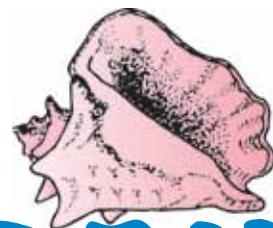


# The Conch Republic COCONUT TELEGRAPH

**FREE**  
Dining • Shopping  
Lodging • Humor  
Entertainment



THE COCONUT TELEGRAPH IS PROUD TO BE THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE NORTHERNMOST TERRITORIES OF THE CONCH REPUBLIC

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NOW IN OUR  
12th YEAR!



**Inside:**

**Attractions**

Radio Station Helps Irma Victims  
Lion's Lair: Clothes for Conchs  
Ride for Relief: Big Chill & Rotary

**What's Hot & What's Not**

DiGiorgios Celebrate 25 Years  
Key Players offer a FREE PLAY  
Living Dockside: Surviving Irma

**Maps**

Key Largo Locator Map Page  
Getting from Here to There  
in the Keys

**All the Buzz**

Dawn Wiggins, Ed. S.  
Coco-Nut Funnies  
Conch Characters  
Business in the Keys  
The Mangrove Galley



It's no surprise that many of our stories this month are about Hurricane Irma benefits and relief operations. Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill was not hit too badly by the storm, and ever since, they have been helping out... from feeding first responders to hosting a benefit. See page 9 for the latest on the Ride For Relief, put on by the Big Chill and the Key Largo Rotary.



**ON THE BEACH • MM 99.5 BAYSIDE  
KEY LARGO • 305-451-3380**

**Live Music • Happy Hour • Sunset**

**World class entertainers, in Key Largo on the beach.  
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Check the calendar at <http://keylargo-baysidegrill.com/sunset-bar/>



**Celebrate Sunset!**

**Live Music Monday through Saturday,  
fantastic Keyribbean cuisine  
and Happy Hour specials.**

### Coconut Telegraph

November 2017  
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**Deadline**  
for the  
Coconut Telegraph's  
next issue is  
**Thursday,**  
**November 16, 2017**

Contact Denise at  
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### Comments: Colonoscopies

Colonoscopies are no joke, but these comments during the exam were quite humorous. A physician claimed that the following are actual comments made by his male patients:

"Take it easy Doc. You're boldly going where no man has gone before."

"Can you hear me NOW?"

"Are we there yet? Are we there yet? Are we there yet?"

"You know, in Arkansas, we're now legally married."

"Any sign of the trapped miners, Chief?"

"Hey! Now I know how a Muppet feels!"

"If your hand doesn't fit, you must quit!"

"Hey Doc, let me know if you find my dignity."

"You used to be an executive at Enron, didn't you?"

"God, now I know why I am not gay."

And the best one of all: "Could you write a note for my wife saying that my head is not up there?"

## "I SURVIVED HURRICANE IRMA" TEE SHIRTS FOR SALE

For information on purchasing your shirt, contact our sponsors or call the Coconut Telegraph Hotline 305-304-2837

I SURVIVED  
**HURRICANE IRMA!**  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

**CONCH REPUBLIC**  
STRONG!

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Shipwrecks  
Gilbert's Resort  
Florida Keys Visitor Center  
Pilot House

Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill  
VFW Post 10211 Key Largo  
Keys Adventures Watersports  
Coral Financial Jewelry & Pawn

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## COLORFUL



### WE LIKE COLORFUL!

The Coconut Telegraph now has more color pages than ever before. Enjoy it, and if you're an advertiser, (or would like to be), call us to find out what your ad would cost in color. It's surprisingly affordable!  
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## Hurricane Relief: What One Business Can Do; Lion's Lair in Islamorada at MM 82 Oceanside

Kim Berger, owner of Lions Lair began the Clothes For Conchs relief effort on September 25th and expanded into a neighbors lot at Coastal Realty two days later. Keys Audio Rentals and Coral Reef Rentals both provided tents to house used clothing donations.

Lions Lair's vendors have been incredibly generous and to date the lingerie and swimwear store has handed out \$175,000 worth of new merchandise to Florida Keys residents, in addition to the used clothing next door. They plan to close the used clothing tents before this issue of the paper comes out, but Lions Lair will continue to distribute new clothing out of the store for as long as it keeps arriving. They will continue to provide free bra fittings and a free bra to Monroe County hurricane victims until the end of the year. (Must show proof of residency.)

Kim states, "It has been a very healing experience and we feel blessed to have been so hugely supported by our vendors and local community alike."



**LION'S LAIR**  
BOUTIQUE  
SWIMWEAR & LINGERIE



Lion's Lair is distributing care packages sorted by size and gender containing 5 outfits to Keys kids via Florida Keys schools.



Kim Berger with the sign at MM82.

**THIS TOO SHALL PASS.**

**IT MIGHT PASS LIKE A KIDNEY STONE.**

*but it will pass.*

**DID YOU KNOW?**

the gender neutral term for sugar daddy is glucose guardian

**"ALCOHOL MAY INTENSIFY THE EFFECTS OF THIS MEDICATION"**



*I never know if this is a warning or a suggestion.*

## Radio Station Helps Keys Irma Victims

A very special thank you to Frank Patterson, owner of Sunny 107.9 radio station in Salem, South Carolina, and its sister station WORZ 104.3 (to be broadcasting again soon in Key Largo) for running a live remote broadcast and filling a tractor trailer of supplies for the Florida Keys.

Also a special thanks to Lisa Nalley for coordinating the effort. The VFW and Key Largo Moose Lodge volunteered to distribute the truckload of supplies.

Thank you to everyone who help unload the trucks and distribute the supplies.



**The Blackwater Siren**  
featuring  
The Fabulous Food of Chef Lolo!  
**Restaurant & Tiki Bar**  
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Take the Yacht Club Drive Exit from US1 on the Jewfish Creek Bridge

**Join us for the Games!**  
**Beer & Food Specials**

**HAPPY HOUR 3-7pm Monday-Friday**  
HOURS EXTENDED FOR NOVEMBER ONLY  
\$3.50 Well Drinks • \$3.50 House Wines  
\$2.50 Pints of Miller Light & Yuengling Draft  
\$2 Bud & Bud Light  
Happy Hour Food starting at \$6

**"Love the Locals" Discount 10% Off on Food & Drink!**

Follow us for our Exclusive FB Features!  
Find us on Facebook

FOLLOW US for food and drink specials available ONLY to our FB Followers!

