

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 Gilbert's. See them again in January.



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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Call Bill 305.942.0911.

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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!

DRY CLEANING
MM 114 CLEANERS
Custom Dry Cleaning: We do not tear your clothing with machinery. We do it carefully by hand.

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

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

FOR SALE

VIBRATOR USED TWICE, GREAT CONDITION. \$10. RYAN (8 AM-4PM) 305-444-EEEE
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.