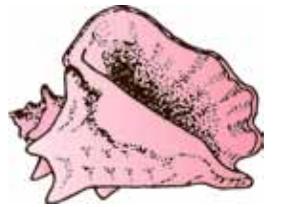


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by Carol Ellis

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Felicia Hawkins Hanson

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Business in the Keys

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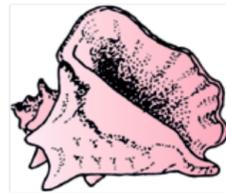
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Beautiful CBS Home in Pirates Cove. \$4k OFFER OF CREDIT TOWARDS CLOSING COSTS. Community features private boat ramp and clubhouse (voluntary HOA \$250/yr.). Built in 2017, this 1292 sq ft home has living space on ground level, bedrooms up. Impact window/doors, metal roof, and bright/airy open concept layout. Primary and secondary bedrooms each offer en suite baths. Plus a full bath on the main level. Easy walk to the beach; close to restaurants and stores.



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Yard Sale! — A blog by Luke Sommer Glenn

It was all precious memories, keepsakes and heirlooms... After three days of moving, it became stuff, crap, junk and finally just S#!T! As in where /what am I going to do with it all?

I paid good money for some of it or someone else did. I hate to throw away perfectly good crap, or pieces and parts that MIGHT come in handy some day.

I don't have the budget to rent a storage unit as I know it will be out of sight, out of mind. Just like the last time I rented a storage unit when we moved from Central Florida to the Keys over 20 years ago.

After 10 years in non-climate controlled storage, the mold and mildew ate up all of our good junk we were trying to save and we ended up trashing it all anyway. But the storage fee was only \$25 a month back then to keep kicking the inevitable down the road, that's why it went neglected for so long.

I'm not so much of a procrastinator but more of a take-care-of-what's-screaming-for-attention-now type. It's from being married so long. I don't do anything that I'm not excited about doing until I get yelled at repeatedly. It's a guy thing, mostly. Or I like to think so anyway, birds of a feather and all.

We are not the only ones in our circle that have more stuff than space and we're going to do a multi family yard sale in an attempt to feel better about ourselves for making the effort.

We will set up tables and display all our crap with suggested prices which somebody else will happily spend time negotiating and haggling over a two dollar and 50 cent teapot I paid \$35 for.

I don't enjoy negotiating and haggling but my wife does. We have to do it soon, before the rainy season, otherwise we have to put up tents over the tables which would probably be a good idea anyway.

It will probably take a day to set it all up and then Saturday and Sunday to get rid of it all. Monday is garbage day for anything that doesn't sell and the Salvation Army/ Goodwill doesn't want.

How much value can I assign to a ceramic clown bong handmade buy a fan after Jim Beam and I slept with her, in the band truck

behind the Whiskey River? We were the house band for a year or so there... good times...

I have the heavy, glass pitcher engraved with my name that my friends gave me for my eighteenth birthday. It was full of Michelob beer with a pan pizza on the side. It was a lot better than that lame ass Mich Ultra fart water they sell today. Who wants to buy that memory with my name on it?

My wife has the samurai swords she brought back from Japan from when she was in the Navy. She's been saving them to stab me with when the time is right... but

Luke Sommer Glenn is a local entertainer and Conch Character.



For more info:
www.lukesommerglenn.com

right now, I'm worth more alive than I am dead as I don't currently carry any life insurance. In a way, that is my life insurance policy, being worthless.

She has all her "fat girl" clothes from when she lived up in Tennessee before we even met. She's way too small for those clothes now but she was selling insurance at the time, so they're really nice, like a bank teller, "dressy" I would call them.

My mother's generation liked to gift "Fine China" as if it were going to be valuable in the future. Bless her heart, I looked it up on the Internet and it costs more to ship it than it's actually worth. China is very heavy and nice to eat off of as gravy definitely doesn't soak through, but it's too much weight for RV life.

With my luck, I'll sell it for \$20 and then somebody famous will make it valuable somehow...

I found every lost flip-flop and shoe that the critters dragged under various pieces of furniture that no longer have a mate, long ago thrown away.

We only lived there for 12 years or so. I can't imagine what it's like for somebody with a lifetime of accumulation or acquisition, depending how you look at it. Is it a collection or is it clutter?

Peace and Love.





American Great Egret by Carol Ellis

I had to do a double take, was this standing bird a new variety of plastic yard art in the genre of the pink flamingo? Then it moved, revealing a real live egret preying on lizards in the hedge.

To prey or to pray.... That is the question.

English is a very confusing language. Both words sound the same, yet present very different meanings, depending on the context in which they are used. There is preying and praying in a photograph of a Great Egret fishing beside a makeshift cross. An egret preys on sea critters, where locals pray on Sunday morning.

About 23 years ago... a restaurant and watering hole existed in Rock Harbor, called the Mandalay. A casual spot with cold beer, peel-and-eat shrimp and views of the ocean and boat moorings.

A cross erected at the point becomes the focus of worshippers who sit at those same tables and chairs during Sunday morning open air church services.

The Great Egret (*Ardea alba egretta*) is a three-foot-tall, long-legged wading bird that is often confused with a similar looking white bird the 'Great White Heron' (the white form of Great Blue Heron.) Though both birds are herons, a simple way of differentiating between the two big white birds is the Great Egret has black legs, and the Great White Heron's legs are yellow. The male Great Egret also sports



A Great Egret preys on sea critters, while locals come here to pray. About 23 years ago The Mandalay had food, drinks and views of the ocean and boat moorings. A cross erected at the point was the focal point for Sunday morning open air church services.

delicate ornamental feathers down its back when in mating plumage.

Those beautiful feathers not only attract female mates, but nearly led to a human-driven extinction of the species. Around the turn of the 20th century, a ton and a half of Great Egret plumes, known as "aigrettes" were sold in London to decorate women's hats. In terms of birds slaughtered, 200,000 adult birds, multiplied by 2-3 times, counting the eggs abandoned in the nest, became prey to the millinery industry.

In 1902 John James Audubon worried that "the long plumes of this bird being in request for ornamental purposes, they are shot in great numbers while sitting on their eggs, or soon after the appearance of the young."