**Key Largo Library Annual Book Sale**  
Saturday Dec. 9 & Sunday Dec. 10  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Choose as many books as you like for a donation!  
**FREE children's books too!**

**PLUS 10% off at Friendly Things Gift Shop**

Thousands of hardcover and paperback books, DVDs, CDs and more...

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- Sports
- Science
- Civil War
- Diet/Food
- Cookbooks
- Large Print
- Novel Series
- Travel
- Romance
- Thriller/Spy
- American History
- Political Opinion
- Biography
- Self-help

Sponsored by The Friends of the Key Largo Library  
**MM101.5 at Tradewinds Plaza**

**MONSTER TALES: FREE PERFORMANCE**

Saturday, November 4 • 11 a.m.  
Key Largo Library MM 101.5 Tradewinds

Fantasy Theater Factory, the crazy-fun actors troupe, has donated a fabulous theater performance to our community to brighten our world after the hurricane. They will be performing Monster Tales in the Key Largo Library's Community Room, and young and young-at-heart are invited!

Monster Tales are delightfully funny stories from children's books about monsters, children and other squiggly creatures. It combines reading, literature, comedy, puppets, and music. The show tickles your funny bone and sends everyone running to the library for more books by the same authors! The program ends with a hilarious monster dance to Thriller. Great FUN!

For more info: 305-451-2396

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## Take the Shuttle!

For those arriving to the Gilbert's party fashionably late, you can park on the main access road and take the FREE air-conditioned shuttle to and from Gilbert's on Saturdays and Sundays from noon-8pm.

## What a Comeback! #Conch Strong



Gilbert's Resort re-opened on September 29th, less than 3 weeks after Hurricane Irma.

**Gilbert's Staff & Management accomplished miracles in just 3 weeks!**

Gilbert's Resort was on the cover of the national edition of the New York Post.



## www.FloridaKeysLegal.com

A Law Firm of Hutchison & Tubiana, P.L.L.C.



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Personal Injury • Criminal Defense • Family Law  
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Hutchison & Tubiana, P.L.L.C. is a dynamic and established law firm practicing in state, federal and administrative courts in the complex areas of civil and criminal litigation. Their network of lawyers is highly skilled in the areas of personal injury, criminal defense, estate planning, family law, appellate practice, consumer law and landlord/tenant matters.

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide to hire an attorney, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.

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www.gilbertsresort.com  
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## SATURDAYS THIS MONTH:

 <b>Saturday, Nov. 4</b> <b>UNCLE SMOKEY</b> 1-5 PM	 <b>Saturday, Nov. 4</b> <b>TRUE RUMOURS</b> Fleetwood Mac Tribute 7-11 PM	 <b>Saturday, Nov. 11</b> <b>CUTLER STEW</b> 1-5 PM
 <b>Saturday, Nov. 11</b> <b>THE FLYERS</b> 7-11 PM	 <b>Saturday, Nov. 18</b> <b>CAT DADDIES</b> 1-5 PM	 <b>Saturday, Nov. 18</b> <b>STONE MOJO</b> 7-11 PM
 <b>Saturday, Nov. 25</b> <b>BROTHERS OF OTHERS</b> 1-5 PM	 <b>Saturday, Nov. 25</b> <b>CHAIN REACTION</b> 7-11 PM	 <b>MICHAEL TRIXX</b> <b>IS BACK!</b> 8pm • SATURDAYS

## "I SURVIVED HURRICANE IRMA" TEE SHIRTS FOR SALE

For information on purchasing your shirt, contact our sponsors or call the Coconut Telegraph Hotline 305-304-2837



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Florida Keys Visitor Center  
Pilot House

**Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill**  
VFW Post 10211 Key Largo  
Keys Adventures Watersports  
Coral Financial Jewelry & Pawn

## Digiorgio Family Celebrates 25 Years at Cafe Largo in Key Largo

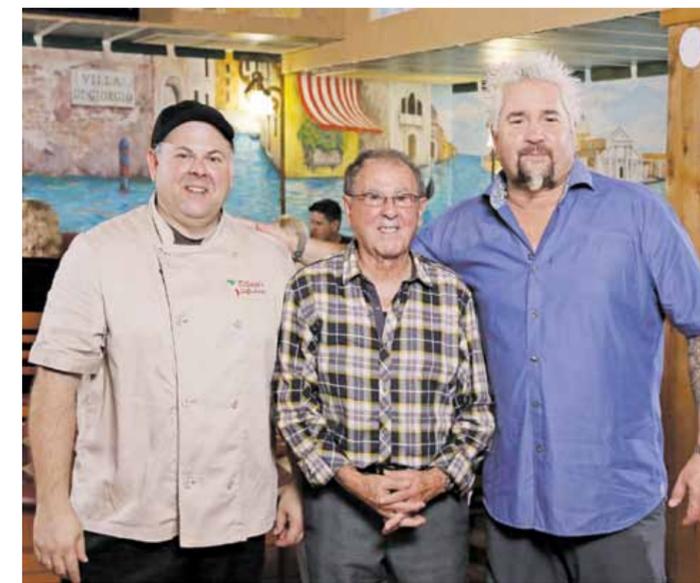
The DiGiorgio family has a proud tradition; over 50 years of excellence and entrepreneurship in owning and operating Italian family-style restaurants.

Pasquale ("Pat") DiGiorgio emigrated from Cassino, Italy to the United States in 1960. He went to work at Mary's Italian Restaurant in North Miami in 1967, then purchased it in 1968. Since then it has been listed with the Miami Historical Society.

In 1972, Pat opened Villa DiGiorgio in Hallandale with his brother Tony; in 1974 they opened Pasquale's Italian Restaurant in the Hialeah/Miami Lakes area, and then in 1983 they opened a fourth location, Cassino's Italian Restaurant, in Fort Lauderdale.

By 1991, the DiGiorgios had acquired the Key Largo waterfront property at Sunset Cove, and turned it into DiGiorgio's Café Largo. (Some of you may remember that prior to becoming a restaurant, the property was the location of B&G Automotive Service.) By then Pasquale's son Robert had taken a role in the business.

Cafe Largo's grand opening took place on November 4th, 1992, twenty-five years ago this month. In 1996, they opened the Bayside Grille behind Café Largo.



Robert DiGiorgio and his father, Pasquale ("Pat") DiGiorgio, founders of the Cafe Largo, with Guy Fieri of the Food Network. Guy joined them in early 2016 to film a segment of his show, which featured two of their signature dishes.

