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The Conch Republic COCONUT TELEGRAPH

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Inside

Children Ride for Bike Safety
Bird Center Comes Home to Roost

Attractions

Entertainer of the Month
...Allan Truesdell
Artist of the Month
...Todd Milligan
Hunk of the Month
...Jeff Shields

Map

Getting From Here to There

Special Events

Misty Powers Benefit,
September 12
Benefit and Celebration of life for
DeAtley & Falconer, Aug. 8
Celebrating Deb Hawkins' Birthday
August 15

What's Hot & What's Not

Conch Characters
Sounds of the Keys

All the Buzz

Keys Drunknapping Mystery
To Rise Above
Achieving a High Vibration



Thanks to the efforts of many, and in particular Laura Quinn (pictured left) and Robert Gintel (pictured right), the Wild Bird Center comes home to roost. See article on page 8.

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Coconut Telegraph

August 2010
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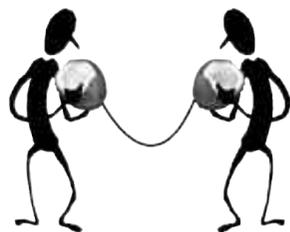
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Articles

Entertainer of the Month, Allan Truesdell3
 St. James Children Ride for Bike Safety4
 Celebrating Deb Hawkins' Birthday.....6
 Centennial Bank Sponsors Parade Run.....7
 Boy Scouts Travel to Georgia7
 Wild Bird Center Comes Home to Roost8
 To Rise Above, Achieving a High Vibration9
 Scouts Hike in New Mexico.....10
 Misty Powers Benefit11
 Getting from Here to There- map page12
 Artist of the Month, Todd Milligan14
 Hunk of the Month, Jeff Shields14
 Keys Drunknapping Mystery15
 Conch Characters.....17
 Adopt a Key Largo Animal Shelter Pet.....18
 Sounds of the Keys20
 Business in the Keys21
 Classified Ads.....22
 Dear Anny Bannanny23
 Coco 'Nut' Funnies23

**Entertainer of the Month
Allan Truesdell**

The Energizer Bunny and Rocket

Allan Truesdell is an entertainer in the true sense of the word. He is as much a joy to listen to as he is to watch and his high energy is downright contagious. His playing style can go from fingerstyle to flat-picking and he plays everything from old country to modern rock.

It's Thursday night at the Big Chill, happy hour is almost over when Truesdell gets up to play and then things



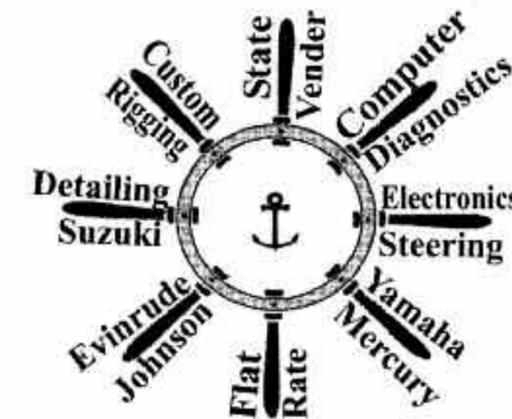
start hopping. People of all ages are either riveted to their seats in awe of this fabulous entertainer or whooping it up on the dance floor as Truesdell moves around the tiki bar, behind the bar, and even jumps up on the outdoor furniture while never missing a beat

and barefoot the entire time! What amazes me is how he manages to do 7 to 8 shows a week.

Truesdell is originally from upstate New York. He worked his way through school playing the guitar and entertaining while he studied computer science. Even though he is a high tech brainiac his friends convinced him that he was a much nicer person with a guitar in his hands, so he

resigned as V.P. of a technology company he had been with for 8 years and went back to music full time. The most frightening thing in the world for a singer is throat surgery and that is what he was told he needed in 2008. It took

Continued on page5...



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Editorial: Take Time to Help Others

Our generous community is hosting several benefits in the coming weeks. Please take time to participate and help members of our community who have suffered great losses.

