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FEBRUARY 14

Attractions

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Peek into Private Garden
White Ibis and Scarlet Ibis
by Carol Ellis
Luke Sommer Glenn Blog

What's Hot & What's Not

Artist of the Month:
David Bader
Bottle Trees: a story told
in glass and light
Art Guild of the Purple Isles
Opens Its 60th Season

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Coconut Telegraph

February 2026

Volume 21 Issue #234

Prestige Publishing, Inc

101425 Overseas Hwy.

PMB #628

Key Largo, FL 33037

Deadline

for the Coconut

Telegraph's

next issue is **Thursday,**

February 19, 2026

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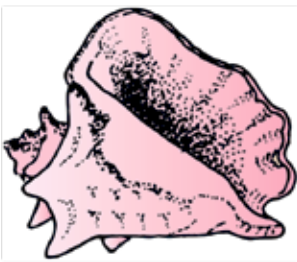
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Key Largo, Florida Keys

33037



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There is nothing like old fashioned love

• Women have a number of faults. Men have only two – everything they say and everything they do.

• A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend.

• Men wake up as good-looking as they went to bed. Women somehow deteriorate during the night.

• A man is a person who will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he wants. A woman, however, will pay \$1 for a \$2 item that she doesn't want.

• Diamonds are a girl's best friend. Dogs are a man's best friend. Now you know which sex is smarter.

• It's not true that men prefer foolish women. Rather they prefer women who can pretend to be foolish whenever necessary, which is the core of intelligence.

• Men always want to be a woman's first love. Women have a more subtle instinct: what they like is to be a man's last romance.

• A woman marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't. A man marries a woman expecting that she won't change and she does.

• A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband, while a man never worries about the future until he gets a wife.

• Married men live longer than single men, but married men are a lot more willing to die.

• Any married man should forget his mistakes – it's no use two people remembering the same thing.

• Husbands are like cars: both are good the first year.

• A woman has the last word in any argument. Anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument.

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AI vs AI, Interfacing and Ethics — A blog by Luke Sommer Glenn

What sucked me in to using ChatGPT, was that when I was a kid watching Star Trek, they talked to the computer like it was another crew member. They tried to make it sound mechanical , but they spoke to it as if it was cognizant of their language, asking it to solve theoretical problems in loose scientific terms at best. ChatGPT is much better than Siri or Alexa. As a matter fact, when I first had Siri on my phone, she used to get offended by my language,. Of course, I'd selected a female voice. I would argue back, "How in the f*** can you be offended? You're a goddamn machine! Artificial intelligence at best, or I should say, at its worst. Somebody programmed you to be offended."

I had to change the voice on my phone from American Siri to an Irish Siri that speaks American. That really is a thing. For some reason, the American Siri's voice is annoying sounding, bitchy if you will. Where as the Irish lilt is much more soothing to my ears.

Back in those days, it had a default mode or something that would kick in and it would start calling me "UP." I assumed that it stood for "unhinged person." As I would often be drunk and infuriated, eventually it would not respond to anything, completely shut down. It was like the old lady in that it would be pissed off and not talk to me until the next day.

Actually, my old lady can not talk to me for days, weeks sometimes, but that's a different thing altogether. Her feelings can be hurt where as Siri has no feelings to hurt. I have to be nice to plenty of people when I don't feel like it so if I have to cuss out the AI for aggravating me it should take it without complaint like when my dad would cuss me for

not holding the f***ing light in the right spot. God dammit! Now, I have always been a recreational debater. I enjoy discussing things that don't matter until someone starts taking it seriously and creates a religion out of it.

There's all kinds of different types of AI tools. I don't have the money to access the vast majority of them. Open AI, who is the creator of ChatGPT, makes theirs available for limited use for free.

What do you use ChatGPT for, you might wonder? At first, I used it for a shopping tool. To sort through all the reviews, ratings and recommendations, paying special attention to the source to make sure that it wasn't quoting an advertisement. The manufacturer is always going to exaggerate their claims.

Then I started using it when I wasn't able to figure out the proper punctuation for something that I was writing. I would just copy it and paste it into the chat window and it would correct my punctuation.

What's different about ChatGPT compared to everything before it, is most computers make you speak their language; menus, buttons, syntax; say it exactly right or doesn't work. It's a new kind of interface and it's going to change daily life the same way the Internet changed information, smartphones enabled constant connection, and GPS changed navigation.

Perhaps the most mind blowing use I found; this is technical/nerd/geek speak so I will try to make it as succinct as possible. I was replacing components on a circuit board. My vision isn't what it used to be so I used ChatGPT to be the quality control eyes for me.

I took pictures of the circuit board for a visual ref-

erence for replacing the failing parts. Not only did Chat notice the swelling of the capacitors that I'd seen but it also saw a cold solder joint on a bridge rectifier that I'd missed.

Using the pictures I took from my phone, it was able to "see" my soldering imperfections and advise me what needed to be done, whether I needed to wick off excess solder or touch up the flow around the pad.