It is hard to imagine a time when birds were so plentiful, they could be sacrificed for vanity and decoration, rather than be admired for their beauty and role in the natural world. The modern day National Audubon Society's logo is of a Great Egret in



"The long plumes of this bird being in request for ornamental purposes, they are shot in great numbers " In 1902 a ton and a half of Great Egret plumes were sold in London to decorate women's hats, or in terms of birds slaughtered, 200,000 adult birds, multiplied by 2-3 times, counting the eggs abandoned in the nest. Photo by Ken B. White

American Great Egret... CONTINUED - Photos by Carol Ellis except as noted.



The Great Egret can be found in fresh or salt water habitat. Here a flock of egrets and other long-legged wading birds, hunt for fish, frogs and other small fare.

flight, representing the organization's role in enacting conservation laws to protect the species and ensure its return.

Great Egret are equally at home in fresh or salt water environments. They have also been successful at adapting to life in an increasingly developed world. Egrets can often be seen foraging in roadside ditches, or along suburban roads. They typically stand motionless, and with keen eyesight that can look straight ahead as well as downward, patiently wait until unsuspecting prey comes their way. Then with lightning fast reflexes, the long-necked egret strikes with a jab of its sharp bill.

To quote Winnie the Pooh ... "Which is more important, the voyage or the destination?" Piglet replied "The company."

For me the voyage and the company are of equal importance, especially in the Florida Keys when wildlife appears.

Sometimes the voyage is the destination, such as the day I photographed an egret



The Great Egret walks with its neck extended and wings held close.



(Above) A Great Egret hunts in the tall shrubs and grasses. They can often be seen in roadside ditches, or along suburban roads. Suddenly the egret darts into the foliage and emerges with his lizard prize.



(Left) The Great Egret by John James Audubon is shown in the marshes, preying on crayfish.

CAROL ELLIS has lived in South Florida her entire life and Key Largo for 40 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.



hunting beside the road. I stopped and silently observed; luckily I was in a golf cart and not worried about traffic. I watched the scene unfold through the lens, because that is what photographers do. And bam! The once motionless egret produced a nice lizard snack from within the foot-high greenery. If I hadn't stopped, I wouldn't have known. The voyage and the company of the egret became the experience.

So how about the people that don't venture out in nature, or never pay attention to wildlife? That is part of why I write, to pique the interest of the unknowing or unaware. You cannot fault someone for doing the wrong thing if they do not have the facts or the understanding.

According to the prevailing view in 1900, a man could kill a bird for its feathers in order to put food on the table. The context of his preying was to feed his family, and there were plenty of birds.

How does that relate in the year 2026? There is an unrelenting population influx to Florida. It is the wild west in many respects, where every man has a right to do what he wants with his property. But will those decisions be morally right? The people of the State of Florida should enact a state-wide comprehensive plan encompassing development, roads, housing, and quality of life, before adding more people to the mix. A healthy environment means better quality of life, and happier people. Prior environmental commitments such as "Florida Forever" should be funded, and projects completed.

Is that too much to ask? Maybe it is time to pray for something greater.

How Do Court Recorders Keep Straight Faces???

These are from a book called Disorder in the American Courts and are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and published by court reporters that had the torment of staying calm while the ex-changes were taking place.

ATTORNEY: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'

ATTORNEY: And why did that upset you?

WITNESS: My name is Susan!

ATTORNEY: What gear were you in at the moment of the impact?

WITNESS: Gucci sweats and Reeboks.

ATTORNEY: Are you sexually active?

WITNESS: No, I just lie there.

ATTORNEY: What is your date of birth?

WITNESS: July 18th.

ATTORNEY: What year?

WITNESS: Every year.

ATTORNEY: How old is your son, the one living with you?

WITNESS: 38 or 35, I can't remember which.

ATTORNEY: How long has he lived with you?

WITNESS: Forty-five years.

ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: In what ways does it affect your memory?

WITNESS: I forget...

ATTORNEY: Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

ATTORNEY: The youngest son, the 20-year-old, how old is he?

WITNESS: He's 20, much like your IQ.

ATTORNEY: Were you present when your picture was taken?

WITNESS: Are you shitting me?

ATTORNEY: So the date of conception (of the baby) was August 8th?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And what were you doing at that time?

WITNESS: Getting laid

ATTORNEY: She had three children, right?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: How many were boys?

WITNESS: None.

ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?

WITNESS: Your Honor, can I get a new attorney?

ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death..

ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?

WITNESS: Take a guess.

ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?

WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard

ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?

WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.

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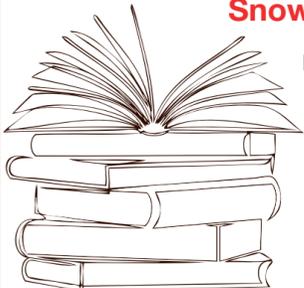
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100 Tiny Monumental Paintings

A Show by John David Hawver



Opening Reception
Saturday, April 11 5:00 - 7:00 P.M.
Show runs April 3-30

8871 Overseas HWY | Tavernier, FL | 305-916-5828 | ourplaceinparadise@outlook.com

Artist of the Month: Jackie Campa: Color Therapy

Jacqueline (Jackie) Campa moved from Tennessee to Key Largo in 1998. Living on a houseboat - she loved the island life. Tropical art is her great inspiration, with bright colors and bold lines. She still loves traveling back to the hills where she recharges her batteries and finds a different kind of inspiration.

Raised in Tennessee, she studied art in college while getting her Elementary Education degree. Later she did further study in art; abstract art as her specialty.

Campa has been a member of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles for 3 decades and enjoys entering many of the shows they offer during the season. You have seen her art, possibly not realizing it. She has won many ribbons and accolades over the years and has had her art featured in Culture and Keys Woman magazines, as well as on the posters for several big Keys events.

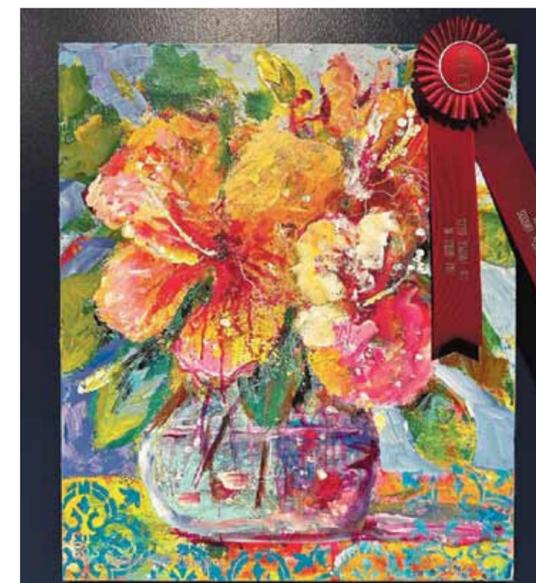
Creative Monday (1-3pm) at the Key Largo Library, a seasonal offering of free art classes, was initiated in 2016 by her desire to share the benefits of simply creating. Everyone is welcome and it is a

mix of rookies and more serious artists. This series runs through April.