There will be a Celebration of Life and benefit for the families of Steve-o DeAtley and Jim Falconer, two local entertainers that were killed in a car accident on July 25th. The benefit will be at Coconut's Sunday August 8 with live music beginning at noon. There will be raffles and food, and all proceeds will go to pay for the funeral expenses of these fine young men who were taken from us way too soon. For more information contact Murray at Coconuts 305-453-9794.

On September 12 there will be a benefit for the family of Deputy Misty Powers at the American Legion Post 333 in

Key Largo. This event is sponsored by the American Legion, VFW, Coconut Telegraph, WORZ Ocean Reef Radio and Coral Financial Jewelry and Pawn. Deputy Powers was killed in a car accident in June and leaves behind her husband and two young children. This is an open invitation to all Police Departments, Fire Departments and EMT's, etc. So many times we say to ourselves "I just wish I could do something". Well now is your chance. This is also a way to bring the community together in a cathartic way to heal our spirit as well as pay our respects for our lost Deputy. We hope to bring together all the people that put their life on the line working 12-hour days, everyday for us. For more information on this contact Tammy Patten, Key Largo Realty, 305-395-2062 or myself at 305-304-2837.

The Coconut Telegraph and WORZ Radio will be having the second annual "Party for the Pantry", a benefit for the Burton Memorial Church Food Pantry. This year we are proud to say it will be at Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill on Sunday, November 14 and will be bigger and better than ever!

I would like to thank the local merchants that so generously donate to these events and the proprietors of the venues where we hold them. For instance, the Caribbean Club has donated to more benefits then I can shake a stick at and when you have a benefit there they donate back a portion of their profits. The list is long... Please take a moment sometime soon to thank these people for their generous contributions to the community.

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St. James Children Ride for Bike Safety Awareness

For more than 15 years, Sue Ellen Bennett, Director of the St. James Children's Center in Islamorada has included the Trike-A-Thon Bike Safety program into the summer activities. Sponsored by St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Trike-A-Thon is a special program developed for early childhood educators and childcare centers to teach children riding safety tips while helping to continue St. Jude's efforts of eradicating childhood catastrophic diseases. "What started as a fun educational event has become a staple of the summer program. We have children return summer after summer just for the Bike a Thon - they really love it and look forward to it," said Sue Ellen Bennett about the program's popularity. The program is a week-long

activity involving young children, their parents and teachers. Trike-A-Thon introduces key concepts of riding safety, and concludes with a fun-filled event where the participants bring their riding toys from home and show off the skills they have learned. In addition to learning how to stay safe, the children also learn about helping others through gaining sponsorship from friends and family for St. Jude. This year's pledge money is still coming in, but over the last 15 years, St. James Trike-A-Thon has raised \$17,255 for St. Jude's Hospital. "People don't believe me when I say these children ride at least 50 laps each!" On the Friday of the Bike Safety Awareness week, the children bring their own bikes and

helmets to St. James. Indeed parents arrived to find a veritable parking lot of bicycles and tricycles on the front porch of the Children's Center. "For some children, that's enough. For others, it's just the beginning. Some will ride non-stop for hours if you let them." St. James Dad and Monroe County officer Matt Koval brought his Police Bike and talked to the children about the tools on his bike and the importance of bike and road rules for safety. St. James Mom Stephanie Scuderi coordinated with Brenda Denson from the Monroe County Health Department, to bring the benefit of the County's Free Helmet program to the St. James summer kids. Brenda arrived Friday morning with 25 new helmets and a few

hours of time to properly fit each student. "I saw the Health Department at the Healthy Kids Day a few months ago at the Key Largo park - giving away free helmets as part of a county grant program," said Stephanie Scuderi. "I thought, what better timing to make sure every child has a strong and properly fit helmet, courtesy of Monroe County? We're really grateful to Brenda and the Monroe County Health Department for participating in the St. James 2010 Trike A Thon." In addition to the helmets, the children also received a Centennial Bank goodie bag with stickers and a piggy bank. The Trike a Thon program is sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC),



St. James children line up with their bikes for bike safety awareness.



