

# Conch Characters



The Key Largo Chocolates girls in the store, in their tie-dyed "I Survived Hurricane Irma" shirts.



Video Dave and Bob Thomas. Every Thursday Video Dave drives the Key Largo Chocolates truck to Winn Dixie and Publix and delivers food donations to the Burton Memorial Food Pantry.



The final hand of the Peterson's Poker Run was held at Gilbert's, and Amy was the winner of \$5,000



Drew & Linda Peterson stop by Gilbert's to get their first card of the poker run 2018.



"Gilbert" the young manatee saved a couple months ago at Gilbert's Resort, is happy and healthy again in the northern canal. Photo by Rob LeBrun.



Bartender Chad Dobson at Pilot House.



Amanda a server from Gilbert's Resort quenches her thirst on her day off.

## Cheeca Lodge All American Backcountry Fishing Tournament to Salute War Heroes

Sixth annual tournament inspired by 41st U.S. President George Bush set for Nov. 8-10, 2018 includes war heroes and benefits Florida Keys fishing guides in need.

War heroes will compete with world-class anglers at the 6th Annual Cheeca Lodge All American Backcountry Fishing Tournament, November 8-10, 2018 at Cheeca Lodge & Spa in Islamorada. In honor of Veteran's Day, the event invites two war heroes to join the competition. The acclaimed event was inspired by 41st President George Bush, an avid Florida Keys angler and a regular visitor to Cheeca. Proceeds benefit the locally-based nonprofit Guides Trust Foundation (GTF) for Florida Keys guides in need.

"The All American Backcountry Fishing Tournament is part of Cheeca Lodge's iconic legacy," said Bob La-Casse, General Manager of Cheeca. "After a successful reopening following Hurricane Irma, we're thrilled to bring this tournament back to Cheeca and business back to the guides."

Anglers fish on a guided charter boat or their own boat with a licensed guide. They compete for trophies and awards for releasing five different species of inshore fish: snook, redfish, bonefish, tarpon and permit.



Individual and team trophies will be awarded for fly, general tackle/spinning/conventional & artificial lure divisions. Social events will be held at Cheeca, a sportsman's paradise renowned for its barefoot elegance, with fishing departing from nearby World Wide Sportsman.

This first-class tournament will kick-off on Thursday, November 8, with a cocktail reception, rules meeting, banquet and auction on the beach. Other events include celebrities such as Stu Apte and Andy Mill. The community may purchase advance tickets to some of the social events.

More info: [www.cheeca.com/all-american](http://www.cheeca.com/all-american), or call 305.517.4512

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