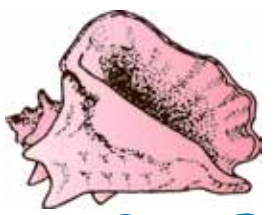


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Spiders by Carol Ellis  
Artist of the Month:  
Diane Whitney Smith

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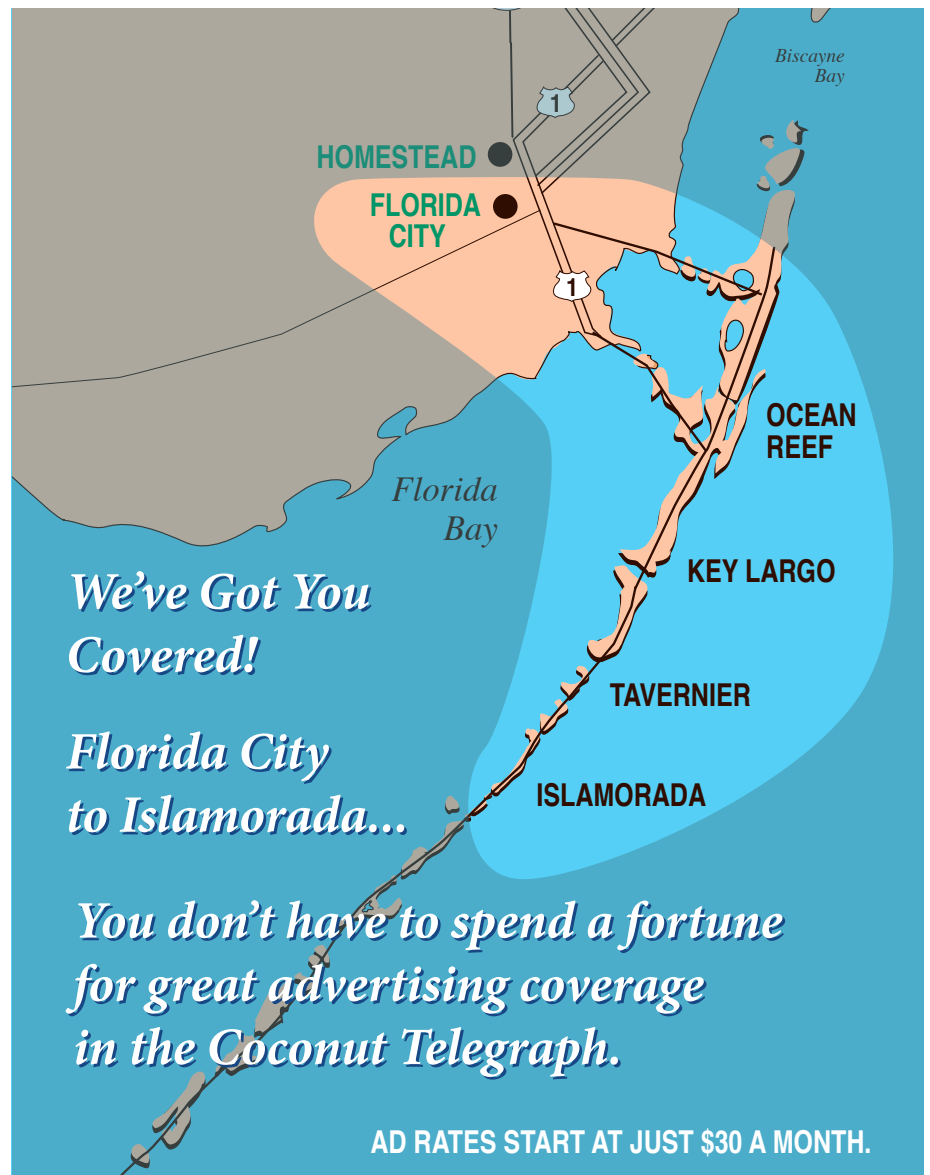
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## Critters in Our Midst: Spiders by Carol Ellis

Golden Silk spider (*Trichonephila clavipes*), also known as the Banana Spider, spins a very sticky, silk web with a golden hue.

There are so many critters here in the Florida Keys, I've been able to write about a different variety each month. So far I've covered those who are feathered, furry or scaly, from a spectrum of soft bodied insects to mammals, amphibians to birds, with some that slither, run, scurry or crawl and others that sail freely on the wind.

It's been educational and enjoyable, photographing and researching each subject. Up till now... my current subject spiders creeps me out. I am not really afraid of them, but I don't like looking at them either. There's probably some good reason why at Halloween a lot of decorations depict spiders. Arachnophobia!!

When I was five years old, sleepovers at my friend Jennifer's house, were fun, and spiders were part of the excitement. The rarely used room where we slept had pecky cypress wood covering the walls and ceiling. and brown spiders the size of silver dollars hung from webs in the dark, dusty corners. (I guess the

spiders were what the monsters ate when they came out from underneath the beds.) Researchers believe we are not born with the fear of spiders, but instead are taught this behavior. Children are



Southern Black Widow spiders (*Latrodectus mactans*) are a venomous spider found throughout the Southeastern U.S. Credit: James L. Castner UF

curious about spiders, and will capture them and watch how their tiny bodies move via their eight long legs until a parent/teacher intervenes, with the message of "be careful, they bite."

All spiders bite, however, only two of them in Florida will provoke a strong

reaction in humans: the Southern Black Widow spider (*Latrodectus mactans*) and the Brown Recluse spider (*Heteropoda venatoria*).

According to the Florida Poison Information Center

at Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami (1-800-222-1222) if bitten by a Black Widow you will likely experience severe stomach pain, and you should go to the emergency room immediately. The Black Widow received its name from the belief the female spider would kill and consume the male after mating.

The Brown Recluse spider is typically found in Central and Southern Missouri... not here. The only documented case in Florida of a Brown Recluse spider bite involved a sailor who was bitten on the hand by a male Brown Recluse in the cargo hold of a naval ship in Jacksonville.



Brown Recluse showing "violin" shaped marking. Credit: Jean Woods

The Brown Recluse spider bite causes pain, blistering and frequently necrotic lesions in humans. They are often blamed for mystery bites, wounds and bacterial infections that require treatment with antibiotics — a misdiagnosis by the public and doctors who are not trained in spider identification, nor have seen the spider inflict the bite.

There are more than 250 species of spiders in Florida. Around the house, spiders are beneficial insects who consume flying insects, cockroaches and other small domestic pests. In the wild spiders spend their days hiding in leaf litter, and under debris, and emerge at night to hunt. They also spin elaborate webs in clearings to catch flying insects who cannot see the webs until they are ensnared. Once in their web, the spider bites its victim and a small amount of venom is used to

## Spiders... CONTINUED Photos by Carol Ellis



A Cellar spider (*Pholcidae* sp) was attracted to the moisture in my kitchen sink.

immobilize the insect, then dissolve it into a "smoothie" for the spider to ingest, as they cannot eat solid food. A spider may bite a human if held or pinched; the bite may hurt for a while but quickly goes away and is much less severe than a bee sting.

is usually behind the camera lens and I have a bad habit of walking into spider webs. The two methods people use to avoid walking into spider webs are (1) Carry a long stick to brush away webs in the path, (2) Avoid disturbing the web by walking around it. The second method respects the spider's efforts making a web which is light, elastic and stronger than steel, and is how the spider, who may have poor eyesight, senses vibrations from their prey, as the web acts as an extension of their sensory system.

