

Entertainer of the Month Kevin Hurley



It's not often that you find a local entertainer that is as loved and respected by the other local entertainers as Kevin Hurley is. People boast that he is a phenomenal guitarist, singer, songwriter, and an all around super nice guy.

Hurley was born in Miami but moved to California when he was 3 years old. He grew up in Palo Alto which is in the San Francisco Bay area. At age 11 he took guitar lessons from "a folkie banjo player" named Jerry Garcia, right before he formed the Warlocks and the Grateful Dead. The Dead, The Airplane, Quicksilver, Big Brother, and many other great bands that didn't become big had an influence on Hurley at an early age.

After the family moved back to South Florida when Hurley was a senior in High School he quickly formed a band with his best friend Mark "Slick" Aguilar called "TATTOO". Aguilar went on to play with David Crosby, Marty Balin and the Jefferson Starship with whom he still plays today.

Together the Slick/Hurley Band recorded an album called "Danny Cadillac" in the 90s.

Most recently Hurley released his own album "Palm Tree Reality" with The Conch-A-Delics, the lyrics were written by Hurley's wife Valerie Newman. One track "Anything at all" was written by Hurley and Aguilar. Inside the cover reads: We wrote these songs for all who dream of sailing to nowhere and for the spirit of those who have. The song "The Keys Disease" is the Coconut Telegraph's favorite but the whole album is wonderful.

Hurley attributes his inspiration to the music of the Beatles, the Grateful Dead, Bob Dylan, Bill Monroe and Graham Parsons. Treat yourself to the sounds of Kevin Hurley every Thursday at Gilbert's from 6 to 10, Saturdays at the Fish House Encore from 7 to 10 or at Scotty's Landing in Coconut Grove on Sundays from 4 to 8.

You can reach him at 305-282-1189 or check out his website KevinHurley.net.

Friends of the Key Largo Cultural Center

...Continued from page 5 of the committee, which are:

- 1.) To assist the county in developing plans to enhance and improve the functionality of the theater/auditorium portion of the Murray Nelson Government and Cultural Center in an effort to make this a modern event facility.
- 2.) To use this improved facility to attract affordable entertainment, educational programs and events to Key Largo.
- 3.) To conceive, explore and support various ideas and programs which could utilize the theater/auditorium for the benefit of Key Largo visitors, tourists and residents in an effort to make Key Largo a destination point for cultural tourism. These programs may include a variety of activities such as live theatrical productions; first run projected movies, year round creative camps for kids, educational seminars and lectures, important community events, meetings, photography,

art shows, exhibits, competitions and horticultural events among others.

- 4.) To form a 501 (c) 3 to assist with grant writing and other fund raising events to help raise tax - exempt monies for the Key Largo Cultural Center.

After several meetings the participants decided to organize into several sub-committees including: Event, Marketing, Ticket Sales, Concession sales and Movie Committee for which additional interested community members will be asked to volunteer and become involved.

"We will finally have a quality cultural events center where the citizens, tourist, and visitors can enjoy first-rate events," says Debra Ginsberg.

"I am overwhelmed and so pleased with the broad support for this endeavor," says Kay Thacker. "This awe-inspiring broad based support by our businesses, civic clubs, private citizens, and County governmental officials proves this is a project worthy of TDC capital funding."

Marilee Free Rock'n Karaoke - Karaoke For the Conch Republic

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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.

Bartender of the Month Ashley Leonard



at D-Hooker Sports Bar & Grill

Ever cheerful and always smiling, Ashley Leonard, the Coconut Telegraph's Bartender of the Month will make you feel right at home in her beautiful second home, as she calls it. D-Hooker Sports Bar and Grill is her second home because she has been there since the beginning with owners Dennis and Betsy Duran. Leonard watched it being remodeled and helped even helped put the menu together.

"Most of these recipes are Betsy Duran's family recipes, that's why they are so special," says Leonard. "And another interesting thing is that all of the many fish mounts that you see in the restaurant are all fish that Dennis Duran caught on his fishing boat the D-Hooker."

There is even a photo on the wall of each fish to back

up each mount. As I look up at the giant shark mounted over the kitchen, this writer is impressed.

It just doesn't seem like it will be a year in June since the Duran family opened the restaurant and Leonard began serving drinks from behind their bar. Everything is still sparkling new and the food is still out of this world!

The beautiful Leonard lives in Florida City and has a license to tend bar from bartender's school as well as a Florida Controlled Substance license and a Responsible Vendors license. She probably even has a license to have a license, so don't mess with her. But do stop in and to see Ashley Leonard and try out the Duran's recipes. Be sure to tell them the Coconut Telegraph sent you.



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