

MARATHON WEEKLY

Feb. 11, 2021

MORE VACCINES COMING TO KEYS

All Publix, 2 Winn-Dixie stores get shots | P.4

VALENTINE'S DAY IN THE ISLANDS

Love, dating and romance | Inside



DISTRICT CHAMPS!

Soccer team advances | P.26

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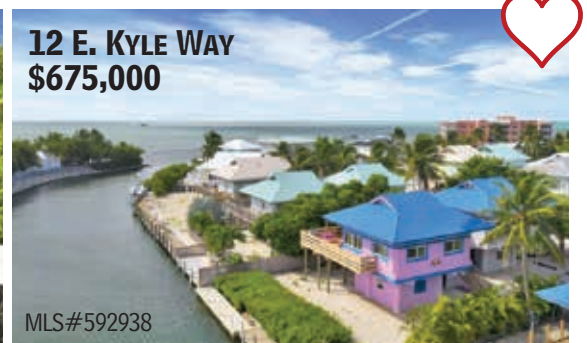
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\$1,595,000



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- 1115 Sombrero Beach #305 - Marathon - Seller
- 270 9th Street - Key Colony Beach - Seller & Buyer
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News Deadline

Tuesday Noon

Advertising Deadline

Tuesday 2 p.m.

NUMBER OF THE WEEK

1,000,000

According to NBC Miami, 1 million doses of COVID-19 will be shipped to Walmart and Sam's Club pharmacies in Florida this week. The shipments are being received as part of the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program. The program aims to speed up vaccine distribution and eventually expand to 40,000 pharmacies. Nationwide, 6,500 pharmacies will be receiving the vaccine.



ALL PUBLIX STORES, TWO WINN-DIXIE STORES TO GET VACCINE

W SARA MATTHIS
sara@keysweekly.com

The Monroe County Department of Health has confirmed that all five Publix grocery stores, including the one in Marathon, and the Winn-Dixie grocery stores in Key West and Tavernier will be receiving allotments of COVID-19 vaccine. The vaccines are being allotted under the Federal Pharmacy Program late this week, the agency said, but could not confirm how many doses of the vaccine will be shipped or when they will be offered to the public.

According to a Miami news source, 1 million doses of the vaccine were shipped to Walmart and Sam's Club pharmacies in Florida this week under the same federal program mentioned above.

Again, it's unclear how many vaccines will be available in the Keys.

Also, the online Publix vaccination registration time has been moved back an hour from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m. Online registration is Wednesday and Friday mornings at publix.com/covid-vaccine/florida.

To register for a vaccine from Winn-Dixie, visit www.winndixie.com/pharmacy/covid-vaccine. At presstime, the registration platform is visible but inactive.

To be eligible for a vaccine in Florida, patients must be a resident of Florida, 65 years or older, or a health care worker with direct patient contact or working or living in an assisted living facility.

ON THE COVER

Marathon High School Dolphins were crowned 2021 district champions, defeating Keys Gate 5-1. The regional contest begins on Wednesday, Feb. 17 on the home pitch. See story, page 26.
BARRY GAUKEL/Keys Weekly



MARATHON HAS GARBAGE LAW

Three-pronged approach to road clutter

W SARA MATTHIS
sara@keysweekly.com

After much back and forth, the City of Marathon has crafted a garbage law to address vacation rental home abuses without ever using those words. Legally, the garbage rules must apply to the entire city, not just rental homes. Previously, city attorney Steve Williams said, "I feel like I'm on a cooking show. I have to make lasagna without using noodles, tomato sauce or cheese."

The new law has three simple points:

1. Garbage has to be placed in "receptacles" — presumably that means cans or bags — capable of containing the trash from wind and the elements.

2. The garbage for pickup has to be placed on a city right-of-way or a collection road. The latter would be an interior road in, for example, a trailer park. At all other times, the garbage receptacles must be off the right of way or collection road, stowed next to the home.

3. And here's the biggie: garbage cans and bags must not be in the right-of-way for pick up for more than 24 hours. Homeowners and businesses, however, can put the cans out beginning at 6 p.m. the day before trash pickup, so long as they are retrieved and stowed when trash day is over.

