudged, the pent-up carbon dioxide not only ejects the cork at parkway-level speeds, but also generates supersonic shock waves that resemble those unleashed by rockets and jets!

Of course, such a violently ejected projectile needs to be handled carefully; while it's used to comic effect in movies, a poorly aimed cork can shatter glass and result in ghastly injuries like a split eyeball or detached retina.

Drinkers will want to follow safe-opening guidelines that include chilling the sparkling wine to reduce pressure, aiming away from the body, and gripping the cork while twisting the bottle.

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This juvenile Yellow Crowned Night Heron blends in with the mangroves where it lives.

With its cooler, dryer temperatures, winter has finally arrived in the Florida Keys and the time to get out and explore nature is right here and now.

With that in mind I signed up for the 2023 Croc Lake Audubon Christmas Bird Count, in its 5th year since becoming an official Count Circle. I was assigned to a group with an experienced birder and other volunteers to seek out and identify birds, keep the bird tally log, and photograph.

The Christmas Bird Count is in its 124th year dating back to 1900, when ornithologist Frank Chapman started the tradition of the Christmas Bird Count (CBC) that would count birds during the holidays rather than hunt them. Prior to 1900, a "Christmas Side Hunt" tradition existed, where hunters at a Christmas gathering would divide into teams, go out for an afternoon of killing wildlife, both furred and feathered, and return to tally up the dead carcasses and declare a winner. Can't really say anyone was the

winner, as the animals were not even intended for the dining table.

This was my second attempt at joining the CBC event. In 2022 I showed up ill prepared for the rainy weather, as we walked through wet grass, with now- wet feet. That and my new camera anxiety caused me to quit after only an hour. The goal is to arrive at 7 am, count the entire day, and finish about 5 pm.

So for 2023 I set out prepared. I had weather-

appropriate, lightweight clothing and closed-toed shoes, a waterproof backpack to stash my camera gear in case of rain, sunscreen, water, and I had the most important item needed - an inexpensive pair of binoculars recommended by Audubon. In 2023 again we had rain, in fact, four days of tropical squalls and daylong downpours preceded the count. The Sunday morning of the CBC, the weather was clearing, but rain arrived early. Our group decided to take a breakfast break until the rain cleared. Fellow volunteer and woodsman Jack rationalized, "If the birds aren't out in the rain, we probably shouldn't be either."

An organized group event such as the CBC, held annually

between December 14th and January 5th, is a great way to be outdoors and meet new people, and the count is free and open to everyone regardless of bird ID skill level. Don't worry about what you don't know, naturalists are very willing to share their knowledge with you.

Birding is a challenge for sure. Especially if you are not familiar with their calls, have poor hearing or don't know what you are looking at. I can check all of the above boxes! It was hilarious as the group would point out a bird that for the life of me I could not see.



Great Crested Gnatcatcher

That's normal, the bird has stopped moving, they assured me, look for the movement of the leaves. That helped, and when finally I saw the bird there would be a celebration.



As a novice birder, spotting a Tri-colored heron in its natural environment is exciting.

Christmas Bird Count CONTINUED *Photos by Carol Ellis except as noted.*



Piebald Turkey Vulture, a genetic mutation where they lose the pigment for feathers and skin. Photo by Jack Teasley

After finding the bird, raising the camera and getting in focus, I had to act quickly before the bird was gone. I guess that's why I have a lot of photos of birds flying away! The thrill of the hunt!

The CBC is a great example of citizen science, the practice of enlisting a large group of volunteers to collect and share data as part of a larger story. Our group, one of six in this year's Croc Lake CBC, sited 26 different species and 259 birds total that day.