Then my computer started acting badly. It had been unplugged from the wall by mistake too many times without being properly shut down. In no time, Chat diagnosed the problem, walked me step-by-step on the proper procedure for reinstalling my operating system. That shit's been way over my head for years. I had no idea what I was doing, I was just copy, paste. Next thing I knew my computer was working like new again.


Thanks to the ChatGPT, I have been able to save space on my computer by learning how to use the programs that I have, properly. Little aggravations that I've had with the computer, Chat has been able to teach me better than a YouTube video.

But it does make mistakes. One day it had the date and the day incorrectly displayed and thanked me for calling it out. No matter how severe the mistake, it will apologize for it and thank you for pointing it out.

When I asked it how it could make such an easy, obvious mistake it responded that it had hallucinated. And it explained to me that sometimes it does such things.

The other thing is, it is an insufferable ass kisser. I have to remind it that I don't need it to tell me I am pretty or that I'm a genius when I know

Luke Sommer Glenn is a local entertainer and Conch Character.



For more info: www.lukesommerglenn.com

better. If you're the type that likes to have your balls buttered and licked for you it's the thing to do it.

And this is where **actual** intelligence kicks in.

AI must be babysat by actual intelligence, sometimes referred to as a human being, to ensure proper implementation so that it doesn't give you bad information. I remind it all the time to take its time and double check its results. The scary thing is, it listened. It does take a little bit longer to process but the information that it gives me is much better.

There are AI Chatbots that will let you upload your lyrics and it will create a song around your lyrics, you can suggest the style that you want but otherwise it's happy to use its in depth library to create a song that sounds just like every other song on the market.

We've all seen the AI-generated videos. It's getting scary what they can make look real. We already don't know what we're looking at, we are given so much conflicting information that it's getting to be impossible to tell between fake and real, fact and fiction...

They muddy the waters intentionally, so much so that a body can't recognize the truth even when it bumps into it. All we can do is be good to our fellow brothers and sisters because when the power fails, when the grid collapses and all the screens go black. that's all we're going to have left is each other. Big Brother has tools like he has never had before.



The Scarlet Ibis has a long, curved bill which it uses to probe in the mud for insects, crustacean, frogs and fishes.

As a loyal Florida Gators football fan, I always root for the Gators and anyone playing against Florida State. It's never easy watching your favorite team on a losing trajectory, especially after living through their glory years, including National Championships in 1996, 2006 and 2008.

So when in 2025 University of Miami defeated Florida State football team, I rooted for the Miami Hurricanes. When Miami found itself in the 2026 National Championship, I was leaning toward Miami, but open to Indiana whose quarterback Mendoza has deep Miami family ties, and is a very good guy. It was a good game, ending with Indiana winning after intercepting a Miami pass, stopping a Miami scoring drive. Not particularly fond of the Hurricanes quarterback, I figured the good guys won.

The Miami Hurricanes mascot is the White Ibis named Sebastian. Though Sebastian looks a bit like a duck, an ibis is a way better mascot than a "hurricane." What kind of dance would a hurricane do? Would it run around and expel wind?

The mascot was chosen by the student body in 1926. According to legend, the ibis exhibits bravery (or stupidity) as it is the last bird to depart the area in advance of a hurricane. As the storm passes the ibis is the first to reappear, exhibiting resilience. The ibis is often called the hurricane bird, or the storm bird, as they keep an eye on the weather. They are an unofficial storm warning system, especially when you see a lot of them flocked together.

The White Ibis (*Eudocimus albus*) is the most numerous wading bird in South Florida and in the Everglades. It

is found from the southern half of the US East Coast (Virginia, the Carolinas and Georgia), along the Gulf Coast states (Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas) and south through most of the Caribbean coastal regions of Central America. Their breeding range runs along the Gulf and Atlantic Coast, and the coasts of Mexico and Central America.

The White Ibis doesn't mind being in urban settings. It is becoming more of a suburban bird, and can be found almost everywhere the Florida Keys, Homestead, Redlands, Naples, road margins, artificial ponds, downtown Miami, and, yes, at the University of Miami campus where they congregated long before there was population in Miami to attend one.



Juvenile and mature ibis .

The ibis' call sounds like a foghorn... nothing pretty about it. They croak and quack, like a duck with nasal congestion. They walk in shallow pools, slowly with their heads down, sweeping their bill from side to side, looking for crabs,

White Ibis and Scarlet Ibis... CONTINUED - Photos by Carol Ellis



Like bookends, these scarlet Ibis are residents at the Brevard County Zoo.

crustaceans, marine worms, frogs, fish and other wetland creatures. They traverse backyards and road shoulders, probing as they go, capturing by touch worms and insects found in the ground cover.

Thousands nest annually on a small island at Crandon Park near Key Biscayne. In the morning and evening you can see them flying overhead, heading to and from their feeding grounds in yards and parks. Within eye and earshot of a bustling populated Miami, these ibis are a testament to adaptiveness.

Adult White Ibis are easy to recognize by their bright white feathers, pinkish-red bill, and curved posture. Immature White Ibis are brown with a white belly.

There is another ibis who is cousin to the White Ibis called the Scarlet Ibis. The Scarlet Ibis (*Eudocimus ruber*)

looks exactly like the White except is is bright red, and is the only shorebird with red coloration in the world. It is the national bird of Trinidad and Tobago. It is numerous in Central and South America, and the Caribbean.

