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Attractions

Critters in Our Midst:
Raccoons by Carol Ellis

Coconut Telegraph Hurricane
Preparedness Guide

What's Hot & What's Not

Surviving Slow Season
Luke Sommer Glenn Blog

Maps

Key Largo Locator Map Page

Getting from Here to There

All the Buzz

Coco-Nut Funnies

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Conch Characters



An underwater photographer exploring the WWII wreck of the Benwood off Key Largo in the Florida Keys. Summertime is great time for diving! Check out Pirates Cove Watersports (page 11) to book your trip!

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Coconut Telegraph

September 2024
Volume 18 Issue #217
Prestige Publishing, Inc
101425 Overseas Hwy.
PMB #628
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Deadline
for the Coconut
Telegraph's
next issue is **Thursday,
September 19, 2024**

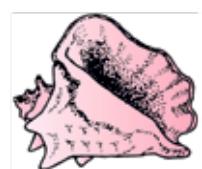
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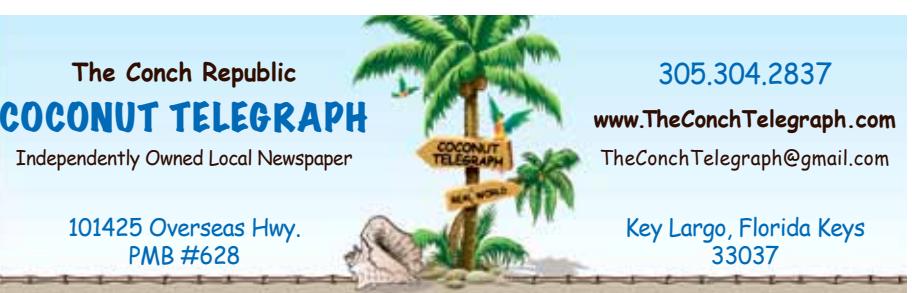
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AD RATES START AT JUST \$30 A MONTH.

Labor Day Service at the Islamorada Hurricane Monument on September 2nd

The Matecumbe Historical Trust will hold their annual Labor Day Service on Monday, September 2nd starting at 9am at the Islamorada Hurricane Monument, mile marker 81.5. Please join us in memory of the those who perished in the 1935 Hurricane and for the unveiling of the 1935 Hurricane Map.

The Hurricane Monument memorializes hundreds of American Veterans and local citizens who died in the Hurricane of September 2, 1935.

After World War 1, the newly created Federal Emergency Relief Administration offered the unemployed veterans jobs. Over 600 of these men came to the Florida Keys to help complete U.S. Highway 1.

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

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, Patriotic songs, the Benediction, and the unveiling of the Hurricane Map.

The Wreath is sponsored by Centennial Bank.

For more information, please call Barbara at 305-393-0940.



The 1937 dedication of the Monument.



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Criffers in Our Midst: Raccoons by Carol Ellis

Seeing a raccoon out during the day does not mean it is rabid or dangerous. If it is quiet, and few people or dogs are around, it may come out to forage for food.

I admit it. It was an innocent mistake, your Honor. I plead guilty of feeding the wildlife. It's just my spoiled indoor cats refused to eat the little crunchies of kibble left in the bottom of the bowl. It was no more than a tablespoon worth, but I tossed it onto the ground. I'm sorry.

I realized my error when upon return to the scene of my transgression, a giant raccoon was scratching the ground where I had thrown the kibble. This Northern Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) looked pretty healthy. Its fur was bushy and there were no obvious scratches. I stood in the shadows of the garage and watched from a safe distance as I didn't want the critter to take offense and come after me. It turned its head toward me; its brown eyes with black fur surrounding its eyes; the raccoon looked like a burglar caught in the act of stealing, in broad daylight no less.

Urban wildlife is not rare,

it's only difficult to see. Animals stay hidden during the day in nearby natural habitat or in quiet crevices around the home, then come out at night to forage. That's why we call them night critters. Proof of their work can be seen in the morning as shown by overturned garbage cans



Nimble paws and a keen sense of touch helps the raccoon find its food. The raccoon's scientific name is *Procyon lotor*, when translated means "washing bear." When a raccoon wets its paws, the water stimulates the nerve endings and heightens their sense of touch. Researchers found out a

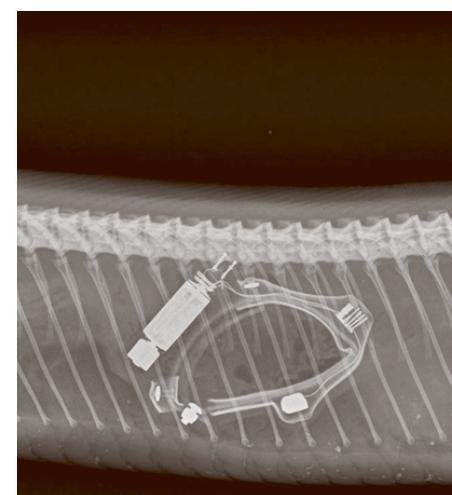
with the contents strewn across the driveway. My yard is a pretty happy, nutritious place for critters to live. There are lots of native plants and fruit trees, a pond with frogs, crawly insects, small lizards, snakes and nesting birds that all reside there. It is best to let wildlife forage naturally, but the crafty raccoon has adapted to begging for food in urban areas. Perhaps this raccoon's well-nourished state is courtesy of the resort's kitchen dumpster.

An x-ray image of a python taken by researchers in Key Largo shows a GPS collar that had been fitted on a local opossum. Photo by: Kelly Crandall

Since 1995 when the Burmese python arrived in the Everglades, there has been a decline of 85% to 100% of the population of medium sized furry animals such as raccoons and rabbits due to the python. When the python swam 25 miles south to their new hunting grounds in North Key Largo, small furry creatures such as the Key Largo woodrat

number of these animals with collars would go up to Ocean Reef and eat each night.

Researchers had a serendipitous discovery when in September 2022, a GPS collar attached to a possum gave off a mortality signal, which is emitted when an animal goes several hours without moving when it should be active. The signal began moving, and it continued to stop and then move again over the period of a few days. The researchers discovered that a Burmese python was responsible, as it had eaten the possum and the radio collar was now inside the snake. They changed the focus of the collared raccoon and possum research toward tracking python.



Raccoons... CONTINUED Photos by Carol Ellis, except as noted.



A group of raccoons on the edge of the woods. This black and white photo is very much how a raccoon would perceive the world, since their vision is rendered in greyscale.

began disappearing. Camera traps placed inside woodrat nests provided evidence when a python preying on a woodrat was caught on video.

