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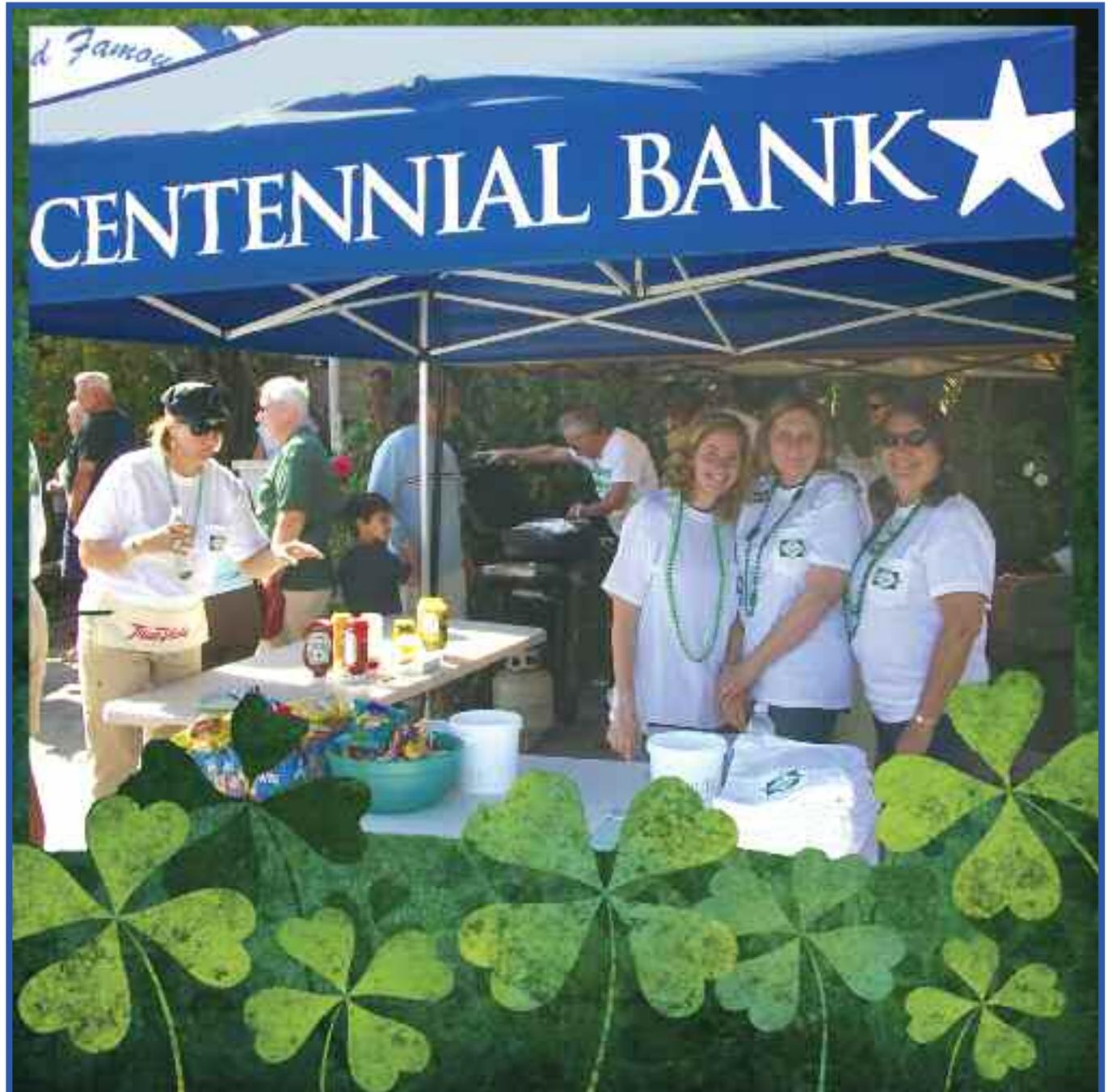
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What's Hot & What's Not

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All the Buzz

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Mark your calendar for this year's St. Patrick's Day extravaganza, March 17th. See back page for more info.

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Coconut Telegraph

February 2011
Volume 6 Issue #47

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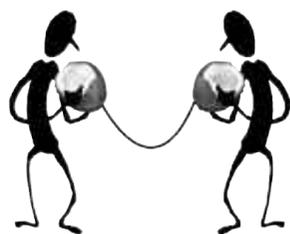
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Editorial: Advice for Tourists and Day-trippers

Before the new Jewfish Creek Bridge was built I owned a visitor center located at Gilbert's Resort. The purpose of that type of business is to book hotel rooms and water sports including fishing trips, snorkeling, waverunner rentals, glass bottom boat trips, and more. While there I heard some of the frustrating tourist questions all locals have been asked. Question like: "We only have 2 hours, what can we see and do in the Keys?" or "We brought a cooler, where is the beach?" The worst one was "Can we walk to the reef?"

So here is some information and advice for people visiting our beautiful Florida Keys...

The Florida Keys are famous for our Coral Reef State Park. Nowhere else in the continental U.S. can you see live coral. It is hard to describe the incredible beauty. Since it is a state park the fish are

protected and they seem to know it. If you have only one day in the Keys this is a must see. But you have to get on a boat because it is four miles of shore out in the ocean.

All along the highway there are snorkel and dive shops, pick one, they all go to the reef. We like Sundiver Station because they are friendly and dependable. If you don't want to get wet, we recommend a trip on the Key Largo Princess Glass Bottom Boat (see page 12 for coupon). Food and drinks are available and you can kick back and relax while the narrator describes the different coral and sea life. It is educational as well and fun for the whole family.