Alli Beth Wilson, who celebrated her 3rd birthday the day of the Trike-A-Thon, received a new pink helmet, from the Monroe County Health Department.

the world's largest early childhood education association. NAEYC currently has more than 100,000 members and a network of nearly 450 local, state and regional affiliates. Over 8,600 preschools and daycare centers across America participate in

the Trike-A-Thon program. Their efforts contribute more than \$7.7 million to St. Jude every year. "St. Jude Trike-A-Thons are a remarkable learning experience for young children," said David L. McKee, chief operating officer of ALSAC, the fundraising

organization for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. "The program is a wonderful way to teach bike safety, while also instilling in children the important lesson of helping others." For more information about coordinating or participating in the Trike-A-

Thon program, please call 1-800-626-BIKE (2453). For more information on the free helmet program, please call the Monroe County Health Department at 853-3240. For more information about St. James Children Center, please call 305.852.2161.



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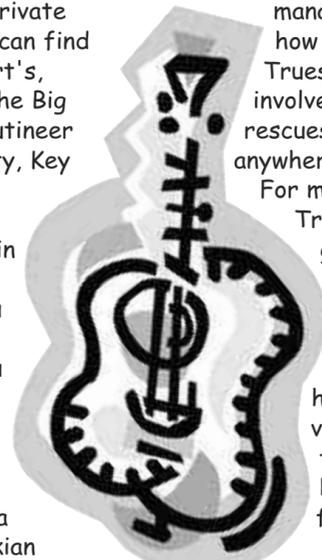
Allan Truesdell

...continued from page 3.

Truesdell nearly 2 years to fully recover but he is back in full swing with his hectic schedule playing public venues and private parties. You can find him at Gilbert's, Sharkey's, the Big Chill, The Mutineer in Florida City, Key Largo Hilton and Rumrunners in Islamorada.

While you are catching the show you may want to meet Truesdell's 2 1/2 year old dog Rocket, a Czechoslovakian

shepherd that is smarter than a lot of people I know. Although Truesdell has not yet begun to give Rocket guitar lessons he has managed to teach him how to use a urinal. Truesdell is proudly involved with animal rescues and rarely goes anywhere without Rocket. For more information on Truesdell's schedule go to www.allanspage.com or call 305-896-0574 to book your party. Truesdell has graciously volunteered to play for the benefit for Deputy Power's family.



Celebrating Deb Hawkins' 60th Birthday!

Felix is putting on a big 60th birthday party for his mom, Debbie Hawkins, on Sunday August 15th, starting at 3 pm at the Caribbean Club in Key Largo. It will feature an amazing lineup of live entertainment and other festivities to honor Deb for this milestone birthday, and for all the music she's given the Key Largo community. Deb has sung with Jimmy Hawkins and the Cyclones band, with Jimmy's solo act, with Steve Venini, and many others; she hosts karaoke at the Caribbean Club on Wednesday nights, and "Deb's Picks" on Monday nights another local bar. Everyone is invited to come to the birthday party and have a great time, you just being there is your gift to Deb!

Felix "The Catt" is Back!



The Hawkins family is happy to welcome Felix home. In his time away, Felix has been developing new material and will release a new CD at the party. The new release is dedicated to his mom and dad, and to a new start.

Felix thanks everyone for their support. In the past, he's said some hurtful things to people and burned some bridges. He apologizes to anyone he has offended and hopes people will help him build a new future and forget about the past. He says, "Life is too short to be angry all the time."

Three years ago, Felix produced a huge 60th birthday party for his dad, Jimmy Hawkins. Last month, he put together a fundraiser at the Caribbean Club for Judge Ptomey's campaign. He plans to put on more events like these, such as benefits and music festivals. Stay tuned!

Recently, Felix has been developing a solo act. Those who know Felix's abilities on the bass will enjoy discovering his solo performances — with acoustic guitar or keyboard and, as always, amazing vocals. Ask him where his current regular gigs are, and when. For bookings call 305-302-8093.



Congratulations, Deb, on your milestone birthday, and thanks for all great music you make for us!