Raccoons have few natural enemies other than man, and automobiles kill more raccoon than anything. Luckily for the raccoon, urban food resources do allow these mesopredators - medium sized carnivorous animals such as raccoon and possum - to occur at much higher densities than the



The base of a hollowed out tree provides a suitable place for a raccoon den.

natural environment supports, which could indirectly help them sustain some of the python pressure compared to that in the Everglades.

Animal survival success depends on how well they adapt to life with humans. The greatest concern with raccoons is the diseases and parasites they carry. Canine distemper and rabies will kill raccoons, and raccoon diseases can affect unvaccinated pets. The risk of rabies is small. The Monroe County Health Department, whose records go back to 2012, reports there have been no cases of rabies in Monroe County.

According to the April/May 1988 editions of The Ocean Reef News:

"The fourth case of rabies in two months occurred in Key Largo March 4th, 1988. Two confirmed cases determine whether an epidemic rating is issued. Rabies, or neurotropic rhabdo virus, has been documented in raccoons at mile markers 101, 99 and two cases at mile marker 94,



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.



This baby raccoon was seen high in a tree, its fur was still wet from days of tropical rains.

Key Largo. In each case raccoons approached humans during daytime hours acting erratically. Soon after, the animals were found dead and diagnosed in post-mortem as having rabies."

"Monroe County health professionals warn county residents to avoid all wild or unvaccinated animals and this, unfortunately includes squirrels. While many residents possess great affection toward squirrels and their antics, the very treat you present to a squirrel may act as an invitation to less desirable animals."



This collared raccoon was known as "Fighter" - he was covered with scars; a truly wild raccoon who never went into people-occupied areas, such as neighborhoods or the waste transfer station. There aren't many raccoons like him anywhere in the world. Photo by: Mike Cove



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The Coconut Telegraph Redneck Hurricane Preparedness Guide

With Hurricane Irma's devastation to the Keys a few years ago I thought it would be a good idea to remind all our readers that you need to be prepared for these types of predicaments.

Immediately after an emergency, and you have seen this time and time again, the first people to be up and running and rescuing others are the rednecks. It's not the Harvard MBAs that are pulling people out of flooded homes with jon boats. It's the rednecks. Nope, a fancy air conditioned, Italian marbled floored, mahogany paneled office full of accountants used to chilled lobster and martini lunches won't do anyone much good in an emergency.

When it hits the fan and there is trouble a redneck will always come out on top of the situation. What is their secret? Preparedness. And this is how they do it...

HURRICANE EVACUATION PLAN



1. GRAB BEER
2. RUN LIKE HELL

Booze: Hide the Budweiser and have a couple cans of Milwaukee's Best in case strangers stop by or you need to barter with neighbors. If you are too drunk to walk then take a kayak otherwise it will take you forever to get anywhere.

Food: Slim Jims and if you want to live large get some

HURRICANE TIP:

BEFORE IT STARTS,
WRITE DOWN ALL THE
THINGS YOU LOVE
ABOUT YOUR SPOUSE/CHILDREN.
IT WILL BE REALLY
HARD TO REMEMBER
AFTER 72 HOURS WITHOUT POWER.

mustard for dipping, beef jerky, pork rinds and anything that was on the table that the dogs didn't eat and won't go bad without refrigeration.

Boat: A true redneck has a boat in his yard for years at a time without ever using it once. That's because it's for emergency purposes. I highly recommend a two-stroke motor that will

always start after it's kicked a few times. Preferably that motor will be a Johnson, because jokes about your Johnson never get old. If kicking it doesn't work call Wheaton's, they can fix anything.

Pickup Truck: When a hurricane hits, it's certain that a redneck in a Ford F-150 that is held together with bondo and duct tape will be pulling your Lexus out of that ditch.

Dog: A dog will tell you if something is edible or not.

Hurricane tip- Don't forget that your washer can be converted into a beer cooler. You're welcome!



Flashlight: You need one in addition to the one the family uses at night to go pee in the canal so you don't fall in.

Radio with a Powerful Speaker: That way you have something to drown out the wife, kids, mother-in-law, your sister-in-law Crystal, your sister Crystal, cousin Crystal, and your neighbor Crystal and her daughter little Crystal. We recommend you tune in to Thunder Country 100.3 FM.

You think shopping for Black Friday is bad? You've clearly never shopped at Walmart before a hurricane!

Home Security System:

Once word gets out how prepared you are, you'll need protection:

1. Buy a pair of size 14-16 work boots.
2. Put them on the front porch with a copy of your most recent assault charge.
3. Put some giant dog dishes next to the boots and court papers.

4. Leave this note on your door: "Jake and Buster: I went to the store for more ammo and Walgreen's for booze. Back soon. Don't mess with the pit bulls; they messed the mailman up bad this morning. I don't think Satan took part; hard to tell from all the blood. I locked all four of 'em in the house. Better wait outside. Be right back."

HURRICANE CHECKLIST

- Beer
- First Aid Kit
- Beer
- 3-day Supply of Water
- Beer
- 3-day Supply of Dry Foods
- Beer
- Battery Operated Radio
- Beer
- Batteries
- Beer
- Flashlight
- Ice (for Beer)

Guns and Ammo:

I'm not talking about the magazine. Looters will be shot on sight and their loved ones can buy their watches and rings back at the pawn shop. And personally, I'd like to say that if you have a gun then crocodile is always on the menu. If a disaster causes the traffic on US 1 to back up all the way to Islamorada you'll need nourishment. Get yourself prepared in case you have a shortage of rednecks in your area. Don't expect FEMA to be able to get to you or provide for you.

How is a woman like a hurricane?

Because they come in wet and wild but when they leave, they take your house and everything with them!



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Online Registration Opens July 15!
Angler Fees include all socials for Fri. & Sun.

- \$150 Adult & Pro Anglers (Adult Artificial Lure Subdivision)
- \$75 for Junior Anglers (13 -17)
- \$30 for Kid Anglers (12 + under) www.KeyLargoRotary.com

September Book Sale

Friends of the Key Largo Library

The entire month of September will bring old favorites and new authors for a Friends (gently used) Book Sale. Reacquaint yourself with "old friends": Annie Wilkes, Clinton Tyree, Jason Bourne and others. Discover "new friends" who will entertain you. Coffee table volumes and large print... So many choices.

Take as many as you like for a price you can't resist.

Just "make a donation" to the Friends !

If you donate \$10 or more you get a free book bag along with your choice of books. The sale goes on through the month and new titles will appear on Wednesdays, so stop by weekly at the Key Largo Branch Library at Tradewinds Shopping Center to get fresh choices.

Friends of the Key Largo Library raises funds to supplement and support community programs at the library.

SINGLE KITTEN SYNDROME

SYMPTOMS INCLUDE: Acting like a kittenzilla, destructiveness, crying/constant meowing, scratching, biting, aggression
Single kittens are the #1 most returned animal at sanctuaries and shelters nationwide.