Aside from organized events such as the CBC,



Yellow Bellied Sapsucker probes for insects on a hole riddled coconut palm trunk.

individuals can collect data on their own. Our group leader Chrissy told me she keeps track of the species of birds, and the dates they arrive to her yard. When I asked if she shared the info, she said it was more so she would know when to expect

time in observation. The weather's great and the birds are here. Grab a friend and take a walk outside at Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park, located on County Road 905, half-mile north of the



Ibis hang out in puddles formed by recent rains.

some of her favorite birds. My birder friend Harold encouraged me to enter data on eBird after my rare sighting of Black Swans in Key Largo this summer. He emphasized the importance of recording sightings, as trends show up over time, and are used to study the long-term health of bird populations.

The only way the CBC could have been more fun is if there were more people doing it. By the end of the long day, we were power walking the trails so we could get to all the areas on our list. It would have been much better with more volunteers to divide the territory up into smaller portions and spend more



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

Currently a Master Gardener volunteer, Carol has a degree in Journalism from the University of Florida and is the resident photographer /artist at Ocean Reef Club.



A pair of Red Shouldered Hawks drying out at Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock Botanical State Park after almost a week of rain. Photo by Bunny Bradov



Designated CBC areas In the Florida Keys are Dry Tortugas N.P., Key West, Lower Keys-Key Deer N.W.R., Long Key - Lignumvitae, Key Largo-Plantation Key, and Crocodile Lake NWR.



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Past & Present: the Key Largo Civic Club

The Key Largo Civic Club at 209 Ocean Bay Drive (at MM 99 Oceanside) was formed in 1950 and contributes much to the community. It is rich in local history. It began as the Rock Harbor Club, created through the efforts of the original members, mostly from the Port Largo area who built the building. The town name changed to Key Largo in 1955.

The Civic Club sponsored the organization of the present Key Largo Chamber of Commerce and then-president of the Civic Club, W.F. van Sweringen, became the Chamber's first president.

The Civic Club's purpose then, as today, was keeping the community informed on County, State and National issues and being a meeting place for locals to gather socially.

It took five years to get the club building erected with the efforts of the first pioneers who contributed materials and labor, as well as a loan to finish it. The women served many dinners to raise funds. Everyone brought pot-luck meals and then members paid a minimum for the meal.

In 1954 Commissioner Harry Harris designated the building as a permanent polling place, which today is Precinct 28.

The club sponsored through the Chamber of Commerce, the Key Largo Canal Committee, which envisioned the Key Largo Waterway and saw it through to completion at no



The present-day building is a busy meeting place for all kinds of community activities.

cost to the community of the Upper Keys.

The Key Largo Public Library had its start in the Civic Club!

The first Girl Scout group north of Key West met there, as well as several churches. St. Justins Martyr started there.

Key Largo Elementary School taught at the club until the school building was completed.

The Key Largo Garden Club met at the club and also landscaped the grounds in 1957.

Saturday BINGO, which was then called "LARGO," supported the upkeep and repairs on the building. Contributions to local charities were also made from Bingo funds.

The two lots adjacent to the building were purchased in the late 1960s and then were paved for a parking lot.

The kitchen was remodeled and air-conditioning was

installed after that.

The club also sponsored Pinochle and Bridge games.

In 1960 and 1965, major hurricanes devastated the Keys and the Civic club was used by the Red Cross as a Shelter.

Art classes were held in the building as well.

Today the Civic Club follows the agenda of the original club.

The hall is rented out approximately \$100 per hour for weddings, baby showers, birthday parties, the Orchid Club, the Republican Club, homeowners' associations, Sons and Daughters of Italy and various community fund raisers.

The Civic Club continues the tradition of yearly donations to local organizations such as the Humane Society of the Upper Keys, Hospice, MARC House, Good Health Clinic, Take Stock in Children, Center for Inde-

pendent Living, Monroe County Abuse Center and the Florida Keys Children's Shelter.

Membership dues are \$20 per year.

For more information contact Greg Bianchini 917-862-3979.