*DiGiorgio's*  
**Cafe Largo**  
ITALIAN RESTAURANT  
since 1968  
1968 Celebrating 25 Years 2017

The family has honed their reputation for serving the finest Italian food in the Upper Keys by concentrating on quality in a hands-on, family-run operation. Their dishes come from centuries-old family recipes, and you can taste the love!

This November marks the 25th anniversary at Cafe Largo. Stop by and congratulate Robert. Stay for dinner and celebrate with the family - enjoy a complimentary glass of DiGiorgio Chardonnay or Cabernet with your entrée.

**Anniversary Special**  
For the month of November, every entrée purchased comes with a complimentary glass of DiGiorgio Family Wine: Chardonnay or Cabernet

**Wine Tasting Event**  
**November 17 & 18**  
Friday & Saturday  
Complimentary DiGiorgio Family Wines Tasting



The very young entrepreneur, Robert.



Robert's mother JoAnn and grandmother Virginia, mid 1980s.



Patriarch of the family and Robert's grandfather Pasquale DiGiorgio.



The family's first restaurant in North Miami in 1968. Mary's Italian Restaurant is now listed with the North Miami Historical Society.



Robert's father Pasquale "Pat" DiGiorgio at work in the 1960s, tossing pizza dough.



Pat takes a moment to enjoy the fruits of his hard work!



## Moose Offers Free Membership to First Responders & Active Military Personnel

Between now and the end of the year, Moose International is offering a free one-year membership at any Moose Lodge for all first responders and active military personnel

This includes police, firefighters, EMS personnel, and any other first responder whether paid or volunteer

This is a great opportunity for all of you who serve our community and country to join a fun organization that

supports needy children and the elderly. The lodges also do their very best to support local businesses, groups, schools and citizens who are in need of assistance.

Moose Lodges have great home style dinners and game nights, and are fun, inexpensive places to bring the family.

Their are five Moose Lodges in Monroe County: Key Largo, Islamorada, Marathon, Big Pine Key, and Key West.

## Moose Key Largo Honors First Responders with a BBQ on November 5th

The Key Largo Moose Lodge will be hosting a BBQ honoring all our first responders on Sunday, November 5th from noon until 4pm. It's open to the general public as well,

It will be a fun afternoon, with games, camaraderie and entertainment. Food and beverages will be available at

nominal prices. (Free for first responders and active military personnel.)

If you would like to be a part of the event, or for further information or questions please stop in the Key Largo Moose Lodge at mm 98.8 in the median, call 305-451-1333, or email Lodge2287@mooseunits.org

### Did You Know?

The administrator of the Moose Lodge in Key Largo is Max Trent. He's also a Manager at KLI Hardware, and he was the Coconut Telegraph's October 'Hunk of the Month'!

### Key Largo Moose Special Thanks

The Key Largo Moose Lodge would like to give special recognition and thanks to the two crew members from FKEC who, while repairing the street lights in our parking lot, were gracious enough to

untangle our flag pole after Hurricane Irma.

Thanks to their efforts and a newly donated flag from one of our great members, we are once again proudly flying Old Glory!

**Bayside Sunset Bar**  
4 pm-10 pm

**Celebrate Sunset**  
Most Photographed Sunset in Key Largo!  
**Live Daily Conch Shell Blowing**

**LOCALS' FAVORITE**

*Bayside Grill: Keyribbean Kooking & Kocktails*  
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**Best Live Music Schedule in Key Largo**  
Entertainment calendar at [keylargo-baysidegrill.com](http://keylargo-baysidegrill.com)

305-451-3380 • MM 99.5 Bayside, behind Cafe Largo

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**305-731-9472**

## Ride for Relief Helps the Keys Community and Rotary Club of Key Largo

A special Ride for Relief helped the Keys community and Rotary Club of Key Largo. Cartel Baggers Miami and Ft. Lauderdale held a special fundraiser and charity ride to Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill to benefit families and first responders of the Keys community. Hundreds of bike enthusiasts rode to the Keys on Sunday, Sept. 24 to bring necessary supplies and collect funds for the Keys community. Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill together with the Cartel Baggers group organized the event soon after the Storm.

The event brought necessary supplies, food and water. Cash contributions were also collected during Sunday's event. Larry Calvano, owner-operator of Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill donated the cash proceeds to the Rotary Club of Key Largo. Local families and community first responders received the food goods and supplies.

The Rotary Club of Key Largo is working through the schools in the area to help provide immediate relief for the kids and families in vulnerable



Larry Calvano, Big Chill, and Captain Don Fanelli, Monroe County Sheriff's Office.

communities. Key Largo School was a recent recipient of Rotary's Irma Relief funds. The school estimates at least 20% of their students and families have been severely impacted by the storm. Additional donations can be made online at [www.keylargorotary.org](http://www.keylargorotary.org)

### About the Rotary Club of Key Largo:

Established in 1990, the Rotary Club of Key Largo celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2015. Its 50 members are current or retired business and professional leaders interested in providing service to the Upper Florida Keys and support worldwide projects including a united campaign for the global eradication of polio. The Key Largo chapter is one of more than 34,000 Rotary clubs in over 200 countries, connecting 1.2 million members. Locally, the Club has contributed to vocational and 4-year college scholarships, Habitat for Humanity, Coral Shores High School sports programs, KLS Safety Patrols, Take Stock in Children, Key Largo YMCA and other local youth and adult programs. Learn more at [www.keylargorotary.org](http://www.keylargorotary.org).



A mountain of donated relief supplies.

## 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.

 Simon	 Scooter	 Morticia & Merlin	 Harley
 Bella	 Bob & Dylan	 Bella	 Carley

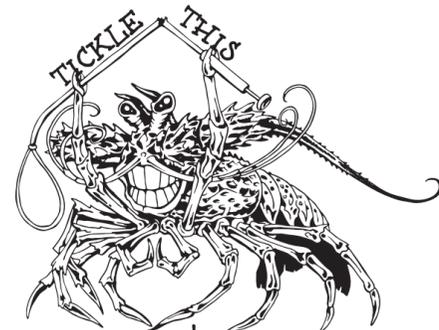
Voted **Best Happy Hour in the Keys!** 4-7 Daily  
**WEDNESDAYS: 20% LOCALS DAY**