WHY?

Felines are social animals and typically live in colonies. Kittens need interaction with other kittens for healthy social development. Isolating a kitten can delay development emotionally. Kittens learn play and behavioral boundaries from other kittens. While humans are great, they can't provide the same kind of feedback and play that another kitten provides. Kittens who are able to remain with one of their littermates or similarly-aged companion tend to be healthier, happier, and better socialized. Two cats are actually EASIER to care for than one.

IS YOUR KITTEN?

- Biting ankles and hands
- Full of energy
- Driving your other animals nuts
- Anxious

- Scratching or clawing your arms
- Inappropriately eliminating
- Picky about food
- Suckling obsessively on clothing, blankets, and other pets in household

IF SO, YOUR KITTEN NEEDS A FRIEND. ADOPT ANOTHER KITTEN!
THE BEST PART IS YOU'LL SAVE TWO LIVES.

Are you Meat Loaf?

```

graph TD
    A["Would you do anything for love?"] -- "Almost anything" --> B["But what about 'that'?"]
    A -- "I would" --> C["I won't"]
    B -- "I can't go for that" --> D["No can do"]
    B -- "I won't" --> E["You are Meat Loaf"]
    C --> E
  
```

You are Hall & Oates

Surviving Slow Season --

A blog by Luke Sommer Glenn

Into the depths of hurricane/wet/slow season with canceled shows, fewer people and fewer tips. To add insult to injury, a bored deputy erroneously issued me a citation for supposedly passing in a no passing zone.

He didn't pay attention to the part of the highway code that states you have 100 feet after the solid line begins to return to your lane. I should know. I had to spend four hours in traffic school. I think all the deputies need to get a refresher dose of traffic school themselves.

That was a \$500 expense I didn't need this time of year. Thanks Barney Fife. There goes the weed budget.

Oh well, one slow season Catch-22 is I have time to fix stuff but no money to get what I need to repair it with. The funny thing about time and money for me, is the two seldom exist in the same space. It's one or the other.

For lawyers time is money, for banks money is time at 30% interest... Unless they're paying you, then it's 0.25% interest. For the most of us we spend our time making money to give to other entities. It's a hard lesson when you realize your time isn't worth as much as everybody else's time but that's the musician/writer/artist life. Suffering for your art. We get by with a little help from our friends...

I try to focus on creative endeavors during the off-season, pursuits that involve imagination over substance because substances cost money. Bills keep coming in. But that's just how life is. The world doesn't stop because you do. The Catch-22 here is everyday realities interfering with the creative process.

It's too hot down here to wear a bunch of clothes on stage, though some people manage to do it. I get heat rash from wearing long

shorts or pants. Like diaper rash but with more whining.

Maybe I could find a gig at a clothing optional resort, not that I have anything worth showing off. It's a comfort thing. I already have a decent base tan from cleaning my pool in the nude. My wife likes to say that the people that bought houses here didn't pay \$1 million to look at my ass so I roll over and say, "Well then, they can look at my wiener.

We don't have any kids that play outside in our neighborhood anyway." She still doesn't think it's funny. I once got arrested for indecent exposure but they let me go for lack of evidence... goes the old joke.

A lot of my fellow Keys peeps go on vacations this time of year to places that are not as hot as here. Alaskan cruises sound refreshing when the heat index is 116°F.

They go visit family in up north or go to the Sturgis rally, though with all the heat waves lately they might have to go all the way to the north pole to cool off.

I've never been on a cruise ship and I have to admit that the ocean is intimidating to me. The one time I went out deep-sea fishing I remember looking over the boat into that endless, deep blue water and feeling like a piece of bait, waiting for something to come up from the depths and swallow me whole. I love living by the water but that doesn't mean I want to be out in the middle of it. I fear the ocean more than I've ever feared any God.

Life is pretty slow during the slow season (hence the name). If it wasn't for picking up the yard after tropical storms there wouldn't be a

Luke Sommer Glenn is a local entertainer and Conch Character.



whole lot to do. The bummer for me is I love to play my guitar but the arthritis is so aggravating and painful it ruins my rehearsal time.

These days I mostly play for my own amusement and that's why during this slow season I'm working on original material with the band. There's a ton of new music that I find personally to be crap and my crap ain't no worse than pop country rap. I'm out of brain space for cover songs. I have forgotten more songs than most people will ever learn. Your average cover band maybe knows 40 songs. My band has about 70 songs ready to go right now.

We get a boost Labor Day, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, then hell week with New Year's Eve as the exclamation point at the end of the busiest week in the Keys. January is painfully slow as the snowbirds slowly begin to trickle back to the Keys with February, March and April being the busiest. If you don't make money during that time, summer and the following off-season is going to suck. I really hope the recreational weed passes so I can at least grow my own during the off-season. There's probably not going to be any way that the politicians are going to allow us to grow our own, they want us to buy it from their sponsors. I wonder how long it will be before the owners of Anheuser Busch start selling weed? After all marijuana is related to hops.



KULULA AIRLINES

Kulula is a low-cost South-African airline that doesn't take itself too seriously.

On a Kulula flight, (there is no assigned seating, you just sit where you want), passengers were apparently having a hard time choosing their seats, when a flight attendant announced, "People, people, we're not picking out furniture here, find a seat and get in it!"

On another flight with a very "senior" flight attendant crew, the pilot said, "Ladies and gentlemen, we've reached cruising altitude and will be turning down the cabin lights. This is for your comfort and to enhance the appearance of your flight attendants."

On landing, the stewardess said, "Please be sure to take all of your belongings. If you're going to leave anything, please make sure it's something we'd like to have."

"There may be 50 ways to leave your lover, but there are only 4 ways out of this airplane!"



screaming, grab the mask, and pull it over your face. If you have a small child traveling with you, secure your mask before assisting with theirs. If you are traveling with more than one small child, pick your favorite."

"Weather at our destination is 50 degrees with some broken clouds, but we'll try to have them fixed before we arrive. Thank you, and remember, nobody loves you, or your money, more than Kulula Airlines."

As the plane landed and was coming to a stop at Durban Airport, a lone voice came over the loudspeaker: "Whoa, big fella. WHOA!"

After a particularly rough landing during thunderstorms in the Karoo, a flight attendant on a flight announced, "Please take care when opening the overhead compartments because, after a landing like that, sure as heck everything has shifted."

From a Kulula employee: "Welcome aboard Kulula 271 to Port Elizabeth. To operate your seat belt, insert the metal tab into the buckle, and pull tight. It works just like every other seat belt; and, if you don't know how to operate one, you probably shouldn't be out in public unsupervised."