If you only have a couple of hours the next best thing in the Keys is our fabulous fresh seafood. In this newspaper you will find only the very best restaurants in the Upper Keys. These restaurant owners buy

the seafood fresh from the fishermen. After tasting fresh fish, lobster and crab you will swear off the frozen forever.

There are no public sandy beaches in Key Largo. The closest is Anne's Beach MM 73.8. If you are short on time Gilbert's Resort at MM 108 has a beach and they welcome visitors but coolers are not allowed. You are welcome to enjoy the beach and pool but food and drinks must be purchased at the tiki bar or inside the air conditioned restaurant. Boat and waverunner rentals are also available. And you can always just sit back and enjoy the live local entertainment and watch the boats come and go.

Changing your itinerary and deciding to stay longer is HIGHLY recommended. Gilbert's has reasonable motel rates with views of the water. Please enjoy your stay and come back often.

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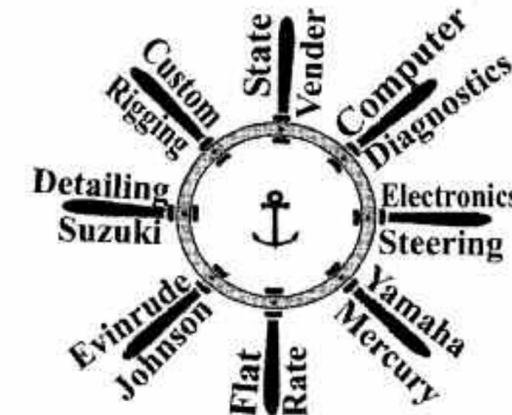
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**Hunk of the Month
Dave Sheehan**
Owner of Keys
Adventure Watersports



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February's Hunk of the Month at
Gilbert's Resort, MM 108.

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Entertainer of the Month Mike Mitzner at Sharkey's Pub

The great Yogi Berra once said "This is like deja vu all over again!" No, your eyes are not playing tricks on you. Mike Mitzner is the only musician in the history of the Coconut Telegraph to ever be featured as Entertainer of the Month three times.

The musical phenomenon was first featured in the April 2008 issue (see theconchtelegraph.com archives for the original story) as one half of the extraordinary duo Mike and Drein. Drein Vernon was Mike's partner, girlfriend and best friend. Together they were one of the most sought after singing sensations to ever rock the Keys. They even produced a CD together called "Live, Loud, and Proud" which was recorded live at the Caribbean Club.

We are very sad to say that shortly after the article appeared in the Coconut Telegraph Drein, then age 43, passed away in her sleep. While all the Conch Republic mourned Mitzner was devastated. Most people would have crawled into their shell, but he grabbed his guitar and sat in with any entertainer who would let him.

"Music is my therapy. It's my balance," explains Mitzner. "When life starts to spiral out of control music pulls me back and keeps me grounded. Life goes on."

In June of 2009, Mitzner and Dwayne McGregor had formed the duo "Just Not Right" and were featured as



Entertainer's of the Month. They both later went on to play solo.

And this month Mitzner is featured solo.

Mitzner discovered music at age six when he sat at his grandmother's piano and started played along with the commercials on TV, finding the melody by ear. He is completely self-taught on the guitar as well.

"No lessons, just using my ears and watching others", he says.

From sixth grade through college he has played baritone, trombone and trumpet in symphonic and concert bands.

He is also an A.S.E. certified auto technician with 24 years experience and for the last 14 years he has been working at Vic's Auto on Plantation Key.

To hear Mitzner play stop by Sharkey's Pub any Tuesday night.

"I love playing at Sharkey's because it is like playing at my house! Friends, family, laughter and good

times," Mike tells us. "Plus I don't have to worry about cleaning up afterward!"

In his free time Mitzner hangs out at home with his four cats and dog, cruises around on his boat and checks out local music, dives and fishes.

For more about his music you can contact Mike Mitzner at 305-394-0235

Eighth Annual Locals' Art Show, Feb. 12 and 13

Once again, it is time for the infamous "Pigeon Poop" Art Show. Although the "Pigeon Poop" nickname may rouse thoughts to duck and cover, artists and locals have been flocking to the show for eight years. Also know as the "Locals' Art Show," artists will be displaying their work February 12 and 13 in front of the Marathon Winn Dixie right on US 1 at MM 50.2

The success of the event can be attributed to the diverse group of artists assembled by organizers and the enthusiasm of participants who enjoy taking part in an event with a colorful history. The show was originally started by local artists who were left out of the larger Pigeon Key Art Show in favor of national applicants. Today, artists are just as proud to take part in the Locals Art Show which has earned a

strong following of its own. This year over 50 artists will participate including award winning painters, metal workers, wood workers, potters, fabric artists, glass artists, photographers, and jewelers. A mix of new and returning artists, as well as selected national artists keeps the show interesting.

Adding to this year's excitement is a book signing by John and Bette Mojjis, former owners of the Dirty Dancing movie site. This is the first time their book *Dirty Dancing! Hey Baby Let's Dirty Dance* will be presented. It tells of the before, during, and after filming and features many photographs from their private collection. The Ghosts of Lake Lure Inn, where the cast and crew stayed amusingly narrate the stories. Don't miss this fun addition!

Continued on page 20...



Come see local artist display their work on February 12 and 13 in front of the Marathon Winn Dixie at mile marker 50.2, oceanside.