**COLLEGE FOOTBALL**  
 WE HAVE ALL THE GAMES!



**Taylor King Band**  
 Every Saturday Night



**PILOT HOUSE**  
 KEY LARGO, FLORIDA



**NFL SUNDAYS**  
 WATCH IT HERE

**"Get Crooked"**  
 Check out our new Daily **COMFORT Crock Specials!**  
 Monday-Friday 11am-6pm

**Monday**  
 Homemade Chicken and Noodles over Mashed Potatoes

**Tuesday**  
 Beef and Broccoli over Rice

**Wednesday**  
 Mojo Roasted Pork over Rice with Tostone

**Thursday**  
 Ropa Vieja over Rice

**Friday**  
 5-Cheese Mac and Cheese topped with Bacon

**\$9.95 WITH A BREADSTICK**

13 Seagate Blvd., Key Largo, MM 99.6, 305-451-3142

www.pilothousemarina.com fb.com/pilothousekeylargo

**Bartender of the Month: Kim Hepler at the VFW**

Close your eyes and visualize it is the 1990s and we are at Holiday Isle. It is the yearly Bartender's Bash Week and the place is rocking. We make our way through the crowd to the pool bar just past a steel drum band playing in the sand. The line at the bar is long but moves quickly and before you know it you have an ice cold Rum Runner cocktail in your hand served by a long-legged, dark-haired, exotic beauty known to the locals as Asian Kim. She is a true professional bartender and in just that one day she will take home \$5,000 in tips! During the weeklong event, she literally had to take her tip money home in garbage bags full of cash.

She happily worked there for 25 years and she was

also co-owner and founder of Mangrove Mike's Cafe in Islamorada until she sold her share.

Hepler was born in Saigon. Her mother worked as a cashier at the commissary there and her father

was in the Navy. She moved to North Carolina when she was a small child and moved to the Keys in 1993.

Kim is naturally friendly, a customer-service-oriented, people pleaser who keeps the customers coming back. She is always smiling and moving quickly around the bar filling drink orders and joking with customers. When she is not at work, she loves fishing, boating, entertaining, talking with her daughter Stacie, and walking her dogs. She is always there for a friend in need.



Kim with her Bartender Week earnings in the 90s.



Stop by the VFW on Wednesday and Thursday nights after 5 and meet Kim. On Wednesday nights they play "Show Me The Money" at 6pm and Thursdays is Bingo beginning at 7pm. Check the ad on page 10 for more information.

SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Hours:</b> Sun - Thu: 12pm - 12pm Fri - Sat: 12pm - 2am	<b>Daily Food Specials at the Freedom Cafe!!!</b> Sun: 6 oz Sirloin Mon: Meatloaf Tue: Tacos / Burritos	<b>Wed:</b> Chicken Parmesan <b>Thu:</b> 6 oz Sirloin <b>Fri:</b> Spaghetti <b>Sat:</b> BBQ Chicken/Ribs	<b>1</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>2</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Bingo 7 pm -Queen of Hearts	<b>3</b> \$1 drafts all day -Live Band 7pm-? -50/50 Raffle	<b>4</b> \$1 Drafts all day -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm -Ladies Night 7-9 pm
<b>NEW! No Smoking in the Canteen - Smoking Allowed in the Back Room</b>						
<b>5</b> -Bingo 2-5 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm	<b>6</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>7</b> -Members Appreciation 1/2 off prices all day -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>8</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>9</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Bingo 7 pm -Queen of Hearts	<b>10</b> \$1 drafts all day -50/50 Raffle	<b>11 Veterans Day (noon)</b> Free Hot Dog/Burger & 1 Draft beer for Vets \$1 Drafts all day -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm -Ladies Night 7-9 pm -Live Band 7pm-?
<b>12</b> -Bingo 2-5 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm	<b>13</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>14</b> -Members Appreciation 1/2 off prices all day -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>15</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>16</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Bingo 7 pm -Queen of Hearts	<b>17</b> \$1 drafts all day -50/50 Raffle	<b>18</b> \$1 Drafts all day -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm -Ladies Night 7-9 pm
<b>19</b> -Buffet Style Breakfast \$10 (one trip) -Bingo 2-5 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm	<b>20</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>21</b> -Members Appreciation 1/2 off prices all day -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>22</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>23 Thanksgiving Dinner by donation</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Bingo 7 pm -Queen of Hearts	<b>24</b> \$1 drafts all day -50/50 Raffle	<b>25</b> \$1 Drafts all day -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm -Ladies Night 7-9 pm
<b>26</b> -Buffet Style Breakfast \$10 (one trip) -Bingo 2-5 pm -Happy Hour 4-6 pm	<b>27</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>28</b> -Members Appreciation 1/2 off prices all day -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>29</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Show me the \$\$ - 6 pm	<b>30</b> -Happy Hour 4-6 pm -Bingo 7 pm -Queen of Hearts	<b>Upcoming Event: 9 December, 10am.</b> Pearl Harbor Memorial at Murray Nelson Center. Noon at VFW: Free Hot Dog/Hamburgers, sides, cake and 1 Draft Beer for all Vets! All others welcome, by donation. <b>Live Band 7pm-?</b>	

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## Elks Event Brings Community Together After Irma

The Florida Keys Elks Lodge held a Community Appreciation Hurricane Survival Party on October 8th. The complimentary buffet and entertainment was a Thank You to all the fantastic first responders, volunteers and

residents. More than 30 local musicians donated their talents to perform on stage for almost 8 hours! It was fun to relax, unwind and have a good time with our friends who are still coping with the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.



Bill Todd, John Mavis, Justina Black and Steve Molnar.

Steve Miller, Vinny Beard, Pasta (drums), and Terry Bouqueny.

John & Dale Henderson (JC Costello in the back), Bob Bunz, Marianne Dutton, and Arno Lamb.



Billy Bob MacKenzie, John Mavis and Dan Reinburg.



Seniors from Coral Shores volunteered to help members with serving. Volunteers pictured with Elks Ray Thaler, Patty Burke, and Dink Tipton.



Elks members worked long and hard to ensure that everyone had a good time! Lisa Camerato, Sherill & (event organizer) Denny Tarbell, and Frank Veltri.



**The Game's AFOOT or Holmes for the Holidays**  
Cast, left to right. Seated: Susan Groendyk, Don Stewart, Marinka Stuvell, Jonelle Kop; and standing: Andrew Fleites, Jimmy Pardinias, Tommy Chambers, and Jerry Nussenblatt.

## Key Players present a Holmesian Holiday Mystery Free, as a goodwill benefit for the community!

It is December 1936 and Broadway star William Gillette, admired the world over for his leading role in the play Sherlock Holmes, has invited his fellow cast members to his Connecticut mansion for a weekend of revelry. But when one of the guests is stabbed to death, the festivities in this

isolated house of tricks quickly turns dangerous. Then it's up to Gillette, himself, as he assumes the persona of his beloved Holmes, to track down the killer before the next victim appears. Danger and hilarity are nonstop in this glittering whodunit set in the Christmas holidays.