CELEBRATING

DEB'S 60th BIRTHDAY

You're Invited! Come & Celebrate With The Hawkins Family!

Sunday, August 15th
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Luke Ptomey
Stereos Underground
Colbert 20WT
Blackwater Sound
The Regs
Luke Sommer Glenn Band
ITMO
Dave Feder
John McKenna
Steve Venini
Micah

The Island Grill welcomes 2 new Chefs!

Executive Chef Greg Backman and Sous Chef Brad Packard.

Formerly with the Palm Beach Polo Club, Chef Greg will be creating some exciting Lunch & Dinner specials. Chef Brad will compliment the kitchen with his vast experience and provide the finishing touches to an already popular menu.

Watch the advertisements in the near future for **Another Island Grill Beach Bash, coming over Labor Day Weekend.** You know the parties at the Grill are great, wait till you see the Labor Day Party, you will not want to miss it. Details coming soon.

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Centennial Bank Sponsors YMCA Annual Parade Run



Derek Wellin, Max Jones and Pierre-Marc Bellion...third, first and second place winners of the YMCA Parade 5K Independence Day Run.

With more than 30 runners, the Key Largo YMCA Stay Ahead of the Parade 5K Independence Day Run doubled in size from last year's event. Max Jones took first place with a time of 19:40. Second place went to Pierre-Marc Bellion (20:48 time) and Derek Wellin (22:16 time) took third. For the second year, Centennial Bank sponsored the race and the mid-point water station.

Friends Show Support



Judge Ptomey (middle) and friends.

Florida Keys Wild Bird Center Comes Home To Roost

'It's our bird center now.'

On July 19 ownership of the Florida Keys Wild Bird Center changed hands thanks to the generosity of its co-chairman, Ocean Reef member Robert Gintel, whose family foundation made a \$700,000 charitable contribution to the bird center. This donation enabled the FKWBC to purchase the property, which it had previously leased, from prior owner and founder, Laura Quinn enabling her to pay off the \$500,000 reverse mortgage that had encumbered the property.

"Now this potentially valuable piece of property can remain a bird center in perpetuity for the benefit of the residents, tourists, local business community, 14, 000 guests who visit our birds every year, and the 700 birds that are rescued and rehabilitated annually," says Mr. Gintel. "As part of the package, Laura Quinn will continue to reside on the premises, among the flocks of birds that she loves so dearly. Visitors from time to time may see her walking the boardwalk, talking to guests, or just sitting down by the water's edge enjoying the beautiful view."

The FKWBC has had a checkered history. For years, it struggled as a not-for-profit entity relying completely on charitable donations for its survival. With the passage of time, proprietor Laura Quinn, a pioneer in the field of wild bird rehabilitation, had to resort more and more often to increasing her indebtedness on the property. Last November, the situation had reached a critical stage when it became obvious that the bird center

could no longer make ends meet. An urgent appeal for financial assistance, fueled by local newspaper publicity, resulted in a substantial inflow of donations that enabled the bird center to pay all its creditors, bring its accounts payable up to date, and halt the erosion of confidence that had begun to set in.

That was only the beginning. The bird center's board of directors was reconstituted and new management policies and procedures were implemented. Two highly qualified and experienced bird rehabilitators were hired and nearby facilities that were needed to operate were leased. New crews were hired to feed the birds and ensure compliance with all pertinent federal and state regulations. Cleanliness, sanitary conditions and visitor safety improved considerably and the number of birds released after rehabilitation and returned to their natural habitat increased to 62 percent. Computers and software were upgraded and a website, www.fkwbc.org, was developed to market the center. Neighborhood outreach programs to help rebuild reputation and awareness were undertaken along with several fundraising events. One night's ticket proceeds from the Miami Acting Company's production of the musical comedy, "The

Producers," were donated to the center at the new Murray E. Nelson Government & Cultural Center in Key Largo.