Most spiders have eight eyes and eight legs, come in a multitude of colors and can be patterned.



The Mabel Orchard Orbweaver (*Leucauge argyroabapta*) has an orange and green, almost metallic colored body.

I have a general rule when walking in the woods: always go with someone else, and let them lead the way. This is because my attention

Some have tiny hairs on their legs that can sense electric charges around plants or the movement of air emitted from a flying



**CAROL ELLIS** has lived in South Florida her entire life and Key Largo for 37 years. Currently a Master Gardener volunteer, Carol has a degree in Journalism from the University of Florida and is the resident photographer /artist at Ocean Reef Club.



This Ghost spider (Genus *Habana*) was hiding among the leaves in a fruit tree.

insect's wings. Not all spiders spin webs, and those that don't, rely on their better eyesight to capture prey.

Pest control is a choice, and my preferred method is preventing a bite by wearing gloves while working where spiders may be found, and shaking out shoes that haven't been worn recently before putting them on.

You can deter spiders by turning off outside lights at night, to avoid attracting flying insects, a spider's preferred food. Realize that proper identification of the spider is the first step, and if the spider is beneficial, let it be.

"She asks me to kill the spider.

"Instead, I get the most peaceful weapons I can find. I take a cup and a napkin. I catch the spider, put it outside and allow it to walk away.

"If I am ever caught in the wrong place at the wrong time, just being alive and not bothering anyone, I hope I am greeted with the same kind of mercy."

*Rudy Francisco*

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**Critters, Part 1 -- A blog by Luke Sommer Glenn**

The morning walk with Mia the puppy dog. Timing is everything. Start too early, feed the bugs. Too late, get beat by the heat. And there's no reprieve from the insects that feed on blood.

There is no escaping from the mosquitoes and no-see-ums at sunrise and sunset. Biting flies patrol during the heat of the day and different breeds of mosquitoes come out at night to feed. Step in lush grass and the feast is on especially in the shade of a tree... where an inviting chair is often placed, calling you to sit and drink a frosty adult beverage, out of the beating sun, perhaps partake of some marijuana, and feed the bugs.

You know you have the right buzz when you no longer care about the biting and the itching. For me it's the best buzz ever, a couple of beers, a couple of joints and a waterfront view of our buggy paradise. It's either coincidence or proof the creator loves us, that hops in beer and marijuana are from the same lineage of plants.

The puppy dog Mia has expensive (the only dog food she'll eat) at home. And 10 varieties of treats to choose from. Yet on walks, she licks at the garbage truck juice on the road. She seeks out iguana turds like a delicacy. As she takes her sweet time sniffing

around, the bugs make a meal out of me.

Why don't I stop her? It's not as easy as you might think. She's smarter than me.

Is she giving me the, "Quit jerking the leash, I'm looking for the exact spot, perfectly aligned with the magnetic poles of the planet where I may leave my stool" look? Or is she slowly working her way towards an iguana turd? She's a great actress.

One thing she has in common with T-Bone is they both think chicken bones grow from the ground. T-Bone spent a lot of time at Gilbert's Resort plucking lost hot wings from the sand. He was too fast to stop. Once he found a chicken bone it was crunch, crunch gone. Plus all the construction workers in my neighborhood that throw their chicken bones on the ground instead of the trash, furthering my dogs' beliefs that chicken wings grow from the ground.



T-Bone was the star of the show when he sang.

I was spoiled by T-Bone. He was not a poop eater. He didn't roll around in nasty smelling anything. He was quite prissy for a dog. Probably because he was a singer and the star of the show when he sang.

He used to sing along with me when I played my shows but just on certain songs like Copperhead Road and any Johnny Cash.

Sometimes when people would walk up to tip us, they would set their drink down on the stage to reach for their cash. T-Bone would help himself to their drink, especially draft beer, thinking they had placed it there for him. But he was an incredibly friendly and gentle dog. And handsome.

Customers would often buy him a cheeseburger which I would have to cut up for him. If you put a whole burger down in front of him, he would look up and stare at you with his head cocked to the side as if to ask, "How am I supposed to eat it?" Just a little spoiled, maybe.

He was clever but not smart like Mia. She's such a typical, gross little dog. She rolls on the dead lizards that the cat murders and leaves on the mat. She rolls on bugs, living or dead, and on stuff in the middle of the road that has long since been dead. Yet if you fart, she'll run out of the room!

Our teenie tiny Lily was a mess. Bless her tiny little heart, I carried her more than she walked on our walks but her legs were only two inches long. She was like carrying a portable heater in the summertime. No matter how hard I tried to keep her dry, by the time we got home she was soaked with my sweat.

Her little poops were so small I often couldn't find them where they fell, disappearing into the pea rock. Unfortunately, just like on Star Trek, she did have a problem with cling ons. Sometimes they had to be cut out of her fur.

She also had a problem with eating things off the floor and having bowel movements that were attached to one of our

Luke Sommer Glenn is a local entertainer and Conch Character.

For more info: [www.lukesommerglenn.com](http://www.lukesommerglenn.com)



Silly Lily had a bark that could render your mind inert.

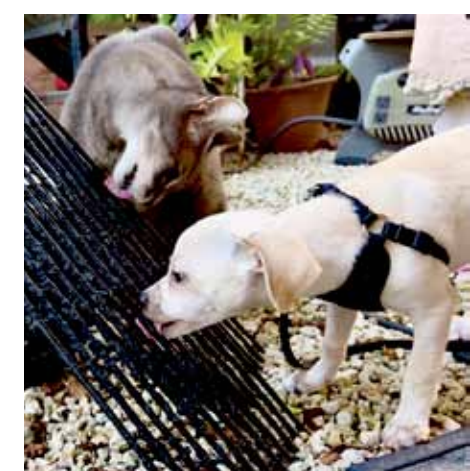
long hairs, it resembled anal beads. We often had to pull hair out of her butt. She even pooped a Q-tip once, how she passed that I'll never know.

Little Lil had a bark that was so piercing and loud it rendered your mind inert. The only way you could stop the torture was by picking her up and holding her. If you had to pick up something else and set her down, the barking would begin again until you picked her back up.

Mia has a tiny little bark comparatively. T-Bone had a mighty woof and could howl on key. He was good at phrasing for a dog. Probably why he was such a prima-donna sometimes.

The one thing they all have in common is our big cat Tinker. He loves his puppy dogs. T-Bone outgrew him, but for the little dogs he is a major part of their lives. He is the chew toy that fights back. Sometimes he's even a kitty couch, he's always a good napping partner though.

Thinking about naps it's about nap time for the old man.



Tinker & Mia cleaning the grill.

# ARTIST OF THE MONTH: Master Artist Diane Whitney Smith



Schools and 45 artists from the Purple Isles Arts Guild.

Smith also volunteers at the schools and is presently working at PKS doing concrete benches covered with ceramic tiles created by the students and teachers. She is also teaching at Ocean Reef and at Jellyfish Dreams locally and on American Cruise Lines, Pearl Seas and Royal Caribbean. She is an avid traveler and has been to over 80 countries, most recently Sri Lanka.



The variety of mediums and subjects, as well as the mastery of techniques demonstrates why Diane Whitney Smith is a Master Artist.