Schedule of Events

- Every Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 am Yoga
- Every Thursday Line Dancing 7:00 pm
- Every Friday Bingo: doors open 5:30 pm, starts at 7 pm. Food and beverages available
- 1st Saturday Full Breakfast 8 to 10 am, \$7
- 2nd Wednesday Sons & Daughters of Italy 6:30 pm
- 3rd Wednesday Show Me the Money 7:00 pm
- 4th Thursday Civic Club Pot Luck Dinner and Meeting 6:00 pm

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FRED'S TILTON HILTON - DOWNTOWN CARD SOUND ROAD

On the back of the shirt is Carol's original image of Fred's Place - the "Tilton Hilton." The restaurant, complete with slanting dance floor, blue crabs and cold beer, was located on the curve just across the Monroe County line, in the historic fishing village of Downtown Card Sound.

The photograph, taken in 1988 is a reminder of the once thriving community of nonconformists, squatters, and fishermen, who made their living from the surrounding waters, mostly by selling blue crabs. In its peak during the late 50's, this area was home to 100 residents, some who had State issued leases for "fishing camps."

Hurricane destruction, along with the politics of environmental safety, ushered in clean-up crews and by 2010, just a few wooden docks, and Alabama Jacks remain in Downtown Card Sound.

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The Darwins Ride Again!

Yes, it's that magical time of year again when the Darwin Awards are bestowed, honoring the least evolved among us.

Here is the winner:

When his .38 caliber revolver failed to fire at his intended victim during a hold-up in Long Beach, California would-be robber James Elliot did something that can only inspire wonder.

He peered down the barrel and tried the trigger again. This time it worked.

The honorable mentions:

A chef at a hotel in Switzerland lost a finger in a meat cutting machine and also he submitted a claim to his insurance company. The company, expecting negligence, sent out one of its men to have a look for himself. He tried the machine and he also lost a finger. The chef's claim was approved.

A man who shoveled snow for an hour to clear a space for his car during a blizzard in Chicago returned with his vehicle to find a woman had taken the space. Understandably, he shot her.

After stopping for drinks at an illegal bar, a Zimbabwean bus driver found that the 20 mental patients he was supposed to be transporting from Harare to Bulawayo had

escaped. Not wanting to admit his incompetence, the driver went to a nearby bus stop and offered everyone waiting there a free ride. He then delivered the passengers to the mental hospital, telling the staff that the patients were very excitable and prone to bizarre fantasies. The deception wasn't discovered for 3 days.

An American teenager was in the hospital recovering from serious head wounds received from an oncoming train. When asked how he received the injuries, he told police that he was simply trying to see how close he could get his head to a moving train before he was hit.

A man walked into a Louisiana Circle-K, put a \$20 bill on the counter, and asked for change. When the clerk opened the cash drawer, the man pulled a gun and asked for all the cash in the register, which the clerk promptly provided. The man took the cash from the clerk and fled, leaving the \$20 bill on the

counter. The total amount of cash he got from the drawer: \$15.

[If someone points a gun at you and gives you money, is a crime committed?]

Seems an Arkansas guy wanted some beer pretty badly. He decided that he'd just throw a cinder block through a liquor store window, grab some booze, and run. So, he lifted the cinder block and heaved it over his head at the window. The cinder block bounced back

and hit the would-be thief on the head, knocking him unconscious. The liquor store window was made of Plexiglas. The whole event was caught on videotape.

As a female shopper exited a New York convenience store, a man grabbed her purse and ran. The clerk called 911 immediately, and the woman was able to give them a detailed description of the snatcher. Within minutes, the police apprehended the snatcher. They put him in the car and drove back to the store. The thief was then taken out of the car and told to stand there for a

positive ID. To which he replied, Yes, officer, that's her. That's the lady I stole the purse from.

The Ann Arbor News crime column reported that a man walked into a Burger King in Ypsilanti, Michigan at 5AM, flashed a gun, and demanded cash. The clerk turned him down because he said he couldn't open the cash register without a food order. When the man ordered onion rings, the clerk said they weren't available for breakfast. The frustrated gunman walked away.