A show within a show, the action begins in the last scene of the long-running 1895 thriller/mystery Sherlock Holmes. Five members of this New York City acting company will retire their venue and take the show on tour after Christmas. From left to right: Sherlock Holmes played by the eccentric William Gillette (Jimmy Pardinias), Alice played by Aggie Wheeler (Don Stewart), Moriarty played by Simon Bright (Andrew Fleites), Marian played by Madge Geisel (Susan Groendyk), and Count Zerlinsky played by Felix Geisel (Tom Chambers).



Newlyweds Simon Bright (Andrew Fleites) and Aggie Wheeler (Don Stewart) have a secret.



Sharp-tongued entertainment columnist, Daria Chase (Marinka Stuvell) [right] irritates experienced actress Madge Geisel (Susan Groendyk) with her snide remarks.



William Gillette (Jimmy Pardinias) is being comforted by his best friend, Felix Geisel (Tom Chambers) as he recovers from a shot in the arm during a performance.



Martha Gillette (Jonelle Kop) shows off her son William's nifty invention, the speaker-phone, installed in their new mansion. When guests arrive at the door, you can speak to them from any room in the house.



Inspector Goring (Jerry Nussenblatt) has no problem getting a confession from Martha Gillette (Jonelle Kop) that she just took four sleeping pills, as her son William (Jimmy Pardinias) gasps incredulously.



Daria Chase (Marinka Stuvell) makes an explosive entrance as the late-arriving surprise guest at this Christmas Eve party at William Gillette's (Jimmy P.) remote mansion in Connecticut.



Inspector Goring (Jerry Nussenblatt) checks for a pulse on the stabbing victim, Daria Chase (Marinka Stuvell).



Eccentric, brilliant and handsome, William Gillette (Jimmy Pardinias) is having trouble separating himself from his character, Sherlock Holmes.



Inspector Goring (Jerry Nussenblatt) questions the newlyweds, Simon Bright (Andrew Fleites) and Aggie Wheeler (Don Stewart) of their whereabouts when the murder took place.



Martha Gillette (Jonelle Kop) isn't afraid to swing back at Daria (Marinka Stuvell) for her rude comments.



## Greg Stewart

August 5, 1956 - October 4, 2017

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6-8 PM at the VFW • Pot Luck Dinner

**Tues @ Gilberts**  
**Wed @ TBA**  
**Thurs @ Snooks**  
**Fri @ Gilbert's (day)**  
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Six Performances WED FRI SAT WED FRI SAT  
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More info: 305-942-4339 • www.thekeyplayers.org

# Sounds of the Keys



Toh, keyboardist extraordinaire, mugs for the camera at the Elks party.



Ricky Valido from Hialeah entertains the Gilbert's crowd.  
Photo: Rob LeBrun



Chad Dobson sings at the Pilot House. (He's also a bartender there!)



Melissa of the band "Bombshell" belts out a song at Gilberts. See them again in January.  
Photo: Rob LeBrun



Sweetwater at the VFW.



Apache Dragon rocks the Gilberts "Sunday Funday" crowd.  
Photo: Rob LeBrun



## Living Dockside

by Ginny Jones

### SURVIVING HURRICANE IRMA

September is one of the busiest months of hurricane season, and this one proved to be a doozie. We Keys folk tend to get complacent and just plain stupid when it comes to potential hurricanes coming our way. After all, we haven't had anything threaten us for a long time, and we believed we live in an area that is immune to direct hits.

We no longer think that way. In the past when a potential storm is due in the area I take my She Breeze out into the mooring field at Pennekamp, tie up to a mooring ball, drop my anchor and let her swing with the winds: simple and effective. Irma scared me, so one of my fellow sail boaters and I took our boats out to the mangroves. In perfect little channels we spider webbed our

boats and also carried our anchors into the mangroves. We battened down the hatches. (I just love using sailor jargon!) We removed sails and anything else that could take flight. The hardest part of all this is looking back at my She Breeze as I'm leaving her and not knowing if she'll be there when I get back.

So now I'm staying at my friend Lonnie's house and he is getting nervous about riding this storm out in his concrete block house. So we decide to run... with a cat, a dog and two cockatiels. We hear Irma is tracking up the west, so it's logical to head up the east coast, right?

Wrong! We finally find a hotel that will take us and our pets, but can only stay one night, then we see the news

and sure enough, this thing is so large we realize we have to keep going. Then we make another bad decision and head west to Ft. Myers.

We realize we can't stay in the little marina inn we just found; it's on the water Scheeesh! We go looking for a hurricane shelter, get turned away from the first one, and finally a middle school let us in after a six-hour wait in line. We, and a few other thousand people, get ready to bed down for the night and the duration of a killer storm the likes of which we have never seen here in southern Florida. I go to sleep thinking of my She Breeze and praying she makes it, along with the rest of the islands in the Keys.

We spent two nights in the shelter, on the third day they finally said it was safe to leave. We were heading home, but found out the roads were closed to the Keys until all the

debris was cleared from the roads and the bridges were inspected. We found refuge in Homestead with a cousin of Lonnie, so again we wait...

In the morning we find out they are letting residents into the Upper Keys, so we pack up our traveling zoo and head down Krome Avenue, hoping not to run into lines of traffic. I was very low on gas and there were no gas stations with electricity. We got to the end of Krome and had no traffic. There was a state trooper there and she asked me if I had a resident sticker, I pointed to it in my window and she waved me through.

Then we were on the stretch, as giddy as a couple of kids going to a circus, grinning ear to ear... Then reality hit, was Lonnie's house still there? Was my She Breeze still floating right side up, is there even a dock left to tie her to?

To be continued...

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**House Cleaning call Danielle**  
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**FOR SALE**  
2014 Lincoln Navigator: Fully equipped, GPS, iPhone & MP3 ports, premium stereo package, onboard computer screen, premium chrome spoke wheels, low miles, must sell to first caller.  
Full price \$99, cash only.  
Yes, this is serious. Husband ran off with secretary and said to sell his Navigator and send him the money.  
Call 1-305-POOR-SAP

**DUE TO THE HURRICANE, I AM FORCED TO SELL MY COLLECTION OF STAR TREK PORTRAITS IN ORDER TO CONTINUE PAYING FOR MY WORLD OF WARCRAFT SUBSCRIPTION. EACH ONE IS HAND PAINTED BY MYSELF. PLEASE CALL 305-555-TREK. IF MY MOM PICKS UP ASK FOR WARLOCK.**

### MUSICIANS WANTED

Amateur & seasoned musicians wanted!  
**The Keys Community Concert Band** begins rehearsals for its new season in the fall. If you want to participate, call 305-451-4530.