The Coconut Telegraph is delighted to present Diane Whitney Smith as Artist of the Month. Of all the artists I've met over the last 19 years, Diane is by far the most impressive.

Smith earned her Masters of Science and Art Education in 1986 while working as a full-time art teacher in Havertown, PA. She retired as Director of the Art Department there in 2013.

Here in the Keys she is the Co-Chairman of Education for the Art Guild of the Purple Isles, an advisor on the Florida Keys Council for the Arts, and has been co-chair for the History of Diving Museum' annual "Dive into Art" show in Islamorada for 6 years. Each year celebrates a different theme and next year's will be Fabulous Florida Fish. The goal is educate the children and the public on a different issue involving the sea. The emphasis this year is sustainability. Last years theme was the Coral Reef and involved 9 Monroe County

Some quotes from the art community:

Karen Beal:

"I met Diane through the Art Guild meetings. I was new there and she was on the board and was very welcoming. I could see she was organizing all sorts of shows and programs. Her art work is innovative and colorful. She did an amazing 3D painting of the healthy vs. sick coral reef for a recent show. As you walked past it you could see the coral change. Her creative mind is a little different than that of most people.

"And the retired teacher trait runs strong in her - always educating and helping people learn and succeed.

"I was working with the Friends of the Key Largo Library to bring some adult art programming to the library and Diane suggested we write for a grant from the Florida Keys Council of the Arts. It seems she was an Ambassador for the Arts Council too. (This woman wears many hats!)

She made great suggestions and we did get the grant. Then she attended and helped with the entire series. We had 6 instructors, each with one class and she taught one of the classes as well as assisted each of the other instructors. Again, nurturing students - no ego involved. She made sure every student had fun and every class was a success. I gained a lot of respect for her that season. She had many other things going on in her busy world but made sure the library program was a big success."



Gisela Llorens:

"For the past decade, I have had the pleasure of knowing Diane Whitney Smith, an incredibly talented and creative artist who shares her talents selflessly with the community. As a fellow board member of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles, I have had the opportunity to work closely with Diane and witness firsthand her dedication and passion for the arts.

"Diane's role as Chair of the Education Committee has been pivotal in

fostering a love for art among students in the Monroe County School System. Each year, she brings themed artwork from students and Art Guild artists to the History of Diving Museum "Dive into Art" event, a unique art show that she makes possible through her hard work and dedication.

"In January 2025, we eagerly anticipate the "Dive into Art: FIN-tastic Fish of Florida" Art Show at the History of Diving Museum. This year's focus will be on the Commercial and Recreational Fishing Industry,

aiming to educate students and the public about the importance of regulations and restrictions in restoring and sustaining our food supply. Diane's efforts in organizing and leading this event highlight her commitment to both education and the arts, making a lasting impact on our community.

"Diane Whitney Smith is more than an artist; she is a beacon of creativity and inspiration, continuously enriching our lives through her selfless contributions and unwavering dedication to the arts."



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JERRY SEINFELD

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On the back of the shirt is Carol's original image of Fred's Place - the "Tilton Hilton." The restaurant, complete with slanting dance floor, blue crabs and cold beer, was located on the curve just across the Monroe County line, in the historic fishing village of Downtown Card Sound.

The photograph, taken in 1988 is a reminder of the once thriving community of nonconformists, squatters, and fishermen, who made their living from the surrounding waters, mostly by selling blue crabs. In its peak during the late 50's, this area was home to 100 residents, some who had State issued leases for "fishing camps."

Hurricane destruction, along with the politics of environmental safety, ushered in clean-up crews and by 2010, just a few wooden docks, and Alabama Jacks remain in Downtown Card Sound.

ORIGINAL LOCAL ARTWORK BY

Little Salt by Carol Ellis  
PHOTOGRAPHY  
305-451-7778

## Never Wax Your Hoo-ha

All hair removal methods have tricked women with their promises of easy, painless removal - The Epilady, scissors, razors, Nair and now...the wax.

My night began as any other normal weeknight. Fix dinner, watch the kids come and go. Then I had the thought that would ring painfully in my mind for the next few hours: 'Maybe I have time for a wax.'

It was one of those 'cold wax' kits. No melting a clump of hot wax, you just rub the strips together in your hand, they get warm and you peel them apart and press them to your leg (or wherever else) and you pull the hair right off. No muss, no fuss. How hard can it be? I mean, I'm not a genius, but I am mechanically inclined enough to figure this out. (YA THINK!?)

So I pull one of the thin strips out. Its two strips facing each other stuck together. Instead of rubbing them together, my genius kicks in so I get out the hair dryer and heat it to 1000 degrees. ('Cold wax,' yeah... right!)

I lay the strip across my thigh. Hold the skin around it tight and pull. It works!

OK, so it wasn't the best feeling, but it wasn't too bad. I can do this! Hair removal no longer eludes me! I am She-rah, fighter of all wayward body hair and maker of smooth skin extraordinaire.

With my next wax strip I move north. After checking on the family, I sneak back into the bathroom for the ultimate hair fighting championship. I drop my granny panties and place one foot on the toilet. Using the same procedure, I apply the wax strip across the right side of my bikini line, covering the

right half of my hoo-ha and stretching down to the inside of my butt cheek (it was a long strip).

I inhale deeply and brace myself.... RRRRIIPPP!!!! I'm blind!!! Blinded from pain!!!!..... OH MY GAWD!!!!!!! Vision returning, I notice that I've only managed to pull off half the strip.

CRAP! Another deep breath and RIPPI! Everything is spinning and spotted. I think I may pass out.... I must stay conscious... I must stay conscious. Do I hear crashing drums??? Breathe, breathe.... OK, back to normal.

I want to see my trophy - a wax covered strip, the one that has caused me so much pain, with my hairy pelt sticking to it. I want to revel in the glory that is my triumph over body hair. I hold up the strip! There's no hair on it. Where is the hair??? WHERE IS THE WAX???

Slowly I ease my head down, foot still perched on the toilet. I see the hair. The hair that should be on the strip... it's not! I touch.. I am touching wax. I run my fingers over the most sensitive part of my body, which is now covered in cold wax and matted hair.

Then I make the next BIG mistake .... remember my foot is still propped upon the toilet? So I put my foot down. Sealed shut! My butt is sealed shut. Sealed shut! I penguin walk around the bathroom trying to figure out what to do and think to myself 'Please don't let me get the urge to poop... my head may pop off!' What can I do to melt the wax? Hot water!! Hot water melts wax!! I'll run the hottest water I can stand in the bathtub, get in, immerse the wax-covered bits and the wax should melt

and I can gently wipe it off, right ????

WRONG!!! I get in the tub - the water is slightly hotter than that used to torture prisoners of war or sterilize surgical equipment - I sit. Now, the only thing worse than having your nether regions glued together, is having them glued together and then glued to the bottom of the tub.... in scalding hot water. Which, by the way, does not melt cold wax. So, now I'm stuck to the bottom of the tub as though I had cemented myself to the porcelain!!

God bless the AT&T man who had convinced me a few months ago to have a phone put in the bathroom!!!! I call my friend, thinking surely she has waxed before and has some secret of how to get me undone. It's a very good conversation starter.