The council voted 4-1 to approve the measure, with Councilman Mark Senmartin dissenting.

One other long-standing issue resolved at the Feb. 9 council

meeting was the finalization of a hybrid code enforcement board and magistrate system. Most recently, Marathon has relied on a special magistrate to settle code cases, but in the past, the city used a code board of local members.

According to the ordinance passed by the City of Marathon, code case defendants can choose whom they want to hear the case. If the property owner does not choose, the case goes to the magistrate by default.

The ordinance calls for a seven-member board with very specific areas of expertise (architect, business person, engineer, contractor, Realtor, etc.) and two alternates. The rules also cover attendance and how to replace board members who miss meetings.

Marathon City Manager George Garrett also told the council about upcoming interviews to find code enforcement officers as well as a code director.

"We have three interviews set up for a code director and four for staff applicants," Garrett said.

In other news:

- Councilman John Bartus suggested to council, and they agreed, to support Monroe County Commissioner Mike Forster's bid to get a seat at the Executive Policy Group table for Keys municipalities. The EPG is activated in the case of an emergency (hurricane, pandemic) and the five-member group of county officials makes decisions for the Keys as a whole.

continued on page 12

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A 38-foot whale that washed up in the Everglades was necropsied in the Flamingo Marina, taking up most of the boat ramp. SARA NILSSON/Keys Weekly

GIGANTIC BREAKTHROUGH

Dead whale in Everglades leads to discovery of new species



Patricia Rosel examines the Rice's whale specimen at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. NOAA

W **TIFFANY DUONG**
tiffany@keysweekly.com

In January 2019, a 38-foot, 30-ton whale washed up on Sandy Key in the Everglades. I happened to be camping at Flamingo, by chance, and ran over to the Marina to watch the necropsy (non-human autopsy).

"Huh, so that's how big a whale is," I thought to myself, having never actually seen one in or out of the water. "That's not as big as I thought it'd be."

We walked around and around its body, which took up most of the boat ramp, as researchers worked to take tissue and skin samples for genetic testing.

From initial observations, several FWS scientists and Everglades park rangers told me the whale looked underweight and that there was a hard piece of plastic in its stomach, something that could have contributed to its demise.

We watched a massive flatbed truck come with a crane attached, hauling the dissected body on top of it. Covered in a tarp and with its tail sticking off the bed, the whale was driven to the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. I imagined that would be quite the sight to behold driving next to it on the highways, and I was a little jealous of the people who would get to have that unique experience.

It would be buried there for a few years and then the bones exhumed and archived, we were told.

Most observers guessed it was a Bryde's (pronounced "broodus") whale, a rare species of baleen whale usually found in warm, temperate waters including the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific. Baleen whales are named after the baleen plates on the side of their mouths that act as strainers when they feed. In this famous family of cetaceans are also blue, humpback and bowhead whales.

That was two years ago. I'd forgotten about the whale, what with coronavirus and work and life going on, until a news story a few weeks ago caught my eye: "A whale died in the Everglades. Scientists now think they found a new species," the Miami Herald headline said.

"Wait, a dead whale in the Everglades. Another one? Is that – could that be – my dead whale in the Everglades?" I wondered excitedly.

A closer inspection of the details and accompanying pictures confirmed it to be true. Just under two years from when the whale first washed up in the Everglades, NOAA scientist Patricia Rosel made the startling announcement: the Everglades whale was actually a new species.

In the journal *Marine Mammal Science*, Rosel outlined exactly why she and her team believed that the mammal was a "Bryde's-like whale" instead of an actual Bryde's. The researchers had been studying the population of "Gulf of Mexico Bryde's whales" that this individual came from for years. Reviewing records and limited genetic testing, they had a hunch it might be a new species, but needed further "genetic and morphological evidence." They needed a body.

Enter our poor Sandy Key whale.

After the unfortunate animal was exhumed, bones now clean and ready for examination, Rosel went to Washington D.C. to look at its skull. Her instincts were confirmed: the "Bryde's whales of the Gulf of Mexico" were actually not Bryde's whales at all.