Before and after the show, a silent auction was conducted to benefit the center. The new board, with the addition of several new members, is now focusing on future plans to rebuild, restore and modernize the facility. The Gintel Family contribution to purchase the bird center and give it to the

community encouraged the Ocean Reef Foundation to seek a matching \$750,000-gift from its supporters in order to help the bird center achieve its future goals and objectives. So far the foundation has raised approximately \$100,000. Make donations directly on the center's website, www.fkwbc.org, or send a check to the Ocean Reef Foundation, 200 Anchor Drive, Suite B, Key Largo, FL 33037. The Florida Keys Wild Bird Center, located at mile marker 93.6 on the bayside, is open daily from sunrise to sunset.

For more information, please call 305-852-4486.

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To Rise Above Achieving a High Vibration

We reach a high vibrational level when we are whole, healthy, and fulfilling our potential.

All matter is made up of energy, and that energy is in motion continually. Everything in the universe, from the smallest molecules to the most complex living beings, has an optimal rate of vibration to keep it healthy. We reach this high vibrational level when we are whole, healthy, and fulfilling our potential. Human beings are able to consciously control these vibrations within themselves using a variety of techniques. We know when we have reached a high vibrational state because we feel good and can sense that we are aligned with all that is. We find we are capable of healing and have good intuition and perception that are a result of our resonating closer and closer to our ideal frequencies.

Thoughts, emotions, intentions, choices, and actions contribute to our vibrational state, as do the environments we inhabit. Affirmative activities that leave us feeling joyous, appreciative, loving, and peaceful raise our vibration. Constructive, creative, and expansive thoughts do the same. When we cultivate habits that contribute to our physical health and strength, our vibration is likewise raised. Certain mantra meditations, breathing exercises, and chants are designed to increase

vibration. But simply practicing gratitude and forgiveness, surrounding ourselves with loving high-vibration people, eating whole foods, and spending time in nature can also help us transcend our current vibrational limitations.

When your desire for change is strong enough, you will find yourself gravitating toward what can help you achieve and maintain a high vibrational state. A positive outlook will then become the most important tool you possess, and this outlook will sustain you when the path leading toward transformation is wide and winding. As you evolve, your vibrational frequency will also evolve, aiding you in the creation of an even higher reality. Consciously and unconsciously, you will attract auspicious circumstances and positive people that will help you continue exploring the scope of your higher self until you move beyond the earthly plane.



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Scouts Hike in New Mexico



Pictured from left: Daniel Michael, Lars Vihlen, Dr. Brian Magrane, Sam Gonzalez, Mr. Dave Rowland, Kieran Magrane, Mr. Bob Michael, D.J. Rowland, Connor Bell, David Bogue, Jonathan Bogue, Mr. Roy Bogue.

This summer a "Crew" of Boy Scouts from the Keys went to Philmont Ranch in New Mexico. After biking down Pike's Peak and White water Rafting Echo Canyon they spent 10 days hiking 56 miles through Philmont High Adventure Scout Ranch.

At spots along the trail they did shotgun and rifle shooting, burro racing, black smithing, rock climbing and rappelling. They saw the only T.Rex foot print in the world, viewed petroglyphs, visited a mine and an old hunting lodge. They participated in a "Conservation work project" and did some archaeological digging.

Diagnosis: Keys Disease

If your bridal outfit includes coordinating flipflops and sunglasses... you might have Keys Disease.

If all your clothes have either writing or flowers or fish on them... you might have Keys Disease.

If you bought your prescription sunglasses at the Salvation Army and they're "close enough"... you might have Keys Disease.

If you need to find your one and only pair of socks to get ready to go north... you might have Keys Disease.

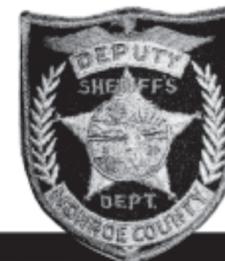
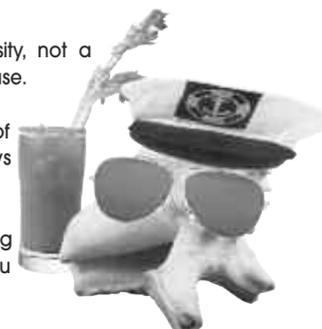
If you think anything under 75 degrees is chilly... you might have Keys Disease.