**SPECIAL NOTICE**  
**RESTAURANT CLOSING!**  
The Conch Crib Restaurant is closing after 25 years. If you have a gift certificate to Conch Crib, we suggest you marinate it and eat it!

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### PERSONAL

To the blonde in the red flip flops at Publix. You looked around to see if anyone heard you pass wind. We shared a smile. Coffee?  
Call Stylish Mullet Guy

**Caring Man Wanted:**  
SWF looking for man for permanent relationship, marriage, and support. Must be willing to ignore the voices in my head and occasional muttering under my breath.  
305-CALL-ME

**VESSEL SAFETY**  
The USCG Auxiliary conducts vessel safety checks at Blackwater Sound Marina, MM 103.8 Bayside, every third Saturday of the month.  
The Public is Welcome.  
More info: 305-998-8400

### CLUBS

Fraternal Order of the Eagles meets every 1st and 3rd Monday 7pm at Elks Lodge in Tavernier.

Florida Keys Orchid, Fern and Bromeliad Society meets the 3rd Thurs. of every month at Key Largo Library Comm. Room 7pm. Open to public.  
305-451-3000

The Key Players, Inc. Community Theater Group needs volunteers to work behind the scenes and audition for roles!  
Go to: [thekeyplayers.org](http://thekeyplayers.org)

**JOBS**  
**Wanted HAIR-CUTTER**  
Excellent growth potential  
Apply in person at Coconut Salon

### DWARF WANTED

**Dwarf Needed for Kayak Trip**  
Looking for a dwarf for a kayak trip this Thanksgiving Day. It started as a joke between friends about me bringing a dwarf, but now I'm wanting to surprise everyone.

You must have a good sense of humor. I'll supply beer (granted you are 21) and food all day. A group of 30 people are going and it's a great group. Guaranteed to have a whole lot of fun.

I'll pay you \$100 on top of all the free beer and food. So if you're looking to have a fun day full of laughs and beer send me an email.  
[dwarf@coconuttelegraph.com](mailto:dwarf@coconuttelegraph.com)

**FOR SALE**  
**VIBRATOR USED TWICE, GREAT CONDITION. \$10. RYAN (8 AM-4PM) 305-444-EEEW**  
**Classified ads will not be accepted without payment.**



A wonderful early October morning at Island Dolphin Care. The dolphins loved the sounds produced by Robin Hanbridge with his gongs, Tibetan bowls and didgeridoo. Produced by the Waypoint Foundation with St. James the Fisherman church.



Mary Bonneville

They say there is a reason,  
They say that time will heal,  
But neither time nor reason,  
Will change the way I feel,  
For no one knows the heartache,  
That lies behind our smiles,  
No one knows how many times,  
We have broken down and cried,  
We want to tell you something,  
So there won't be any doubt,  
You're so wonderful to think of,  
But so hard to be without.

# Coco'Nut' Funnies

## Navy Chief Fishes the Keys

The rain had stopped and there was a big puddle in front of the American Legion Post in Key Largo.

A rumpled old Navy Chief was standing near the edge with a fishing line in the puddle.

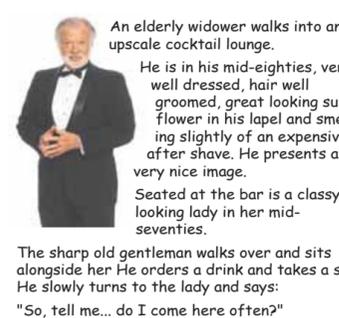
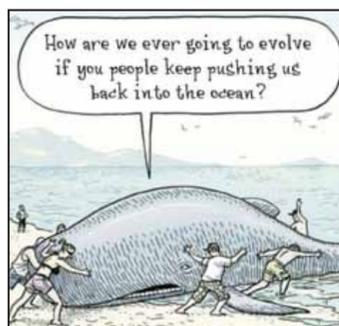
A curious young Marine fighter pilot came over to him and asked what he was doing.

"Fishing," the old Chief simply said.

"Poor old Chief," the Marine officer thought to himself and invited the man into the bar for a drink.

As he felt he should start a conversation while they were sipping their spirits, the young jet pilot winked at another pilot and asked the Chief, "How many have you caught today?"

"You're number 14," the old Chief answered, taking another sip from his double shot of 12-year-old Scotch, "2 Air Force, 3 Navy and 9 Marines."



**I grew a beard thinking it would say "Distinguished Gentleman." Instead, turns out it says, "Senior Discount, Please!"**

**Do you ever meet someone for the first time and want to buy them a toaster for their bathtub?**

Two boys were walking home from Sunday school after hearing a strong preaching on the devil.

One said to the other, "What do you think about all this Satan stuff?"

The other boy replied, "Well, you know how Santa Claus turned out. It's probably just your Dad."

Thank you Trader Dick!

## COMING HOME

Two married buddies are out drinking one night when one turns to the other and says, "You know, I don't know what else to do. Whenever I go home after we've been out drinking, I turn the headlights off before I get to the driveway, shut off the engine and coast into the garage.

"I take my shoes off before I go into the house, I sneak up the stairs, I get undressed in the bathroom. I ease into bed and my wife STILL wakes up and yells at me for staying out so late!"

His buddy looks at him and says, "Well, you're obviously taking the wrong approach. I screech into the driveway, slam the door, storm up the steps, throw my shoes into the closet, jump into bed, slap her on the butt and say, 'You as horny as I am?... and she always acts like she's sound asleep!"



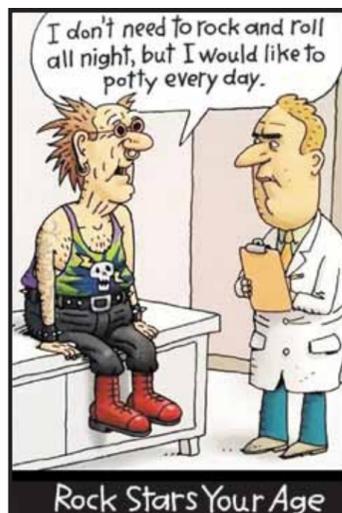
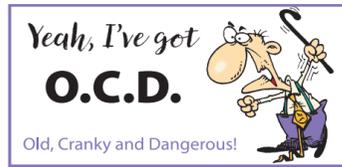
## THE EXAM

The eighty-three year old lady finished her annual physical examination, and the Doctor said, "You are in fine shape for your age, Mrs. Green, but tell me, do you still have intercourse?"