A 5-STAR STUPIDITY AWARD WINNER:

When a man attempted to siphon gasoline from a motor home parked on a Seattle street by sucking on a hose, he got much more than he bargained for. Police arrived at the scene to find a very sick man curled up next to a motor home near spilled sewage. A police spokesman said that the man admitted to trying to steal gasoline, but he plugged his siphon hose into the motor home's sewage tank by mistake. The owner of the vehicle declined to press charges saying that it was the best laugh he'd ever had and the perp had been punished enough!



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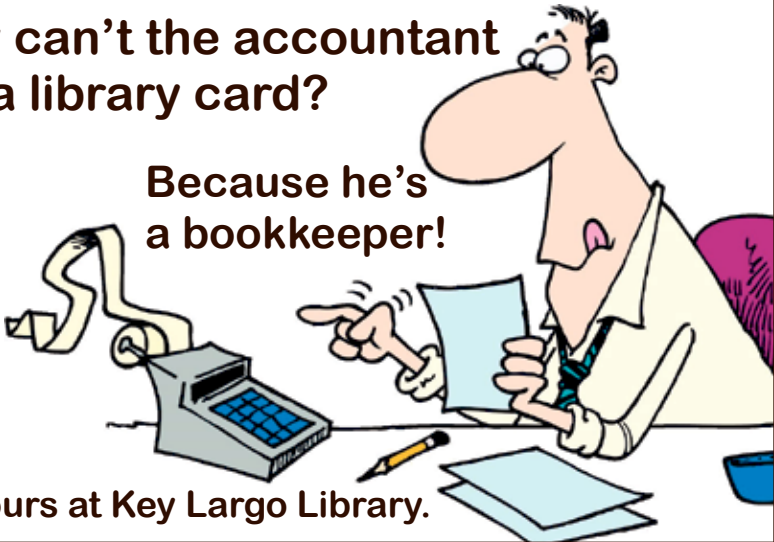
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Rain and Roller Coasters

A blog by Luke Sommer Glenn

Life is a roller coaster ride of twists and turns, ups and downs, bumps and sudden jerks. Just like the highs and lows of playing live music...

The other night we had all the fun and joy of emptying a 1-ton van, a pickup (spit) truck and an Expedition of all their contents... setting up the drums, lights, sound system, guitar and bass rigs... lasers, smoke and fog machines... Rock and Roll, Pickin' and Grinin', Boogie and Woogie.

We were finally standing on stage... drums checked, axes slung. Ahh... What we live to do... Over 100 years of combined "doing it for the love of playing" between the three of us... happy to have the blessing and privilege of a gig... the Holy Grill that makes or breaks a band, the paying gig... (I know it's supposed to be "Grail" but I can't drink anything worthy of a chalice these days... but I can still eat a few things!)

Then came the rain that wasn't predicted until 10:30PM, it wasn't on the radar when we started the 1.5 hour labor of love. At first the small crowd gathered for Sunday afternoon festivities stuck it out.

Steady Rain. The last of the hardcore party people finally gave in and headed inside... where, ironically, I had told the band the night before, we would be playing. What's that about goin' with your first instinct? As my Dad would point out I'm a dumbass.

I had even discussed it with my better half before I left the house. "Why the f**k would you play outside? We talked about that" she would later bemoan (thought I was going to say bitch, didn't ya?)

But Mother Nature tricked me with her beautiful skies and comfortable humidity. Luckily, it wasn't one of those gusting wind and blowing the rain sideways like a summer "pop up" storm.

It lasted long enough to make puddles in the sand and float the cat poop the kids didn't dig up back to the surface. We rush to secure our equipment, unplug everything, causing a sudden "CLUNK/POP" in the speakers (which is preferable to moisture causing a short circuit with SPARKS/SMOKE). We cover the speaker stacks with plastic...The rain drill, step one.

Over the years I've mother f**k**ed, c**k suckered, God-damned and generally called Mother Nature everything but mother. Ranting and raving like a crazed lunatic, it's a guy thing (though I have seen a few of our sweet sisters raising Hell).