If you do all your holiday gift shopping at Publix... you might have Keys Disease.

If you know a boat is a necessity, not a luxury... you might have Keys Disease.

If your favorite time of year is "end of season"... you might have Keys Disease.

If you have a drawer full of bathing suits, and just one sweatshirt... you might have Keys Disease.



BENEFIT

for the family of

Deputy Misty Powers

Sunday
Sept. 12, 2010
 2-7pm, at the
American Legion
 Corner of Seagate Blvd & Ocean Drive
 at MM 99.6 (formerly Tugboats)



Monroe County Sheriff's Deputy Melissa (Misty) Powers was killed in June when her patrol car was involved in a single-vehicle accident at mile marker 101 on U.S.1. while on duty. She was pinned in the car and had to be extricated. She was rushed to Mariner's Hospital where she was pronounced dead.

Melissa Powers came to work for the Monroe County Sheriff's Office in December 2006 as a road patrol deputy working in the city of Marathon. She transferred to road patrol in the Key Largo area in February of this year. Prior to working for the Sheriff's Office, she worked for the Florida Department of Corrections.

Deputy Powers was 36 years old. She is survived by two young children, and her husband who is a Detective with the Homestead Police department.

Basket Raffles, Silent & Auctions, Food, Music & Fun!

MUSIC BY
 Felix the Catt and Luke Ptomey
 Tim Dressing • Gary Lee Jennings
 Scott Youngberg • Cindy Lawson
 Alan Truesdell • Ted Hyde
 Steve Dunlop & More

The public is invited!

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 Tuesday Jimmy Ray
 Wednesday Derek Henning
 Thursday Alan Truesdale
 Friday Jimmy Ray & Derek Henning
 Saturday Reggae Ronnie
 Sunday Steel Drum Brunch with Walter McIntyre

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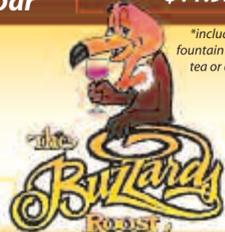
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12:30-3pm: LUKE SOMMER GLENN
6-10pm: TJ KARAOKE

Wednesdays
12:30-3pm & 6:30-9pm: ALLEN TRUESDELL

Thursdays
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Todd Milligan

...continued from page 14
Peterson's Poker Run and the live performances of JK Project, Michael Trixx and Case and Davidson.

Milligan credits Billy Davidson with helping him develop a live high-definition video and audio recording technique which rivals that of musicians recording in a studio. He now records CD quality audio with high definition video at a live performance with two or three cameras that passes the "Billy Davidson Test"! Not only can you see their nose hairs, but you can hear the frets on the guitar.

In addition to the live

performances and events they are now doing high-definition videos for websites and most recently completed a promo for Hall of Fame Angler Stu Apte.

Their latest amazing piece of video equipment is the same as what NBC used in the Winter Olympics, hailed by Lucas Film for opening new doors for creativity in film making. This "secret" piece of gear will make its debut in their upcoming tarpon shoot for a local fishing guide... you'll just have to wait to see what it does to the finished footage on their website www.ReefMultiMedia.com in about 30 days, weather and fish permitting.

Sounds of the Keys



Tom Jones at Gilbert's!



James Brown at Gilbert's.



You always enjoy the live music at Pontune's Tiki Bar.



Michael Holler entertains at Coconuts.



Gi Gi Denisco entertained July 4th at the VFW.