Campa taught several seasons of the adult art classes offered at the library alongside other retired teachers and professional artists. She mentors other artists, when asked.

Sharing and caring could be Campa's mantra. Or perhaps: "Art heals most wounds." To spend time with color and line is akin to meditation. Problems dissolve for a few hours, blood pressure drops and spirits rise. Often the Monday class focuses on making art that can be shared with others, and getting out of the house and working with a group builds friendships and self worth.

To Campa, art can cure many ills. "It is therapy to heal from illness, grief and loss - and it is cheap and available. All of the arts lend themselves to that: music writing and painting." She shares her own battle with breast cancer. "Today, more women are being diagnosed with breast cancer - it is nearly epidemic. Your mental and spiritual attitude are enhanced with creativity and community."



100 Tiny Monumental Paintings by popular local artist John David Hawver

This body of work began as a personal challenge for John Hawver: to create one hundred tiny paintings. Working at such a small scale required him to slow down, simplify, and trust instinct over perfection. Each piece became an exercise in restraint—what to include, what to leave out, and how much feeling can live inside just a few square inches.

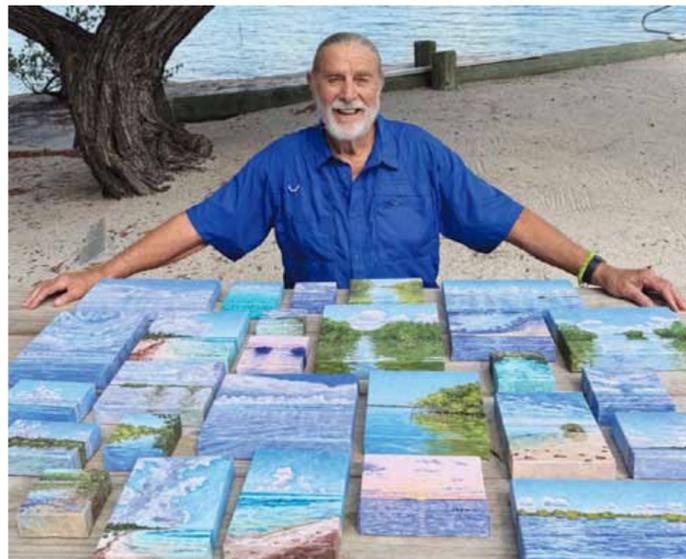
Painting small shifts the relationship between the hand, the eye, and the idea. There is very little space for overworking, which makes every mark intentional. The process invites experimentation and play while also demanding focus and discipline. Some paintings were completed quickly, almost visual notes, while others unfolded slowly as he searched for balance within

the limited space.

Taken together, the one hundred paintings function as a visual journal. Each one captures a moment of curiosity, observation, or emotion. Individually they are quiet, intimate objects; collectively they form a larger conversation about the beauty and splendor of our spectacular environment.

John David Hawver's 100 Tiny Monumental Paintings will be exhibited at Our Place in Paradise gallery, 88711 Overseas Highway, in Tavernier. The show runs April 3-30th, with an Opening Reception Saturday, April 11, 5-7 pm.

John writes, "I hope you enjoy viewing my new Earth-Friendly, Solar-Dried, Naturally Sourced and Sustainable, Low-Impact and Mindfully Produced in a controlled environment, Locally Sourced



Imagery. They contain no Artificial Intelligence or Ingredients, 100% Organic and Hand Made in the USA. Need I say more? OK... They are Biodegradable (and easy to give away), Eco-Conscious,

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Fish in the Florida Keys offshore or inshore to win prizes at Ladies, Let's Go Fishing Screamin' Reels Tournament, a non-intimidating, fun competition from charter boats or your own boat!

Friday Kickoff with rules and a fishing presentation from 6:30-8 pm at Tavernier Elks.

Saturday and Sunday: Fishing, with \$1,000 in prize awards. Beginners welcome. Species are legal inshore and offshore fish. Registration starts at \$95 per angler, \$55/teens plus optional charter fishing.

Early registration is recommended due to limited charter boat slots. LLGF offers a second Keys event, LLGF Fishing Fever Oct.16-18 with a full day fishing semi-

nar, one party, two days of fishing and prizes. LLGF also hosts the Islamorada Women's Sailfish Tournament slated for Feb. 5-7, 2027.



Contact: (954) 475-9068; info@ladiesletsgofishing.com www.ladiesletsgofishing.com www.facebook.com/ladiesletsgofishing.

About "Ladies, Let's Go Fishing!"

The Ladies, Let's Go Fishing Foundation (LLGF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to introducing women and families to fishing while promoting conservation and responsible angling.



Barbara Socarraz, Plantation, FL; Anna Tassia Butler, Islamorada, FL; Kelly DeNone, Tavernier, FL; Teresa Baker, Key Largo, FL; Barbara Joyce, Key Largo, FL and Kim DenBesten, Key Largo FL on the Poppa Wahoo, 2025.



Samantha Ebling, Jensen Beach, FL; Estelle Wolfman, Sun City Center, FL; Noelle Goulart, Belle Isle, FL; Jolene Chandler, Jacksonville, FL; Tegwyn Stockdale, New Port Richey, FL and Susan Anthony, Fort Myers, FL on the Kay Kay IV, 2025.



Jolene Chandler, Jacksonville, FL; Lora Trincherro, Tavernier, FL; Noelle Goulart, Belle Isle, FL; Diane McMahan, Fort Lauderdale, FL; Estelle Wolfman, Sun City Center, FL and Susan Anthony, Fort Myers, FL on the Caribsea, 2025.