"Just a minute, I'll have to ask my husband," she said.

She stepped out into the crowded reception room and yelled out loud: "Bob, do we still have intercourse?" There was a complete hush - you could have heard a pin drop.

Bob answered impatiently, "If I told you once, Betty, I've told you a hundred times. What we have is... Blue Cross!"



## Give 'em Hell

A young girl comes home from a date looking rather sad.

Her mother asks her what's wrong.

She says, "Bill proposed to me an hour ago."

Her mother asks, "Why are you so sad then?"

The girl replies, "Because he also told me he was an atheist. Mom, he doesn't even believe there's a hell."

Her mother says, "Marry him anyway. Between the two of us, we'll show him how wrong he is."



Attending a wedding for the first time, a little girl whispered to her mother, "Why is the bride dressed in white?"

The mother replied, "Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life."

The child thought about this for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

Thank you Trader Dick!



## Why We Love Spell-Check

A young monk arrives at the monastery. He is assigned to helping the other monks in copying the old canons and laws of the church, by hand.

He notices, however, that all of the monks are copying from copies, not from the original manuscript.

So, the new monk goes to the Old Abbot to question this, pointing out that if someone made even a small error in the first copy, it would never be picked up!

In fact, that error would be continued in all of the subsequent copies.

The head monk, says, "We have been copying from the copies for centuries, but you make a good point, my son."

He goes down into the dark caves underneath the monastery where the original manuscripts are held as archives, in a locked vault that hasn't been opened for hundreds of years.

Hours go by and nobody sees the old Abbot. So, the young monk gets worried and goes down to look for him.

He sees him banging his head against the wall and wailing. "We missed the R! We missed the R! We missed the bloody R!" His forehead is all bloody and bruised and he is crying uncontrollably.

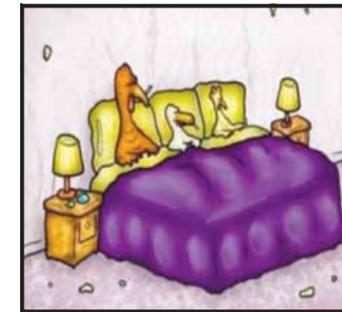
The young monk asks the old Abbot, "What's wrong, father?"

With a choking voice, the old Abbot replies, "The word was ... CELEBRATE!"

**STOP POSTING YOUR PROBLEMS ON FACEBOOK GO TO A BAR LIKE EVERYONE ELSE**

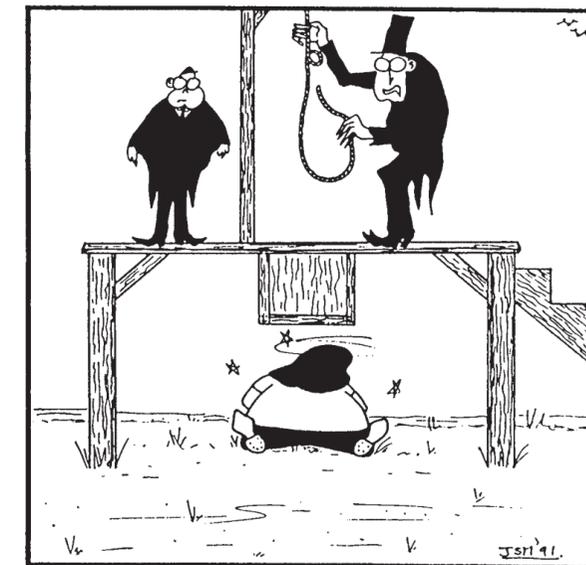


"It says here that men who make love twice a week live 12 years longer than men who are celibate. You're trying to kill me, aren't you?"



## Left Field

by J.S. McKinna



JOHN MCKINNA was a local musician, a best-selling author, and a published, syndicated cartoonist. We feature his cartoons monthly.

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**ON THE MAP**

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In Key Largo, we navigate by Mile Markers! Look for the little green signs and mile indicators on power poles to find your way.

**Legend**

- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Boat Ramp
- Mile Marker
- Point of Interest
- Dive Site
- Dive Wreck
- Swim with Dolphins

**Map Labels:** To Miami, To Ocean Reef, Little Blackwater Sound, Barnes Sound, Garden Cove, John Pennnekamp Coral Reef State Park, Murray Nelson Government Center, Adams Cut, Pehnekamp Entrance, North Dry Rocks, The Elbow, City of Washington, Grecian Rocks, Christ Statue, African Queen Community Pool and Park, Mosquito Bank, Spiegel Grove, Benwood, Alligator, French Reef, Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center, Harry Harris Park & Beach, Duane, Bibb, Mariner's Hospital, Sunset Cove, Buttonwood Sound, Rock Harbor, Blackwater Sound, Little Buttonwood Sound, Buttonwood Sound, Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center, Harry Harris Park & Beach, Duane, Bibb, Mariner's Hospital, Sunset Cove, Buttonwood Sound, Rock Harbor, Blackwater Sound, Little Buttonwood Sound, Buttonwood Sound.

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**ON THE MAP**

**Key Largo**

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**ON THE MAP**

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**KEY LARGO MAP PAGE**

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**Conch Characters**



Laura & Ted Dreaver - congratulations on twin grandsons! Born Sept. 23rd, to Stephanie and Adrian Besil, the identical twins are named Joaquin Apollo and Julian Gustavo.



Gilbert's Resort General Manager Robert LeBrun presented a check to the American Cancer Society in October. A portion of every "Boobie" drink sold is donated twice per year. Total amount donated is \$17,390.



Dave and Christie Sheehan and Michael Byars, all from Keys Adventures Watersports at the Starboard in Dewey Beach Delaware for Dewey Goes Pink, a breast cancer walk fund raiser.



The Coconut Telegraph is now available at Spitzer Dodge in Homestead. Sharing some Keys Sunshine is Hazel S. Dose.



Lovely Pilot House Hostesses, Peyton and Mady.



Billy, the night security guard at Gilbert's, always has a smile for the guests.



