

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
ARTWORK BY
Little Salt by Carol Ellis
PHOTOGRAPHY
305-451-7778

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



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

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 Pantalleo.

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.

Cards & Gift Shop • Large Print Books • Audiobooks
Coffee-table Books • Free Children's Books

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.

Everything 100% FREE

Really? Really!
Free Market

Donate useable goods from 11a-noon and come back to 'shop' free donations from noon-3p. Open to Upper Keys Residents Only.



Sun. Feb 8, 2026
11 am - 3 pm
KEY LARGO CIVIC CLUB
209 OCEAN BAY DR.

Mutual Aid
Project Where
The Community
Supports The
Community



Donations Accepted, Donations For Grabs: Toys, Clean Clothing, Fishing and diving gear, small working appliances, kitchenware, sports equipment, craft supplies, pet stuff, odds n ends, etc.!

Why Mutual Aid?

- Spend Less Money
- Help Others Fulfill Needs
- 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