She named the new species a "Rice's whale," after biologist Dale Rice, who was the first to recognize that Bryde's whales (now appropriately named Rice's whales) lived in the Gulf of Mexico, NOAA announced.

In the paper, Rosel noted that Rice's whales behave differently than their Bryde's cousins. Firstly, their lineage is geographically confined to the Gulf of Mexico; Bryde's are ocean-going travelers. The Gulf whales also don't feed at the surface, instead "lunge diving" to feed on the ocean floor during the day, the paper explained.

"This type of bottom feeding is unusual" among similar whales, Rosel wrote in the paper. "Further work to identify primary prey species and foraging behaviors is needed and will be important for identifying potential threats and important habitat for these whales."

Now that scientists have confirmed a new species, they also warn that there are only about 33 of the whales left. The population has just been identified, and, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, it is already critically endangered.

If the Society of Marine Mammalogy Committee on Taxonomy formally accepts the Rice whale as a new species, NOAA will begin the regulatory process to list it as an endangered species under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Until then, it will retain its protected status under the Endangered Species Act (because it was previously listed as an endangered subspecies, the Gulf of Mexico Bryde's whale) and under the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

As one of my good friends who was with me that day said when I texted her the Herald article at 1 a.m. (sorry, Ellen!), "How amazing. It's very cool to be a part of history!"

Very cool indeed.



FOREVER YOUNG, FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS

Jenni Cameron,

44 years old, passed away in her home with the love of her life by her side, on February 1, 2021. Jenni was born on the 12th of July in 1976 in Marathon, Florida to Josef Dabrowski and the late Dian Dabrowski. She is survived by her husband of 18 years, Lyle Cameron Sr., her sons Lyle Jr. and Christopher, her mother-in-law Ellie, her grandsons Christopher Jr. and Jaxson, as well as many family and friends. Jenni truly embodied strength, courage and bravery. She lived life to the fullest, every day. Jenni enjoyed traveling and took many trips around the world. Jenni's heart was always happy with kids by her side. She adored her grandsons, her nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews. Jenni was the true epitome of class with a zest for love and life. Her positive outlook and beautiful smile are irreplaceable and will be deeply missed.



The Keyettes

The Women's Auxiliary of the Marathon Shrine Club

February, 2021

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PROMOTED

Everett Bowles, pictured here with his wife Cassy, was recently promoted to E-3 Private First Class. After joining the Army in February 2020, Bowles completed basic training in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, where he held the position of Platoon Guide. He is now stationed in Ft. Lewis, Washington, where he is finishing Advanced Individual Training as part of the Army Medical Command, C Company. Bowles is the son of the late Everett Lee Bowles III and Dianna Stone of Orlando. Cassy is the daughter of Nick and Susan Wielander of Marathon. Everett is a 2018 graduate of Marathon High School.

THE RAIDERS ARE GOING HOME

These Marines are waiting for their gear to be loaded on the KC-130 for the trip home. The [VMGR-352 squadron](#) made a layover at the Florida Keys Marathon International Airport on Feb. 8-9. They are a part of Marine Aircraft Group 11 (MAG-11), 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (3rd MAW) and provide both fixed-wing and rotary-wing aerial refueling capabilities to support air operations in addition to assault air transport of personnel, equipment and supplies. The group is returning from a deployment in Kuwait and headed back to base in Miramar, California. SARA MATTHIS/Keys Weekly

CINEMA REOPENS THIS WEEKEND

Get ready for some golden oldies

W SARA MATTHIS
sara@keysweekly.com

Marathon Cinema reopens this weekend for a showing of "Breakfast at Tiffany's" on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 12 and 13 with a 7 p.m. seating.

"We're just starting slow with a single showing on weekend nights," said Jeanette Gierula, who manages Marathon Community Theatre. "We want to judge the community's response and eventually move to four nights a week and add the matinee."

The theater has always owned the cinema building, and has recently taken over the lease for its operation as well.

"Breakfast at Tiffany's" (1961) stars Audrey Hepburn and George Peppard. Holly Golightly is the naive, eccentric society girl who falls in love with the struggling writer — a perfect Valentine's Day weekend tale. Next up is "Raiders of the Lost Ark" (1981).