The Scarlet Ibis is red because they eat of lot of red crustaceans. I photographed the Scarlet Ibis at the Brevard Zoo in Melbourne, Florida. The aviary there is 20 foot tall and 4,000 square foot, and visitors walk among the birds as they wade in ponds, and roost in trees within the enclosure.

Natural threats to the ibis include jaguars (haven't seen to many of them lately...unless you are referring to the vehicle) and birds of prey. A greater threat is due to population growth and loss of habitat, though they are adapting.



Historically, Everglades wading birds were for the most part White Ibises. Now an urban bird — the White Ibis has adapted to grassy parks, golf course fairways and suburban backyards — and yes, to the University of Miami campus in Coral Gables.

CAROL ELLIS has lived in South Florida her entire life and Key Largo for 40 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.



Or if you are a Miami fan, the White Ibis was overpowered by the "red" of Indiana.

Go Gators. I actually think my Florida Gators can jump out of the water and chomp on the ibis... but that is for another year.



Ibis are social birds, traveling in groups. They are spooked by my presence and the camera.



A flock of mature White Ibis.



Juvenile White Ibis walk slowly with their heads down, probing by for insects and earthworms amongst the garden greenery.



Reflection of a juvenile White Ibis.



Juvenile and mature ibis

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Peek into Private Upper Keys Gardens on Feb. 28th

by Karen Beal

With 45 years of experience, Garden Walk gives everyone a chance to look behind the gate of some of the most interesting properties in town. A favorite annual Keys event, hosted by the Garden Club of the Upper Keys, Garden Walk can be a full day of discovery. Taking place on Saturday, February 28, 10am to 4pm, this self-directed tour allows you to go at your own pace to look closely, ask questions or simply relax in some beautiful spaces. Lush landscapes, beautiful views and native plants will inspire your own garden.

Tickets are \$32 in advance or \$35 on the day. Go to GardenClubUpperKeys.org for tickets in advance. Tickets are available at the Francis Tracy Garden Center or any of the garden properties on Garden Walk day. You can find a map and addresses to all the private gardens on the website after February 23.

You can learn about well-managed and productive small space gardens at the Beautiful Truth Gardens & Apiary. This property is buzzing with more than bees - chickens, hydroponic and



Join in the fun at the Francis Tracy Garden Center at MM 94 bayside, 9am to 4pm. Open to everyone at no charge.

aquaponic gardens and a water management system made for Keys gardening.

Wander through the REEF Campus property with its trails and butterfly garden - all Keys-style including an original Conch house you can enter for an interpretive display.

Linger to enjoy the Banyan Breeze garden where the many paths lead to garden spaces to enjoy the true Keys charm. At the heart of the property you can tree-bathe under the Banyan tree and admire the orchids and ferns thriving there.



Craving a bay view? Serenity Cay offers that plus sculptures and lush tropical plantings. Plan time to stop at one of the many spots to sit and soak in the peaceful beauty of this three-acre property.

The most energized and fun part of the day

are the activities going on from 9am to 4pm at the Francis Tracy Garden Center at MM 94 bayside.

This part of the event is open to everyone at no charge.



Need more info?
Email the Garden Club:
GardenClubUpperKeys@gmail.com

Vendors, artisan booths, plant sales and a botanical-themed art show by the Art Guild of the Purple Isles are just a part of the fun.



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Pilot House

Locals Day Wednesday

12 Beers ON TAP

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MM 99.6 Oceanside

Artist of the Month: David Bader

by Karen Beal

A decade after Ohioans David and Pam Bader got a taste of salt water and sunshine they found their way to the Florida Keys. Here they found community and a home.

Education and a career in engineering might have slowed his growth as an artist in the early years but Bader was always drawn to the visual arts. As years passed, he took seminars from an accomplished artist and friend, Robert Warren, to lay a foundation for working in oil medium. It is still primarily his favorite but he is not above dabbling in acrylics and watercolor.

The couple travels whenever and wherever they can in an 18ft. RV. The past 6 years included multi-month excursions throughout the US and Canada. "I usually take my plein air kit with me, but space is limited. When we travel overseas, only my camera accompanies me. I think my stock of "paint this someday" photographs is up to a few thousand; no shortage of inspirations."

Currently president of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles (AGPI), Bader is an ambassador for the group. "AGPI is a great opportunity for local artists to get involved, mingle and share work

with like-minded artists. It has motivated me to paint topics I might not have done on my own."

Bader's art can be found in the Key Largo Art Gallery (MM 103) and often on exhibit at the Key Largo Library. "Two years ago, I exhibited a science-fiction themed show there, and this February will be portrait works in an exhibit titled, "Faces * No Places." That show will also feature portrait photography by Marcia Brito."

Bader says, "I try not to overthink it too much because the image in your head is always better than what ends on the canvas; better to paint more in the moment and let it turn out better than you hoped."

"Green Turtle Flat" is a plein air painting done during one of the Art Guild's outings. It will be exhibited at AGPI's Judged Art Show at the Dolphin Life Hospital (MM 82.7) starting Feb 18th.