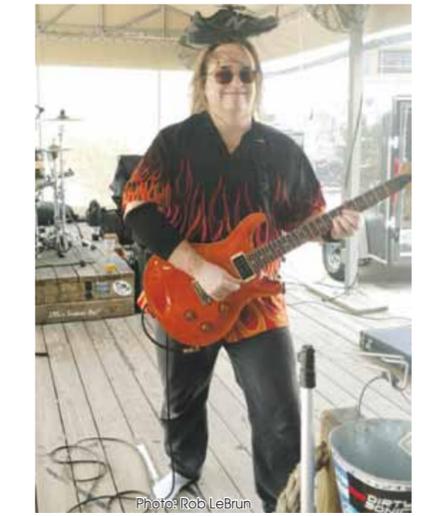
Blackwater Siren has the longest Happy Hour in the Keys (3-7pm).



Manatees hang out at the Pilot House's Glassbottom Bar™.



Theresa, a sales person at Gulfstream Motor Credit Co. is also a reader of the CT.



Scotty Migone of The Regs plays guitar while balancing a shoe on his head, at Gilbert's.



Michael Trix is back in the Keys! Catch his show every Saturday at Gilbert's Resort.

## A Lesson in Judgement and Boundaries

by Dawn Wiggins, Ed.S.

After the destruction of hurricane Harvey, everyone was taking the Irma threat seriously. I started to consider whether we would evacuate.

We live on an island. Our home is on the water. The tide surge was a concern. Could we get washed into the sea? I understood the potential outcomes. Factors I considered:

We would be riding it out on higher ground. We had fuel, water, food and multiple generators. Traffic and fuel to evacuate would be difficult. I knew that I didn't want to be cut off from my home (re-entry limitations to the island). I am self-employed. My business was indefinitely closed. My husband is stepping into an important place in the family business. I needed to support my husband. He and my dad are modern day MacGyvers. If you wanted to feel the safety that is offered by humans - these two are the guys to be around. The building we stayed in was ideal; very safe

(poured concrete/ high elevation) and very quiet - even in a cat 5 storm. I knew we would spend more days in peace leading up to the storm if we stayed than if we chose to evacuate.

I knew we could face any combination of threats. I felt peace with our choice.

We went paddle boarding on Thursday afternoon prior to any 'bad' weather rolling in. My hubby took a break from storm prep and joined us. We had a beautiful experience and saw cool stuff. Between the cardinal that flew across our path to a

family of ancient iguanas - I observed God's world.

We stayed, and our family had the best week. We bonded. We spent time together. My daughter had less screen time and more mommy time than any other week. We assisted in Irma prep at our daughter's school. We went to the park, paddle boarding, did art and learned about shadows. She understands about Irma as best she can. She remained happy and content. She was a calming force for all. I had the choice. Be present or be scared. I remained present. We didn't watch the news. We played.

All this being said - you had noooo idea of all this consideration. Nor does it matter. We don't think the same or believe the same. We are different people. Yet, you judged me. I tend to believe you judged me because 1. I chose differently than you and 2. Because I am a mother of a young child. Guess what? That was your shit.

Why did you judge me? Because it distracted you from your discomfort. Rather than deal with your own anxiety about uncertainty, you took it out on me. You told me to 'stay safe'. This is what most people say when danger is approaching. I responded with "of course" and "you too". Bland and obligatory replies.

Truthfully, I think safe sucks. I'm not trying to be obtuse, thick or difficult. I know the difference between taking risks and being reckless. Taking a risk is a calculated choice. A decision to feel the fear but

do it anyway because the outcome could be beneficial. Reckless is acting without thought or concern for well-being of myself or others.

**"Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go."**

—T.S. Elliot

I believe meaningful life experiences don't happen in the safe zone. If I 'stay safe,' I don't challenge myself, try new things or embrace vulnerability. I can't push the limits of possibility by staying safe.

I wish I had the wisdom to express my feelings before you judged me. I should've set my boundary early. I was still processing; and, I wanted your approval. I didn't want to offend, scare, argue or defend. I wish I had said "this is my choice, please respect it, we can debate when it's over". Or something like that. But I didn't. And, I left myself wide open for feedback. Don't get me wrong, I am grateful for your concern. I don't even fault you for judging me. Honestly, it allowed me an opportunity to grow. To practice communicating without defending. To check my internal processes. To trust my higher power.

So, yeah, we stayed on a barrier island in a cat 4/5 storm. Yeah, I did yoga on the highway in hurricane force winds (not very effective, lol). Yeah, I ripped my yoga pants climbing the fence to the park. No, I didn't 'stay safe'. And, I also wasn't reckless.

I've consciously practiced



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tools for dealing with judgmental people. Every negative response received was an opportunity to have faith, not act defensively and to practice trusting myself. I wanted to practice unconditional acceptance of others - even when they were angry, frustrated or afraid. Don't get me wrong, I sometimes get sucked in to feeling like I have something to prove.

**My work is to let go of ego and embrace the uncertainty of life. Because life is messy and dangerous. And it's also beautiful and joyous.**

If you want help embracing boundaries and releasing judgement, I am your teacher. Lessons come in many forms. Let's work together to learn and grow through this experience.

## The Mangrove Galley by Sandi Mieszczenski

Sandi's recipes are featured here monthly. For previous issues go to <http://www.theconchtelegraph.com>.



We are now officially entering the holiday season and one of the most important components is the food. I am always looking for different dishes to prepare and serve. I saw the recipe below and modified it to fit a perfect (but easy) Thanksgiving morning. It is a great way to start the day with a cup of coffee and/or an eggnog. Try it and I think that you will be pleased. Enjoy!

### CRANBERRY APPLE ROLL-UPS

- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 1/2 tablespoons butter, chopped into small pieces
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
- 1 apple, peeled, cored and chopped into thin pieces
- 1 can of 8 crescent rolls from the dairy case
- white sugar

Mix the first 6 ingredients. Place foil on a cookie sheet and lightly coat with a cooking spray. Open the can of crescent rolls and carefully separate. Place each roll on the cookie sheet. Divide the fruit mixture evenly, and place on each roll. Fold the two ending points together and pinch the seams to secure the filling inside.

Lightly sprinkle with the white sugar.

Bake in a 375° oven for 13 to 15 min. until golden brown and serve.

*Happy Thanksgiving!*



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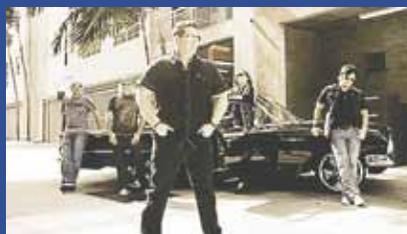
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1-6 pm

**SHANE DUNCAN BAND**  
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1-6 pm



**THE REGS**  
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1-6pm