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesd.	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
06. ECLIPSE 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	07. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jamm'n' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	08. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	09. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	10. Luke Sommer Glenn 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	11. David Bowman 1-5 pm Blackwater Sound 6-10	12. Luke & Dave 1:30-5:30 Justa Head 6-10
13. VIVA 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	14. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jamm'n' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10 ♥♥♥♥	15. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	16. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	17. Felix Hawkins 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	18. David Bowman 1-5 pm Main Highway 6-10	19. Luke & Dave 1:30-5:30 Mr.Nice Guy 6- 10
20. Mr.Nice Guy 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	21. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jamm'n' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	22. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	23. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	24. Luke Sommer Glenn 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	25. David Bowman 1-5 pm Gypsy Road Band 6-10	26. Luke & Dave 1:30-5:30 Whipping Post 6-10
27. EGO 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	28. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jamm'n' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	01. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	02. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	03. Felix Hawkins 1-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	04. David Bowman 1-5 pm The REGS 6-10	05. Luke & Dave 1:30-5:30 Mosquito Heads 6-10
06. ECLIPSE 1-6 Kim Bankston during Band Breaks	07. David Bowman 1-5 pm Jamm'n' with the Steve Venini Band 6-10	08. Luke 1-5 pm T.J. Karaoke 6-10	09. Allen Truesdell 1-5 pm and Harry French 6 - 10 pm	10. Luke Sommer Glenn 11-5 pm Kevin Hurley 6:00 - 10pm	Come by Car or Boat	

♥ Feb. 14th is Valentine's Day!
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Local Student Shares Stage with Alonzo Mourning

Students, Mentors, Staff, and Monroe County Education Foundation (MCEF) board members recently traveled North. Their destination was Ocean Reef, their purpose was to attend the Florida Keys Children's Foundation luncheon at the Ocean Reef Town Hall. Anamaria Penagos, a senior Take Stock in Children scholar at Coral Shores High School, had the privilege of addressing the over 500 attendees. Penagos spoke about her dreams and aspirations as she completes the Take Stock program, graduates from high school, and begins her post-secondary education. Ms.

Penagos shared the podium with Featured Speaker, Alonzo Mourning, noted basketball star of the Miami Heat and South Florida philanthropist. Penagos expressed her thanks to the Take Stock Program, Margie Smith (her mentor) and the members of the Florida Keys Children's Foundation for their support in making her future possible. Penagos hopes to study genetics and pursue a future in medicine. She is a strong representative of the Take Stock mission to support academic success, high personal goals and college achievements.



"Take Stock in Children is committed to the success of each and every student. Local program partners across the state work side by side with mentors, school officials, and parents to ensure that each student receives the highest quality of service throughout their middle and high school career."

For more information visit www.takestockinchildren.org



Don't forget your feathered friends this year.

Make a tax-deductible donation to the Florida Keys Wild Bird Center

Open daily from sunrise to sunset

The Florida Keys Wild Bird Center is a non-profit 501C 3 organization that relies almost entirely on the generosity of both public and private donations. We sincerely appreciate and are thankful for all donations of any size.

You can go online and donate securely with PayPal

www.fkwbc.org Or, checks can be mailed to:
Florida Keys Wild Bird Center
93600 Overseas Highway, Key Largo 33037

email us: info@fkwbc.org

Mission Statement

Florida Keys Wild Bird Center's mission is to rescue, rehabilitate, and release native and migratory wild birds that have been harmed or displaced, to provide or locate a humane shelter for those birds that cannot be released, and to educate the public toward the importance of coexistence with all wild bird species.

Objectives

1. To provide professional standards of animal care, rehabilitation and assistance to injured, sick, rescued or orphaned wild birds.
2. To educate the public about the importance of our migratory and resident wild bird populations to the Florida Keys and to the Everglades.
3. To provide a humane example for others to learn from and follow.



The Center also need volunteers. Contact the Center at 852-4486

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Dreaver Family Transforms Tropical Arts & Crafts

The Dreaver family is at it again.. You may know the Dreaver family as the owners and operators of the Key Largo Conch House restaurant for over six years. Now their son Jon Dreaver and his wife Joanna and her sister Fannoula are starting a new business in the Tradewinds Plaza by Publix. The trio is transforming the previously owned Tropical Arts & Crafts store into an "artist haven" for all levels of artists and "crafters."

The Key Largo Conch House is known for its tradition of working with and being a part of the community and the Dreaver's intend to continue that tradition with this little gem of a store.

Jon, Joanna and Fannoula are hoping that you never have to make the trek North to Micheals or Joanne's Fabrics again. They are working hard to maximize the inventory of their modest store front and have

begun taking requests and special orders for those who are interested in product they cannot find on the walls. This little store is a much-needed great addition to the Artisan community of the Florida Keys. They are celebrating their grand opening the first week of the month providing catered coffee & refreshments from the Conch House. Also they will be conducting their first craft class for children and adults making Valentine's Day crafts on Sunday, February 6 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Tropical Arts & Craft Supplies services include: Arts & Crafts Supplies, classes, professional grade Canon copiers, black & white & color copies, faxing, laminating, free wifi, mailbox services, gift wrapping and more. So come and visit the store and become part of the family at Tropical Arts & Crafts Supplies.





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 THU: Paul Moen • FRI: Allen Truesdale
 SAT: Stereo Underground

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New Website Lists Non-Profit Needs

A non-profit in the Keys needs patio furniture. Another is looking for frozen corn. And a third could use paper towels. In fact, local non-profit groups have a laundry list of many common items they need, some on a regular basis. At the same time, many local residents have these very things, some of them destined for the trash, but don't know where or to whom to donate them.

Now a new local website has been launched that seeks to match what people might have in storage with what non-profit groups require. The site, Keysreuse.com, lists nearly 200 different things from household cleaning products and office supplies to appliances that cash-strapped groups require. Much of this stuff might be in storage closets, lying unused in drawers, or even in trash bins waiting for pickup.

According to Marathon resident Michael Welber,

who created the website, even people who recycle forget that reuse is a great way to reduce our trash.

