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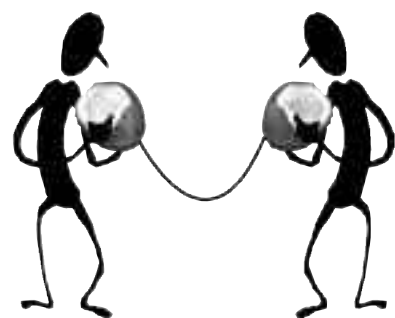
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Editorial: Advice for Tourists and Day-trippers

Before the new Jewfish Creek Bridge was built I owned a visitor center located at Gilbert's Resort. The purpose of that type of business is to book hotel rooms and water sports including fishing trips, snorkeling, waverunner rentals, glass bottom boat trips, and more. While there I heard some of the frustrating tourist questions all locals have been asked. Question like: "We only have 2 hours, what can we see and do in the Keys?" or "We brought a cooler, where is the beach?" The worst one was "Can we walk to the reef?"

So here is some information and advice for people visiting our beautiful Florida Keys...

The Florida Keys are famous for our Coral Reef State Park. Nowhere else in the continental U.S. can you see live coral. It is hard to describe the incredible beauty. Since it is a state park the fish are

protected and they seem to know it. If you have only one day in the Keys this is a must see. But you have to get on a boat because it is four miles of shore out in the ocean.

All along the highway there are snorkel and dive shops, pick one, they all go to the reef. We like Sundiver Station because they are friendly and dependable. If you don't want to get wet, we recommend a trip on the Key Largo Princess Glass Bottom Boat (see page 12 for coupon). Food and drinks are available and you can kick back and relax while the narrator describes the different coral and sea life. It is educational as well and fun for the whole family.

If you only have a couple of hours the next best thing in the Keys is our fabulous fresh seafood. In this newspaper you will find only the very best restaurants in the Upper Keys. These restaurant owners buy

the seafood fresh from the fishermen. After tasting fresh fish, lobster and crab you will swear off the frozen forever.

There are no public sandy beaches in Key Largo. The closest is Anne's Beach MM 73.8. If you are short on time Gilbert's Resort at MM 108 has a beach and they welcome visitors but coolers are not allowed. You are welcome to enjoy the beach and pool but food and drinks must be purchased at the tiki bar or inside the air conditioned restaurant. Boat and waverunner rentals are also available. And you can always just sit back and enjoy the live local entertainment and watch the boats come and go.

Changing your itinerary and deciding to stay longer is HIGHLY recommended. Gilbert's has reasonable motel rates with views of the water. Please enjoy your stay and come back often.

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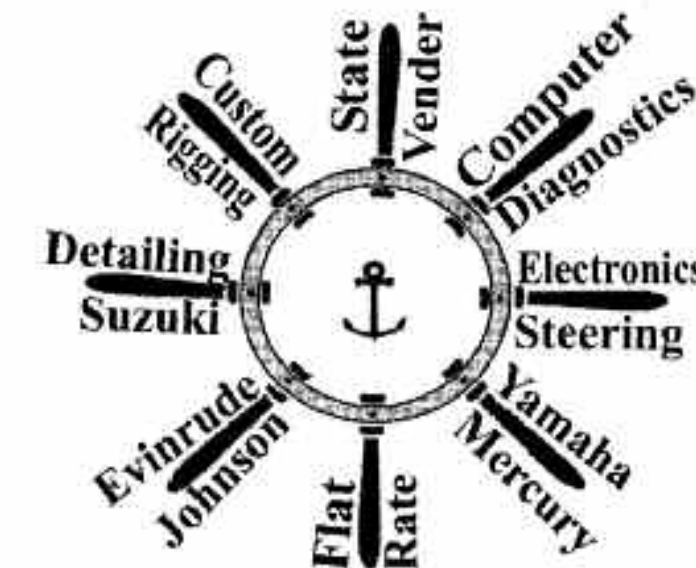
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**Hunk of the Month
Dave Sheehan**
Owner of Keys
Adventure Watersports



Rent boats and waverunners from
February's Hunk of the Month at
Gilbert's Resort, MM 108.

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