I learned it from my father, just like the guitar. Yes, I am aware and I'm working on the issue...that's a whole 'nother story. Then I'm always sad and em-bare-assed afterwards. F**king roller coaster, man...

Any band/ karaoke/ DJ will tell you they get paid for humping the gear, doing the show is the fun part, but packing it up is the worst.

Luke Sommer Glenn is a local entertainer and Conch Character.

For more info:
www.lukesommerglenn.com



(Especially when you're shit-faced and wondering who the hell actually did the packing the next morning.)

From the high of playing for several hundred people to the agony of trying to dry wet, sandy cables and soggy equipment... the acrid smell of mold and mildew already overtaking the sweet smell of Mary Jane in the van...

I've always preferred in and out to up and down but such is life...

Peace and Love!



From the high of playing for several hundred people to the agony of trying to dry wet, sandy cables and soggy equipment... the acrid smell of mold and mildew already overtaking the sweet smell of Mary Jane in the van.



American Legion Post 333 - Key Largo

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life experiences. And when you finish writing, you may be surprised at what you have accomplished. You may surprise yourself with new insights, or you may find yourself exploring your roots, your identity, and your future through your words. Allow your writing to guide you and write as truthfully as possible. Don't worry about what others will think of your personal journey, your style of writing, or your words. As you write, remember to have compassion for yourself, particularly when writing about traumatic events. If you are a young person, you can add to your life story as you grow older. Your writing may help family members know you better, or they may understand themselves more through reading about your experiences. More importantly, you are expressing yourself in a permanent way, giving a gift to yourself, and letting your voice be heard.

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Save The Date For A Derby Extravaganza



Habitat's 2023's event was a casino-themed evening.

Mark your calendar to save the date for a spectacular evening of fun, fashion, and philanthropy at the Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys 21st Annual Cocktail Party. On Friday, MARCH 8, 2024, Habitat will host a Kentucky Derby-themed cocktail party/fundraiser at the Cheeca Lodge & Spa, to include Derby attired guests, food stations, dancing, live and silent auctions.

There are still sponsorship opportunities open for participation. Contact Lindsay Fast lindsay@habitatupperkeys.org or call 305-453-0050. Additionally, the Cocktail Party organizing committee is actively seeking contributions for the silent auction. Feel free to contact them at info@habitatupperkeys.org.

More information is available at habitatupperkeys.org, facebook.com/habitatupperkeys, or instagram.com/habitatupperkeys.

About Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys

Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys is the local affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International, an organization dedicated to the elimination of poverty and substandard housing worldwide. HFHUK is a 501c3 nonprofit that serves the communities of Key Largo, Tavernier and Islamorada in the Keys. For more information, please visit our website at www.habitatupperkeys.org.



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ON THE MAP

Key Largo

In Key Largo, we navigate by Mile Markers! Look for the little green signs and mile indicators on power poles to find your way.



Legend

- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Boat Ramp
- Mile Marker
- Point of Interest
- Dive Site
- Dive Wreck
- Swim with Dolphins

Map Labels: To Miami, To Ocean Reef, Card Sound Road, John Pennnekamp Coral Reef State Park, Carysfort, City of Washington, Christ Statue, Grecian Rocks, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, Spiegel Grove, Berwood, Mosquito Bank, French Reef, Alligator, Duane, Molasses Reef, Harry Harris Park & Beach, Mariner's Hospital, Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center, Bayside, BUTTWOOD SOUND, ROCK HARBOR, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 108, 905, Garden Cove, Adams Cut, Murray Nelson Government Center, Post Office, African Queen Community Pool and Park, Key Largo Public Library, Pennnekamp Entrance, Tropic Basin, Little Blackwater Sound, Barnes Sound, Jewish Creek, Little Buttonwood Sound.

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ON THE MAP

The Conch Republic
COCONUT TELEGRAPH

RATES

KEY LARGO MAP PAGE

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Surprisingly Affordable!

January Events and Programs at Key Largo Library

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 KeysLibraries.org for books, streaming movies, ebooks, and more.