"Whether you have old sheets and towels or a discarded computer monitor, a musical instrument your child no longer plays or a bulletin board stored in a box somewhere, there's probably a non-profit group in the Keys that can put it to good use," he says. "Keysreuse.com ensures that your possessions will now be reused and not end up in the landfill or incinerated. Plus, it's a great way to help these organizations during tough times."

Keysreuse.com is updated on a regular basis as additional non-profits are added or those items that are listed are no longer needed. Currently 23 non-profits from all parts of the Keys are listed.

Any local non-profit that wants to be added to the website should contact Welber at michael.welber@gmail.com.



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Bartenders of the Month Melissa Allen at Sundowners

Rarely do we find a bartender of the month that comes as highly recommended as Melissa Allen at Sundowners Restaurant located at MM 104 on the bayside. She is friendly, professional, beautiful and fast to greet and seat you with a smile.

Allen moved to Key Largo from Rochester, New York to take a temporary position at the Ocean Reef Club Spa. Soon after she applied and was hired at Sundowners where she has been employed for three and a half years.

"I came to the Keys for a temporary job and loved it so much I stayed," says Allen. "No more winter snow and it's so nice here!"

When asked what she likes about her job she happily tells us, "The employees, the customers, the management is great, the regulars and locals, everything, especially the panoramic view of the bay. The

sunsets are awesome and the food is consistently delicious."

The Coconut Telegraph wholeheartedly agrees! One happy customer wrote this review about Sundowners, "Melissa was my server and she could not have been friendlier nor provided me better service. Wish I had found this place earlier in my stay."

When Allen is off she likes to spend time with friends at Cactus Jack's, go fishing, kayaking or take her dog to the dog park.

Sundowners Dining is available inside with air conditioning or outside in a tropical beach like atmosphere. In the month of February if you get there before 6 p.m. you won't miss the famous Key Largo sunset.

For reservations call 305-451-4502. And when you go, tell Melissa the Coconut Telegraph sent you.



Wild Bird Center Rescues and Releases Two Hawks

Two female immature Broad-Winged Hawks were recently returned to the wild after a bit of help from the Florida Keys Wild Bird Center. The first hawk was rescued by a visiting family aboard one of Captain Sterling's Everglades Tours on December 21. While the tour-group was traveling through Adams Cut, the water-logged bird was spotted floating and trapped in a cave-like crevice in the canal. "One of the kids spotted the hawk first," Says Captain Dave Eaton, who was heading the eco-tour that day. "It was incredibly camouflaged-even looking directly at the bird it was hard to spot. I was amazed he noticed it at all."

would have died within the hour. We could tell she was rescued gently because she didn't inhale

Hawk was clipped by a car on the Overseas Highway on December 22 and dropped off

from the trauma. She was treated for shock and emaciation. Initially separated in the Hospital's ICU, each of the hawks re-gained over 10% of their body weight on a diet including mice, quail, chicks, and vitamins. About a week later they were advanced to pre-release caging for flight conditioning, where they recovered together.

Broad-Winged Hawks summer and breed throughout the Eastern United States and into Canada but the majority of the population heads for warmer wintering grounds on a migratory path that leads down to Central and South America via Mexico during the early Fall. A fraction of Broad Wings, particularly Juveniles, winter in South Florida, especially in the Florida Keys.

"When you spot birds in the Keys, much like when we meet tourists, it's a lot of fun to imagine where they are from. These birds can actually be from as far away as Thunder Bay Canada, Detroit, or Maine," comments Larned. "You start to truly appreciate how pivotal Keys habitat is to sustaining wildlife populations that we actually share with the rest of North America."



Captain Eaton eased the boat towards the crevice. Then the teenager volunteered to lay down on the boat deck and reached for the bird with a towel. He scooped it up in a bundle and the boat headed back for Sundowner's. They called the bird in to the FKWBC's emergency hotline; staff retrieved her and rushed her to the hospital where she was slowly warmed by a heat-light and then re-hydrated.

"She was in advanced hypothermia," comments Lela Larned, FKWBC's Director. "If they hadn't scooped her up she

any water during the rescue, so important for her recovery."

The second Broad-Winged

to the FKWBC by an anonymous Samaritan. Fortunately she did not suffer any broken bones

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Beyond Behavior Defense Mechanisms

Defense mechanism behaviors that have worked for you in the past may not fit you anymore and need to change.

We all have defense mechanisms that we've developed over time, often without being aware of it. In times of trouble, the behaviors that have worked to get us past challenges with the least amount of pain are the ones that we repeat; even when part of us knows they no longer work. Such behavior is a natural response from our mental and physical aspects. But because we are spiritual beings as well, we have the ability to rise above habits and patterns to see the truth that lay beyond. And from that moment on, we can make choices that allow us to work directly from that place of truth within us.

Most of our defense mechanisms were developed in childhood; from the moment that we realized crying would get us the attention we craved. Passive aggressive ways of communicating may have allowed us to get what we needed without being scolded, punished or laughed at, so we learned to avoid

being direct and honest. Some of us may have taken refuge in the lives of others, discovering ways to direct attention away from ourselves entirely. Throwing ourselves into projects or rescuing others from themselves can be effective ways to avoid dealing with our own issues. And when people are truly helped by our actions, we get the added bonus of feeling heroic. But while defenses can keep away the things we fear, they can also work to keep our good from us.

When we can be honest with ourselves about what we truly desire, then we can connect our desires to the creative power of the spirit within us. Knowing that we are one with the energy of the universe allows us release any need for defense. Trusting that power, we know that we are exactly where we are meant to be, and that challenges bring gifts of growth and experience. When we can put down arms raised in defense, then we are free to use our hands, minds, hearts and spirits to mold and shape our abundant energy to create and live our lives.