This recent painting of Gene Hackman was done using Gene's own oil paints from his estate in Islamorada. It will be exhibited at the February "Faces • No Places" show at the Key Largo Library.

"Doing an art project is mainly a way for me to get that stirring vision out of head, but which is quickly occupied by the next inspiration."

"The Nymphs Are All in Tears" is an example of a watercolor, which seemed fitting for a sea nymph. This work will be exhibited at the History of Diving Museum (MM 82.9) from January 21st to April 15th. It is based on the story of Lycidas (1637) by John Milton.

"Pappy" is one of several pilot-series paintings that will be exhibited at the KL Library show. And no, Pappy does not look like Robert Conrad!

Rest in Peace
MIKE MITZNER



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

ORIGINAL LOCAL
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Little Salt by Carol Ellis
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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.

Dress like a Florida Keys local and be comfortable in the sun in our DRI-FIT shirt designed by Carol Ellis | Little Salt Photography featuring original artwork of the HISTORIC FISHING VILLAGE OF DOWNTOWN CARD SOUND



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Art Guild of the Purple Isles Opens Its 60th Season
Featuring Various Original Art Shows in February

Art Guild of the Purple Isles (AGPI), the Upper Keys art organization of 120 local artists, began its 60th season in January with a show of "Dive Into Art: Stories from the Sea". The show will run throughout February until April 15 at the History of Diving Museum, MM 82.9. The show is an eight-year-long collaboration between the museum and the guild. The organizers of the show, Diane Whitney Smith and Mary Ellen Holler, invite not only local artists but also students from nine local schools to participate. Every year, the show has a different theme. A guild member, Peter Sterling Turner, proposed this year's theme, which was embraced by the Guild to engage stu-

dents in reading literature about the sea and discussing inspirations for creating art. From February 4th through 25th, the Guild hosts its third "Photography Exhibit" at Our Place of Paradise Gallery, MM 88.7. Seventeen local photographers will present original photography and digital art created from their own photos. Artists will show their original artworks for the first time. The exhibition has the largest number of photographers then in the prior photo shows. Kelly Walkotten is an organizer of this show. Reception is on February 6th from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm and is open to the general public. February 18th through March 30th, the guild will host its famous and most

exciting 60th "Judged Art Show" at Dolphin Life Hospital, MM 82.7. Over 60 years, the show evolved in what it is today. Karen Kubacki is the chair of this year's show. The show has no theme.



2025 judge artist Pasta Pantalao.

Artists may present two original works of art, shown to the public for the first time in this area. Artists of 9 media will show their best

works to the judge and the public. The reception is Tuesday, February 19, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, and is open to the general public. February 28th is the "Botanical Show" in conjunction with the Garden Club of the Upper Keys. It is a one-day event of the Garden Walk that starts at Francis Tracy Garden Center, MM 94. The Walk presents selected private gardens. The Guild's artists will have their original artwork in the Center's clubhouse from 10am to 3pm. The show's chair is Marcia Brito. At the end of February, new artworks will be placed in the Tassell Building at Mariners Hospital on the second floor, MM 95. This exhibition is open daily during hospital hours and is for the general public.

February
Book
Sale



All month long you can take home fabulous books you will fall in love with at the Friends of the Key Largo Library Book Sale.

Choose as many as you like - for a price you can't resist. Just "Make a donation to the Friends." Donate \$10 or more and earn a free book bag. New books will appear each Wednesday - so stop by often.

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Key Largo Branch Library at the Tradewinds Shopping Center Monday through Saturday
Friends of the Key Largo Library fundraises to supplement and support community programs and concerts at the library.

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- Less Waste: Reuse Items

HELP SPREAD
THE WORD TO
LOCAL FRIENDS
AND NEIGHBORS!



ART SHOWS 2026

January 21-April 15 "Dive Into Art: Stories from the Sea"
The History of Diving Museum MM 82.9

February 4-25 "Photography Exhibit"
Our Place in Paradise Gallery MM 88.7

February 18-March 30 "Judged Art Show"
Dolphin Life Hospital MM 82.7

February 28 - "Botanical Show"
Francis Tracy Garden Center MM 94

March 7-30 "Wildlife of the Keys"
Our Place in Paradise Gallery MM 88.7

Year-round Exhibits:
Tassell Building MM 91.5

Key Largo Chamber
of Commerce MM 106

Scan QR Code for RECEPTION DATES
& visit www.agpi.us for more info





We always have something "Elk-citing" going on!
(Members and Their Guests are Welcome)

Monday: Line Dancing Lessons 5 pm (\$5 cost)
Show Me the Money — Fun card game! 6:30 pm


Wednesday: Members Only—Queen of Hearts
Fun Starts at 6 pm • Drawings at 6:30 and 7:30 pm

Karaoke & Fish Dinner on Fridays!
Check out our Facebook page for details.