"In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, masks will descend from the ceiling. Stop

Overheard on a Kulula flight into Cape Town, on a particularly windy and bumpy day: During the final approach, the Captain really had to fight it. After an extremely hard landing, the Flight Attendant said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to The Mother City. Please remain in your seats with your seat belts fastened while the Captain taxis what's left of our airplane to the gate!"

Another flight attendant's comment on a less-than-perfect landing: "We ask you to please remain seated as Captain Kangaroo bounces us to the terminal."

An airline pilot wrote that on this particular flight he had hammered his ship into the runway really hard. The airline had a policy which required the



flight attendants. Please do not leave children or spouses."

And from the pilot during his welcome message: "Kulula Airlines is pleased to announce that we have some of the best flight attendants in the industry. Unfortunately, none of them are on this flight!"

Heard on Kulula 255 just after a very hard landing in Cape Town: The flight attendant came on the intercom and said, "That was quite a bump and I know what y'all are thinking. I'm here to tell you it wasn't the airline's fault, it wasn't the pilot's fault, it wasn't the flight attendant's fault, it was the asphalt."

first officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile, and give them a "Thanks for flying our airline". He said that, in light of his bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that someone would have a smart comment.

Finally everyone had got off except for a little old lady walking with a cane. She said, "Sir, do you mind if I ask you a question?"

"Why, no Ma'am," said the pilot. "What is it?"

The little old lady said, "Did we land, or were we shot down?"

Not all the stories are from Kulula Airlines, but it was a great excuse to print them!

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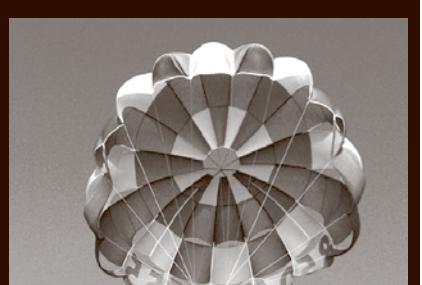
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Ruby Stern
known as "Miss Ruby",
was the matriarch of Downtown Card
Sound. She was a familiar site to
travelers across Card Sound bridge.

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ARTWORK BY

Little Salt by Carol Ellis
PHOTOGRAPHY
305-451-7778

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PURCHASE



SPF 50, long sleeve fishing
performance shirt in
aqua, limeade and white

On the shirt back is Carol's image of Ruby Stern, matriarch of Downtown Card Sound Road, a place that doesn't exist on any map... yet was home to a community of free spirits, fishermen and independent thinkers who took up residence there. Located on the west side of the road south of Alabama Jack's, and the toll booth, the shack was originally built by workers who constructed the toll bridge around 1968. In 1972 Ruby moved in and lived there for 27 years. She'd sit on the steps of her shack, with an old Colt 44 daring anyone to throw her off the land. She stayed. Not even the destructive forces of hurricane Andrew and the county's condemnation of the shack could send her from her spot on the bay on Card Sound. She moved to a trailer alongside and lived there until 1999 when she had to leave due to illness, and died at age 90.



We always have something "Elk-citing" going on!
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Check out our Facebook page for details.

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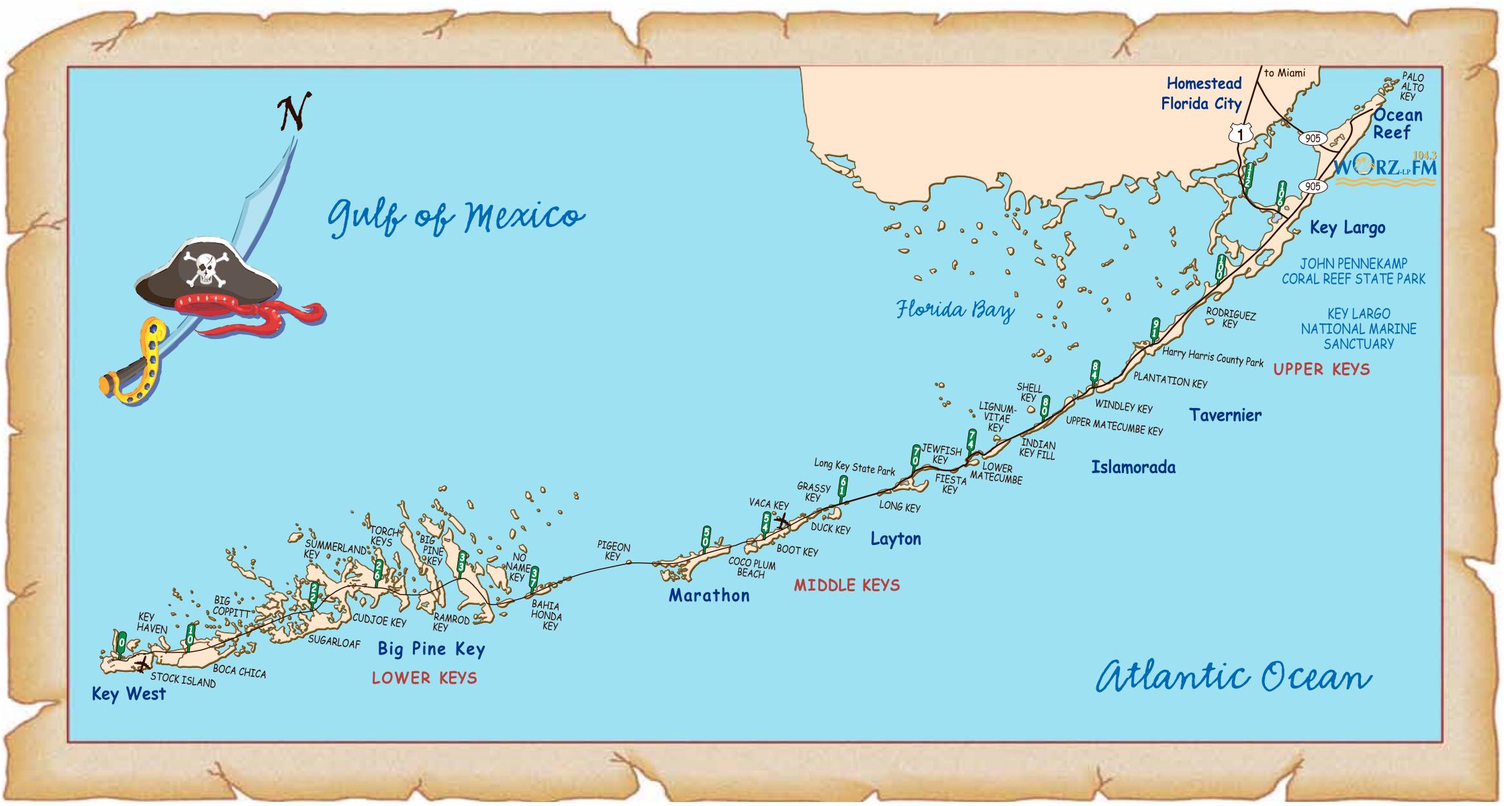
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Resentment



When anger has no outlet, it can morph into resentment with the potential to cause great turmoil.