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MM 84 Oceanside - Islamorada

Wednesdays 9:30-12:30 Caribbean Club
MM 104 Bayside - Key Largo

Thursdays 7-10 pm - Days Inn Iguana's Patio
MM 83 Oceanside - Islamorada

Fridays 8-11 pm - Elks Lodge - MM 91.5 Bayside - Tavernier

Sundays 9 to close - Coconuts - MM 100 Oceanside - Key Largo

Marilee Free 305-517-9279 All venues are subject to change, so feel free to call for more show info.

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BINGO

Searching for a night of musical theater and laughs at a low price? Join what local Key's regulars have come to expect from the Keys Players and their delightful stage antics. Sit back, with a glass of wine in hand and cookies on your lap and watch our local thespians awaken your laugh track and set your feet a'dancin'!

This month the Key Players offer... direct from Off-Broadway... the splashy, zippy, new musical comedy about a colorful group of die-hard Bingo players. During this uproarious new musical comedy, the audience plays three games of bingo, which produces three lucky winners at every performance! Play Bingo as it's never been played before!

Produced by Nancy Wells and directed by Tom Butler, Bingo is about long-time friends and Bingo players whose lives are thrown into a tizzy when a young stranger blows through the bingo hall and makes them confront their past, to great chagrin and comic relief. The show's cast includes: Cindy Hollingsworth, Lisa Wetzel, Patrice Messina, Bernadette Restivo, Charlene Sammis, Chris Elwood and Jay Kasprisin.



Cindy Hollingsworth



Lisa Wetzel



Bernadette Restivo



Chris Elwood



Charlene Sammis



Jay Kasprisin



Patrice Messina



Russ Heasley



Join the Bingo fun with performances on Feb. 16, 18, 19 and 25, 26, and March 4 and 5th. Tickets are \$16 in advance or \$18 at the door. Doors open at the Key Largo Lion's Club (at MM 99.6 Oceanside, behind TIB Bank) at 7pm, Performances begin at 8pm.

Advance tickets are on sale at Tropical Arts and Crafts, (MM 101.5,Ocean), The UPS Store (MM 99.6-Ocean) and PostNet Store (MM88-Ocean). Tickets are limited, so buy early. For more information, visit: www.thekeyplayers.org or call: 305-453-0997.



The Key Players
COMMUNITY THEATRE in the UPPER KEYS
presents

Producer
NANCY WELLS
Director
TOM BUTLER
Musical Director
CINDY HOLLINGSWORTH

Starring:
CINDY HOLLINGSWORTH
LISA WETZEL
PATRICE MESSINA
BERNADETTE RESTIVO
CHARLENE SAMMIS
CHRIS ELWOOD
JAY KASPRISIN

BINGO
A WINNING MUSICAL

A hilarious musical with a tuneful score and outrageously funny book that leaves its audiences' pulses racing!
Book by Michael Heitzman and Ilene Reid. Music and Lyrics by Michael Heitzman, Ilene Reid & David Holcenberg

Key Largo Lion's Club Doors Open at 7pm for Seating
MM 99.6 Oceanside • Behind TIB Bank Admission \$16 in Advance or \$18 at the Door

WED. Feb. 16 8 PM CURTAIN	FRI. Feb. 18 8 PM CURTAIN	SAT. Feb. 19 8 PM CURTAIN	FRI. Feb. 25 8 PM CURTAIN	SAT. Feb. 26 8 PM CURTAIN	FRI. Mar. 4 8 PM CURTAIN	SAT. Mar. 5 8 PM CURTAIN
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Advance tickets available for specific dates at these locations:
Ticket outlets have a limited number of advance tickets, so buy early.

Tropical Arts & Crafts 305-451-5461 The UPS Store 305-453-4877 PostNet Store 305-853-1101
Tradewinds Plaza (MM101.5 Ocean) Waldorf Plaza (MM 99.6 Ocean) Islamorada (MM 88 Ocean)

For more info call: 305-453-0997 or visit: www.thekeyplayers.org

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We'll even cater to your site on the Island

▶▶▶ Sunday Brunch on the Beach starts Sunday Feb. 13th. ◀◀◀
Don't Miss It! Have an early Valentine's Brunch!

305-664-8400
MM 85.5 Oceanside At Snake Creek Bridge, Islamorada

Artist of the Month Omar Perez Web Designer



Born in Texas but having spent most of his time in Miami, Web designer Omar Perez was originally a reporter and editor for various daily and weekly newspapers in South Florida. He made the shift to Web design in the early 2000s. He ran an online music magazine with the help of a friend from England who served as Webmaster. Eventually, the bloke found a day job and had little time to devote to the aspiring site. That's when Perez started dabbling with the Web.

"I just learned from trial and error," he says. "I'd sit behind computer code and manipulate it to see what happened. I still learn something new every day; the Web continues to evolve."

He continued to write and edit during the day, but moonlighted creating Web sites. Eventually, the newspaper where he was

assistant editor (the now-defunct Upper Keys Times) closed, leaving him with few choices for staying in the Keys. Luckily, he picked up enough clients during the first couple of years that he was able to go at it on his own. Today he maintains Keys Web sites that run the gamut, from marinas to charter captains to several nonprofit organizations.

While no longer a resident of the Keys (Perez lived in Key Largo for 7 years, but continues to visit regularly), he still runs Keys clients' sites from Lake Mary, near Orlando. "There's very little that you cannot do over the phone or email," he says.

People are sometimes surprised at both the complexity and ease of creating a site. Sometimes what looks simple may require complex code, and what appears complex is just a few

Continued on page 20...

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Coconut Conch Characters and More

Conch Characters of the Month



Carla from the Humane Society at Coconut's White Party.



Daft Like Jack performs at the Loreli.



Lisa and Skip Bradeen at the Islamorada Moose.

Chilli Willie's has a great game room. Take the whole family!