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Decorating Life

When we consciously create an environment in our homes, we choose to see our particular energy

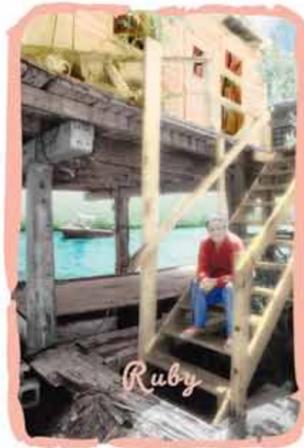
There are few things more thrilling than having a new house or an empty room to decorate. Our imaginations soar as we consider the many possibilities. In the same way, our lives offer us the opportunity to express ourselves within various contexts, to ask ourselves questions about what we want to see as we move through our days and how we want things to flow. Some people do this instinctively, moving through the various environments they inhabit and shifting the energy with their presence. These people have a knack for decorating life. This can be as simple as the way they dress, the way they speak, or the fact that they always bring a bouquet of wildflowers when they come for a visit.

As we move through the world, we make a statement, whether we intend to or not. We shift the energy one way when we enter a room dressed elegantly and simply, and

another when we show up in bright, cheerful colors and a floppy hat. One is not better than the other. It is simply a question of the mood we wish to create. What we wear is just one choice we can focus on. The way we speak to people, or touch them, shifts the energy more profoundly than almost anything else. The words we speak and the tone in which we say them are the music we choose to play in the world that is our home. Some of us fill the space with passionate arias, others with healing hymns. Again, one is not better than the other. We are all called to contribute.

Just as we consciously create an environment within our homes, we can consciously choose to decorate life itself with our particular energy. Ideally, in doing so, we express our deeper selves, so that the adornments we add to the world make it more meaningful, more beautiful, and as welcoming as a beloved home.

Reprinted from DailyOM - Inspirational thoughts for a happy, healthy and fulfilling day. Register for free at www.dailyom.com



Ruby Stern known as "Miss Ruby", was the matriarch of Downtown Card Sound. She was a familiar site to travelers across Card Sound bridge.

ORIGINAL LOCAL ARTWORK BY



305-451-7778

On the shirt back is Carol's image of Ruby Stern, matriarch of Downtown Card Sound Road, a place that doesn't exist on any map... yet was home to a community of free spirits, fishermen and independent thinkers who took up residence there. Located on the west side of the road south of Alabama Jack's, and the toll booth, the shack was originally built by workers who constructed the toll bridge around 1968. In 1972 Ruby moved in and lived there for 27 years. She'd sit on the steps of her shack, with an old Colt 44 daring anyone to throw her off the land. She stayed. Not even the destructive forces of hurricane Andrew and the county's condemnation of the shack could send her from her spot on the bay on Card Sound. She moved to a trailer alongside and lived there until 1999 when she had to leave due to illness, and died at age 90.

Dress like a Florida Keys local and be comfortable in the sun in our DRI-FIT shirt designed by Carol Ellis | Little Salt Photography featuring original artwork of the HISTORIC FISHING VILLAGE OF DOWNTOWN CARD SOUND



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SPF 50, long sleeve fishing performance shirt in aqua, limeade and white

Bartender of the Month: Felicia Hawkins Hanson

The Coconut Telegraph is proud to feature Felicia Hanson at the Key Largo Moose as Bartender of the Month of April. Fi Fi, as her friends sometimes call her, has worked in the hospitality industry locally in the Florida Keys for 34 years.

The first 11 years of Felicia's life were spent growing up in the mountains of Jamaica, Yeah Mon! Her family has been in the Keys 41 years. Her father is local music legend Jimmy Hawkins, her late mother Debbie was a backup singer and her brother Felix sings Reggae and plays a mean guitar.

Fi Fi has 3 children, 2 grandkids and a third on the way. Her hobby is making jewelry and she is locally famous for her delicious rum cakes that will soon be for

sale at the Moose in Key Largo.

One of Felicia's first memories after moving to the Keys is her father taking her to the Moose to set up a gig and she is astonished at how much the building has changed over the years... yet the cause remains the same. All Moose Lodges throughout the world support a children's orphanage in Michigan (Moose Heart) and an assisted living facility (Moose Haven) in Florida for members. Local lodges also support local charities.

In the photo Felicia is holding a bottle of EG vodka. Local Moose members, Shawn Keller and husband Marty Krytus own the company. It is organic and the smoothest vodka you will ever taste. For more info on it, see EGvodka.com.



Infamous Quotes

"Women might be able to fake orgasms. But men can fake whole relationships." (Sharon Stone)

"Honesty is the key to a relationship. If you can fake that, you're in." (Courtney Cox, Monica on Friends)

"I read somewhere that 77% of all the mentally ill live in poverty. I'm intrigued by the 23% who are apparently doing quite well for themselves." (Jerry Garcia, Grateful Dead)



"Clinton lied. A man might forget where he parks or where he lives, but he never forgets oral sex, no matter how bad it is." (Barbara Bush, former First Lady)

"Ah, yes, divorce...from the Latin word meaning to rip out a man's genitals through his wallet." (Robin Williams)

"Women need a reason to have sex. Men just need a place." (Billy Crystal)

"On the one hand, we'll never experience childbirth. On the other hand, we can open our own jars." (Bruce Willis, on the difference between men and women)

"And God said: 'Let there be Satan, so people don't blame everything on me. And let there be lawyers, so people don't blame everything on Satan.'" (George Burns)

"Luge strategy? Lie flat and try not to die." (Carmen Boyle, Olympic Luge Gold Medal winner, 1996)

"There are only two reasons to sit in the back row of an airplane: Either you have diarrhea, or you're anxious to meet people who do." (Henry Kissinger, former US Secretary of State)

"My girlfriend always laughs during sex - no matter what she's reading." (Steve Jobs)

"My cousin just died. He was only 19. He got stung by a bee - the natural enemy of a tightrope walker." (Dan Rather, news anchor)

"Hockey is a sport for white men. Basketball is a sport for black men. Golf is a sport for white men dressed like black pimps." (Tiger Woods)

"I discovered I scream the same way whether I'm about to be devoured by a Great White or if a piece of seaweed touches my foot." (Axel Rose, Guns 'n' Roses)

"My mother never saw the irony in calling me a son-of-a-bitch." (Jack Nicholson)

"Women complain about premenstrual syndrome, but I think of it as the only time of the month that I can be myself." (Roseanne)

"There's a new medical crisis. Doctors are reporting that many men are having allergic reactions to latex condoms. They say they cause severe swelling. So what's the problem?" (Dustin Hoffman)

"When the sun comes up, I have morals again." (Elizabeth Taylor)



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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Sundays 6pm
"Show Me the Moosebucks"

Mondays 6:30pm
Bingo

Tuesdays 6pm
"Show Me the Moosebucks"