Gierula said the theater conducted a Facebook poll to help choose the movies for the next four weeks.

The cinema was closed by a state mandate at the beginning of the pandemic, and its reopening is tailored to current conditions. It will operate at 50% capacity (about 50 persons), and masks and temperature checks will be required as patrons enter.

Gierula said there will be social dis-



tancing cues inside and outside the cinema, and volunteers to help usher and deliver concessions items.

"We did lots of cleaning, painting, repairs to systems and lighting, and purchased new concessions equipment," said Gierula. "When all that was done we hired back the two longest running employees — Shaughn Collins and Virginia Vidana — and began stocking and preparing for the opening."

Ticket prices are \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors, \$10 for children. Marathon Cinema is located at 5101 Overseas Hwy., behind Marathon Liquors and Deli.

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Karen Farley-Wilkinson, Bill Wilkinson



from page 4



MARATHON HAS GARBAGE LAW

Mayor Luis Gonzalez supports the idea. “We are getting second-hand news once it’s on Facebook,” he said. Bartus suggested that, if passed, Marathon’s designee is likely to be a city manager, rather than an elected official.

- Councilman Dan Zieg announced his nomination of attorney Susan Klock to the Marathon Planning Commission to replace Eugene Gilson, who is stepping down and relocating out of Marathon. Klock also operates Marathon Liquors and Deli.

- City of Marathon staff are making emergency repairs to Marathon Rotary Park. Meanwhile, a volunteer task force is being formed to make suggestions to replace aging park equipment. The city has \$225,000 budgeted for the project to happen in early 2022.

- The city is going to create six parking areas along the golf course on Sombrero Boulevard for overflow of cars and boat trailers. The temporary, gravel parking areas will be opposite some of the larger condo buildings that do not have adequate parking.

- Building official Noe Martinez gave the council an update on the new permitting and building software interface. He said the department is busy working out the kinks and manually inputting old projects into the system.

“We’re not answering the phone because we’re hiding, but because we’re working,” he said, adding that almost 3,000 projects have been input. He also said that 168 contractors have registered with the city’s new system. One glitch, he said, is that there is no way in the system to decipher whether or not building plans have been approved. They must be printed, examined, and marked as approved, before distribution to building officials performing inspections.

The new system is not perfect. Far from it. We need to make it perfect. The biggest issue is that no matter how many reviews we do, and all the paperwork, when the contractor pays for his permit and downloads the plans for the jobsite, it doesn’t show anywhere that they’ve been through the building department and been approved.

— Noe Martinez, City of Marathon building official on the building and permitting departments’ new software interface.



RIBBON CUT ON HABITAT’S WINDLEY KEY CONDOMINIUMS

W JIM McCARTHY
jim@keysweekly.com

A 16-unit affordable housing complex is complete on Windley Key.

A ribbon cutting on Feb. 3 marked a new beginning for six families who moved in to their new homes at the Windley Key Condominiums in Islamorada. It also marked completion of the biggest project undertaken by Habitat for Humanity of the Upper Keys so far.

Habitat board members, local subcontractors, village officials and community members watched as Lindsay Fast, new Habitat executive director, cut the red ribbon alongside several families.

Ground was broken on the project in August 2018. While a bit of delay was seen due to the pandemic, the project reached the finish line in time for families to begin 2021 in a new home.

Of the 16 units, eight are designated for ownership and eight for rentals. They’re two-bed, two-and-half-bath units with balconies and views of the oceanside. Fast said a few units remain available for ownership and rental.

“We’re super excited with the completion of this project,” Fast said. “It’s life-changing for hardworking families who work here in Monroe County. This project would not be possible without the board of directors, donors, subcontractors and the village.”

Pastor Tony Hammon performed the home dedication before the ribbon cutting. He said he’s done a number of dedications for Habitat over the years.

“I get a lump in my throat when I see and realize what Habitat has meant to this community and to the global community,” he said. “I love the fact Jimmy Carter, nearly a century old, is still building Habitat homes.”