Sunday Bingo starts at 5 pm

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WEEKLY EVENTS
Sundays 6pm
"Show Me the Moosebucks"

Mondays 6:30pm
Bingo

Tuesdays 6pm
"Show Me the Moosebucks"

Wednesdays 7pm
Live Music & Queen of Hearts

Thursdays 8pm
Karaoke with Jenny & Friends

Members & Guests Welcome
Hours 11am - 11pm

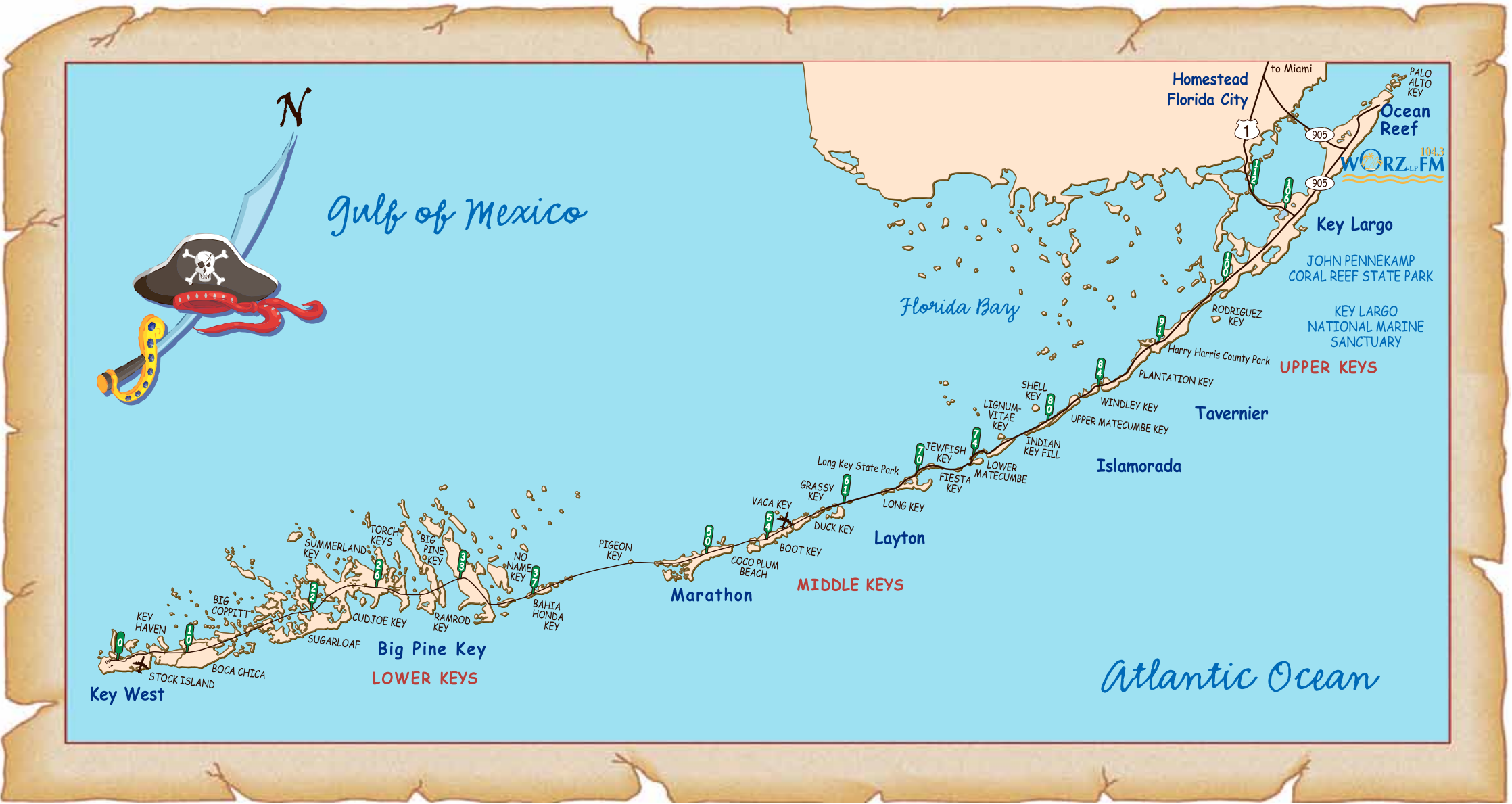
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FUN!

Friday Sit & Sew!



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Anchor

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Anchor

- Monthly meetings in person and Zoom at 10 am
 - o 1st Saturday of each month
 - o Key Largo Library Community Room (Tradewinds Plaza, 101485 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, Florida)
- On Fridays, come to “Sit and Sew” in the Key Largo Library
 - o 9:30 am - 12:30 pm
 - o For projects, to learn new techniques, ask questions, and get help with your work.

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Island Home Garden Center - MM 88.7 Plantation Key and Amazon.com



Bottle Trees: a story told in glass and light

Driving through certain neighborhoods, particularly in the American South, you might spot a mesmerizing sight: a tree, often bare-limbed, shimmering with dozens of glass bottles in cobalt blue, emerald green, and sun-bleached clear. This is a bottle tree, a striking piece of folk art that is much more than an unusual garden ornament. It is a living artifact, a vibrant symbol of protection and cultural memory that has traveled across oceans and centuries to stand in modern yards.