Wednesdays 7pm
Live Music & Queen of Hearts

Thursdays 8pm
Karaoke with Jenny & Friends

Members & Guests Welcome
Hours 11am - 11pm

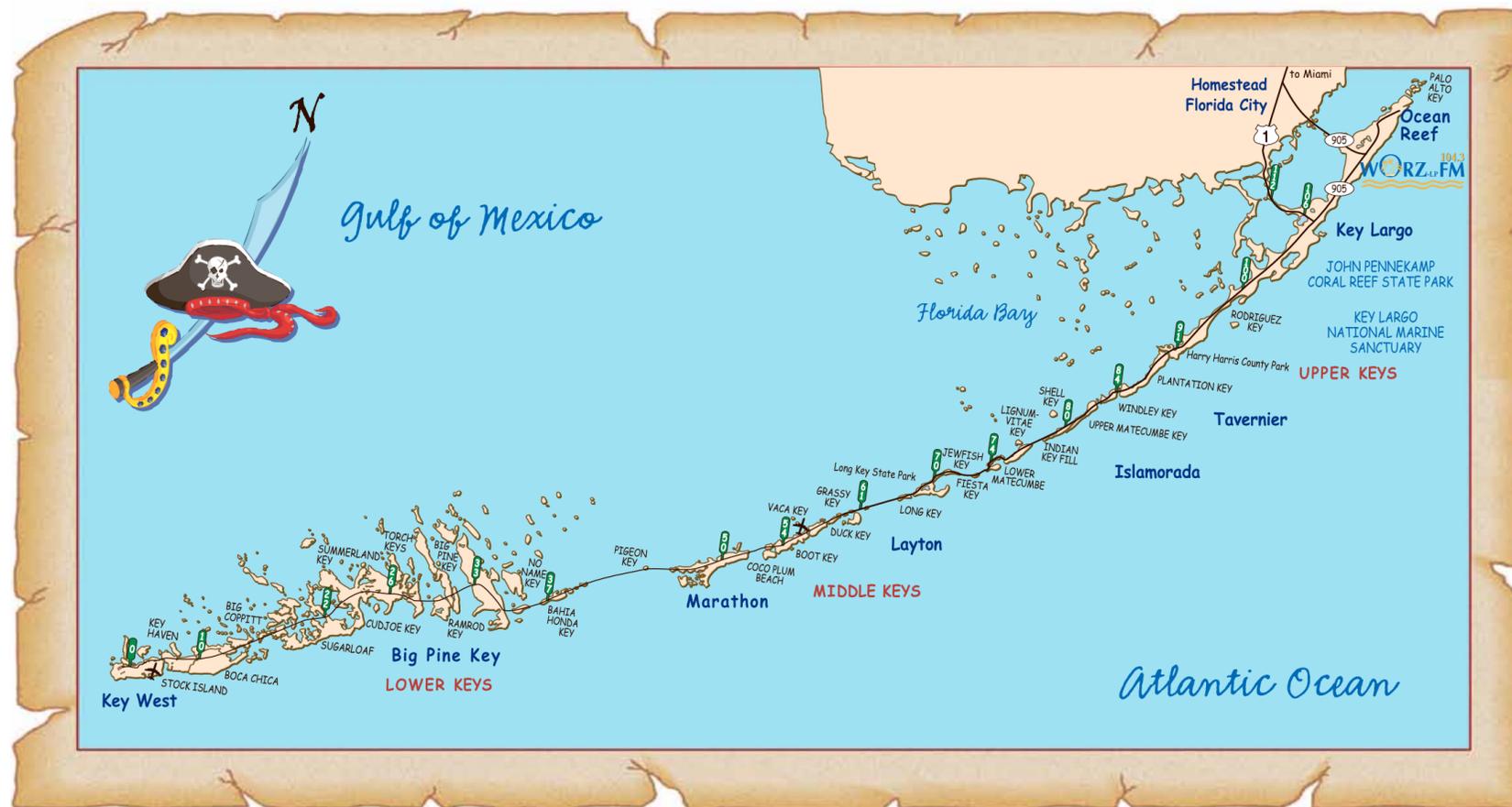
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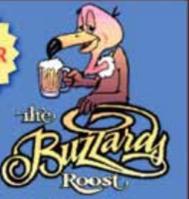
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Top Ten Reasons Why It Costs More To Get Your Pet Groomed Than Your Own Hair Cut

1. The likelihood of you pooping on the hairdresser is pretty slim.
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3. Your hairdresser only washes and cuts the hair on your head.
4. Your haircut doesn't include manicure or pedicure.
5. You sit still for your hairdresser.
6. Your hairdresser doesn't remove the boogies from your eyes.
7. Your hairdresser doesn't clean your ears.
8. Your hairdresser doesn't give you a sanitary trim.
9. You don't go weeks without washing or brushing your hair.
10. Your hairdresser doesn't wash and clean your rear end.

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70 MPH Speed Limit in Florida

The is less of a rule and more of a suggestion that nobody agreed to follow.

Too slow? You're getting tailgated by a lifted F-150 with LED headlights bright enough to interrogate you.

Too fast? Doesn't matter — there's already a guy in a beat-up Altima doing 95 weaving through traffic like he's late for something extremely illegal.

You try to hold a respectable 75. Immediately passed on both sides.

One car has no headlights. Another has its hazards on for no reason.

And somehow both are going faster than you.

And then, out of nowhere... brake lights.

Not gradual. Not polite. Just a full interstate-wide decision to stop for 30 seconds. No accident. No con-

struction. No explanation. Just vibes.

You finally get moving again and think, "Okay, we're good."

Wrong. Now it's raining. Not normal rain. Florida rain. The kind that erases the road, your mirrors, your sense of direction, and any belief you had in visibility. Wipers on max, still losing the fight. Meanwhile, someone flies past you doing 85 like they've got sonar.

And just when you think you've seen it all... there's a gator in a retention pond right next to the highway, watching traffic like it's judging your driving choices.

No toll booth warning. No buildup. Vibes and consequences.