Anger, when channeled into the pursuit of change, can be a useful tool in our emotional palette. Anger is experienced by most people — some more than others. It is when anger has no outlet and morphs into resentment that it carries with it the potential to cause us great turmoil.

Allowing us to assign blame for the pain we are feeling often eases it, but it creates resentment, which tends to smolder below the surface of our awareness, eroding our peace of mind. The target of our resentment grows ever more wicked in our minds. But resentment is within the realm of our conscious control. We can choose to let go of our resentment and move on with our lives, no matter how painful the event that incited it.

Hanging onto resentment does not serve us in any way. Divesting ourselves of resentful feelings can be difficult, however, because doing so forces us to mentally and emotionally confront the original source of anger. When we cease

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Great Decisions

An opportunity to learn about our world and share our views; a free program

Key Largo Branch Library - Community Room

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Ask at the circulation desk for a copy of the month's background article. Each free event will include a video and guided discussion.

September 5: Understanding Indonesia

Despite its large size, Indonesia remains virtually invisible to most Americans. But as one of the world's largest democracies, the world's largest Muslim-majority nation, and as an economic driver of ASEAN, why does it fly below the radar? What are current issues in U.S.-Indonesian relations, and what role can the country play in Asia?

October 3: High Seas Treaty

Areas of the high seas beyond national jurisdiction are facing a degradation of ecosystems due to climate change and the increase in shipping, overfishing, pollution, and deep-sea mining. The recent High Seas Treaty, will attempt to address these issues. How difficult will it be to convince nations to participate?

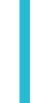
November 7: Pandemic Preparedness

Looking back at the COVID-19 pandemic, how can we apply the lessons learned in terms of domestic and international policies to future pandemics? Will countries cooperate, and will a consensus emerge on how to manage global health challenges?

Sponsored by
Friends of the Key Largo Library

Foreign Policy Association

Key Largo Library is located in the Tradewinds Plaza at MM 101.4 Oceanside.



Homemade Seasoning Blends

Taco



1 tbsp Chili powder
1 tbsp Smoked paprika
1 tsp Dried oregano
2 tsp Garlic powder
2 tsp Onion powder
2 tsp Cumin
2 tsp Pepper flakes
1 tsp Salt

Italian



2 tbsp dried basil
2 tbsp dried oregano
2 tbsp dried parsley
1 tbsp dried rosemary
1 tbsp dried thyme
1 tbsp red chili flakes
1 tsp garlic powder

Fajita



1 tbsp Chili powder
2 tbsp Paprika
2 tsp Dried oregano
2 tsp Garlic powder
2 tsp Onion powder
1 tsp Cayenne pepper
2 tsp Cumin
1 tsp Sugar
1 tsp Salt

Ranch



½ cup Dry Buttermilk
1 tbsp Dried Parsley
1 tbsp Dried Chives
1 tbsp Dried Dill Weed
1 tbsp Garlic Powder
2 tsp Onion Powder
1 tsp Kosher Salt
½ tsp Ground Pepper

Cajun



2 tbsp Paprika
1 tbsp Garlic powder
1 tbsp Onion powder
1 tsp Black pepper
1 tbsp Dried Oregano
1 tbsp Cayenne pepper
1 tbsp Thyme
1 tbsp Salt

All purpose



2 tbsp garlic powder
1 tsp onion powder
1 tbsp salt
1 tbsp smoked paprika
1/2 tsp black pepper
1/2 tbsp dried oregano
1 tsp dried thyme
1/4 tsp red pepper
1 tsp dried parsley

1. I was in the bathroom, putting on my makeup, under the watchful eyes of my young granddaughter, as I'd done many times before. After I applied my lipstick and started to leave, the little one said, "But Grandma, you forgot to kiss the toilet paper good-bye!" I will probably never put lipstick on again without thinking about kissing the toilet paper good-bye....

4. A grandmother was telling her little granddaughter what her own childhood was like. "We used to skate outside on a pond. I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. We rode our pony. We picked wild raspberries in the woods." The little girl was wide-eyed, taking this all in. At last she said, "I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner!"

3. After putting her grandchildren to bed, a grandmother changed into old slacks and a droopy blouse and proceeded to wash her hair. As she heard the children getting more and more rambunctious, her patience

5. My grandson was visiting one day when he asked, "Grandma, do you know how you and God are alike?" I mentally polished my halo and I said, "No, how are we alike?" "You're both old," he replied.

6. A little girl was diligently pounding away on her grandfather's word processor. She told him she was writing a story.

"What's it about?" he asked.

"I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

11. Children's Logic: "Give me a sentence about a public servant," said a teacher. The small boy wrote: "The fireman came down the ladder pregnant." The teacher took



7. I didn't know if my granddaughter had learned her colors yet, so I decided to test her. I would point out something and ask what color it was. She would tell me and was always correct. It was fun for me, so I continued. At last, she headed for the door, saying, "Grandma, I really think you should try to figure out some of these colors yourself!"

8. When my grandson Billy and I entered our vacation cabin, we kept the lights off until we were inside to keep from attracting pesky insects. Still, a few fireflies followed us in. Noticing them before I did, Billy whispered, "It's no use Grandpa. Now the mosquitoes are coming after us with flashlights."

9. When my grandson asked me how old I was, I teasingly replied, "I'm not sure." "Look in your underwear, Grandpa," he advised. "Mine says I'm 4 to 6." (WOW! I really like this one -- it says I'm only 38!)

10. A second grader came home from school and said to her grandmother, "Grandma, guess what? We learned how to make babies today." The grandmother, more than a little surprised, tried to keep her cool. "That's interesting," she said. "How do you make babies?" "It's simple," replied the girl. "You just change 'y' to 'i' and add 'es'."

12. A grandfather was delivering his grandchildren to their home one day when a fire truck zoomed past. Sitting in the front seat of the fire truck was a Dalmatian. The children started discussing the dog's duties. "They use him to keep crowds back," said one child. "No," said another. "He's just for good luck."

A third child brought the argument to a close. "They use them," she said firmly, "to find the fire hydrants."

13. A 6-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. "Oh," he said, "she lives at the airport, and whenever we want her, we just go get her. Then, when we're done having her visit, we take her back to the airport."

14. "Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good things, but I don't get to see him enough to get as smart as him!"

15. "My Grandparents are funny, when they bend over, you hear gas leaks and they blame their dog."