Several players were integral in getting the project off the ground, including Monroe County and the village of Islamorada. The village owns the land, which Habitat for Humanity is leasing for 99 years. It’s also deed restricted to ensure it always remains affordable housing for working families.

The list of partners and contributors include Monroe County, Islamorada, CBT Construction, LaRocco Enterprise, Lindholm Roofing, Ken Gentes Electric, Dixie Aluminum, David Cox Plumbing, Forest Tek Lumber, Keys Engineering, Massey-Richards Surveying & Mapping, Rodz Plumbing and Beachhouse Gardens.

More information is at www.habitatupperkeys.org.

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FIVE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT MONARCH BUTTERFLIES

1 Monarch butterflies have been rapidly declining in numbers, nearing endangered species status. In the past 15 years, the migratory population has declined 80% on the East Coast and 97% on the West Coast. The estimated decline in population has been attributed to a loss of habitat and natural disasters occurring during migrations.

2 In January of each year, the monarchs leave their winter homes in Mexico and begin their annual migration north to points as far away as New England and Canada. At the end of the summer, they begin the 3,000-mile trip back to Mexico. One single butterfly does not make the trip. It takes at least four generations of monarchs to feed, fly and reproduce their way up and down the East Coast. Finding food and proper habitat for producing the next generation is the key to their survival as a species.



3 The monarchs come through the Keys in January through March (their northbound trip) and again in September through early November (their southbound trip). They are eager to find “monarch waystations” to provide them with nectar (food) plants such as porterweed, lantana, Mexican sunflower and plumbago. Monarchs thrive when they have access to milkweed plants (host) for egg laying.

4 Monarchs are known for their interesting metamorphosis process. Eggs are laid on the underside of a milkweed leaf and the emerging caterpillars feed on the leaves until satiated. The caterpillar then spins a silk pad to attach its hind legs to and transforms into a light green chrysalis, complete with shiny golden dots. In about 12 to 14 days, the beautiful monarch emerges from the chrysalis. Remember: No milkweed, no monarchs.

5 How can you help? Consider planting 20 monarch-friendly plants to make it easier for the monarchs to find their next meal and a safe place to produce the next generation. The Florida Keys are well positioned to create a chain of waystations to assist the butterflies in their annual migration. Your actions will make a difference!

The Marathon Garden Club has a goal of certifying 30 gardens in our city. To learn more about how to plant a monarch garden and become certified as a monarch butterfly sanctuary garden, please contact the club at 305-743-4971 or email ssingleton@bluefinbayllc.com.

— Contributed



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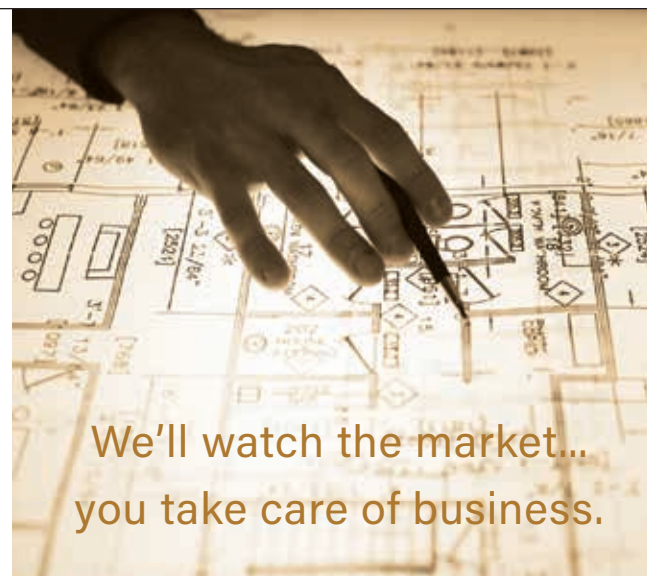
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- 12:30-1:30pm:** Marine Science Program
- 1:30- 2pm:** Lunch break
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- 2:30-3:30pm:** Optional History Tour
- 3:30pm:** Ferry ride back to Faro Blanco

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MAGGIE SAYER/Contributed



The Marathon Weekly loves to celebrate our love stories. In the following pages, find a collection of couples who are living their best lives together in the Middle Keys. Happy Valentine's Day!