'So, my butt and hoo-ha are glued together to the bottom of the tub!' There is a slight pause. She doesn't know any secret tricks for removal but she does try to hide her laughter from me. She wants to know exactly where the wax is located, 'Are we talking cheeks or hoo-ha?' She's laughing out loud by now.. I can hear her. I give her the rundown and she suggests I call the number on the side of the box.

Yeah, right! I should be the joke of someone else's night. While we go through various solutions, I resort to trying to scrape the wax off with a razor. Nothing feels better than to have your girly goodies covered in hot wax, glued shut, stuck to the tub in super hot water and then dry-shaving the sticky wax off!!

By now the brain is not working, dignity has taken a major hike and I'm pretty sure I'm going to need Post-Traumatic Stress counseling for this event. My friend is still talking with me when I finally see my saving grace... the lotion they give you to remove the excess wax. What do I really have to lose at this point? I rub some on and OH MY GOD!!! The scream probably woke the family and scared the dickens out of my friend.. It's sooo painful, but I really don't care.

IT WORKS!! I get a hearty congratulation from my friend and she hangs up. I successfully remove the remainder of the wax and then notice to my grief and despair... THE HAIR IS STILL THERE... ALL OF IT! So I recklessly shave it off. Heck, I'm numb by now. Nothing hurts.. I could have amputated my own leg at this point.

Next week I'm going to try hair color.....how bad can that turn out???

Brazilian Wax Menu

 <b>Landing Strip</b> Fly the friendly thighs	 <b>Mohawk</b> A hair-raising experience	 <b>Martini Glass</b> He'll order a double
 <b>Bermuda Triangle</b> Lost for hours and hours	 <b>Postage Stamp</b> Something to write home about	 <b>Heart Attack</b> Is there a doctor in the house?



We always have something "Elk-citing" going on!  
(Members and Their Guests are Welcome)

**Monday: Line Dancing Lessons 5 pm (\$5 cost)**  
**Show Me the Money — Fun card game! 6:30 pm**

**Wednesday: Members Only—Queen of Hearts**  
Fun Starts at 6 pm • Drawings at 6:30 and 7:30 pm

**Karaoke & Fish Dinner on Fridays!**  
Check out our Facebook page for details.

**Sunday Bingo starts at 5 pm**

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**MM 92.6 Bayside • Tavernier • 305-852-1872**

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- Steaks & Ribs
- Conch Chowder & Key Lime Pie

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2014 Winner  
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**New York Style Pizzeria**

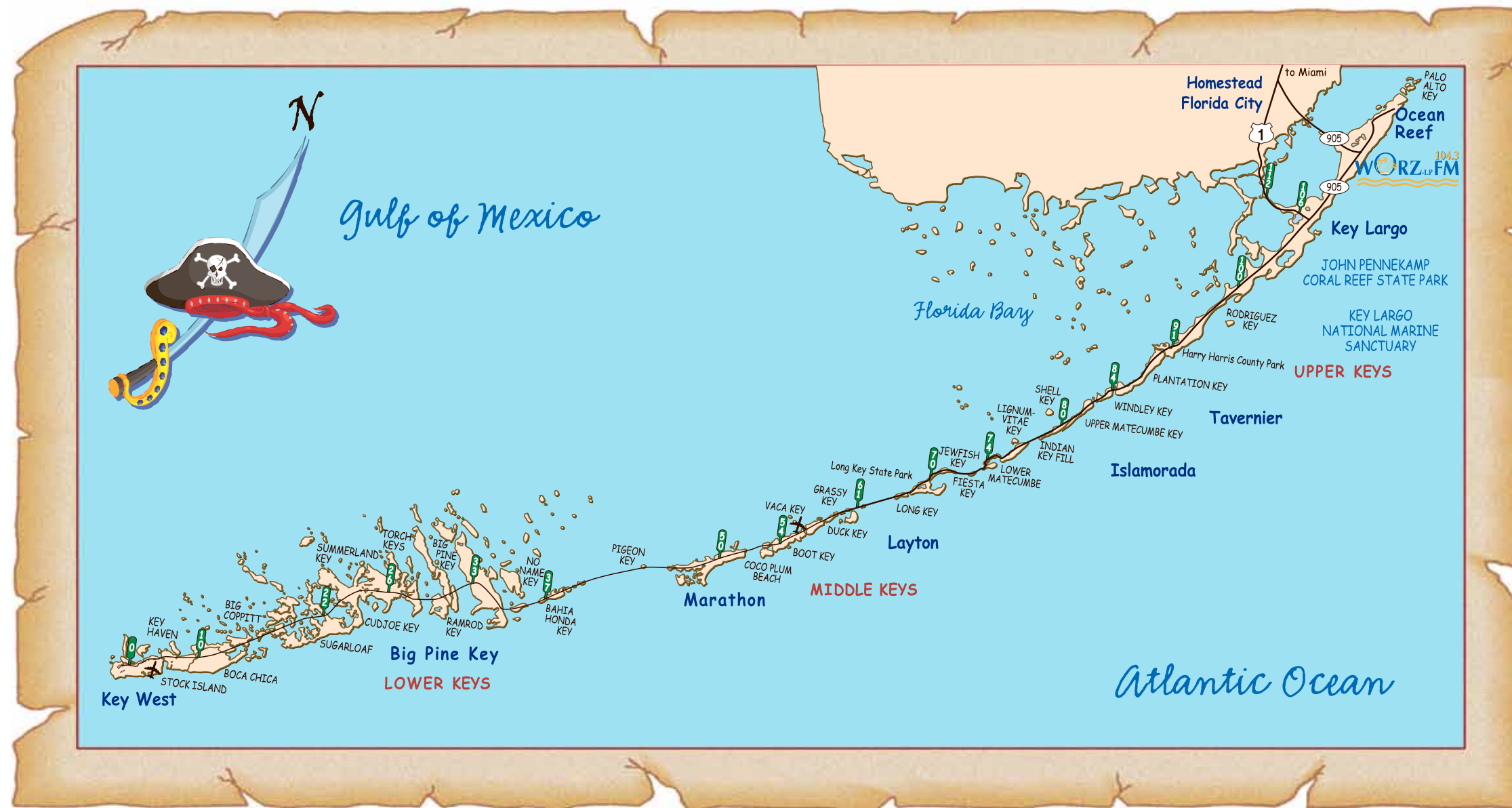
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**Tiki Bar, Game Nights, Dinners & Fun!**

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

- Sundays 6pm**  
"Show Me the Moosebucks"
- Mondays 6pm**  
Bingo
- Tuesdays 6pm**  
"Show Me the Moosebucks"
- Wednesdays 7pm**  
Live Music & Queen of Hearts
- Thursdays 8pm**  
Karaoke with Jenny & Friends
- Fridays 7pm**  
"Left, Right, Center" at the main bar.

**Members & Guests Welcome**  
Hours 11am - 11pm

**Join Us!**

**Open Jam / Mic EVERY TUESDAY & SUNDAY AT 8 PM**

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### Sharing Your Gift with Others

Your earthly existence provides you with ample opportunity to explore your purpose & use your gifts.

The gifts we are born with and those that we work to develop throughout our lives vary in form and function. Some gifts we use every day, while others are only useful in specific circumstances. Yet, many times we overlook opportunities to share our unique gifts with others. It may be fear of criticism that holds us back or the paralyzing weight of uncertainty. But, the world as a whole benefits when we willingly share our gifts.