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(A) 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
- 99 Mile Marker
- Point of Interest
- Dive Site
- Dive Wreck
- Swim with Dolphins

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(C) ON THE MAP

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COCONUT TELEGRAPH

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September 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

Calling all poets far and wide! Our community is gearing up to celebrate "International Day of Peace" on Sept. 21st. Visit KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo to submit a poem by Sept. 21. Two Categories: Ages Grades K-8 & Grades 9-12 + Adult.

We are celebrating Library Card Sign-up Month all month with a **Bookmark Contest** and **Basket Raffle**. The deadline to submit a bookmark design is Sept. 21. Library cards are free to all Monroe Co. residents. Visit the Service Desk for more info.

September 3 & 17, 4 pm

LEGO Club: Calling all builders! Be creative and build with LOTS of LEGOs provided. Challenges: Sept. 3 Build & Tell Summer Break, Sept. 17: Crash Landings. For Ages 6-11.

September 4, 9 am

Opening of the Hispanic Heritage Month Exhibit in the Community Room: Carmen Sotolongo Kelley and a group of local Hispanic artists will display original works of art.

September 4, 9 am-12 pm

1st Wednesday Plant Clinic, Microgreen Giveaway, & Seed Library Grand Opening. Master Gardener Volunteers will be at the Key Largo Library to answer your queries and will hand out free pea microgreens kits. Check-out packets & growing instructions from the Free Seed Library provided by the Master Gardeners too.

Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25 4 pm

SAT/ACT Reading Boot Camp & Sept. 5, 12, 19, 26, 4 pm

SAT/ACT Math Boot Camp: intensive review of test-taking tips & content! keyslibraries.org calendar for more info.

September 5, 2 pm

FPA's Great Decisions: Understanding Indonesia. Visit us for an informative article on the topic to read ahead. Sponsored by the Friends of the KL Branch Library.



Scott, Legal Services of Miami & the Florida Keys.

September 19, 10:30 am

Intergenerational Storytime in honor of Grandparents Day (Sept. 8) and National Senior Center Month. Special Guests: The JOY Center, Ukulele JOY, & Adults old enough to be Grandparents.

September 19, 2-4 pm

Adult Craft: Bottle Cap Crab: We will create a custom crab craft project made from recycled metal bottle caps. Supplies provided. Registration recommended (305) 451-2396.

September 9, 6 pm

Building Your Business Credit

presented by the SBDC at FIU. Free. To register visit go.fiu.edu/keys-workshops

September 10, 4 pm

Code with Fiero Kickoff: New!

Learn to code solution free with your Monroe Co. Library Card. Bring your own device or use a library laptop. Attend the Kickoff or visit KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo

September 24, 6-7:45 pm

Books on Tap Join us at Keys Meads to discuss "The 7 ½ Deaths of Evelyn Hardcastle" by Stuart Turton. Borrow the book from the Library or download the ebook/audiobook from the Libby app. Drinks available for purchase. 99411 O/S Hwy #6.

Sept. 11, 10 am - 1:30 pm

Free Legal Help for low-income residents of Monroe County.

(866) 686-2760 or pre-register at legalservicesmiami.org.

By Legal Services of Greater Miami & the FL Keys.

September 25, 1-3 pm

Homeschool Meet & Greet to collaborate, create, and collectively share resources.

See you and your crew for some homeschool team building!

September 26, 3:30 pm

After School Art with Yvette Cotera "Motion in the Ocean" theme inspired by protecting our delicate sea life. Ages 6-11.

The Key Largo Library will be closed September 2 for Labor Day.

Monthly Community Group Meetings:
1st Saturday: Florida Keys Quilters
3rd Monday: Federation of Homeowners

WEEKLY EVENTS

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



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 for one-on-one help.

Small Business Consulting
Weds. 2-5 pm
The Small Business Development Center at FIU offers no-cost consulting at the Key Largo Library, and Tuesdays 9-1 pm at the Islamorada Library. Reserve by email: bbarnes@fiu.edu.

Sit + Sew
Fri. 9:30am - 1pm.
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COME TAKE A CLASS!
The Key Largo Library has a variety of offerings, ranging from Arts & Crafts to Legos & Slime Time. Scan the code to see the complete schedule.



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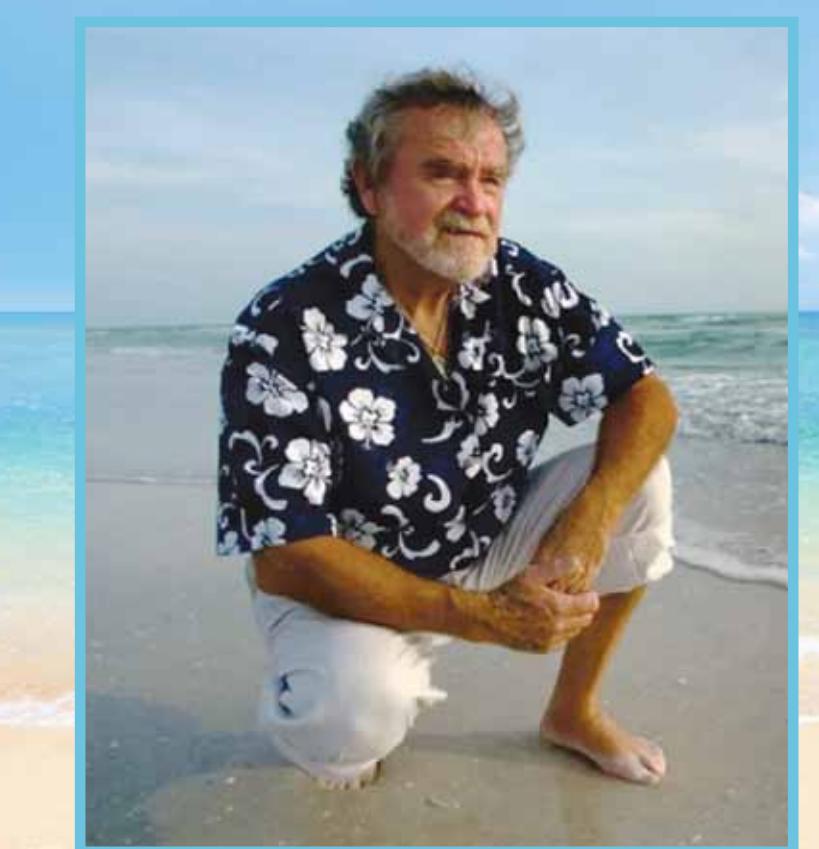
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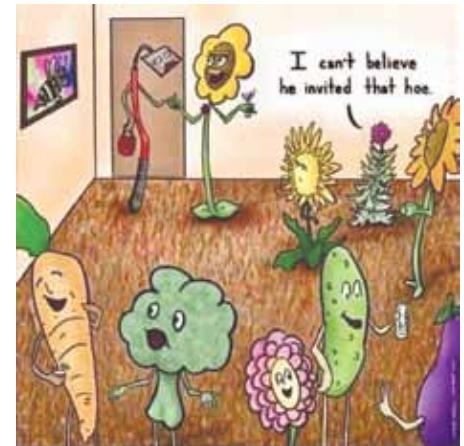
The summer heat has made me realize I will not survive in hell. I have to change my behavior.