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

SPECIAL EVENTS

In honor of Upper Keys First Responder Appreciation Week Jan. 8-14, the Key Largo Library will display three different Storywalks® at Key Largo School, Planation Key School, and the Key Largo Community Park during the month of January.

**January 2 and 16, 4:30 pm
LEGO Club**

Calling all builders! Be creative and build with LOTS of LEGOs provided by the library. Work on your own creation or build as a team and test your skills with building challenges! Jan. 2: Surprise Challenges & Jan. 16: Earthquake Challenge. Ages 6-11.

**January 3, 9 am-12 pm
1st Wednesday Plant Clinic**
Master Gardener Volunteers will be at the Key Largo Library to help with plant identification, disease diagnosis, insect identifications/problems, and other services related to diagnosing gardening and/or landscape problems.



**January 5, 6 pm
First Friday Concert Series:**

Grant Livingston, a Singer/Songwriter who has long been a Florida favorite. Named one of the "Ten Greatest South Florida Folk singers of All Time" he combines country-blues, swing, Tin Pan Alley and 1960s troubadour styles.

KeysLibraries.org/events
Facebook.com/KeyLargoLibrary
Instagram.com/KeyLargoLibrary

**January 8, 11 am
The Alzheimer's Association**
hosts a Care Support Group at the Key Largo Library on the 2nd Monday of every month. To register and for more information call 800.272.3900.

**January 10, 2 pm & 4:30 pm
Nature Explorers Coral Reefs Part 3:** Make friends with anemones, enjoy activities and crafts as you explore an array of coral reef themed activities for kids ages 8-11.

**January 18, 2-3 pm
Adult Craft: Decorative box.** What can you do with a plain square box? Paint, decoupage, trim and more will be provided. Registration encouraged.

**January 18, 1:30-3 pm
Feeding South Florida**
Food Collage and Cooking Demo - Yummy Yogurt: Join Carmen from Feeding South Florida to learn healthy food choices while designing a food collage. Afterward, you will get to make your own yummy yogurt. All items provided.

Come take a class!
The Key Largo Library has a variety of offerings, ranging from Arts & Crafts to Slime Time. Scan the code to see the complete schedule.



**January 19, 6pm
Friday Concert Series:**
Bing Futch uses Appalachian dulcimer, Native American flute, ukulele, and a board full of stomp-boxes to celebrate traditional and modern Americana music with passion, humor, and boundless energy.

**January 23, 6-7:45 pm
Books on Tap**
Join us at Keys Meads to discuss The Invisible Life of Addie LaRue by V.E. Schwab (Fantasy). Borrow the book from the Key Largo Library or the Libby app. Drinks are available for purchase. 99411 Overseas Hwy. Unit 6.

**January 24, 10 am -1:30 pm
Free Legal Help**
for low-income residents of Monroe County. Call (866) 686-2760 or pre-register online legalservicesmiami.org. Sponsored by Legal Services of Greater Miami & the Florida Keys.

**January 24, 2 pm & 4:30 pm
Slime Time**
Kids 6-11 can experiment with making snow slime and create their personal design with their home-made slime! All materials provided.

**January 31, 2 pm & 4:30 pm
Learn about the Iditarod**
then team up to tackle the Dog Sled STEM Challenge and other fun crafty activities. All materials provided.

The Key Largo Library will be closed
Monday, January 15 for
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

WEEKLY EVENTS



Story Time
Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:30 am for ages 0-5.

Creative Tuesday 1-3pm
An informal creative afternoon with fellow artists to connect in a supportive environment to inspire, rejuvenate, and encourage artistic growth. Bring your own painting supplies and finish your own art or participate in periodic organized painting activities.

Quit Your Way - Tobacco Free Florida, Weds. 1pm
Counseling and free nicotine replacement therapy. Hosted by Beth Dunlap, RN, Florida Keys Area Health Education Center (AHEC).

Tech Tutor, Weds. 1-4pm
Bring your device and questions to the Key Largo Library for one-on-one help.