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Clubs/Organizations

Upper Keys Mac User Group meets the second Thursday of every month at Key Largo Library Community Room 7pm. Free/public is welcome. 451-4601

Key Players, Inc. Community Theater Group needs volunteers to work behind the scenes! Sign up on their website at! www.thekeyplayers.org

Florida Keys Orchid, Fern & Bromeliad Society meets the 3rd Thurs. of every month at Key Largo Lib. Community Room at 7pm. Free/open to public. 451- 3000

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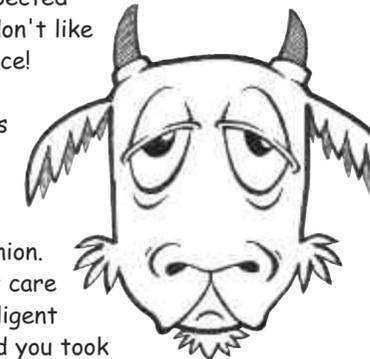
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Dear Anny Bannanny

Dear Anny Bannanny,

Here are some things that get my goat! Dried up old hags that have more miles on them than US 1 looking for a sugar daddy and sex for money or a free place to live. Ugh! Shouldn't there be an age limit on this? Violent criminals, arsonists and crack heads in the same room as me. They need a Plantation Key vacation! People that turn in the American Legion to the county and then say they didn't when their signature is on the documents. Barf! Seafood that isn't fresh and smells like it. Political wannabes that put down Key Largo saying "it is not part of the Keys", with little or no experience and have the nerve to challenge our respected incumbents! And, I don't like you either banana face!

Yours truly,
Goatless



Dear Goatless,

Everyone is entitled to their opinion. Especially when they care enough and are intelligent enough to write. Glad you took the smart way to get things off your chest. There is nothing worse than being bothered by a dumb drunken jerk in public. Don't criticize something you know nothing about! Anny Bannanny has four years experience writing this advice column and if you don't like it stick it up your onomatopoeic bleatin' goat butt!

Sincerely,
Anny Bannanny

Phlorida Keys Phobias

- Fear of stinky people - Autodysomophobia
 - Fear of the ocean or sea - Thalassophobia
 - Strangers or foreigners - Xenophobia
 - Sun or sunlight - Heliophobia
 - Sunshine or daylight - Phengophobia
 - Hurricanes - Lilapsophobia
 - Women - Gynophobia
 - Long words - Hippopotomonstrosquipedaliophobia
 - Alcohol - Potophobia
 - Bridges - Gephyrophobia
 - Fear of cold - Frigophobia
 - Drinking - Dipsophobia
 - Drugs - Pharmacophobia
 - Trailer Fires - Arsonophobia
 - Fear of hearing good news - Euphobia
 - Fear of becoming homosexual - Homophobia
 - Insanity - Maniaphobia
 - Music - Melophobia
 - Marriage - Gamophobia
 - Sex - Genophobia
 - Shellfish - Ostraconophobia
 - Fear of slime - Myxophobia
 - Time or clocks - Chronophobia
 - Getting wrinkles - Rhytipobia
 - Writing - Graphophobia
 - Fear of crack heads - Pipeaphobia
 - Wrinkled old prostitutes - Hagaslutaphobia
 - Toothless people - Gumaphobia
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 - Fear of oil in the ocean - BParedicksaphobia
- * We made these ones up.

A Man Went to a Psychiatrist for His Phobia.

"Doc," he said, "I've got trouble. Every time I get into bed, I think there's somebody under it. I get under the bed, I think there's somebody on top of it. Top, under, top, under. You gotta help me, I'm going crazy!"

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"I'll sleep on it," said the man.

Six months later the doctor met the man on the street.

"Why didn't you ever come to see me again?" asked the psychiatrist.

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"Is that so! How?"

"He told me to cut the legs off the bed!"

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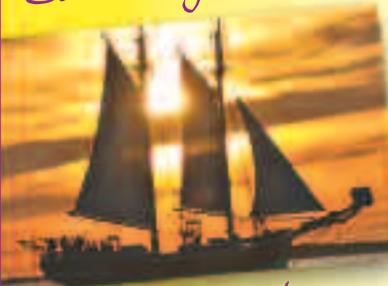
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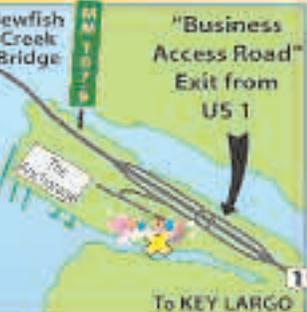

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