Your gifts are a part of who you are. As you make use of those gifts as best you can, be assured that your contribution to worldly well-being will not be overlooked.

Your personal power is defined in part by your gifts. To use your talents is to demonstrate to the world that you understand yourself and are attuned to your capabilities. Your earthly existence provides you with ample opportunity to explore your purpose, to utilize your skills in a life-affirming way, and to posi-

tively touch the lives of others while doing so. Every gift lying dormant in your soul has the potential to fill a void in someone else's life. Just as your existence is made richer by the love, support, friendship, aid, and compassion of others, you also can add richness to their lives. Your natural ability to soothe hurt, inspire compassion, bake, dance, knit, organize, or think outside the box can be a boon to someone in need.

As you embrace your gifts and allow their light to shine, you will discover that more and more opportunities to make use of them arise. This is because your gifts are a channel through which the universe operates.

By simply doing what you are good at and what you love to do, you make a positive difference. The recognition you receive for your efforts will pale in comparison to the satisfaction you feel when fulfilling your innate potential.

Reprinted from DailyOM - Inspirational thoughts for a happy, healthy and fulfilling day. Register for free at [www.dailyom.com](http://www.dailyom.com)

### Q: How many people does it take to change a lightbulb in a Facebook group?

A:

- 1 to change the light bulb and to post that the light bulb has been changed
- 14 to share similar experiences and tell how the light bulb could have been changed differently
- 7 to caution about the dangers of changing light bulbs
- 17 purists who use candles and are offended by light bulb discussions
- 6 to argue over whether it's 'lightbulb' or 'light bulb'
- Another 6 to condemn those 6 as stupid
- 22 to tell THOSE 6 to stop being jackasses
- 2 industry professionals to inform the group that the proper term is 'lamp'
- 15 know-it-alls who claim they were in the industry, and that 'light bulb' is perfectly correct
- 249 to post memes and gifs (several are of someone eating popcorn with the words added, "I'm just here for the comments.")
- 19 to post that this page is not about light bulbs and to please take this discussion to a light bulb page
- 11 to defend the posting to this page saying that we all use light bulbs and therefore the posts are relevant here
- 12 to post F
- 8 to ask what F means
- 16 to post 'Following' but there's 3 dots at the top right that means you don't have to.
- 3 to say "can't share"
- 2 to reply "can't share from a closed group"
- 36 to post pics of their own light bulbs
- 15 to post "I can't see \$#%!" and use their own light bulbs
- 6 to report the post because someone said "f@x\$"
- 4 to say "Didn't we go through this already a short time ago?"
- 13 to say "Do a search on light bulbs before posting questions about light bulbs"
- 1 to bring politics into the discussion by adding that (insert politician of choice) isn't the brightest bulb. This usually takes place within the first three comments
- 50 more to get into personal attacks over their political views
- 5 admins to ban the light bulb posters who took it all too seriously
- 1 late arrival to comment on the original post 6 months later and start it all over again



## A New Sign In The Bank Lobby

Please note that this bank is installing new Drive-Through ATM Machines enabling customers to withdraw cash without leaving their vehicles.

Customers using the new ATMs are requested to use the procedures outlined below when accessing their accounts.

After months of careful research, male & female procedures have been developed. Please follow the appropriate steps for your gender.

#### PROCEDURE FOR MALES:

1. Drive up to the cash machine.
2. Put down your car window.
3. Insert card into machine and enter PIN.
4. Enter amount of cash required and withdraw.
5. Retrieve card, cash and receipt.
6. Put window up.
7. Drive off.

#### PROCEDURE FOR FEMALES:

1. Drive up to cash machine.
2. Reverse and back up the required number of times to align car window with the machine.
3. Set parking brake, put the window down.
4. Find handbag, dump all contents onto passenger seat to locate card.
5. Tell person on cell phone you will call them back and hang up.



6. Attempt to insert card into machine.
7. Open car door to allow easier access to machine due to its excessive distance from the car.
8. Insert card.
9. Re-insert card the right way.
10. Dig through the stuff on the seat to find diary with your PIN written on the inside back page.
11. Enter PIN.
12. Press cancel and re-enter correct PIN.
13. Enter amount of cash required.
14. Check makeup in rear view mirror.
15. Retrieve cash and receipt.
16. Check the seat again again to locate wallet and place cash inside.
17. Write debit amount in check register and place receipt in back of check book.
18. Put everything back into handbag.
19. Re-check makeup.
20. Drive forward 2 feet.
21. Reverse back to cash machine.
22. Retrieve card.
23. Re-empty hand bag, locate card holder, and place card into the slot provided.
24. Give dirty look to irate male driver waiting behind you.
25. Restart stalled engine and pull off.
26. Re-dial person on cell phone.
27. Drive for 2 to 3 miles.
28. Release parking brake.

1791 Narcissus Ave., Big Pine Key

This is a great investment opportunity. A duplex in a wonderful location in the Keys. Very close to Key West. Beautiful sunsets in the evenings to enjoy from your balcony. There's a canal in the back for your boating excursions. 13-ft elevation gives you plenty of room to store RV's boats and more. 2/1 on each side, with central AC and bahama shutters. A metal roof. This unit is a 2 unit duplex and there's another two unit duplex also available just down the street at 1547 Narcissus.

547 Narcissus Ave., Big Pine Key

Enjoy beautiful sunsets from this duplex balcony as well as canal access for your boating needs. Great investment opportunity. Live in one unit, rent the other. 13 ft elevation gives plenty of room to store RV's boats and more. 2/1 each side. Central air, metal roof, Bahama shutters and more. There is an additional duplex down the street at 1791 Narcissus Ave. These duplexes are in a quiet neighborhood, yet close to all the Key West action. Listed at appraised value. Call today to check this one out.

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**Sports Headquarters**

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(A) ON THE MAP

**Key Largo**

In Key Largo, we navigate by Mile Markers! Look for the little green signs and mile indicators on power poles to find your way.



**Legend**

- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- Boat Ramp
- 99 Mile Marker
- Point of Interest
- Dive Site
- Dive Wreck
- Swim with Dolphins

Map labels include: To Miami, To Ocean Reef, Little Blackwater Sound, Barnes Sound, Garden Cove, John Pennnekamp Coral Reef State Park, Adams Cut, Murray Nelson Government Center, Key Largo Public Library, African Queen Community Pool and Park, Post Office, Sunsets Cove, Bayside, Buttonwood Sound, Rock Harbor, Mosquito Bank, Spiegel Grove, Berwood, French Reef, Alligator, North, Greccion Rocks, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, City of Washington, Christ Statue, Carysfort, North / The Elbow Dry Rocks, Key Largo Entrance, Murray Nelson Government Center, Adams Cut, Little Buttonwood Sound, Little Blackwater Sound, Blackwater Sound, Jowfish Creek, Card Sound Road, Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center, Mariner's Hospital, Harry Harris Park & Beach, Duane, Molasses Reef, Bibb.

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(B) ON THE MAP

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(C) ON THE MAP

The Conch Republic **COCONUT TELEGRAPH**

**RATES KEY LARGO MAP PAGE**

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Horizontal: 4.5" wide x 2.75" tall \$150 per month

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**WE HAVE BREAKFAST UNTIL 3PM DAILY**

**BLOODY MARYS**  
**BOTTOMLESS MIMOSAS \$15**  
**HAPPY HOUR: 4-6 excluding Sundays**  
Eat in or take out - breakfast, lunch & dinner.