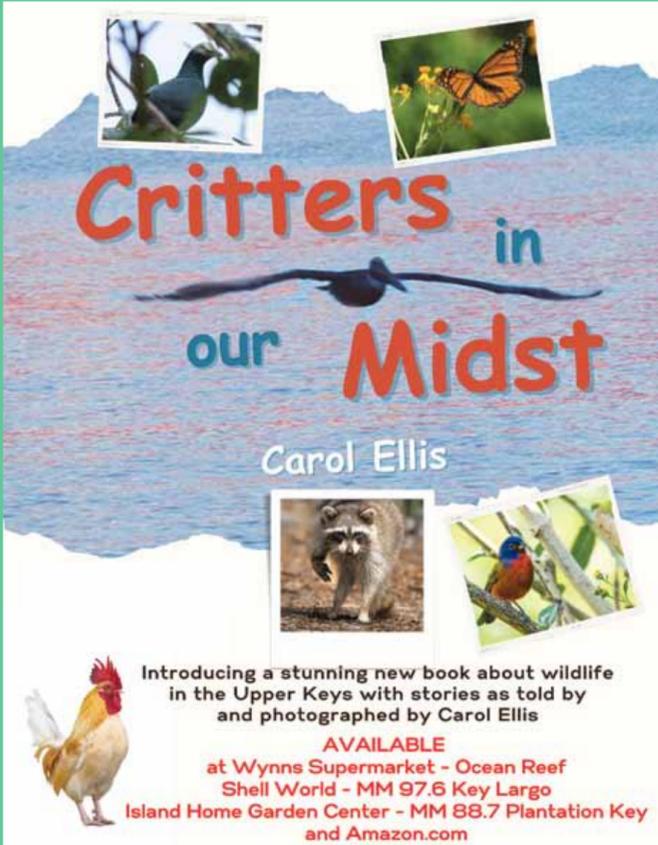
Your GPS says "arrive in 2 hours." Florida says, "Depends... you surviving the storm and the drivers?"

And somehow, through all of this... There is STILL someone



camping in the left lane going exactly 70 like they're honoring the Constitution.

Welcome to Florida highways. Where speed limits are optional, weather is aggressive, and every drive feels like a group project with people who did not read the instructions.



Critters in our Midst

Carol Ellis

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and Amazon.com

Life Lesson

I was a very happy person. My wonderful girlfriend and I had been dating for over a year, and so we decided to get married. There was only one thing bothering me... It was her beautiful younger sister.

My prospective sister-in-law was 22, wore very tight mini-skirts, and generally was bra-less. She would regularly bend down when she was near me, and I always got more than a nice view. It had to be deliberate, because she never did it when she was near anyone else.

One day the sister called and asked me to come over to check the wedding invitations. She was alone when I arrived, and she whispered to me that she had feelings and desires for me that she couldn't overcome.

She told me that she wanted me just once before I committed to her sister.

I was in total shock, and couldn't say a word.

She said, "I'm going upstairs to my bedroom, and if you want one last fling, just come up and join me."

I was stunned and frozen in shock as I watched her go up the stairs. I stood there for a moment, then turned and made a beeline straight to the front door, opened it and headed straight towards my car.

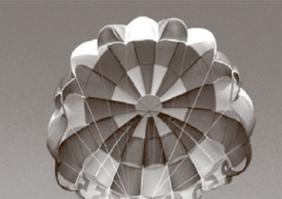
Lo and behold, my entire future family was standing outside, all clapping!

With tears in his eyes, my father-in-law hugged me and said, "We are very happy that you have passed our little test. We couldn't ask for a better man for our daughter. Welcome to the family."

And the moral of this story is... always keep your condoms in your car.

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(C) 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
- 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, Key Largo Public Library, African Queen Community Pool and Park, Post Office, Murray Nelson Government Center, Little Buttonwood Sound, Buttonwood Sound, Rock Harbor, Mosquito Bank, Spiegel Grove, Berwood, French Reef, Alligator, North, City of Washington, Christ Statue, Greccion Rocks, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, Wild Bird Rehabilitation Center, Mariner's Hospital, Harry Harris Park & Beach, Duane, Molasses Reef, Bibb.

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COCONUT TELEGRAPH

RATES
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\$125 per month

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

Bottom Banner:
9.75" wide x 2.75" tall

Call for Availability!



April Events & Programs at Key Largo Branch Library

The Key Largo Branch of the Monroe County Library System is hosting the following programs this month. All programs are free and open to the public. Program funding provided by the Friends of the Key Largo Library and the Florida Keys Children's Foundation. Visit KeysLibraries.org for books, streaming movies, ebooks, events and more.

KEY LARGO BRANCH LIBRARY • TRADEWINDS SHOPPING CENTER AT MM 101.4 OCEANSIDE

SPECIAL EVENTS

April 1, 9am-12pm
1st Wednesday Plant Clinic
"Root Crops" educational activity; ginger and/or turmeric.

April 1, 6:30-7:30pm
Jot It Down Journaling
Explore and decompress through journaling. You might be surprised at how it could fit into your busy schedule. All ages. Supplies for in library use will be available. Introductory journals provided.

April 3, 6pm **1st Friday Concert**
Alligator Alley
Join us for the last of the 1st Friday Concert Series.

April 4, 9:30am-1pm
Florida Keys Quilter's Meeting

April 8, 2-5pm
SBDC Workshop: Plan Before You Launch. Florida SBDC at FIU will provide resources and 1-on-1 sessions; how to best launch a business. Space is limited to 15; register: floridasbdc.org/find/fiu/

April 9, 2-4pm
Adult Craft
We will be creating a piece of the forest floor with LED mushrooms. Register Online at bit.ly/keylargo-library-events

April 11, 11:30am
Movie Matinee:
James and the Giant Peach

April 15, 2-5pm **SBDC Workshop:** See April 8 for info.

April 17 & 18, All Day
FL Keys Quilters Expanded Quilt Show
Enjoy the artistry and perseverance of our local quilters. While their quilts will be showcased throughout the month, for this one weekend only they will dominate the entire Community Room.

Check Online for the latest info on happenings at Key Largo Library!

There is a Kids or Family Activity at the Library.
Monday thru Friday at 4pm

MONDAY
April 6, 13, 20 & 27
'Anti-Bored' Games
There is never a reason to be bored. Join in Board and Electronic Game Fun!

TUESDAY
April 7 & 21
LEGO Club
Join in the LEGO Fun. Release your imagination with a build of your design. Ages 6-12. Supplies provided.

April 14
Trap a Rainbow!
Come in and trap your very own rainbow. Best for Ages 6-12. Supplies provided.

April 28
SLIME Society at the Library!
Ages 6-12, Supplies provided.

