

## T'was A Florida Keys Christmas

T'was the night before Christmas and all through the islands, no noses were frozen, no snow on the garlands, no children in flannels were tucked into bed, they all wore their skivvies instead.

To find wreaths of mangroves, t'was not very hard, for mangroves grew in every back yard.

In front of the houses, Dads and Moms were adorning the hibiscus' and coconut palms.

The sleeping kiddies were dreaming in glee, hoping to find paddle boards under the tree.

They all knew that Santa was well on his way, in a Keys Cruiser, instead of a sleigh.

And soon he arrived and started to work, he hadn't a second to linger or shirk.

He whizzed down the stretch and zoomed up the road, in a rusty old pick up, delivering his loads.

The tropical moon gave the Keys sky a glow, and lighted the way for old Santa below.

As he jumped from the truck he gave a wee chuckle, he was dressed in shorts with an Ivy league buckle,

There weren't any chimneys, but that caused no gloom, for Santa came in through the screened in room.

He stopped at each house.... stayed only a minute, emptying his sack of stuff that was in it.

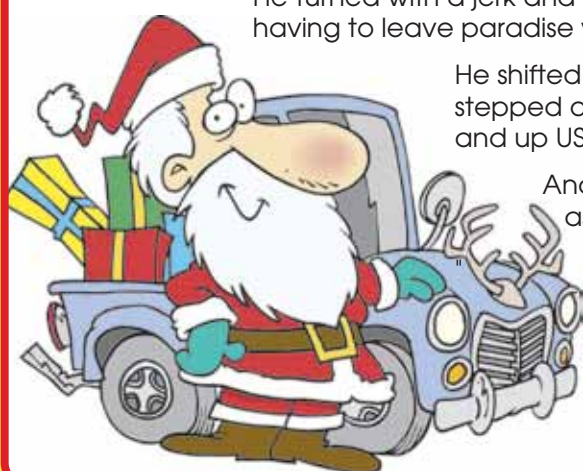
Before he departed, he treated himself to a glass of Captain Morgan hid up on the shelf.

He turned with a jerk and bounced to the truck, having to leave paradise was really gonna suck.

He shifted the gears and stepped on the gas and up US 1 he went like a flash.

And I heard him exclaim as he went on his way,

**MERRY CHRISTMAS Y'ALL, I WISH I COULD STAY!**



## Pets & Piña Coladas

This month marks the 19th year for pets and Pina Coladas at Keys Kritters, the Upper Keys' Community Pet Store in Key Largo. This event is a favorite among locals and their pets.

As you can see from the photos of last year's event it is enjoyed by young and old who bring a wide variety of pets to get a family photograph with Santa Bob Hutchinson. They give a \$5 donation that benefits the Upper Keys Animal Shelter at MM 102, and just to make the holiday season a little more jolly, your donation includes a Piña Colada!



Santa, Lucky, Laronda Oloizia and Kozmo Kramer.

Children get a Piña Colada too, just minus the alcohol. You will also take home a goodie bag of surprises for your pet.

Keys Kritters owner Robby Majeska started this tradition in Miami where he owned several pet shops before moving to Key Largo.

In the Keys, he found that by incorporating the Piña Coladas, served by Luke Popp a.k.a. Jack Frost, participation tripled. Now that's Keys spirit for you!

Last year they took 450 photos during the two-day event in the Keys Kritters parking lot at MM 100.5. People and pets come from as far away as Miami and everyone has a great time.

"At first we were concerned that the dogs might not get along but we found that with as many as 75 on leashes outside they all mellowed out and it is always a huge success" says Majeska.

Mark these dates on your calendar - Saturday and Sunday, December 9th and 10th, from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Bring your dog, cat, bird, iguana, monkey, hamster, etc. and join the fun!



Carol & Ken Schriver of the Sunshine Band with Santa and their cat, KC.

Thank You for the past year's business,  
**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**  
from the Tropical Realty Team!



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### SATURDAYS THIS MONTH:

 Sat., Dec. 2 UNCLE SMOKEY 1-5 PM	 Sat., Dec. 2 WRITE SOUNDS 7-11 PM	 Sat., Dec. 9 NASH CAREY 1-5 PM	 Sat., Dec. 9 JIMMY STOWE & THE STOWAWAYS 7-11 PM
 Saturday, Dec. 16 SPANK THE BAND 1-5 PM	 Saturday, Dec. 16 MAINSTREET 7-11 PM	 Saturday, Dec. 23 THE STONE CRABS 1-5 PM	
 Saturday, Dec. 23 SHANE DUNCAN BAND 7-11 PM	 Saturday, Dec. 30 BROTHERS OF OTHERS 1-5 PM	 Saturday, Dec. 30 THE FLYERS 7-11 PM	



## Children's Christmas Party

Milk, Cookies & Lunch  
with Santa & Mrs. Claus

**Saturday, December 9**

**11AM - 2PM**



**Florida Keys Elks Lodge**  
MM 92.6 Bayside, Tavernier

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

Decorate Cookies  
Kids' Crafts  
Christmas Carols



**EVERYONE WELCOME**