



Entertainer of the Month - Koty James and the Keybillies

We are proud to have Koty James and the Keybillies as entertainers of the Month because they are the finest Country Bluegrass Band in the Upper Keys. Their style is a refreshing change from what we've been used to, as they can take any song and add their own personal bluegrass twist to it, making it their own. It is an intentional blend of Bluegrass and Outlaw Country Newgrass. They are always working on new songs,



KOTY



ALBERT



BILL

so you can never guess what they will play next.

The first time I heard them, I was enthralled and between songs yelled out to the lead singer "Who ARE you?" He replied back "It's me Koty. Denise, you've known me 10 years!" That is Koty James rhythm and lead vocalist of the band. I watched as he sang a song perfectly while smoking a cigarette. Unbelievable! It was just a few years ago that he was the Coconut Telegraph's Bartender of the Month when he was working at the Big Chill. Now he works full time for Key Largo Wastewater and plays Country Bluegrass like he invented it. His inspiration comes from local favorites Luke Sommer Glen, Alex Caldwell and Allan Truesdell.

Along with Koty are Albert Izquierdo and Bill Wissinger. Albert is originally from Miami, although he graduated from Coral Shores High School. He is an amazing lead guitarist. He says he really enjoys focusing on one person in the audience, playing to them and watching them as they appreciate to the music. I could listen to Albert all day long! Koty James says Albert is his best friend and, "he teaches me a lot about the guitar, and I am teaching him how to drink."

Bill Wissinger is from West Palm Beach. He moved here in 1999 and worked for a local cigar shop for 12 years. He wears a cowboy hat, carries a cigar and you can't miss his big huge bass, actually it is an upright 3/4 bass.

For the last 4 years Bill has devoted himself to his music full-time. He says that due to this, he has been able to reacquaint himself with ramen noodles again, just like his old college days at UGA where he majored music.

Bill has been a big help with getting the Musicians Relief Fund off the ground and is a great asset to the community. You can find him playing at Snook's with Sweetwater, and in duos with Capt. Josh and Albert.

Most recently Koty James and the Keybillies have played at the Dolphin Rodeo, the VFW and the new, fabulous Blackwater Siren up by the Anchorage on Jewfish Creek. You can contact them on the web at KotyJamesandtheKeybillies.com.

Tom' Butler Makes His Last Curtain Call

Thomas John Butler, 74, of Key Largo, Florida passed away peacefully on April 15, 2017 in Naples, FL due to complications from Parkinson's Disease.

Born April 29, 1942 to Ed and Harriet Butler in Chicago, Tom served in the Army after high school, then earned degrees from Western Illinois University and The University of Georgia. He married his college sweetheart, Kathy, in 1965, and quickly rose with Westinghouse, helming operations throughout Latin America. He retired in Miami as President of Latin American Operations. While in Brazil he took up theatre and performing arts in his spare time.

Settling in Key Largo, Tom produced, directed and starred in countless productions with The

Key Players. Widely recognized for his community service, Tom was a man about town and avid sailor, serving two terms as Commodore of The Upper Keys Sailing Club. Tom is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Kathy, his children Brian and Kellie and their spouses Dee and Niall, four grandchildren, and his siblings Linda and Jimmy. A memorial service and celebration of Tom's life will be held at a date to be determined. Condolences may be sent c/o Terracina Grand, 6825 Davis Blvd., Naples, FL 34104. Donations in Tom's name can be directed to The Key Players, The National Parkinson's Foundation, Michael J. Fox Foundation, and/or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.



To help revive the economy, President Trump will announce next month that the Immigration Department will start deporting seniors (instead of illegals) in order to lower Social Security and Medicare costs. Older people are much easier to catch and most will not remember how to get back home. I started to cry when I thought of all my friends leaving. Then it dawned on me... oh, crap, I'll see you on the bus!



A funeral procession pulled into a Palm Memorial Cemetery in South Miami. Several carloads of family members followed a black truck towing a boat with the coffin in it.

A passer-by remarked, "That guy must have been a very avid fisherman." "Oh, he still is," said one of the mourners. As a matter of fact, he's headed off to the ramp as soon as we bury his wife."

What happens down there, stays down there

Soundproof Underwear

If your digestive process leads to the occasional embarrassing noise, then this could be an important innovation for you. What is it? Underpants that have been manufactured out of acoustic foam, a material specially designed to deaden sound. Since it's made entirely from foam, soundproof underwear is obviously warm and comfortable, but its real virtue lies in its ability to kill uninvented noises. It knows (in other words) how to keep a secret!

WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS, ADD SALT AND TEQUILA

Key Largo's Original Music Fest

may 18 • 21 SUN • FUN • MUSIC
great TIMES • great FOOD

LIVE REMOTE: FRIDAY 5-7 PM
THUNDER 100.3
The BEST Country
Thunder Country & Dougie Hitchcock

- Fabulous waterfront locations
- Multiple venues & stages
- Music of all genres, for all ages
- Hit singer songwriters, duos and bands from Nashville, Texas, Alabama, Georgia, South Florida, Florida Keys and Australia.

Festival Finale at the Caribbean Club
PAELLA & PIG ROAST
Sunday May 21st 2pm - 9pm

Key Largo Merchants Association Event
The Florida Keys Key Largo
MONROE COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

THURSDAY:
Sundowners – 6pm to 10:30pm

FRIDAY: 3 STAGES
Sundowners – 5pm to 11pm
Senor Frijoles – 5:30pm - 10pm
Cactus Jacks – 6pm til

SATURDAY: 3 STAGES
Sundowners – 2pm to 11pm
Senor Frijoles – 4pm - 10pm
Cactus Jacks – 6pm til

SUNDAY: Festival Finale on the Bay!
Paella & Pig Roast
Caribbean Club – 2pm to 9pm

More Info/Schedule:
keylargooriginalmusicfest.com



Num Thai Sushi- Fresh and beautiful! And did we mention, reasonably priced?