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Phone 305-304-2837
Fax 305-453-4659

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Call Denise at
305-304-2837

Cast of Characters:

Editor/Sales/Distribution
Denise Malefyt

Sales
Marty Sutton

Advertising Production
Sue Beal

Newspaper Production
Nikki Dunn

Contributors
Rachel R. Peine
Rich Peine

Upper Keys Distribution
Pattywagon

Photographer
Video Dave

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Editorial: Butt Puppets, Butt heads and Big Foot

Jimmy Buffett has been successful at stealing our website. The arbitration board agreed with Buffett's lawyers that the Coconut Telegraph's website coconuttelegraphonline.com could cause confusion with Margaritaville's website and that Buffett would lose revenue for his tee-shirt sales from people that would read the Conch Republic Coconut Telegraph instead of his newsletter. Duh, I guess he wants to keep things simple for his "Parrot Heads". Our new website is theconchtelegraph.com and our readers are not confused. It's too bad since we had made it to the #3 spot ahead of his crappy newsletter.

We think the "Pirates on the Water - Parrott Heads" are a great organization, however, over the past year we have been told that their membership has dropped from 300 members to 150. I have had phone calls from irate readers that are boycotting Jimmy Buffett's Land Shark beer and products due to his attitude about the Coconut Telegraph and the Conch Republic. I think it's a damn good beer and I drink it whenever it's free.

The latest rage to hit the Keys is "Butt Puppet's". After 9/11 Scott Walz created a Butt Puppet of Osama bin Laden. It's a latex puppet that's head pops out of its butt. He named it "Butt Laden". After our trip to Margaritaville in July, Walz was inspired to create



"Butt Buffett" (my favorite), and has just recently come out with "Butt Bush". For information on how to get one call Scott at 305-731-3827.

Speaking of butt heads... the Travel Host magazine recently reprinted an article that was published in the Coconut Telegraph in May with a picture that belongs to me. It is really tacky to do that without permission. Maybe they got scammed.

A special thank you to CC Hemingway, a former entertainment writer for the Reporter and co-worker of mine at the Independent. I told her I wanted to do a story on Captain Tony as I had been in Key West for his 92nd birthday party. She grabbed the ball and ran all the way to Key West. Great job CC! I told her to tell Captain Tony that I would like to have him run for President of the USA. So many people have told me they are not voting this year because they don't like either candidate. I know they would all vote for Captain Tony. He is considering it.

Big Foot abounds in the Keys. Putting this story together was more fun than a barrel of monkeys! Howard Snappersquach is a master at putting on parties. Maybe we can convince him to throw a Sasquatch party. Free bar tab for the best dressed Big Foot? Ohhh... that would be fun.

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**Entertainer of the Month
Rock Bottom**



Story by Rachel R Peine

From The Cure to Led Zeppelin, you'll hear a wide range of music when Rock Bottom lets loose. Roch Luongo leads the band with drums and vocals, along with Mike Phiffer on bass and Tony Collela on guitar.

The band has been together for about eight years, and they play at Coconuts, Gilbert's, and the Mutineer in Florida City. They also play as far north as Daytona. They'll be at Coconuts the last weekend in September, Friday the 26th, and Saturday the 27th.

Growing up in Hollywood Florida, Roch was influenced by the Beatles and the Stones because his older sister listened to them, but he gravitated to Buddy Rich and Big Band jazz when he started

playing drums at 15. He's self-taught, and his first professional gigs were in Canada. He has played with the English band Uriah Heep, as well as with guitarist Harvey "the Snake" Mandel, who performed at Woodstock with Canned Heat.

Mike Phiffer has been called one of the best bass players around, with a funky sound that could only come from New Jersey.

Tony Collela, a young innovative guitarist, has played with Roch on and off for five years. He also sings and writes songs.

The band is available for private parties, weddings, New Year's and other occasions. They can be reached at 954-309-9476, and their website is rockbottom/band.com.



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