The Professor started the class by telling them, "In Veterinary medicine it is necessary to have two important qualities as a doctor. The first is that you not be disgusted by anything involving an animal's body." For an example, the professor pulled back the sheet, stuck his finger into the butt of the cow, withdrew it, and stuck his finger in his mouth. "Go ahead and do the same thing," he told his students.

The students freaked out, hesitated for several minutes, but eventually took turns sticking a finger in the butt of the dead cow and, sucked on it followed by assorted gagging, retching and spitting, etc.

When everyone had finished wiping their faces, the Professor looked at them and said, "The second most important quality is observation. I stuck in my middle finger and sucked on my index finger. Now learn to pay attention. Life is tough but it's even tougher if you're stupid."

Do you know why nobody has overdosed on marijuana?
Because if you laid out 100 joints and a lighter, and told someone to try and smoke all of 'em... By the 4th joint they've already lost the lighter, ordered the pizza, cuddled with their dog, and fell asleep.



OK, so I understand that my body can't digest corn and that's fine. My issue is that I fricking chewed it! How the hell is it coming out back in the shape of corn?! What are they not telling us?



LIVING WITH A DOG IS 90% FOLLOWING EACH OTHER AROUND, WATCHING EACH OTHER GO POTTY, AND WONDERING WHAT THE OTHER HAS IN THEIR MOUTH.



The fact that Keith Richards has outlived Richard Simmons really makes me question this eating healthy & exercise thing.

A man stumbles up to the only other patron in a bar and asks if he could buy him a drink. "Why of course," comes the reply.

The first man then asks: "Where are you from?"

"I'm from Ireland," replies the second man.

The first man responds: "You don't say, I'm from Ireland too! Let's have another round to Ireland."

"Of course," replies the second man.

I'm curious, the first man then asks: "Where in Ireland are you from?"

"Dublin," comes the reply.

"I can't believe it," says the first man. "I'm from Dublin too! Let's have another drink to Dublin."

"Of course," replies the second man.

Curiosity again strikes and the first man asks: "What school did you go to?"

"Saint Mary's," replies the second man, "I graduated in 72."

"This is unbelievable!", the first man says. "I went to Saint Mary's and I graduated in 72, too!"

About that time in comes one of the regulars and sits down at the bar. "What's been going on?" he asks the bartender.

"Nothing much," replies the bartender. "The O'Kinly twins are drunk again."

Just spent 45 minutes on the treadmill.. tomorrow my goal is to turn it on.

It's 97 degrees outside. Keep your Pumpkin Spice away from my

MARGARITA

An engineer dies and reports to the pearly gates. St. Peter checks his dossier and says, "Ah, you're an engineer — you're in the wrong place."

So the engineer reports to the gates of hell and is let in. Pretty soon, the engineer gets dissatisfied with the level of comfort in hell, and starts designing and building improvements. After a while, they've got air conditioning, flush toilets and escalators, and the engineer is becoming a pretty popular guy.

One day God calls Satan up on the telephone and asks with a sneer, "So, how's it going down there in hell?"

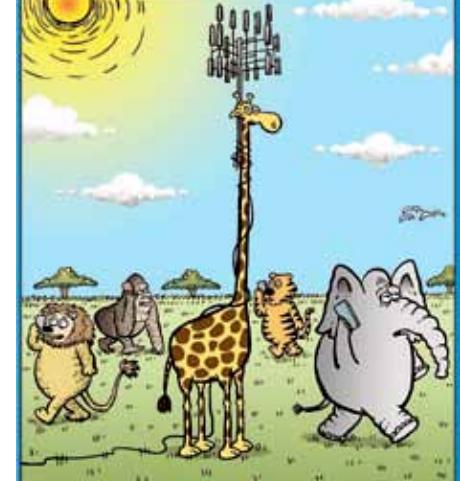
Satan replies, "Hey, things are going great. We've got air conditioning, flush toilets and escalators, and there's no telling what this engineer is going to come up with next."

God replies, "What??? You've got an engineer? That's a mistake — he should never have gotten down there; send him up here."

Satan says, "No way! I like having an engineer on the staff, and I'm keeping him."

God says, "Send him back up here or I'll sue."

Satan laughs uproariously and answers, "Yeah right. And just where are YOU going to get a lawyer?"



If you want to know why Gen X'ers are always mad, it's because we had to replace our record collection with a tape collection that was replaced with a CD collection that was then replaced with MP3s and now we need a subscription to listen to music.



Think you're bored? Sir Isaac Newton invented calculus during the plague. Do you have any idea of how bored you must be to invent calculus?

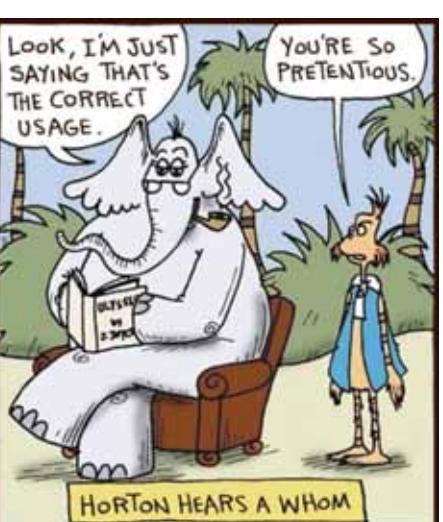
DAMN RIGHT I'M GOOD IN BED. I CAN STAY THERE ALL DAY.

Health Tip: If you add a raisin to your 1-pound bag of M&M's, it becomes Trail Mix and you can eat the whole thing.



Diet tips:
If you think you're hungry, you may just be thirsty. Drink a pitcher of margaritas, then see how you feel.

If laziness was an Olympic sport, I'd come in 4th just so I wouldn't have to get up on the podium.