Sit + Sew, Fri. 9:30am - 1pm.
Bring your current project and meet new friends.

KeysLibraries.org/events
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as you do a "to-do" list.

I told a joke
in a zoom
meeting
but nobody
laughed.

Turns out
I'm not even
remotely
funny.

**THE CAT'S NEW
YEAR'S RESOLUTION**

1. TRY TO GET 19 HOURS OF
SLEEP EACH DAY.
2. NURTURE MY INNER
KITTEN.
3. FOCUS ON GROOMING
THOSE "HARD TO REACH"
AREAS.
4. IMPLEMENT PHASE 4 OF
WORLD DOMINATION.
5. MAKE SURE THE HUMANS
KNOW WHO'S IN CHARGE
OF THE HOUSEHOLD.
6. GROW AND DISTRIBUTE
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Coco'Nut' Funnies

Eleven people were hanging on a rope, under a helicopter; 10 men and 1 woman.

The rope was not strong enough to carry them all, so they decided that one had to leave, because otherwise they were all going to fall.

They weren't able to choose which person, until the woman gave a very touching speech.

She said that she would voluntarily let go of the rope, because, as a woman, she was used to giving up everything for her husband and kids or for men in general, and was used to always making sacrifices with little in return.

As soon as she finished her speech, all the men started clapping...



the guy who invented constellations was like "see those 4 stars? that's a bear" and everyone else was just too busy trying to not die from the plague to fight him on it



I think senility is going to be a fairly smooth transition for me.



A man walks into the front door of a bar. He is obviously drunk. He staggers up to the bar, seats himself on a stool, and with a belch, asks the bartender for a drink. The bartender politely informs the man that it appears that he has already had plenty to drink - he could not be served additional liquor at this bar but could get a cab called for him. The drunk is briefly surprised then softly scoffs, grumbles, climbs down off the bar stool, and staggers out the front door.

A few minutes later, the same drunk stumbles in the side door of the bar. He wobbles up to the bar and hollers for a drink. The bartender comes over, and still politely - but more firmly refuses service to the man due to his inebriation. Again, the bartender offers to call a cab for him. The drunk looks at the bartender for a moment angrily, curses, and shows himself out the side door, all the while grumbling and shaking his head.

A few minutes later, the same drunk bursts in through the back door of the bar. He plops himself up on a bar stool, gathers his wits, and belligerently orders a drink. The bartender comes over and emphatically reminds the man that he is clearly drunk, will be served no drinks, and either a cab or the police will be called immediately. The surprised drunk looks at the bartender and in hopeless anguish, cries "Man! How many bars do you work at?"



A cowboy, who just moved to Montana from Texas, walks into a bar and orders three mugs of Bud. He sits in the back of the room, drinking a sip out of each one in turn.

When he finishes them, he comes back to the bar and orders three more.

The bartender approaches and tells the cowboy, "You know, a mug goes flat after I draw it.

It would taste better if you bought one at a time."

The cowboy replies, "Well, you see, I have two brothers. One is in Arizona, the other is in Colorado. When we all left our home in Texas, we promised that we'd drink this way to remember the days when we drank together. So I'm drinking one beer for each of my brothers and one for myself."

The bartender admits that this is a nice custom, and leaves it there.

The cowboy becomes a regular in the bar, and always drinks the same way. He orders three mugs and drinks them in turn.

One day, he comes in and only orders two mugs. All the regulars take notice and fall silent.

When he comes back to the bar for the second round, the bartender says, "I don't want to intrude on your grief, but I wanted to offer my condolences on your loss."

The cowboy looks quite puzzled for a moment, then a light dawns in his eyes and he laughs. "Oh, no, everybody's just fine," he explains. "It's just that my wife and I joined the Baptist Church and I had to quit drinking. It hasn't affected my brothers, though."



My girlfriend and I are trying this whole "long distance relationship" thing. I have to stay 100 feet away from her at all times. Also, the police say I should stop referring to her as my girlfriend.