Melanie and George at Gilbert's.



Jason and friends at Sharkey's Pub.



Tina and Tracy owners of Tropical styles Salon.



At Gilbert's Resort Kelly Smith (left) and Bob Gilmore (right) Founders of Bikers Guide to the Keys and Organizers of Charity Run for Pirate Booty stand with Margie Smith (center), President of United Way of the Florida Keys.



This pet grooming salon comes to your door!



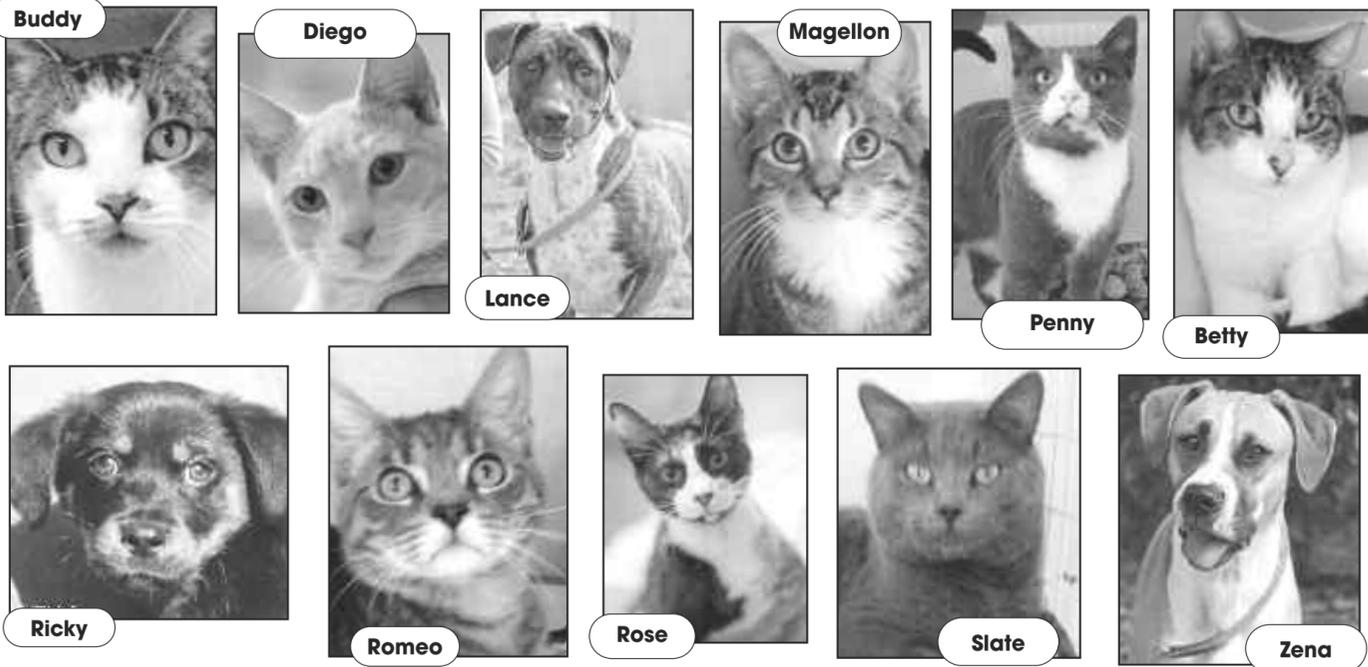
The beautiful Amanda at the Big Chill.



Coconut's annual white party is always a huge success.

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.



Centennial Bank Recognizes Star Tellers

Centennial Bank congratulates the following employees for earning the Star Teller Award: Fausta Moreira (Main branch), Courtney Bohnstedt & Joani Towe (Islamorada branch), Darlene Samuels (Big Pine Key branch), Cintia Companioni, Denisse Parrado & Sally Glass (Midtown Branch Marathon) April Serpa (Key West Roosevelt branch), Joyski Carrasco (Key Largo branch).

providing best-in-class customer service, Centennial Bank designed the Star Teller Program, a monthly recognition, that showcases the importance of error-free work. Tellers are rewarded for maintaining Centennial Bank's standard of customer service, meaning they have no unscheduled absences, and that for every given number of transactions there are a minimal number of errors. Each Star Teller receives a monetary award and a Golden Star to be placed on his or her nameplate, indicating to customers the teller provides stellar customer service. Centennial Bank is a part of Home Bancshares (NASDAQ: HOMB). For more information, please visit my100bank.com.

Our Star Teller program sets the bar for the quality service we wish to see from our employees!

"Our Star Teller program sets the bar in regards to the quality of service we wish to see from our employees," states Teresa Condas, President of Centennial Bank's Florida Region. "Each employee on the list deserves recognition for their dedication and attention to detail."

In appreciation of the challenges tellers have in

Star Teller receives a monetary award and a Golden Star to be placed on his or her nameplate, indicating to customers the teller provides stellar customer service.

A \$3.8 billion institution, Centennial Bank is a part of Home Bancshares (NASDAQ: HOMB). For more information, please visit my100bank.com.

Dancing Classrooms County Site Expansion



Three new Dancing Classrooms Teaching Artists recently attended training in New York City. Pictured from left: Sondra Esquinaldo, K.C. Flumerfeldt, Dancing Classrooms Founder Pierre Dulaine, and Karen Beauuprie.

Dancing Classrooms was piloted in Marathon Schools in January of 2009. This research-based program chronicled in the films *Mad Hot Ballroom* and *Take the Lead*. This program was made possible through the Educational Coalition for Monroe County (ECMC) in collaboration with the American Ballroom Theatre NYC and Monroe County School District, sponsored in part by the ECMC Incredible Fruit Stand, State of Florida Division of Cultural Affairs

and the Florida Keys Council of the Arts. Dancing Classrooms recently completed 5th and 8th grade residencies at Plantation Key School.