LOR-E-LEI

Restaurant & Cabana Bar

Look for the Mermaid at MM 82 Islamorada

Open 7 Days A Week
Breakfast 7 am - 10:30 am
Lunch from 11 am
Dinner from 4 pm
Live Music Every Night

WATERFRONT DINING

Fresh Seafood
Local Specialties
We'll Cook Your Catch
Fishing Guides Available
Amazing Sunsets
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Breakfast On The Bay

Daily Happy Hour 4-6 pm

\$3 Well Drinks
\$1 off Bottle Beers
\$1 off House Wines
\$1.25 Domestic Drafts
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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

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\$10 per col.inch per month!
Bold Listing \$12./inch per mo.
MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE
Classified Display Space \$15/inch.
Drop off your ad and payment at
The UPS STORE
101425 Overseas Hwy., by Publix at Tradewinds
Questions? Call 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.
orchidclub@gmail.com

THE KEY PLAYERS

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

MUSICIANS

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

Classified ads will not be accepted without payment.

Conch Characters / Around Town



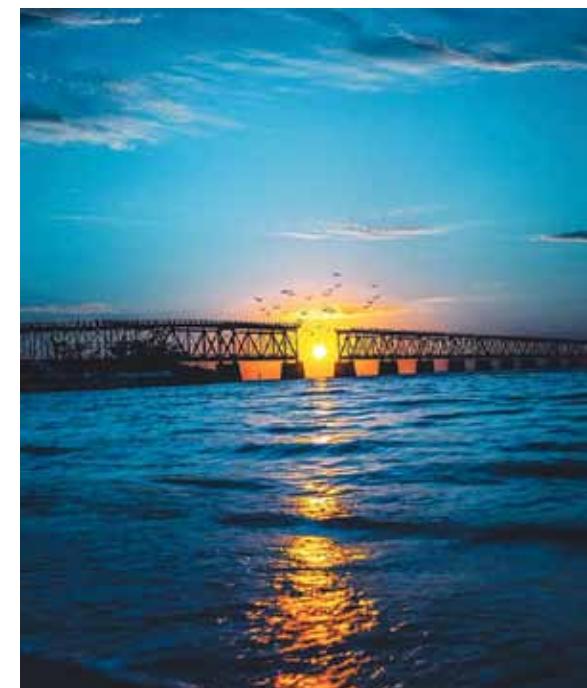
Coach Jimmy Johnson,
DJ Laz & Pitbull hanging out
at JJ's Sports Bar- 3 Local Legends.



Keys Quilters gifted the Key Largo Branch Library with a perfectly themed quilt.
Library Staff: Cindy Scofield, Joy Smith. Florida Keys Quilters: Marcia Swain, Helene Nemeth, Sherry Shannon, Mary Ann Lindroth, Sharon Krutulis (Photo by President Mary Lou Wilkinson)



Welcome Jennifer Neuman to the
Luke Sommer Glenn Band.
No she's not green, it's the stage lights.



Bridge sunset photo from Facebook.
(contributed).



Christina Teasley, Branch Manager at Key Largo Branch Library, shared books and more at the National Night Out in August.

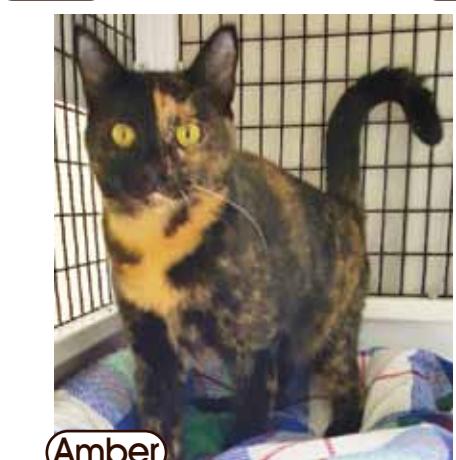


Good morning from the Lorelei!!!! Come join us for breakfast!!



Shipwrecks Bar & Grill at 45 Garden Cove Dr (MM106) is a local's favorite!

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 fury friends home, stop by or call. The Shelter is located at mile marker 106 Oceanside; phone 305-451-0088.

LOR-E-LEI
Islamorada
Restaurant & Cabana Bar
MM82 at the Mermaid

**Nightly
SUNSET
CELEBRATION!**
Voted the best sunset
location year after year!

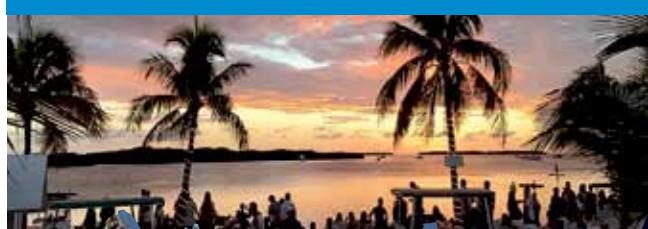
LoreleiCabanaBar.com 305-664-2692

Happy Hour 7 days • 4-6pm

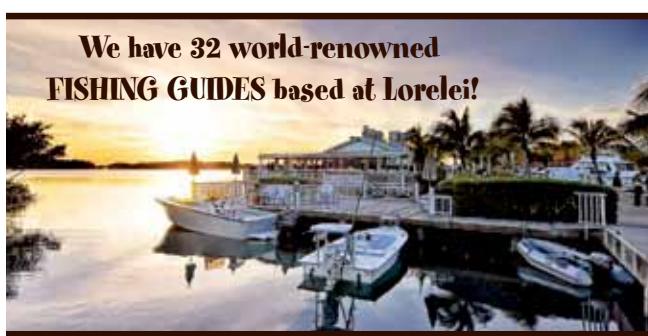


- \$3 Well Drinks
- \$1 off Bottle Beers
- \$1 off House Wines
- \$1.25 Domestic Drafts
- \$2.25 Specialty Drafts

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



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Most MONDAYS • WEDNESDAYS • FRIDAYS at Sunset



We have 32 world-renowned
FISHING GUIDES based at Lorelei!

This Month's Live Entertainment and Events at the Lorelei

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Webb & Davidson 6-10	2 Carousers 6-10	3 Dennis Holmes 6-10	4 Webb & Davidson 6-10	5 Webb & Davidson 6-10	6 Jade Storm 6-10	7 Uncle Rico 6-10
8 Webb & Davidson 6-10	9 Carousers 6-10	10 Micah 6-10	11 Webb & Davidson 6-10	12 Webb & Davidson 6-10	13 Brothers Of Others 6-10	14 Abstract Radio 6-10
15 Webb & Davidson 6-10	16 Carousers 6-10	17 Dennis Holmes 6-10	18 Webb & Davidson 6-10	19 Webb & Davidson 6-10	20 Ego Free 6-10	21 Shin Dig 6-10
22 Webb & Davidson 6-10	23 Carousers 6-10	24 Steve Venini 6-10	25 Webb & Davidson 6-10	26 Webb & Davidson 6-10	27 Sailor Ripley 6-10	28 Dropouts 6-10
29 Webb & Davidson 6-10	30 Carousers 6-10	Waterfront Dining!		Open for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner 7am-10pm		LIVE MUSIC 7 DAYS A WEEK!