(E) ON THE MAP

## July Events and Programs at Key Largo Library

The Key Largo Branch of the Monroe County Library System is hosting the following programs this month. All library programs are free and open to the public. Program funding provided by the Friends of the Key Largo Library. Visit [KeysLibraries.org](http://KeysLibraries.org) for books, streaming movies, ebooks, and more.

**KEY LARGO BRANCH LIBRARY IS LOCATED IN TRADEWINDS SHOPPING CENTER AT MM 101.4 OCEANSIDE.**

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**July 2 & 16, 4 pm**  
Video Game Club - Level up your skills! Connect with fellow gamers as you compete in thrilling tournaments.

**July 3, 9 am-12 pm**  
1st Wednesday Plant Clinic. Master Gardener Volunteers will help with plant identification, disease diagnosis, insect identifications/problems, and other services.

**July 8, 11 am-12:30 pm**  
The Alzheimer's Association hosts a Care Support Group. Register/info: 800.272.3900.

**July 12, 3-4:30 pm**  
Summer Reading Event: Join us as we explore a variety of ocean creatures with Island Dolphin Care's Touch Tank. Children will be able to touch and interact with sea life and learn more about the marine world that surrounds us. Ages 3-11. Bring your Summer Reading Log for a Prize!

**July 13, 20 & 27 2:30-4:15 pm**  
Saturday Family Movie Matinee + Popcorn. Visit [KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo](http://KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo) for movie titles. Rated PG.

**July 20, 27 2:30-4:15 pm**  
Saturday Family Movie Matinee + Popcorn. Visit [KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo](http://KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo) for movie titles. Rated PG.

**July 23, 4:00 pm**  
STEM: Street Sailing: Using the physics of wind science, build a sail and put it to the wind test on a toy car. Can you get to the finish line first? All supplies provided. Ages 6-11.

**July 23, 6-7:45 pm**  
Books on Tap: Join us at Keys Meads to discuss "Charlotte's Story: A Florida Keys Diary, 1934 & 1935" by Charlotte Niedhawk. Borrow it from the Monroe County Public Libraries. Drinks available for purchase. 99411 O/S Hwy #6.

**July 24**  
Drop off your final Summer Reading logs to be entered in the prize drawings. Bedtime Math logs are due July 26.

**July 26, 3-4:30 pm**  
Summer Reading Explosion! Participants will become Mad Scientists as they explore Super Science Concoction stations experimenting with Jigglin' Gelatin, Gooblik, Blobber and more! All supplies provided. Ages 6-11.

**July 27, 2:30-4:15 pm**  
Saturday Family Movie Matinee + Popcorn. Visit [KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo](http://KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo) for movie titles. Rated PG.

**alzheimer's association**

**July 8, 6-7 pm**  
SBDC Marketing 101 For all entrepreneurs who want to learn about marketing their business and reaching a broader customer base. Get info/answers & learn about weekly consulting available.

**July 9, 4pm**  
STEM: Ice Cream Chemistry Beat the heat with a cool treat! Learn about the chemistry of crafting ice cream and then make and enjoy your own. All supplies provided. Ages 6+.

**July 11, 4 pm**  
STEM: Intro to Game Design Do you like to play video games? Are you interested in learning how to make your own animations and games? Join us at to begin your coding journey! Using code.org; library laptops will be provided. Ages 10 - 14

**July 16, 4 pm**  
Video Game Club - Level up your skills! Connect with fellow gamers as you compete in thrilling tournaments.

**July 18, 10:30 am - 12 pm**  
Animal Farm Adventure!!! Monroe County Animal Farm staff will visit the library with animals in tow. Come out and meet the animals and learn about their life on the MCSO Animal Farm! Ages 3-103.

**July 18 2-3:30 pm**  
Adult Craft - Button Tree Art. A colorful and creative way to decorate your home or give as a gift. You will have templates to choose from to create your own work of art. All supplies provided.

**July 19 3-4:30 pm**  
Summer Reading Event. DIY Dreamcatcher: Learn the art

**Summer Family Movie Matinee**

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Summer Reading Event. DIY Dreamcatcher: Learn the art

**MONROE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
FLORIDA KEYS - SINCE 1892

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**July 27, 2:30-4:15 pm**  
Saturday Family Movie Matinee + Popcorn. Visit [KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo](http://KeysLibraries.org/Key-Largo) for movie titles. Rated PG.

**July 28, 10:30 am - 12 pm**  
Animal Farm Adventure!!! Monroe County Animal Farm staff will visit the library with animals in tow. Come out and meet the animals and learn about their life on the MCSO Animal Farm! Ages 3-103.

**July 28 2-3:30 pm**  
Adult Craft - Button Tree Art. A colorful and creative way to decorate your home or give as a gift. You will have templates to choose from to create your own work of art. All supplies provided.

**July 29 3-4:30 pm**  
Summer Reading Event. DIY Dreamcatcher: Learn the art

[KeysLibraries.org/events](http://KeysLibraries.org/events)  
[Facebook.com/KeyLargoLibrary](https://www.facebook.com/KeyLargoLibrary)  
[Instagram.com/KeyLargoLibrary](https://www.instagram.com/KeyLargoLibrary)

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

**Story Time**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:30 am for ages 0-5.

**Quit Your Way - Tobacco Free Florida, Weds. 1pm**  
Counseling and free nicotine replacement therapy. Hosted by Beth Dunlap, RN, Florida Keys Area Health Education Center (AHEC).

**Tech Tutor**  
Weds. 1-4pm  
Bring your device and questions for one-on-one help.

**Small Business Consulting, Weds. 2-5 pm**  
The Small Business Development Center at FIU offers no-cost consulting at the Key Largo Library, and Tuesdays 9-1 pm at the Islamorada Library. Reserve by email: [bbarnes@fiu.edu](mailto:bbarnes@fiu.edu).

**Sit + Sew**  
Fri. 9:30am - 1pm.  
Bring your current project and meet new friends.

**COME TAKE A CLASS!**  
The Key Largo Library has a variety of offerings, ranging from Arts & Crafts to Legos & Slime Time. Scan the code to see the complete schedule.



The Key Largo Library will be closed Thursday, July 4 for Independence Day.

Monthly Community Group Meetings:  
1st Monday: Upper Keys Fishing Club  
1st Saturday: Florida Keys Quilters  
3rd Monday: Fed. of Homeowners



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 next to Publix in the Tradewinds Plaza.

The Conch Republic  
**COCONUT TELEGRAPH**  
 Independently Owned Local Newspaper

Denise Malefyt PUBLISHER  
 305.304.2837  
 www.TheConchTelegraph.com  
 TheConchTelegraph@gmail.com  
 101425 Overseas Hwy., PMB #628  
 Key Largo, Florida Keys 33037

**BARTENDER**  
 American Legion in Key Largo has a bartender, part time, day position open.  
 Hours are 11:30am-5:00pm.  
 Great pay, fun atmosphere.  
 No experience required but helpful.  
 Contact Cheryl at 352.460.6204.

**WE ARE HIRING AT THE BIG CHILL:**  
 Servers with at least three years experience  
 Barbacks  
**AT ENRICO'S MM 88.8**  
 Pizza Makers and Cooks  
 Please apply in person at The Big Chill or call Amanda 305.453.9066

**Help Wanted**  
**Kitchen Assistant/Barback**  
 Apply in person between 3 and 10 pm at Elks Lodge MM 92.6 Tavernier.  
 See bartender for application.  
 \$15 per hour.