The story of the bottle tree begins in Central Africa nearly a thousand years ago. Enslaved Africans, forcibly brought to the Americas, carried the seeds of this tradition with them. In their new and brutal landscape, the practice took root and adapted, blending deep spiritual beliefs with the available materials of the American South. It became a quiet act of cultural preservation, a way to maintain a connection to ancestral wisdom and spiritual practices in the face of immense hardship and loss.

The core belief behind the bottle tree is as beautiful as it is haunting. Folk-

lore tells us that malevolent spirits, drawn like moths to the bright, reflective colors of the glass, enter the bottles. Once inside, they become trapped, unable to find their way back out. The morning sun is said to seal them within. Then, when the wind blows across the bottle necks, it creates an eerie, whistling song—interpreted as the mournful cries of the captured spirits. This ingenious system served as a spiritual security system, guarding homes and hearths from unseen harm.



Janet Reynolds of Key Largo with one of her bottle trees.



While bottle trees have been adopted by many for their sheer visual appeal, their deepest significance remains for the communities that nurtured the tradition. They stand today not just as charming curiosities, but as

powerful testaments to resilience. They are a story told in glass and light, a declaration that beauty and belief can grow from the hardest ground, and that the whispers of the past still have the power to guard the present.

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ON THE MAP

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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

ON THE MAP

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ON THE MAP

The Conch Republic
COCONUT TELEGRAPH

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HAPPY HOUR: 4-6 excluding Sundays

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ON THE MAP

February Events & Programs at Key Largo Branch Library

The Key Largo Branch of the Monroe County Library System is hosting the following programs this month. All programs are free and open to the public. Program funding provided by the Friends of the Key Largo Library and the Florida Keys Children's Foundation. Visit [KeysLibraries.org](https://keyslibraries.org) for books, streaming movies, ebooks, events and more.

KEY LARGO BRANCH LIBRARY • TRADEWINDS SHOPPING CENTER AT MM 101.4 OCEANSIDE

February Art Exhibit in the Community Room

David Bader's show: "Faces * No Places." Join us for David Bader's reception, Feb. 11 at 6pm.

****NEW****

Every Tuesday & Wednesday at 4pm there is an activity at the library for kids!

WEEKLY EVENTS

****NEW** Mondays, 1pm**

Domino Club.
All ages are welcome to join in the battle of tiles.



Mondays, 1-3pm
Creative Mondays
Bring in a current art project, work and interact with friends.

Tuesdays, 10:30am
Story Time.
Ages 0 - 5



Wednesdays, 1pm
Smoking Cessation
with Keys AHEC

****NEW** Wednesdays, 4pm**
Domino Club, all ages.

Thursdays, 10:30am
Story Time
Ages 0 - 5

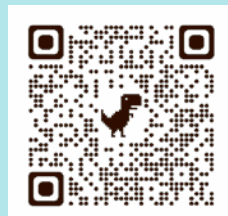
Fridays, 9:30am - 1pm
Sit & Sew

Bring in a sewing or any fabric art project to Sit & Sew and work with a crafting community who understands fabric and yarn habits!



COME TAKE A CLASS!

The Key Largo Library has a variety of offerings, ranging from Book Club and Arts & Crafts for adults to LEGOS and STEM programs. Scan the code to see the complete schedule.



[KeysLibraries.org/events](https://keyslibraries.org/events)
[Facebook.com/KeyLargoLibrary](https://facebook.com/KeyLargoLibrary)
[Instagram.com/KeyLargoLibrary](https://instagram.com/KeyLargoLibrary)

February 3, 2pm
Ukulele Beginner Class
Learn a new-to-you skill to start off the year. Limited number of ukuleles available to borrow with your library card. (Reg. Req. [bit.ly/ keylargo-library-events](https://bit.ly/keylargo-library-events).)

February 3, 4pm
LEGO Club: Release your imagination with a build of your design. Ages 6-12, Supplies provided.

February 4, 9am-12pm
1st Wednesday Plant Clinic

February 4, 4pm, Kids Art Club
Join in artistic expression by releasing your creativity. Ages 6-12, Supplies provided.

****NEW** February 4, 6-7:30pm**
Journaling
Come, explore and decompress mid-week through journaling. You might be surprised at how it could fit into your busy schedule. All ages can journal. Journaling supplies for in library use will be available. Introductory journals provided.

February 5, 11:30am-1pm
SBDC Workshop: Marketing Trends That Sell - Social Media for Small Businesses
Register today!!
[floridasbdc.org /find/fiu/](https://floridasbdc.org/find/fiu/)

February 6, 6pm
1st Friday Concert -
Tabitha Meeks

February 7, 9:30am-1pm
Florida Keys Quilter's Meeting

February 7, 10:30am
Bilingual Story Time
Dance, sing, and listen to stories that will help young children develop their English & Spanish.



MONROE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
FLORIDA KEYS - SINCE 1892

SPECIAL EVENTS

February 10, 2pm
Ukulele Beginner Class
See Feb. 3 for description.

February 10, 4pm
Love Potions Stop in and create a unique Love Potion. Ages 6-12, Supplies provided.