Residencies have begun at Glynn Archer, Sugarloaf, Montessori Elementary Charter, Stanley Switlik, Key Largo School, ACE and Keys Center.

Dancing Classrooms is in need of financial support, to make a donation or for more information please call 305-743-6215.

Join us for drinks on the bay and an award-winning pizza... anytime!

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Individual 10"..... 6.95 Small 12"..... 9.95 Large 16"..... 13.95
Toppings: Pepperoni, Meatball, Sausage, Ham, Black Olives, Banana Peppers, Anchovies, Fresh Garlic, Extra Cheese and Gourmet style: Onions, Mushrooms, Jalapeño, Sweet Pepper Medley.

Individual... .75 each Small..... 1.00 each Large..... 1.50 each

Specialty Pies

Small 12"..... 14.50 Large 16"..... 17.50

Meatball & Ricotta Sliced Meatballs over our Traditional Pizza	White Pizza Mozzarella, Ricotta, & Romano Cheese (No Sauce)	Fresh Mozzarella Sliced Tomato & Basil (No Sauce)
Broccoli Rabe & Sausage Tossed Arugula salad over our Traditional Pizza	Arugula Tossed Arugula salad over our Traditional Pizza	Hawaiian Pineapple, Ham, & fresh Garlic
The Italian Fisherman Lobster meat, Clams, Shrimp & Crab meat Small...20.95 Large...25.95	The Boss Pepperoni, Sausage, Meatball, Onion, Mushrooms, Sweet Pepper Medley, and extra Cheese. (Anchovies upon request) Small...15.95 Large...19.95	

Calzone Small... 9.95 Large...13.95
Mozzarella, Ricotta & Romano Cheese Extra Toppings: Small 1.00 each Large 1.50 each

Spinach Calzone Small...14.95 Large...18.95
Our traditional Calzone prepared with fresh spinach and a special blend of Italian seasoning

Big Chill Brick Oven Roasted Chicken Wings
Served with grilled onions & focaccia bread

Small (10 pieces)..... 8.95 Large (20 pieces)..... 14.95

Valentine's Day is February 14

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Artist of the Month

...continued from page 15 clicks of work. "Web design is different from graphic design. There are some similar elements, but with the Web, for example, you have to create visuals that download fast, can be read by the various browsers (Internet, Mozilla), and can be picked up by the various search engines (Yahoo, Google)."

"Once there might have been a stipulation that if you build a Web site, they'll come. Truth is that it was never like that. It always

took time and resources to promote a Web site."

The advent of social media sites have definitely helped, but he says it's important to pay attention to one's business or personal Web site.

"On Facebook or on similar sites, you can't really have your own identity; all pages are cookie cutter. With your own site, you can stand out," he says.

For more information on Omar Perez' Web design, visit www.upperkeys.net, or call 453-4281.

Toys for Tots Donated



Photo by Glenn Hoover

Just a few of the toys that were donated at the Ocean View Lounge for Toys for Tots. Great job!

Locals Art Show

...continued from page 5.

Organizers intend for the show to compliment rather than compete with the Pigeon Key Show, and hope people will attend both to view as wide a range of art as they can. Art starts as low as \$5 and goes up to the highest end of the spectrum. There is something for everyone at this great event. If you can't find something you like, you just don't like

art. So come on out and see for yourself.

The show is open to the public from 10a.m. - 5p.m. on Saturday and Sunday; Admission is free. Parking is also free of charge and conveniently located in the Winn Dixie parking lot next to the show. Mark your calendars; The Locals' Pigeon Poop Art Show on February 12 and 13 is definitely worth a visit.

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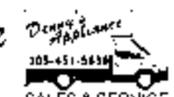
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Coco'Nut' Funnies

Word Play or a Play on Words

Avenge or revenge?

Avenge is a verb. To avenge is to punish a wrongdoing with the intent of seeing justice done.

Revenge can be used as a noun or a verb. It is

have been done. It may or may not be heartfelt i.e. a person may apologize without feeling any remorse.

"I'm sorry" is a truer admission of regret. It is what we may call a



more personal and less concerned with justice and more about retaliation by inflicting harm.

Sympathy or empathy?

Sympathy implies a feeling of recognition of another's suffering while empathy is actually sharing another's suffering, if only briefly.

Empathy is the ability to "put ones self in another's shoes".

I'm sorry or I apologize?

An apology is a formal admission of doing something that shouldn't

heartfelt apology. If someone says they are sorry but do not feel remorse, then they are lying.

Knowledge or wisdom?

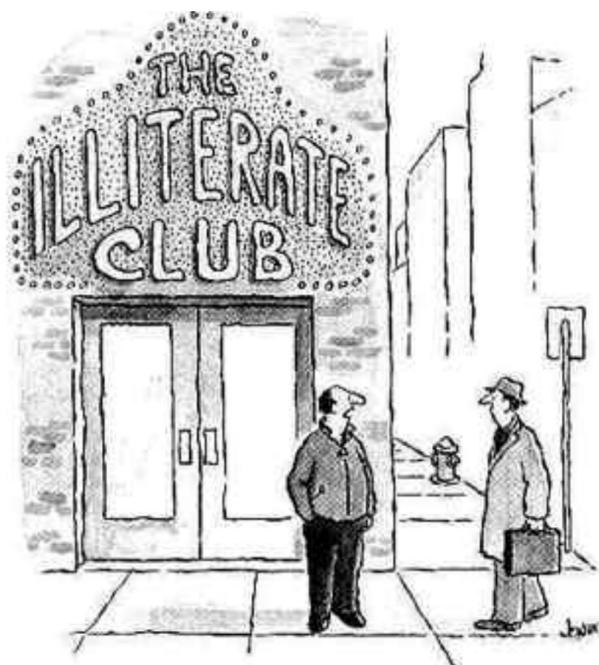
Knowledge is information of which someone is aware. It is also used to mean the confident understanding of a subject and the ability to use it for a specific purpose.