**Advertise Here**  
 \$30 per month  
 (4 MONTH MINIMUM, PAID IN ADVANCE)

Drop off check and biz card to  
 The UPS Store, MM 101.4 Oceanside  
 next to Publix in the Tradewinds Plaza.

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**Position Open**

The Key Largo Animal Shelter, operated by Humane Animal Care Coalition, has a full-time position open for an Animal Control Officer or Animal Caretaker.

The applicants must be energetic, flexible with duties and hours. Experience preferred but will accept an applicant that loves animals. HACC will provide the necessary training for the new applicant.

Salary based on experience/skills. Benefits include fully paid retirement program, paid holidays and annual leave; health insurance.

Apply at 105951 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, MM106 or call (305) 451-0088, ask for Marsha, the Shelter Director.

**STAND OUT!**  
**Color Business Card Ads!**  
 \$50 per month  
 (4 MONTH MINIMUM, PAID IN ADVANCE)

Drop off check and biz card to  
 The UPS Store, MM 101.4 Oceanside  
 next to Publix in the Tradewinds Plaza.

**CAPTAIN WANTED**

**Eco Tours and Sunset Cruises**  
 PART TIME & FILL-IN  
 Capt. Sterling Kennedy  
 305 395-0033  
 www.CaptainSterling.com

**ONE GRIND**  
 Hot Breakfast and Italian Espresso  
 MM 98 Key Largo FL P: 305-902-0534  
 FB/ONEGRINDKL  
 INSTA@ONEGRINDKL  
 WWW.ONEGRINDKL.COM  
 ONEGRINDKL@GMAIL.COM

Scan for Menu  
**EVERY CUP HELPS RESCUE CATS AND PUPS**  
 GET ONE FREE COFFEE AFTER YOU BUY 9

**KEY LARGO MOOSE LODGE**  
**HELP WANTED**

Part-time Bartenders and  
 Part-time Motel Housekeeper

INQUIRE in PERSON  
 MM 98.8 in the Median

**NUM THAI RESTAURANT & SUSHI BAR**

**103200 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo, MM103 Bayside**  
**(305) 451-5955**

**SAVE TIME... ORDER ONLINE!**

**www.numthaiandsushi.com**  
 ★ Deliveries Now Available for Online Orders ★

Mon. - Fri.  
 Lunch 11:30 - 3:00  
 Dinner 5:00 - 10:00

Sat. - Sun.  
 5:00 - 10:00

**LOST KEYCHAIN**

Small - Gold "Colored" Key Chain - with 2 Silver Fobs made by my Father in the early 1950s. Huge loss for me!!! It went missing Feb. 2023; first weekend of February, at MM 90, oceanside - at the Coral Shores Art Fair and Church/ Garage Sale.

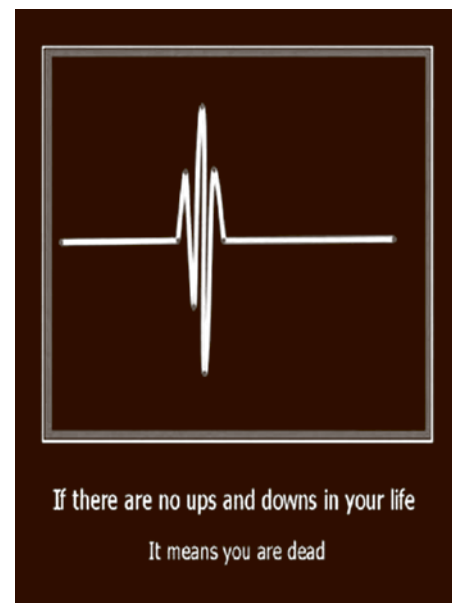
**Sentimental Value • REWARD \$200**

**TEXT OR CALL ANNIE**  
**305-923-7566**

# Coco'Nut' Funnies



**Guys with an eye patch and three fingers sell the best fireworks.**

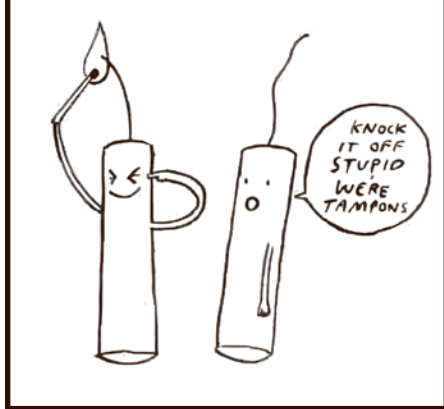


**"He who drinks a fifth on the fourth, may not be able to go forth on the fifth"**

**Airports**  
(n.) Paradise where rules of society don't apply. Eat pizza & drink beer at 7am in sweatpants. Nobody cares.



Cauliflower so tired of y'all tryna make it something it's not. it never asked to be a chicken wing, a steak, a rice or a crust. It just wants to live in its albino broccoli truth.



**She is so blonde...**

- She thinks she can't listen to her AM radio at night.
- She thinks Taco Bell is the Mexican phone company.
- She heard that 80% of accidents happen at home, so she moved.
- When she missed bus 44, she took bus 22 twice.
- She tried to put the M&Ms in alphabetical order.
- At the bottom of her job application where it says "Sign Here" she wrote "Virgo."
- She told her friend to meet her at the corner of WALK and DON'T WALK.
- She thinks the TGIF on her t-shirt stands for "This Goes In Front."

**Well, it's July and almost 100 degrees. Walmart should be putting the Christmas stuff out any day now.**



**Life.\***  
\*Available for a limited time only. Limit one (1) per person. Subject to change without notice. Provided "as is" and without any warranties. Nontransferable and is the sole responsibility of the recipient. May incur damages arising from use or misuse. Additional parts sold separately. Your mileage may vary. Subject to all applicable fees and taxes. Terms and conditions apply. Other restrictions apply.

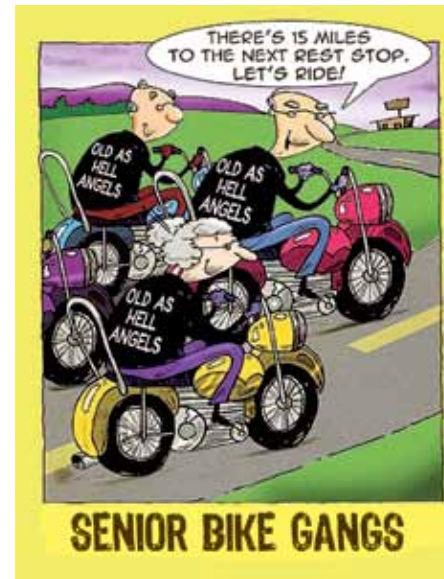


**"DUNNING-KRUGER EFFECT."**  
... a type of cognitive bias, where people with little expertise or ability assume they have superior expertise or ability. This overestimation occurs as a result of the fact that they don't have enough knowledge to know they don't have enough knowledge.