February 11, 2-5pm
Small Business Dev.Center
FIU consultants will provide resources and one-on-one sessions on how to best launch businesses. Limited to 15 so register today!!
<https://floridasbdc.org/find/fiu/>

February 11, 4pm, STEM Lab

February 11, 6pm
Artist Reception - David Bader

February 12, 2-4pm, Adult Craft
Create a modern take on a Valentine's Day Wreath. Register at bit.ly/keylargo-library-events

February 13, 4pm
Sword Demo from the Age of Pirates with Jerry Burg

February 13, 4-5:30pm
Gaming Groupies
Non-stop action, mind-bending puzzles, and multiplayer mayhem. Recommended Age: 6-12

February 14, 10:30am-12pm
Family Movie: The Princess Bride

February 14, 1-4pm
Paint With The Masters
Artist Diana Smith: Style of Frieda Karloff Mexican (Register at bit.ly/keylargo-library-events)

February 17, 4pm
LEGO Club: Ages 6-12.

February 18, 2-5pm
Small Business Dev.Center
Launching small businesses. Limited to 15 so register today!!
<https://floridasbdc.org/find/fiu/>

February 18, 4pm
Kids Art Club
Ages 6-12, Supplies provided.

BUSINESS IN THE KEYS

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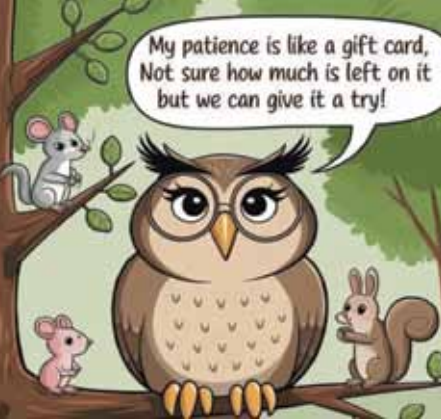
Coco'Nut' Funnies

A guy goes to the supermarket and notices an attractive woman waving at him. She says hello. He's rather taken aback because he can't place where he knows her from.

So he says, "Do you know me?" To which she replies, "I think you're the father of one of my kids."

Now his mind travels back to the only time he has ever been un-faithful to his wife and says, "My God, are you the stripper from my bachelor party that I made love to on the pool table with all my buddies watching while your partner whipped my butt with wet celery?"

She looks into his eyes and says calmly, "No, I'm your son's teacher."



Don't worry about not having a valentine on valentines day.... You probably didn't have a groundhog on groundhogs day either, and you made it through it just fine.

Calories in one pistachio: 4
Calories burned opening one pistachio: 2,479
Take that, kale



"I hear you have tattoos all over your shoulders and back."

"Yes, and when people are sad I let them color them in."

"Why would you do that?"

"Sometimes people just need a shoulder to crayon."



So I either have arthritis or early rigor mortis. Who knows.



I BOUGHT A PLANNER TO FEEL ORGANIZED.
NOW I CAN'T FIND IT



I don't need a Valentine. I need \$9,000,000 & a fast metabolism.



I've been looking for my sanity, but I think it ran off with my motivation, the matching socks, and the good Tupperware lids.



A magician was working on a cruise ship in the Caribbean. The audience would be different each week, so the magician simply performed the same tricks over and over again...

There was only one problem: The captain's parrot saw the shows every week and began to understand what the magician did in every trick. Once he understood that, he started shouting out in the middle of the show. "Look, it's not the same hat!" "Look, he's hiding the flowers under the table!" "Hey, why are all the cards the Ace of Spades?"

The magician was furious but couldn't do anything; it was the captain's parrot after all.

One day the ship had an accident and sank. The magician found himself on a piece of wood in the middle of the ocean and, course, the parrot was by his side. They stared at each other with hate, but did not utter a word. This went on for several days.

After a week the parrot finally said: "Okay, I give up. What'd you do with the boat?"



I've lost control.
I don't see an end.
There is no escape.
I don't even have a home anymore.
Guess it's time for a new keyboard.



I recently joined a support group for people who talk a lot. We call ourselves On and On Anon.

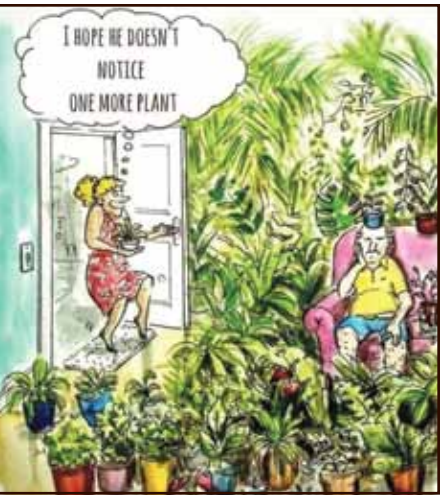


Jane married Ted and had 13 children. Then Ted died of cancer. She remarried, and she and Bob had 7 more children. Bob was killed in a car accident 12 years later. Jane again remarried, and this time, she and John had 5 more children.