WEDNESDAY
April 8
STEM Lab
April 22
STEM Lab Welcomes REEF

April 1, 15 & 29
Kids Art Club
Join in artistic expression by releasing your creativity. Ages 6-12. Supplies provided.

April 23, 12:30pm
Book Club: Come on in and pick up this month's book. Join in the conversation!

April 25, 9:30am
Book Club

April 25, 11:30am
Movie Matinee: Crocodile Dundee



THURSDAY
April 2, 16 & 30
T(w)een Collab
Never left out are the Tweens & Teens. Stop in and check out the collaboration!

April 9 & 23
Fiber Arts
An all-age activity where yarn, felt, threads, needles & crochet hooks speak for themselves. Supplies provided.



FRIDAY
April 10 & 24
Gaming Groupies
Level up your gaming skills and make memories that will last a lifetime at the Key Largo Library! Connect with fellow gamers as you compete in thrilling tournaments.

April 17
Hues & Cues Scavenger Hunt
Join in the fun with a special scavenger hunt program. Read the Cues and find the Hues! Recommended Ages: 6-12

April 17
Hues & Cues Scavenger Hunt
Join in the fun with a special scavenger hunt program. Read the Cues and find the Hues! Ages 6-12.

April 29, 10:30am-12pm
Homeschool Meet Up
We might explore a topic, tag a STEM concept or create an artistic masterpiece! Stop in and check it out.

April 29, 6:30-7:30pm
Jot It Down Journaling
See April 1st for info.

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

HOURS:
9-6 Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri
9-8 Wed; 9-5 Sat

April 3:
Closed until 6pm, Good Friday
Open for Concert

WEEKLY EVENTS

SATURDAYS Story Time, 10:30am
STORYTIME! Saturday Story Time is a family event!

MONDAYS Domino Club, 1pm
All ages are welcome to join in the battle of tiles.

MONDAYS Creative Monday, 1-3
Bring in a current art project; work and interact with other creative minds.

TUESDAYS, Story Time, 10:30am
Join in stories & songs promoting literacy. Ages 0-5

WEDNESDAYS, Moms Connect, 10:30am
Looking to build a support network and find what exists in our community that will fill needs for you or your family? Join us and connect with others.

WEDNESDAYS, 1pm
Smoking Cessation, Keys AHEC

WEDNESDAYS, Domino Club, 4pm
All ages are welcome to join in the battle of tiles.

THURSDAYS, Story Time, 10:30am
Join in stories & songs promoting literacy. Ages 0-5

FRIDAYS, Sit & Sew, 9:30am-1pm
Bring in a sewing or any fabric art project to Sit & Sew and work with a crafting community who understands fabric and yarn habits!

COME TAKE A CLASS!
Scan the code to see the complete schedule.



KeysLibraries.org/events
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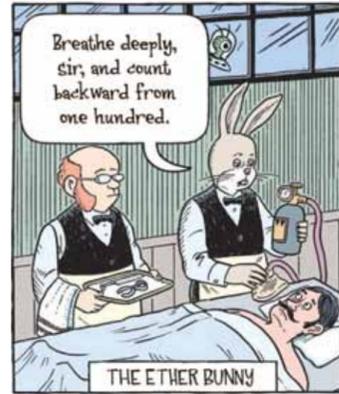
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Coco'Nut' Funnies



Two little old ladies were sitting on a park bench outside the local town hall where a flower show was in progress.

The older one leaned over and said, "Life is so boring. We never have any fun anymore. For \$10.00 I'd take my clothes off and streak through that stupid, boring flower show!"

"You're on!" said the other old lady, holding up a \$10.00 note.

The first little old lady slowly fumbled her way out of her clothes and completely naked, streaked (as fast as an old lady can) through the front door of the flower show.

Waiting outside, her friend soon heard a huge commotion inside the hall, followed by loud applause and shrill whistling.

Finally, the smiling and naked old lady came through the exit door surrounded by a cheering, clapping crowd.

"What happened?" asked her waiting friend.

"I won \$1000 1st prize for 'Best Dried Arrangement'."

Fixing typos in your texts is for cowards. I'll message someone "whata you dong toncift" and that's on them to figure out what I just said.



A'LURE'ING NAILS



Sarah was in the fertilized egg business. She had several hundred young pullets and ten roosters to fertilize the eggs. She kept records and any rooster not performing went into the soup pot and was replaced. This took a lot of time, so she bought some tiny bells and attached them to her roosters. Each bell had a different tone, so she could tell from a distance which rooster was performing. Now, she could sit on the porch and fill out an efficiency report by just listening to the bells.

Sarah's favorite rooster, old Butch, was a very fine specimen but, this morning she noticed old Butch's bell hadn't rung at all! When she went to investigate, she saw the other roosters were busy chasing pullets, bells-a-ringing, but the pullets hearing the roosters coming, would run for cover.

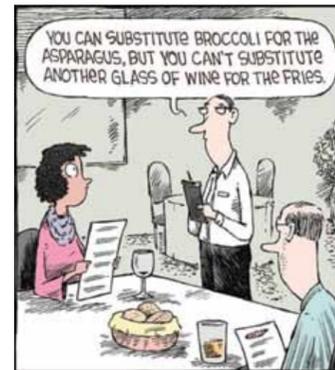
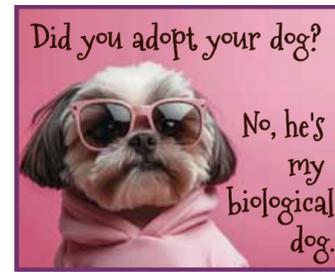
To Sarah's amazement, old Butch had his bell in his beak, so it couldn't ring. He'd sneak up on a pullet, do his job, and walk on to the next one.

Sarah was so proud of old Butch, she entered him in a show and he became an overnight sensation among the judges. The result was the judges not only awarded old Butch the "No Bell Peace Prize" they also awarded him the "Pulletsurprise" as well.

Clearly old Butch was a politician in the making. Who else but a politician could figure out how to win two of the most coveted awards on our planet by being the best at sneaking up on the unsuspecting populace and screwing them when they weren't paying attention.



So a burglar broke into the house... I put the red dot on his chest and the cat did the rest..



Groups of Americans were traveling by tour bus through Switzerland. As they stopped at a cheese farm, a young guide led them through the process of cheese making, explaining that goat's milk was used.

She showed the group a lovely hillside where many goats were grazing. "These," she explained, "are the older goats put out to pasture when they no longer produce."