**They're gathering information by going through our trash. Learning. Plotting.**  
**Raccoons haven't forgotten that we used to wear them as hats.**

**YOU'LL HIT EVERY CONE ON THE HIGHWAY BEFORE I LET YOU MERGE IN FRONT OF ME BECAUSE YOU SAW THAT SIGN 2 MILES AGO LIKE I DID.**



Once upon a time, a beautiful, independent princess happened upon a frog in a pond. The frog said to the princess, "I was once a handsome prince but an evil witch put a spell on me. One kiss from you and I will turn back into a prince. Then we can marry, move into the castle, and you can prepare my meals, clean my clothes, bear my children and forever feel happy for doing so." That night, while the princess dined on frog legs, she laughed to herself and thought, "I REALLY don't think so."



**Intelligent Species and the Number of Genders**

Mouse	02
Cat	02
Dog	02
Rabbit	02
Fox	02
Lion	02
Human	76

**Please keep your dogs and children quiet in the mornings. Some of us have been up all night setting off fireworks. Thank you.**



**Storm season is beginning. If a news van pulls into your driveway remember: teeth and bras people. Teeth and bras.**



My favorite sports team keeps losing so much I don't even wanna watch their games anymore, but my wife tells me I have to because "it's just 9-year-olds playing soccer" and "we have to support our daughter"

*watched a dude carry a screaming toddler across the parking lot. he noticed me looking at him and said "he's mine, i'm not stealing him" and then before i could reply he added "if i was gonna take one, it definitely wouldn't be this asshole"*



**My neighbors are still shooting fireworks on July 5th...**  
**Almost set my Christmas tree on fire.**

**Completely misunderstood pride month. Who wants to buy 15 lions?**



Recently my daughter e-mailed me again, asking why I didn't do something useful with my time.

"Like, me sitting around the pool and drinking wine is not a good thing?" I asked.

My "doing-something-useful" seems to be her favorite topic of conversation. She was "only thinking of me," she said, and suggested that I go down to the Senior Center and join something.

I did this and when I got home last night, I decided to play a prank on her. I e-mailed her and told her that I had joined a Parachute Club.

She replied, "Mother, are you nuts? You are 78 years old and now you're going to start jumping out of airplanes?" I told her that I even got a membership card and e-mailed a copy to her.

She immediately telephoned me and yelled, "Good grief, Mom, where are your glasses?! This is a membership to a Prostitute Club, not a Parachute Club!"

I calmly replied, "Oh my, I think I'm in real trouble then, because I signed up for five jumps a week!!"

The line went quiet and her friend picked up the phone and said that my daughter couldn't speak.

Life as a senior citizen is not getting any easier, but sometimes it can be real fun. Just because you're younger doesn't mean that you can outsmart an old geezer.

Remember: Don't make old people mad. We don't like being old in the first place, so it doesn't take much to tick us off.



# LOR-E-LEI

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

Open 7 Days A Week  
Breakfast 7 am - 10:30 am  
Lunch from 11 am  
Dinner from 4 pm  
Live Music Every Night



**Breakfast On The Bay**

**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!

## COCONUT TELEGRAPH CLASSIFIED ADS

### BUYING

Buyers agent is buying  
**Vintage Costume Jewelry**  
Call & leave msg.  
305-304-2837

### VESSEL SAFETY

The USCG Auxiliary conducts vessel safety checks at Blackwater Sound Marina, MM 103.8 Bayside, every third Saturday of the month. Public welcome. 305-998-8400

**GET CLASSIFIED**  
**\$10 per col. inch per month!**  
**Bold Listing \$12./inch per mo.**  
**MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE**  
Classified Display Space \$15/inch.  
Drop off your ad and payment at  
The UPS STORE  
101425 Overseas Hwy., by Publix at Tradewinds  
Questions? Call 305-304-2837.

### CLUBS

Florida Keys Orchid, Fern and Bromeliad Society meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at the Key Largo Civic Club at 6:00pm.  
Open to the public.  
orchidclub@gmail.com

**THE KEY PLAYERS**  
Community Theater Group needs volunteers to work behind the scenes & audition for roles!  
thekeyplayers.org

### MUSICIANS

Amateur & seasoned musicians wanted!  
**Keys Community Concert Band** begins rehearsals in the fall.  
More info call 305-451-4530.

**Classified ads will not be accepted without payment.**

## Conch Characters / Around Town



Gary and Tracy Pollack of Key Largo celebrating their birthdays with the Coconut Telegraph in St. Martin.



"Just one of our locals stopping by to say hello this morning. For anyone who thinks we post the Crocodile Warning signs to scare the tourists this is why the signs exist." Posted by the Lorelei in late April.



Upper Keys Humane Society was happy to receive hand woven cat hammocks from Fathom Doormats (30fathom.com/shop-2/).



Our Artist of the Month Diane Whitney Smith. Photo by Karen Beal.



Don't miss Jam Night at the American Legion! Thursdays, 6-10pm.



Sherri Hodies looking patriotic from head to toe in the Keys.

## Adopt a Key Largo Animal Shelter Pet

Meet a few of the animals who are currently available for adoption at the Key Largo Animal Shelter. If you are interested in taking one of these adorable furry friends home, stop by or call. The Shelter is located at mile marker 106 Oceanside; phone 305-451-0088.



Jewel



Ryla



Ralphie



Goldie



Irving



Rosie



Stanley



Sadie



Lily



Ryan



Congratulations Aimee Alderson and the crew of "Gone Fishing" on winning the Elks Ladies Dolphin Tournament!



Another beautiful night in paradise at Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill.



Barbeque Billy serves up some great food at the American Legion every Thursday for Jam night.

# LOR·E·LEI

Islamorada  
Restaurant & Cabana Bar



MM82 at the Mermaid

**Nightly**  
**SUNSET**  
**CELEBRATION!**  
Voted the best sunset  
location year after year!

[LoreleiCabanaBar.com](http://LoreleiCabanaBar.com) 305-664-2692

## Happy Hour 7 days • 4-6pm



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

Open for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner • 7am-10pm  
Enjoy breakfast on the deck overlooking the water.  
Enjoy lunch or dinner on the beach.



The Rockin' Magic of **MICHAEL TRIXX**  
Most MONDAYS • WEDNESDAYS • FRIDAYS at Sunset

### This Month's Live Entertainment and Events at the Lorelei

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Waterfront Dining!</i>	1 <b>Carousers</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset	2 <b>Dennis Holmes</b> 6-10	3 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset	4 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10	5 <b>Jade Storm</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset	6 <b>John Ciulla</b> 12-3 <b>Uncle Rico</b> 6-10
	7 <b>Micah</b> 12-3 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10		8 <b>Carousers</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset		10 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset	11 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10
14 <b>Scott Youngberg</b> 12-3 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10	15 <b>Carousers</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset	16 <b>Dennis Holmes</b> 6-10	17 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset	18 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10	19 <b>Ego Free</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset	20 <b>Leah Sutter</b> 12-3 <b>The Regs</b> 6-10
	21 <b>Chris Bellamy</b> 12-3 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10		22 <b>Carousers</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset		23 <b>Steve Venini</b> 6-10	24 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset
28 <b>Micah</b> 12-3 <b>Webb &amp; Bellamy</b> 6-10	29 <b>Carousers</b> 6-10 Michael Trixx @ Sunset	30 <b>Micah</b> 6-10	31 <b>Webb &amp; Davidson</b> 6-10	Open for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner 7am-10pm		

We have 32 world-renowned  
FISHING GUIDES based at Lorelei!

