

LOR-E-LEI

Restaurant & Cabana Bar
Look for the Mermaid at MM 82 Islamorada

Open 7 Days A Week
Breakfast 7 am - 10:45 am
Lunch from 11 am
Dinner from 4 pm
Live Music Every Night



WATERFRONT DINING

Fresh Seafood
Local Specialties
We'll Cook Your Catch
Fishing Guides Available
Amazing Sunsets
Pet Friendly

Daily Happy Hour
4-6 pm

- \$3 Well Drinks
- \$1 off Bottle Beers
- \$1 off House Wines
- \$1.25 Domestic Drafts
- \$2.25 Specialty Drafts

FREE WIFI PROPERTY WIDE • LOCALS' FAVORITE • LIVE MUSIC NIGHTLY!

MCSO Shows Appreciation to Coral Financial Jewelry & Pawn



Capt. Don Fanelli presented Coral Financial Jewelry & Pawn in Key Largo owner Bill Wiggins with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of Sheriff Rick Ramsay in January.

Bill allowed the Sheriff's Office to use his business as a command center while the SWAT Team and Crisis Negotiators along with a litany of other Deputies handled a shots fired call directly behind his business.

Community Partnerships! Thank you Bill Wiggins!

Coconut Telegraph Spotlight on...

Musician of the Month: John Baxter

"Lift Us Won't You Lift Us"

By Marilee Free

There is nothing like live music to lift our spirits and make the cares of the day melt away. Jazzman John Baxter has been providing the soundtrack to do just that for decades. You have probably seen this jazzy saxophone and flute player out and about at the local jam nights, possibly at Burton Memorial Church or even at Dr. Lou's jam, streaming live music from the back of Tower of Pizza.

You might catch him at the new open-air stage at the Key Largo Moose with Tim Dressing's band, "The Key Largo Woodrats" 7-10pm most Wednesday nights. He is a self-proclaimed 'sideman for hire' and prior to the pandemic, he was busy playing in bands for weddings and corporate events. He says the events are starting slowly to pick

back up. He feels empathy for all affected by Covid and sadly, has lost some close friends to it.

Truly a gifted musician, John started playing the sax at age 8. One of his early inspirations was a music teacher from Chicago who played in Benny Goodman's band. Dexter Gordon's saxophone style is what he most tries to emulate.

John was born and raised in Miami and attended the University of Miami. Practicing paid off and John was able to tour with various bands in the 60's & 70's. He has mastered many genres of music, reggae, jazz, oldies, favorites to folk music, he adds a special touch to every song he plays.

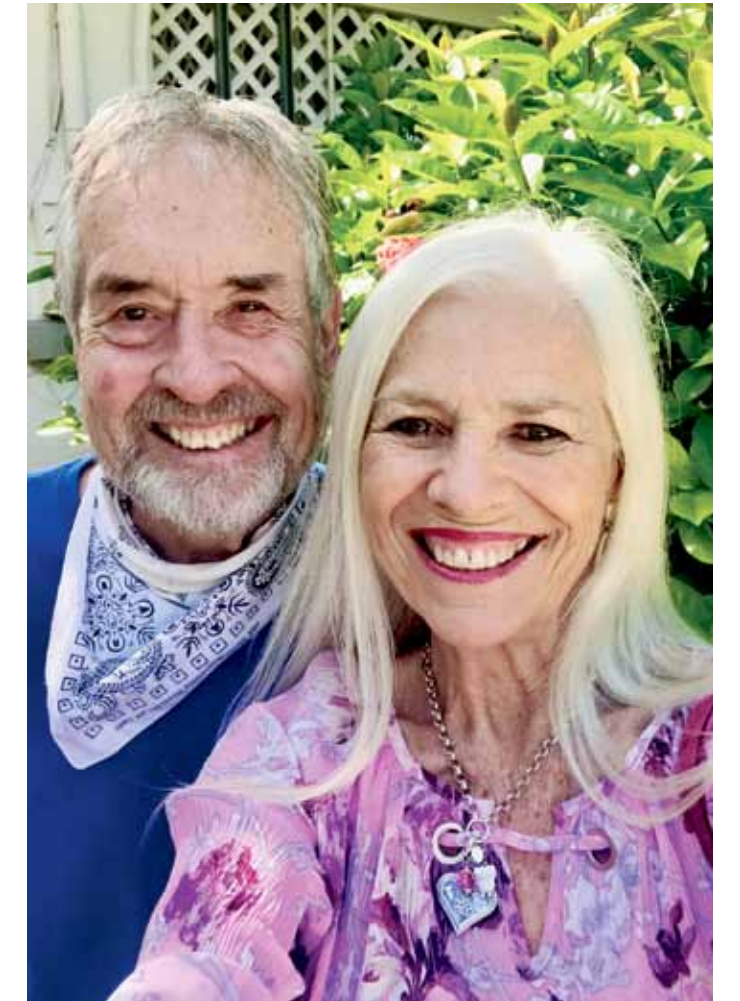
The lure of scuba diving

brought John to the Keys in 1980. He lived in two homes, then in 1998, he bought "Ricky Ricardo's" family's fish camp, where he still lives with his wife Carol. Taking a break from music to raise his family, John retired in 2005 from selling chainsaws to landscapers. It was then he rekindled his love to entertain by sitting in with many local bands.

Carol and John recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Living the dream, they enjoy cruising around the Upper Keys' waterways on their pontoon boat. They like to dock for breakfast at Made 2 Order or stop for lunch at

Bayside Grille or Snooks. They enjoy vacations and visits with their son, Robert, residing in Texas, and daughter, Catherine, who lives in Indiana. They have 6 grandchildren, who are all musically inclined like their grandpa. As far as advice for aspiring musicians, John says to become a music teacher and do gigs on the side, that way you can retire with benefits... smart man! He also adds to practice, practice, practice. Prior to Covid, John was mentoring some students, but currently he is not doing any lessons.

On behalf of the Coconut Telegraph, thank you John for lifting our spirits with your musical gift and kindness.



John and Carol Baxter.



IF YOU'RE GOING TO CHILL, CHILL BIG!

Valentines Day Specials

LADIES' NIGHT
Ladies' Drink FREE
6-7 PM - Tuesdays

HAPPY HOUR
4-7 PM
Monday - Friday

LIVE MUSIC NIGHTLY
7 Days a Week

Dinner Specials Available February 14th

Rated #1 for Sunsets by Trip Advisor

MM104 B/S | Key Largo 305.453.9066 | www.jjsBigChill.com

American Legion Post 333 - Key Largo

Open 7 Days a Week, Noon 'til 10pm
Happy Hour 4 to 6 pm
We abide by Monroe County Rules.
Please wear a mask when not seated.

Stop by and see Tiffany!

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