She then asked, "What do you do in America with your old goats?"

A spy old gentleman answered, "They send us on bus tours!"



By the time my father was my age he had amassed, like, 30 coffee cans full of screws. I have none. What have I done with my life?

I tried cooking WITH Wine AFTER 3 GLASSES I FORGOT WHY I WAS IN THE KITCHEN



Two guys are driving along in a car when they see two dogs mating in someone's yard:

The driver says, "That is great. Me and my wife do that every night."

The passenger replies, "My wife is conservative, she likes the old fashioned way. But if you tell me how you get your wife to do this, I would like to try it."

The driver says, "Give your wife two drinks and she will be all set."

The next morning they're cruising along and the driver asks, "How was it?"

When an eel has a maw with a pharyngeal jaw, that's a moray.

Moray Eel

When the jaws open wide and there's more jaws inside, that's a moray

When it sulks in a reef and has two sets of teeth, that's a moray.

When an eel bites your thigh and you bleed out and die that's a moray

The passenger answers, "It was great, but it took my wife ten drinks."

The driver looks at him funny and says, "Ten drinks?"

The passenger says, "Yes. After two she was more than willing to make love that way, but it took her eight more to get her out on the front lawn!"

me: Hi my name is Matt and I'm an alcoholic

AAA: Sir this is Triple A

me: I know I'm explaining why my car's in the Bay

Granma says

I had 12 kids before I figured out what was causing it and got a hearing aid - Why a hearing aid? Cos every night Granpa and I would get into bed and he'd say 'Are we going to sleep or what?' And I'd say 'WHAT?'

When I was asked, "What's the best form of birth control after 50?" I said, "Nudity."



LOR-E-LEI

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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

MUSICIANS

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

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. KeysOrchidClub@gmail.com

QUILTERS

Meet Florida Keys Quilters: Fridays, come to "Sit and Sew" KL Library 9:30-12:30 floridakeysquilters@gmail.com

THE KEY PLAYERS

Community Theater Group needs volunteers to work behind the scenes & audition for roles! Check the website for upcoming auditions and productions: thekeyplayers.org

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.



Merlin



Hogan



Milkshake



Rudy



Soleil



Oliver



Sky



Fozzie



Cookie



Olive

Conch Characters / Around Town



Key Largo residents Bob Murray and Barbara Overton wouldn't miss an issue!! They packed the latest Coconut Telegraph when they fulfilled a goal of visiting Antarctica. We are sure the penguins enjoyed the jokes.



April 3rd marks the end of the First Friday Concert Series and Alligator Alley is taking it out in bluegrass style. The next series featuring singer/songwriter musicians from South Florida begins in October. If you would like to get a monthly reminder of upcoming programs sponsored by the Friends of the Key Largo Library - send a request to FriendsKeyLargoLibrary@gmail.com



Oh the wonders you'll see, with Pirates Cove Watersports!



Neil Boyce, Jim Hiatt, Susan Ashmore, Dot Carter and Teresa Kwalick and other volunteers work in God's Kitchen at Burton Memorial U.M. Church to feed the hungry. Support the Kitchen and the Food Pantry with your donations. You can bring pantry-appropriate food items or simply go to www.bmumc.net to give and make a monetary donation, so they can shop for what they need.



30 people attended a pizza party at Tamarind Bay Club in late February, to celebrate 5 February birthdays, and to remember a special friend who loved a good pizza party. In the foreground is Karen Beal, the Coconut Telegraph's roving reporter.



Sharon Berry, a very active Friend of the Key Largo Library, helps a patron with book sale choices. She helped make the sale a great success. She is currently recovering from a fall and her many friends at the library and the Upper Keys Sailing Club miss her and wish her a speedy recovery.



The Florida Keys Orchid Club "Member Plant" was awarded to Valerie Baad by president, Cindy Davis, at the monthly meeting.

LOR·E·LEI

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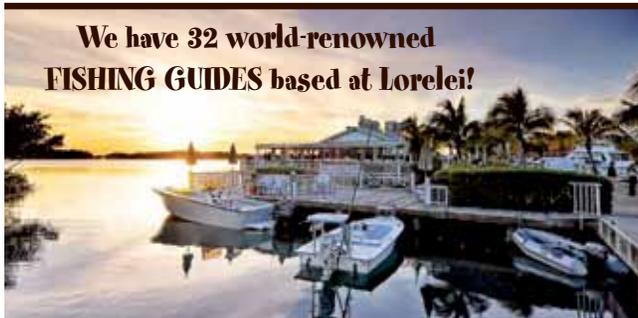
Plus a great selection of low-priced munchies!

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Enjoy breakfast on the deck overlooking the water.
Enjoy lunch or dinner on the beach.



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Most MONDAYS • WEDNESDAYS • FRIDAYS at Sunset

This Month's Live Entertainment and Events at the Lorelei						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Webb & Davidson 6-10 Michael Trixx @Sunset	2 Webb & Davidson 6-10	3 Jade Storm 6-10	4 Rob Garza 12-3 Uncle Rico 6-10
			5 Devin Spaulding 12-3 Webb & Davidson 6-10	6 Carousers 6-10 Michael Trixx @Sunset	7 Micah 6-10	8 Webb & Davidson 6-10 Michael Trixx @Sunset
12 Mark Edward Hill 12-3 Webb & Davidson 6-10	13 Carousers 6-10 Michael Trixx @Sunset	14 Leah Sutter 6-10	15 Webb & Davidson 6-10 Michael Trixx @Sunset	16 Webb & Davidson 6-10	17 Uncle Rico 6-10	18 Rob Garza 12-3 Brothers of Others 6-10
19 Micah 12-3 Webb & Davidson 6-10	20 Carousers 6-10 Michael Trixx @Sunset	21 Micah 6-10	22 Webb & Davidson 6-10 Michael Trixx @Sunset	23 Webb & Davidson 6-10	24 Amigos 6-10	25 Rob Garza 12-3 Drop Outs 6-10
26 Micah 12-3 Webb & Davidson 6-10	27 Carousers 6-10 Michael Trixx @Sunset	28 Steve Venini 6-10	29 Webb & Davidson 6-10 Michael Trixx @Sunset	30 Webb & Bellamy 6-10	"SUNDAY SCHOOL" \$4 Bloody Marys, Mimosas & Screwdrivers every Sunday, 7 to 11 am	



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FISHING GUIDES based at Lorelei!