CANDICE & BOBBY

A love that spans the ocean

W **SARA MATTHIS**
sara@keysweekly.com

She has an island lilt when she speaks. He has an irrepressible grin, likely because he managed to catch her and keep her. They were born and raised on islands 1,657 miles apart and met at Barry University when Candice was a freshman and Bobby was a sophomore.

"I was studying exercise physiology," said Candice, a native of Trinidad who came to the U.S. to further her education and would finish with a master's degree.

"And I was studying her," said Bobby, laughing, who grew up in Marathon and graduated from Marathon High School.

"No, seriously, what did you get your degree in?" she jokes, also laughing.

The two were married in 2010 — first a simple affair in the Keys, and then a big party in Trinidad to meet the needs of the U.S. Department of Immigration. They will soon welcome their third child. (The gender will be a surprise to everyone, including his or her parents.) Despite that fact that the two have sand in their toes — true island children raising more island children — they are busy professionals.

Together they manage a landscaping company, car wash and real estate investments. Their home has a huge entertaining area, constantly full before CRE (Covid Ruined Everything). "I love to have people over, but not formal parties. We all stand around here and I open the bags from Publix," said Candice, smiling.

He says their pumpkin-carving parties are renowned. Both enjoy traveling — a semester spent in Spain with European travel, the Caribbean islands, the U.S. — and look forward to when they can do it again.

Their bond is evident, even in the distractions of married life.

"When he's telling me a story, I always ask him so many questions. I want to know the exact wording and exactly what happened," Candice said.

"And she runs on 'Trini' time, which means she's usually late. I used to mind it, but not any more. I like everything about her," Bobby said.

If she were to cook his favorite Trinidad dish it would be stewed chicken. If he were to take her on a Valentine's date (possibly delayed, as this is a camping weekend), it would have to be somewhere that served a rack of lamb.

Love on, Candice and Bobby.



For some of the best soca music coming out of Trinidad, check out Kes.



Pumpkin carving dates to ancient Celtic culture — where gourds were carved to scare away "Stingy Jack."



Sample green card marriage interview question: How late did the wedding guests stay?



Tom Wright continued to serve the U.S. Navy for decades as a reserve JAG officer. He retired as a full captain.



The couple's first big purchase was a 1972 (or 1973?) orange Toyota Corolla.



Tom and Barbara's daughter married a man by the last name of Wright who is also a lawyer, which means they could start their own firm: Wright & Wright & Wright.

BARBARA & TOM

Couple's 50th anniversary approaching

W SARA MATTHIS
sara@keysweekly.com

Tom Wright is a practicing real estate attorney, perhaps on the precipice of retirement. Barbara Wright is a retired school teacher and her last job with the Monroe County School District was as principal of Stanley Switlik Elementary. This year, they will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary.

Barbara and Tom have known each other since the fifth grade. During their senior year of high school in Toledo, Ohio, they started dating.

"The thing was, she was dating another guy that didn't have a car, so we would go on double dates. After about the third date — each one with a different girl on my arm — I thought I'd better ask her out," said Tom.

They were married a week after Barbara received her diploma, an undergraduate education degree from Bowling Green in 1971.

"It was a December day, with light snow. The church was filled with candles and I wore a white velvet wedding dress and my bridesmaids wore red velvet," said Barbara.

"It was a beautiful, white night,"

echoed Tom.

After receiving their undergraduate degrees, the two enrolled at Ohio State — he to get a law degree courtesy of the U.S. Navy, she to get a master's degree in education. By the time his degree was finished in 1976, the Vietnam War was over. His first posting was in Key West.

"We'd never been to Florida. I don't think we'd been south of Ohio. We arrived in January," Tom said.

"We thought, 'This is nice,'" said Barbara, smiling.

And that's the thing about these two: they are always laughing. Or more accurately, he's telling jokes and she's giggling like a schoolgirl. But in many ways these two were trailblazers — a young professional couple with dual career tracks, back in the '70s, long before it was an accepted norm.

"We just never stopped," said Barbara, "even when we had kids."

"I think she took a three-week maternity leave," Tom said.