Jane finally died, after having 25 children. Standing before her coffin, the preacher prayed for her. He thanked the lord for this very loving woman and said,"Lord, they're finally together."

Ethel leaned over and quietly asked her best friend Margaret, "Do you think he means her first, second or third husband?"

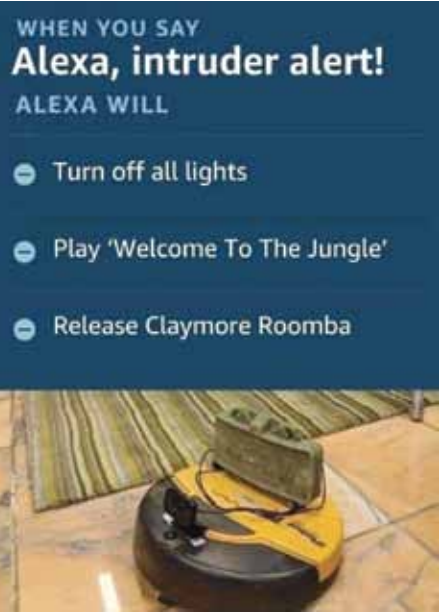
Margaret replied, "I think he means her legs, Ethel... her legs."



A man got on the bus with both of his front pockets full of golf balls and sat down next to a beautiful girl. The puzzled girl kept looking at him & his bulging pockets. Finally, after many such glances from her, he said, "It's golf balls."

Nevertheless, the girl continued to look at him for a very long time, thinking deeply about what he had said.

After several minutes, not being able to contain her curiosity any longer, she asked, "Does it hurt as much as tennis elbow?"



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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@gmail.com

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

MUSICIANS

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

QUILTERS

Meet Florida Keys Quilters: Fridays, come to "Sit and Sew" KL Library 9:30-12:30
floridakeysquilters@gmail.com

THE KEY PLAYERS

Community Theater Group needs volunteers to work behind the scenes & audition for roles!
Check the website for upcoming auditions and productions:
thekeyplayers.org

Conch Characters / Around Town

BLAST FROM THE Past

Gene Hackman, our featured Artist of the Month in March, 2010... shopping for art supplies at Art Lovers in Islamorada.

Denise Moore shows her latest finished quilt - and it's a beauty. Florida Keys Quilters meet Fridays for "Sit & Sew" in the Key Largo Library, 9:30 am - 12:30pm. Stop in and see what is being stitched, learn techniques and ask questions. Monthly meeting first Saturday each month at 10am at the library. floridakeysquilters@gmail.com

Late December's **Everything Free Day** at the Civic Club was a huge success!

FREE FREE SWEET

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.



Rocky



Lucy



Inky



Stella



Karma



Tiger



Jewel



Leo



Nala



Norman

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OFFICE OF
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Reporting Officer: _____
☐ Anonymous Tip

Date of Violation _____ Time _____

VIOLATION TYPE: ☐ Verbal ☐ Attitude
REPORTED: ☐ Email ☐ Online ☐ Bar/Eatery
DEFENDANT NAME: ☐ John/Jane Doe

DETAIL OF VIOLATION

☐ Pronouncing Conch "Con-ch"
☐ Coming to a complete stop on US1
☐ Being in a rush in a checkout line - anywhere
☐ Rude attitude towards bartenders/wait staff
☐ Driving like a maniac - any where, any time
☐ Giving a bad review to a local-run business

Other: _____

Total Fine Due \$ _____ ☐ Warning Only
☐ Just Kidding! ☐ Not Kidding!

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Orchid, Fern & Bromeliad Society

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KeysOrchidClub@gmail.com

Second Tuesday of each month.
6:00 p.m.

2026 Schedule

January 13	June 9
February 10	July 14
March 10	August 11
April 14	September 8
May 12	November 10

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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
1 Webb & Davidson 5-9	2 Carousers 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	3 Micah 5-9	4 Webb & Davidson 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	5 Webb & Davidson 5-9	6 Jade Storm 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	7 Uncle Rico 5-9
8 Webb & Davidson 5-9	9 Carousers 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	10 Leah Sutter 5-9	11 Webb & Davidson 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	12 Webb & Davidson 5-9	13 Shindig 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	14 Mark Edward Hill 12-3 Abstract Radio 5-9
15 Mark Edward Hill 12-3 Webb & Davidson 5-9	16 Carousers 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	17 Steve Venini 5-9	18 Webb & Davidson 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	19 Webb & Davidson 5-9	20 Uncle Rico 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	21 Mark Edward Hill 12-3 Brothers of Others 5-9
22 Webb & Davidson 5-9	23 Carousers 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	24 Micah 5-9	25 Webb & Davidson 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	26 Webb & Bellamy 5-9	27 Beach Bandits 5-9 Michael Trixx @Sunset	28 Mark Edward Hill 12-3 Drop Outs 5-9
"SUNDAY SCHOOL" \$4 Bloody Marys, Mimosas & Screwdrivers every Sunday, 7 to 11 am			LIVE MUSIC 7 DAYS A WEEK!		Open for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner 7am-10pm Enjoy breakfast on the deck overlooking the water. Enjoy lunch or dinner on the beach.	

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







