

# Restaurant of the Month

## The Locals' Favorite - Paradise Pub

Mike Clinton, the owner and operator of the Paradise Pub's Dad Jay told him that since he Graduated from Fullsail College majoring in the Film Industry there would be times that he would be involved in the Film Making business and times in between projects. He might have to fall back on another line of work, like waiting tables, and if he was going to have to wait on tables why not just buy a Restaurant? So in May of 2005 he bought the Paradise Pub.

The Paradise Pub has been a landmark locals hang out for years and years. The Clinton's didn't want to see a chain come in and take away this special place from Key Largo. It is, after all, the original home of the "Cheeseburger in Paradise", like in the Jimmy Buffet song. The cheeseburger with lettuce, tomato, onion, french fries and coleslaw is still only \$6.95. We recommend lunch with Sharon the day manager.

Sharon and the daily lunch specials listed on the back page of this newspaper are sure to make you smile. Although you could never accuse the Pub of being a Fine Dining Restaurant, the food is excellent in it's own "Cheers" style atmosphere and they are open late. Dine indoors or outside amidst the picnic tables and palm trees. You can choose from anything on their full menu up until 1 AM on weekdays and 2 AM on Fridays and Saturdays. My friend Kiwi makes a point of getting the Grilled Grouper Dinner (\$9.95) every time he comes to town. Dance the night away or play pool till the wee hours and you'll still be able to get a bite to eat and not regret all the fun you had in the morning.

If you are a local or new in town stop in and sign up for the pool or dart tournaments. The Pub has the only steel tip electronic dartboards in town. It's a great way to meet people.



The local hangout, Paradise Pub is located at mile marker 102 on the Oceanside in Key Largo.



Paradise Pub Owner Mike Clinton (right) stands with Manager Sharon Sikes.

Paradise Pub's "Cheeseburger in Paradise" has earned four stars from more than one critic...



**Paradise Pub**  
Key Largo, MM 102 Oceanside  
305-451-5881  
Daily 11 a.m. - 4 a.m.

# Hippotherapy at White Star Farm

Continued from page 4  
more" when the user presses the button. Lili holds the box in her left hand while she supports Jaiden on the horse with her right hand. The volunteers guide the horse for several steps, and then they stop. Lili asks Jaiden, "Do you want more?" He reaches out to the big red button and presses it. The recorded voice says, "More". They repeat this process several times, and each time the horse stops, Lili asks, "Do you want more?" Each time, Jaiden reaches for the button, and it says, "More!" In response, the horse starts walking again.

Lili is happy with Jaiden's responses, saying, "This is the first step. We're hoping in the next few weeks to have more than one button - one that says "more" and one that says "all done". He'll have one to take home also." From there, they can progress to more complex choices.

Lili tells us, "The horse acts as a great reinforcer motivating the child to participate in activities. For kids who aren't communicating, the use of the horse can reinforce communication." Lili tells us that Jaiden's attention and walking have improved significantly -the rhythmic walking movements of the horse help in his awareness of his body. By modifying the pace of the horse, sensory processing can also be facilitated. Inefficient sensory processing can have effects on a child's arousal level, attention and motor control.

Christina, Jaiden's mom, says she's seen many changes in Jaiden, especially with his walking. "When he started, he was really unstable. He would

walk into walls, but he's gotten a lot better. He's been doing this about a year. When he's finished with therapy, he tries harder, doesn't get as frustrated, and makes more sounds."

The Hippotherapy horses Healis uses at White Star Farms are of the Paso Fino breed.

Many of the volunteers are students, who can earn volunteer hours for high school working with kids and horses in Healis' program.

Diane asked us to let our readers know how much she appreciates all the people who make this program possible: White Star Farms and its owner--Diana Stearns, Andrea Sante--trainer/manager, all of the volunteers for their wonderful contributions to the program, and the parents of the volunteers who provide transportation to and from the ranch.

The Healis Therapists are:  
• Diane Sampson, LPTA (Coordinator)  
• Liliana Dietsch, OTR/L  
• Liz Hall, PTA  
• Annabelle Jorge, MSPT

The Healis Hippotherapy program is sponsored by The Children's Clinic, which offers comprehensive pediatric services including Physical, Occupational and Speech therapy, aquatic therapy, Sensory Integration and Praxis testing, orthotic and wheelchair evaluations, and developmental screenings. For more information about all of Healis' programs, call 305-251-7477.

White Star Farms is located at 25005 SW 193rd Ave, Homestead. (305) 247-3211. [Whitestarfarms.com](http://Whitestarfarms.com).

The Coconut Telegraph thanks Mary Bonnen for inspiring this article.



Some Dance To Remember  
Some Dance To Forget

THE ORIGINAL  
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WEDNESDAY  
**MAY 2ND**

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5-9  
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9 PM  
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PIERRE'S LOUNGE 9-CLOSE: DJ

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