Wisdom is the ability to make correct judgments and decisions. Wisdom is gained through experience.

Need a New Scarf?

Tired of no one noticing you?
Sick of being ignored? Are you tired of being overlooked?

If so, get a new scarf!
Try the latest scarf fashion and you too
will be the center of attention!



Can you tell me where the Illiterate Club is?

Keys Compatibility Test for Lovers

You and your lover, mate, spouse, friend, "significant other", whatever, should each answer the following questions independently. Compare your answers.
How Compatible Are You?

- If the two of you could be instantly transported for one day together, which would you select?
 - Key Largo
 - Islamorada
 - Key West
- The two of you would have the most fun together doing which of the following?
 - Dancing the night away at Gilbert's Resort
 - Watching sports on TV at Sharkey's Pub
 - Going shopping at Winn Dixie
- Which of these is the most romantic Valentine's Day gift?
 - A dessert at The Key Largo Conch House
 - A glass bottom boat ride on the Key Largo Princess
 - Jewelry from Coral Financial Jewelry and Pawn
- Select the most romantic way to have Valentine's Day dinner together:
 - Dinner at Pierre's
 - Moonlight glow-in-the-dark picnic at Turkey Point
 - Takeout pizza from the Big Chill
- Which do you consider the most romantic Keys music ...
 - Jimmy Ray at the Big Chill
 - Alan Truesdell at Sharkey's
 - EGO at Gilbert's
 - Bolivar at Morada Bay
 - Any as long as it is at the Island Grill
- Where is the most romantic place to make love?
 - In the back seat of Mom's Taxi
 - In the hotel pool
 - On a nude beach in Key West
 - On a golf cart at Ocean Reef
- Which of these is the sexiest outfit on a woman?
 - Shorts and flip flops
 - A low-cut sundress
 - A fishing shirt and boots
- A man would be sexiest wearing which of the following ...
 - A Monroe County Sheriff's Deputy uniform
 - An apron
 - A speedo
- Which of the following is the most pleasant way to spend a weekend morning together?
 - Going to bed after staying up all night
 - Going out for brunch at the Buzzard's Roost
 - Watching sports on TV at D-Hooker's
- Which of the following is the most relaxing?
 - A night out at Coconut's
 - A haircut and blow dry at Tropical Styles salon
 - Dinner and game room time with the kids at Chill Willie's

If you answered 7-10 questions the same : You belong together; 4-6: Moderately compatible; 0-3: Find someone else

It's Not Always a Match Made in Heaven

Getting Rid of Blind Dates

- At dinner, guard your plate with fork and steak knife, so as to give the impression that you'll stab anyone who reaches for it.
- Collect the salt shakers from all of the tables in the restaurant, and balance them in a tower on your table.
- Wipe your nose on your date's sleeve. Twice.
- Make funny faces at other patrons, then sneer at their reactions.
- Repeat every third word you say.
- Give your claim to fame as being voted "Most Festerous" in your high school yearbook.
- Read a newspaper or book during the meal. Ignore your date.
- Stare at your date's neck, and grind your teeth audibly.
- Twitch spastically. If asked about it, pretend you don't know what they are talking about.
- Stand up every five minutes, circle your table with your arms outstretched, and make airplane sounds.
- Order a bucket of lard.
- Ask for crayons to color the placemat. This works very well in fancier venues that use linen tablecloths.
- Howl and whistle at women's legs, especially if you are female.
- Recite your dating history. Improvise. Include pets.
- Pull out a harmonica and play blues songs when your date begins talking about themselves.
- Sacrifice french fries to the great deity, Pomme.
- When ordering, inquire whether the restaurant has any live food.
- Without asking, eat off your date's plate. Eat more from their plate than they do.
- Drool.
- Chew with your mouth open, talk with your mouth full and spray crumbs.
- Eat everything on your plate within 30 seconds of it arriving.
- Excuse yourself to use the restroom. Go back to the head waiter/hostess and ask for another table in a different part of the restaurant. Order another meal. When your date finally finds you, ask him/her "What in the hell took you so long in the restroom!?"
- Recite graphic limericks to the people at the table next to you.
- Ask the people at the neighboring table for some of their food.
- Beg your date to tattoo your name on their derriere. Keep bringing the subject up.
- Ask your date how much money they have with them.
- Order for your date. Order something nasty.
- Communicate in mime the entire evening.
- Upon entering the restaurant, ask for a seat away from the windows, where you have a good view of all exits, and where you can keep your back to the wall. Act nervous.
- Lick your plate. Offer to lick theirs.
- Hum. Loudly. In monotone.
- Fill your pockets with sugar packets, salt and pepper shakers, silverware, floral arrangements... anything not bolted down.
- Hold a debate. Take both sides.
- Undress your date verbally. Use a bullhorn.
- Auction your date off for silverware.

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Upper Keys Irish Festival
12th annual

A day of fun for the whole family
No admission - all events are free!

Continuous entertainment with a variety of live Irish and celtic music and championship step dancers.

Parade at 1pm through Largo Village with Grand Marshall Carol Cianciolo

Come hungry for South Florida's best home made corn beef dinner, served with three fresh garden veg. Also available as a sandwich!

There will be a craft and wares market. Vendor space is available.

Cooking contest takes place Friday March 11th at 6pm

Saturday March 12th 2011
11am - 8pm

at the world famous Caribbean Club, bayside Key Largo, MM 104. See www.keyscelts.com for info

