



## Decorating Life

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

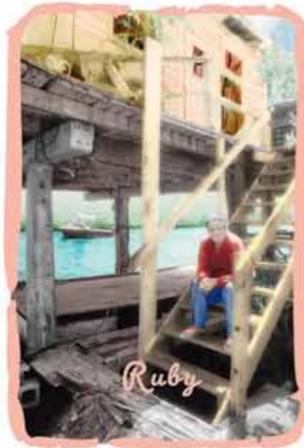
There are few things more thrilling than having a new house or an empty room to decorate. Our imaginations soar as we consider the many possibilities. In the same way, our lives offer us the opportunity to express ourselves within various contexts, to ask ourselves questions about what we want to see 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.

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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



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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**



SCAN CODE WITH YOUR SMART PHONE TO PURCHASE



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](http://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)