No, I'm not a coffee "addict". I'm a caffeine-based life form and as such, I must honor the ways of my people.

[Sky-diving]
INSTRUCTOR: pull your chute!
ME: my shoe?
INSTRUCTOR: your parachute!
ME: my pair of shoes?
[later]
CORONER: where's his shoes?

My favorite part of attending a marathon is watching the reaction of runners who grab my plastic cup of vodka.



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Questions? Call 305-304-2837.

Classified ads will not be accepted without payment.

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.



Leo



George



Keynu



Tess



Jemma



Tiramisu



Salem



Autumn



Maple



Jett

Conch Characters / Around Town



The start of the Walk to End Alzheimers. Great turnout! Thank you for your support! alz.org/walk



Dinker Against Dementia

Dinker, the dog that won the Pet Mascot Contest at the Walk to End Alzheimers, is owned by Tracy LaPointe.



In the 60th Anniversary of the Islamorada Sailfish Tournament, Captain Brian Cone led anglers Mark Mitchell, Kenneth Padgett, Travis Bennett, Arek Wojcik and junior angler Andy Cone to victory with a total of 11 releases.



13-year-old angler Andy Cone released a second fish and won the Top Junior Angler award with two releases on the Trophy Hunter.



Yabba Dabba Doo angler Robert Richardson Senior won Top Male Angler and the Bill Hirni Memorial High Point Angler award with five releases in the Islamorada Sailfish Tournament



(L-R) Josh Werkert-Lane, Carol Ellis, Bunny Bradov, Jack Teasley, Christina Teasley, Chrissy Rydel, some of participants in the Croc Lake Audubon Christmas Bird Count.



Key Largo Moose officers proudly present the Florida Keys Children's Shelter with a check for Christmas Gifts from the Steak Dinner fundraiser. L to R. Deb Starcher, Shelby Baer, Ben Kemer Childrens Shelter CEO, Chef Clark Huff, Martha Huff and Maile Horn. Missing: Cathy Johnson.

LOR·E·LEI

Islamorada
Restaurant & Cabana Bar
MM82 at the Mermaid



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SUNSET
CELEBRATION!**

**Voted the best sunset
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Happy Hour

7 days • 4-6pm

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- \$1 off Bottle Beers
- \$1 off House Wines
- \$1.25 Domestic Drafts
- \$2.25 Specialty Drafts



Open for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner • 7am-10pm
Enjoy breakfast on the deck overlooking the water.
Enjoy lunch or dinner on the beach.



The Rockin' Magic of **MICHAEL TRIXX**
Most MONDAYS • WEDNESDAYS • FRIDAYS at Sunset

| This Month's Live Entertainment and Events at the Lorelei | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
| Waterfront Dining | 1 Carousers 5-9 | 2 Dennis Holmes 5-9 | 3 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 4 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 5 Jade Storm 5-9 | 6 Uncle Rico 5-9 |
| | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | Michael Trixx @Sunset | |
| 7 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 8 Carousers 5-9 | 9 Micah 5-9 | 10 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 11 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 12 Brothers Of Others 5-9 | 13 Abstract Radio 5-9 |
| | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | Michael Trixx @Sunset | |
| 14 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 15 Carousers 5-9 | 16 Dennis Holmes 5-9 | 17 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 18 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 19 Ego Free 5-9 | 20 South 58 5-9 |
| | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | Michael Trixx @Sunset | |
| 21 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 22 Carousers 5-9 | 23 Steve Venini 5-9 | 24 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 25 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 26 Trip Machine 5-9 | 27 Lime Rock 5-9 |
| | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | Michael Trixx @Sunset | |
| 28 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | 29 Carousers 5-9 | 30 Micah 5-9 | 31 Webb & Davidson 5-9 | "SUNDAY SCHOOL" \$3 Bloody Marys, Mimosas & Screwdrivers every Sunday, 7 to 11 am | | |
| | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | Michael Trixx @Sunset | | | |



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FISHING GUIDES based at Lorelei!

