



9th ANNUAL
LIGHTED BIKE RIDE
Friday, Dec. 11, 2026

Benefitting: A Merry Cause!
**MAKING HOLIDAY WISHES COME TRUE
FOR UPPER KEYS KIDS!!**

LIGHT UP your bikes! Wear your favorite, fun holiday attire!
Celebrate the season and be a part of the Holiday's MAGIC!

We grant actual SANTA WISHES to Upper Keys Kids.

**Come and ride with us, up and down US1 - with Sheriff escort -
and make WISHES come true.**

Have a fun, festive evening supporting your community.

THANK YOU for your support!
We, quite literally, can't grant the wishes without YOU!

**Registration Starts at 5:30. RIDE starts at 6:30 from
CAPCON Construction, 102901 Overseas Hwy**



**Requested Donation \$20 adult
\$10 kids 15 and under**
*Follow us on Facebook :
Lighted Bike Ride-Key Largo*



DONATE HERE

READ OUR STORY

Food Bank Donation Tips

The following guidelines can help you decide what to donate to a food drive or pantry:

Don't just "clean out your pantry" and donate food that you don't want or can't use anymore unless it meets specific guidelines.

Purchase food specifically for the food drive. Think about what foods other families like yours might like to eat. Also keep in mind that food pantry and food bank recipients range in age from infants to the elderly.

Donate retail-sized food containers. In other words, the size of items you'd pick up at your local grocery store for yourself or family.

Donate food that is in its original package with the label intact—unopened and not damaged.

Do not donate food that is past its "best by," "use by," or "sell by" date. Although some food is still safe to consume after these dates it is best practice not to donate them.

Everyone donates Kraft Mac and Cheese in the box. It needs milk and butter, so that can make it hard to use.

Boxed milk is a treasure, as kids need it for cereal.

Everyone donates pasta sauce and spaghetti noodles.

Recipients can't always eat all the awesome canned veggies and soup you donate unless you put a can opener in too or buy pop top cans.

Oil is a luxury but needed for Rice a Roni and other commonly donated dishes.

Spices or salt and pepper are appreciated

Tea bags and coffee are wonderful luxuries.

Sugar and flour are treats.

Canned meat - tuna, chicken, Spam, ham, etc. is very much appreciated.

Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.

Cake mix and frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.

Plastic jars of unsweetened applesauce provide a quick snack, fiber and vitamin C.

Loaded with protein and fiber, canned beans provide an excellent, nutritious way to fill a hungry tummy.

Perfect as a snack or as a base for canned meats, crackers are shelf-stable and portable.

Fruit, whether dried, canned or in plastic cups, makes excellent snacks for kids and adults and provide some nutrition and fiber.

Food banks are always in need of quick and easy items that families can toss into lunches or eat on the go, and granola bars are just the thing.

An entire meal that's shelf-stable and in one package—dinner doesn't get easier than that, which is plus for those without stocked kitchens.

Nuts provide easy protein and nutrients in a hurry.

Kids and adults like it, and it's high in protein, making peanut butter one of the most popular items at food banks. Add some jelly for the kids!



Celebrate with Friends

by Karen Beal



In 1989 the opening of the new library was big news. Imagine the pride of walking into this space. Photo by Ken Fukuyama.

Join the Friends of the Key Largo Library December 9th at 4pm to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the group that helped make the library we know today. County Historian, Corey Malcolm, will join in the event, remembering the start, while you can admire the current library.

Key West had the beginnings of the Monroe County Library in the 1940s. In 1966 the Key Largo Civic Club offered book cabinets and was open to the community 20 hours a week with a librarian, Lenora Albury. (Ms. Albury was paid \$100 a month for her service!) And so it began... this year marks 60 years for the Key Largo Library.

With that modest beginning, advocates convinced the Board of County Commissioners that the growing population deserved a real library. Two locations were rented over the next decade, each a little bigger than the last.

In 1986, supporters formed the Friends of the Key Largo Library to champion the need for a permanent library for the community. For 3 years they petitioned the BOCC and argued their case - at every BOCC meeting - with vigor.

A few years later, Kmart wanted to put in a big shopping center and was having trouble getting permitted. They offered the "corner anchor" space in the plaza for the location of a new library.



That negotiation allowed the County to build a 12,680 sq. ft library at half the cost of purchasing property and building from scratch. And it was the perfect community location. Permit granted.

The County pledged \$750,000 to build, and the Friends pledged \$150,000 (that's \$420,000 in today's dollars) to furnish the inside - an amazing accomplishment. The library was finished and dedicated in 1989.

The volunteers who serve today on the board or at the

donation desk continue the legacy of the original members. Martha Paez, Sharon Berry, Deb Martin, Medina Roy, Nancy Truesdale and Karen Beal comprise the board. Kathy Mead, Shelagh Abbot, Dorea Schramm, Bonnie Roberts, Cindy Davis, Sarah Marter, Georgie Dunn and Linda Kloepper volunteer at the desk.

If you are want to learn more about the Friends and how you might help, contact FriendsKeyLargoLibrary@gmail.com.



We're not just Realtors®... we're also your neighbors!



81001 Overseas Hwy, Upper Matecumbe
Restaurant with a Pacific Mexican coastal concept: Baja/Sinaloa/Sonora coastal flavors - raw bar, stone-fired flatbreads and live fire proteins. Le Cordon Bleu trained chef-owner will stay on in transition. 2COP Liquor License transferable. Recipes included. Consumer presence, website and social channels established. Trained front/back of house.



Overseas Highway, Islamorada
Successful, popular, profitable, well known, 50+ seat restaurant. Turnkey operation. Great US1 location. Keys Nautical Flair and superb atmosphere. Indoor / outdoor dining. Incl. business name, furnishings, fixtures and equipment. All recipes/cooking processes. Beer and wine license. Owner will stay for to make an easy transition.



750 Madrid Road, Key Largo
Beautifully updated 2BR/2BA great family neighborhood close to schools and Pennekamp. New AC & appliances and beautifully remodeled bathrooms. Tile flooring throughout, stunning Dade County pine ceiling, freshly painted inside and out. New blinds, smoke detectors, and ceiling fans--four inside. Enjoy the best of the Keys lifestyle!



1075 Duval Street # C1 & C2, Key West
Situated in Duval Square, this 1,592 SF commercial property consists of two combined condominium units configured as a restaurant. Spacious dining area, commercial kitchen, and an inviting layout. Outdoor seating adds island atmosphere. This is an opportunity to put a new concept into an established restaurant space. Owner/operator or investor.

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