Tom and Barbara have three kids — David lives in Marathon, Courtney is in Denver and just produced the couple's first grandchild, and Natalie lives in San Francisco.

By 1979, the couple had settled in Marathon. It was a much different place back then. He can recall it taking an entire afternoon to count the bagged cash (ahem) to complete a real estate transaction.

So, what's the secret to a long marriage?

Tom: "A short memory."

Barbara, laughing: "We like to do things together."

They both profess a love of travel and have a second home in New Hampshire. "We like the contrast of the Keys," she said. Next stop is Japan, as soon as the pandemic is over. In the meantime, Barb will continue to indulge in her favorite pastime — any type of televised, historical British drama. Tom will entertain himself with televised sports and all the up-and-coming tech gadgets.

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LIZ & ANDREW

Love, polished to a shine

W SARA MATTHIS
sara@keysweekly.com

These two have such nice things to say to each other.

Andrew: "She's so brave."

Liz: "He's such a great father. I think it's a very special quality he possesses that always makes time for the kids no matter what."

Litney "Liz" Castro and Andrew Ellis first crossed paths in Marathon. They were next-door neighbors and both at Marathon High School at the same time, though he graduated a couple years (2008) before she did (2010). Then, they went their separate ways.

"I ran into him again in 2017 when I went to Hawks Cay to apply for a job and he was working the front desk," Liz said.

Soon after they met and started dating, they decided to open a business — Ace Marine Detailing. The company specializes mainly in boats and yachts, restoring faded gel coats. They do work on cars, too, refreshing ceramic coatings.

"Over the years we've built a good client base who in turn give us referrals," said Andrew.

She handles the marketing and scheduling; he does the financials and keeps the crew going with the latest technical wizardry. Pre-pandemic, Liz would jump in with the restorations, too. But now she has her hands full with four kids at home — ages 10, 8, 7 and 4. Both agree that these are "really, really good kids" who keep them busy. On the weekends, Andrew and Liz set aside family time for backyard barbecues, swimming and visits to an Aunt's farm.

They are well matched in every way except one. He's 6'1" and she's 5'1".

"Honey, why did you put the Ring camera boxes on top of the cabinets?" she asked, laughing.

"Why did you put my clean clothes in the laundry again?" he countered, also laughing, explaining she has a love of washing machines.

In addition to starting a business together, Liz recently qualified to become a Realtor. Both are also certified divers, despite his initial misgivings about swimming where sharks eat.

"I'd have never done it unless she signed me up," he said of the dive certification classes. "She's just so brave."



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The average American family does 8-10 loads of laundry each week.



The last movie Andrew and Liz watched together (with the kids) was "Mulan." They give it a thumbs up.

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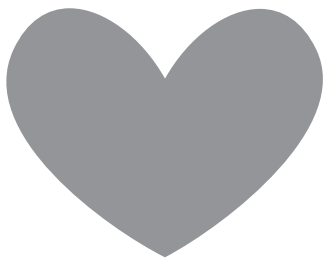
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CRAZY LITTLE BOOKS ABOUT LOVE

Who doesn't need a little romance?



KAREN NEWFIELD

First and foremost a reader, she has reviewed hundreds of books on her blog www.readingandeating.com. And, more recently, this new Keys resident has also begun writing.

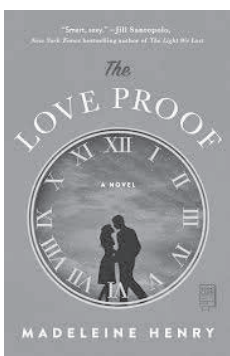
This is a funny year to break out the Valentine hearts and chocolates. Couples who have been quarantined together could probably use a little distance. On the other hand, it's been near impossible to date if your face is covered with a mask. A book boyfriend and a little romantic comedy may be just the answer.

