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**History Lesson in the Keys**

—by Karen Beal

Long ago and far away, in a land that time forgot,  
Before the days of US 1, or the rule of F-L-“DOT”  
There lived a band of renegades, and they were Conchs, you see,  
They lived their way and made the best of what they knew could be.  
For Harry was commissioner and times were rough and wooly  
Bribery was standard fair and he could be a bully.

Harry ran a high-stakes race and money came his way  
With favors given for a price, some call it pay to play.  
For 28 years he did his job to run the Upper Keys  
He also ran a restaurant and bar that once served “Teas”.  
Growth, he felt, was good for all - taxes rose long-sighted.  
Times were good and Harry ruled until he was indicted.

Now things have changed and people too, there are so many more.  
Commissioners still argue growth and what its all done for.  
We long for island paradise, of what we miss today  
That we once had so long ago between ocean and bay.  
Blue water and white coral rock, sea birds and fishes too  
We only own on midweek days now, on weekends we make do.

So don't get grumpy when we grouse, our memories will fade  
And soon there will be no one left to argue unafraid.  
To beg for “less” and mangrove trees and shallow waterways  
Where logic rules and nature counts - rare to see nowadays.  
We only want to keep the best of what we know can be  
Cause Harry never knew the fate of what he'd oversee.

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**Spotlight on Jenny Allen**

Jenny loves everything the island life has to offer. She moved to Key Largo in 2003 and never looked back. When she is not boating, fishing, snorkeling or free diving in the upper Keys, she spends as much time as possible with her husband at their second home in Key West.



Her love for the Keys and knowledge of the area make her a great resource for locals and out-of-town buyers alike. Jenny is originally from a small, rural town in Kentucky where she grew up surrounded by her immediate and extended family. She began competitive swimming at the age of eight and continued her sport year-round through college.

Jenny's accomplishments in both swimming and academics landed her a full scholarship at the University of Louisville where she earned a bachelor's in Biology while serving as a 4-year member of the University swim team.

Before entering into the world of real estate, Jenny spent many years in sales. She held sales manager positions for both the large communications distributor, Anixter, as well as, the prestigious Ocean Reef Club where she traveled the country to secure corporate group business.

Jenny also worked for three years in the planning department at the Village of Islamorada where she gained invaluable insight and knowledge about land laws, the home building and renovation permitting process, and vacation rental rules and regulations.

Whether working with buyers or sellers, Jenny makes every client feel like they are her only client. She knows how to utilize her resources to find answers and solve problems.

**What do you have to show for all your hard-earned RENT Money?**

**... absolutely NOTHING!**

Can you believe how much money you have paid toward rent? Now, imagine what would have happened if you had purchased a home with similar payment figures! Each mortgage payment is an investment to help you build equity and accumulate wealth.

**SO, WHY ARE YOU STILL RENTING?**

After all, isn't it time to put your money to work for you and not your landlord?

Contact me for the best real estate opportunities in the Florida Keys.

Monthly	1 year	2 years	3 years	5 years
\$1,500	\$18,000	\$36,000	\$52,500	\$90,000
\$2,000	\$24,000	\$48,000	\$70,000	\$120,000
\$2,500	\$30,000	\$60,000	\$87,500	\$150,000
\$3,000	\$36,000	\$72,000	\$105,000	\$180,000



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