

Coconut Telegraph

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Phone 305-304-2837
Fax 305-453-4659

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Call Denise at
305-304-2837

Cast of Characters:

Editor/Sales/Distribution
Denise Malefyt

Sales
Marty Sutton

Advertising Production
Sue Beal

Newspaper Production
Nikki Dunn

Contributors
Rachel R. Peine
Rich Peine

Upper Keys Distribution
Pattywagon

Sales
Al Gosney

Photographer
Video Dave

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Entertainer of the Month Luke Ptomey



Story by Rich Peine; Photo by Rachel R Peine

Drums have been around for as long as people have inhabited the planet. They have been used to express emotions, used in spiritual ceremonies, and to communicate with one another. Because of their emotional connection to the heartbeat and human spiritually, drum circles have become very popular in the past decade. If you get a chance, participate in one. Enough of history.

The Ted Hyde Band is going to lose its talented drummer Luke Ptomey this month. Not because of any of the usual problems related to personalities that always seem to plague musical groups. This time the loss is caused by a more upbeat event. (No pun intended.)

Luke has been accepted by the prestigious Berklee School of Music in Boston Massachusetts, which is no small feat. The requirements are stringent, and only one out of four applicants gets

accepted.

Luke was born and raised right here in the Keys. He started his musical education by taking piano lessons. By his own admission his piano teacher cried tears of joy when he gave it up. He just wasn't into the ivories. At age 13 he went on to tackle drums. His brother got him his first set, and he took lessons from Jimmy McGuirl.

His first gig was with the band Baga Tricks. He has also played with Micah Gardner as well as others.

Anyone who has heard him goes away impressed. I thought to myself, "Wouldn't it be great if he hooked up with Mickey Hart?" (former drummer with the Grateful Dead)

Stop by Sharkey's on Sundays from 6 to 10 and check out Luke and the rest of the band. You can still catch him until the end of August.



Editorial: You Can Try To Take My Name But You Won't Get My Goat

protest pictures on page 20.

In one of my last letters from the Buffett lawyers they accused me of being a journalist! Now THAT is funny! Lately I have been suffering criticism from some bar stool critics. I appreciate criticism and advice from professionals that I respect, but for the others who spend all day on a bar stool or didn't get past the 8th grade, here are instructions on how to start your own newspaper:

1. You'll need 25-years of experience in newspaper advertising.
2. A Cornell University course or two on writing helps but it doesn't make you a Journalist.
3. You'll need a bunch of money that you will lose the first year.
4. Find yourself the best printing company, graphic artist and

composing person that you can get.

Do not do it yourself or you will wind up with a crappy looking magazine.

5. Get a good bank that will help you, mine is First State Bank. They are awesome and they also have the best cookies.
6. Get off the bar stool and work all day, everyday.
7. Do things to help the community.
8. Avoid negative, ignorant, and hostile people! They just want to bring you down to their level.
9. Constantly deliver newspapers, collect money, write articles people will read, and then do it all over again, and again. This is issue #22 and it's like giving birth each month.

It's that simple. Good luck!

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