2021 isn't that sweet

Sweethearts are small sugar candies only sold for Valentine's Day. Originally made by Necco since 1901, the hearts were famous for their messages — "Be Mine," "Kiss Me," "Call Me," etc. Necco manufactured nearly 8 billion Sweethearts every year, but in 2018 Necco declared bankruptcy and the right to manufacture Sweethearts was bought by the Spangler Candy Company. With the purchase, Sweethearts were unavailable for Valentine's Day 2019 as production was reorganized and semi-returned in 2020. The company says they are fully back but if you have scanned the empty shelves at the grocery store and wondered where all the Sweethearts have gone, now you know the history. Who would've thought these chalky little sweets would cause so much drama?

THE LOVE PROOF

by Madeleine Henry



Sophie Jones has been a prodigy her entire life. Different from the other children, her parents were determined to make sure she felt surrounded by love and kindness. When she begins studying at Yale, Sophie is determined to change the world. Her theories and mathematical skills precede her arrival as it is decided which professor will be

her mentor. A week into the semester, sweet Sophie meets Jake and her life is changed forever. Mesmerized by this new and physical intimacy she has never experienced, Sophie is slowly drained of her aspirations, intent on spending as much time with Jake as possible. But Jake has his own journey to travel. After a difficult and stormy childhood, Jake is resolved to make large amounts of money, take care of his mother and have the things that were always out of reach. Respecting her gift, Jake is devastated that he inadvertently led Sophie astray from her study of time theory and must get her back on track. After years of painful separation and near misses, the two cannot fight their deep connection. An eccentric and memorable love story, this is not your average romance.



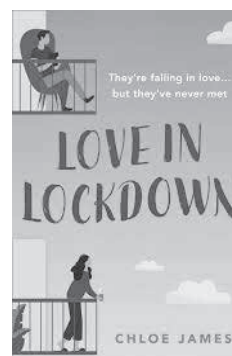
THE EX TALK

by Rachel Lynn Solomon

Shay Goldstein has been in love with public radio her entire life and has worked at a Seattle station for the past decade. With a voice she presumed was annoying, Shay remained behind the scenes, producing shows and orchestrating their success. When the station runs into tough times they are searching for something new and hip to increase their ratings. Shay randomly pitches her boss an idea where the co-hosts who have recently split could coach their audience with relationship and romance advice. Much to her surprise she is placed on the air with her handsome work nemesis, who insists he knows absolutely everything. Terrified of going live and convincing everyone she secretly dated Dominic is no easy task. No sooner is the show aired than it becomes a sensation. Climbing the radio and podcast charts — a dream come true — becomes an issue when the duo quietly and completely fall head over heels in love. As their relationship gets harder to camouflage, this laugh-out-loud rom-com will lift your spirits and melt your heart.

LOVE IN LOCKDOWN

by Chloe James



One night while Sophia quietly cries on her balcony, a mysterious voice calls down to her. Sophia's neighbor above, whom she has never met, offers conversation that makes her feel remarkably better. England is on lockdown and as everyone adjusts to weeks upon weeks of life in isolation, fear of catching the virus and pure loneliness, Sophia realizes her purpose may be to help

those in her community who cannot manage on their own. As upstairs neighbor Jack becomes her confidante and she assists him getting much needed groceries, they form a bond unlike any she has ever experienced. Without ever having met face to face, this young couple become dependent on the strength and encouragement provided each and every night on the balcony. This well-timed pandemic love story reminds us that giving to others can make people feel less alone in a world that continues to challenge us every day. Spreading kindness and falling in love go hand in hand in this adorable, inspiring Valentine's treat.



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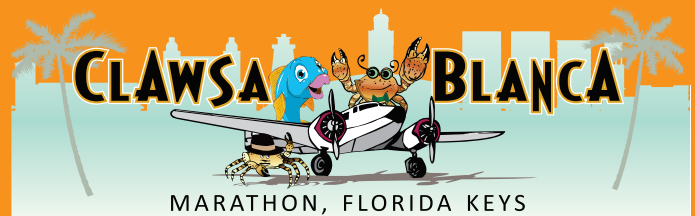
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THE WATER'S FINE

CFK SWIM TEAM RESUMES AFTER 45-YEAR ABSENCE



CFK's first swim team members make their competition debut at a meet Feb. 5-7 in Fort Pierce. From left: Ericka Augst, Sarah Pietraszka, Miranda College, Janna Moran, Nikola Pavlicek, and Coach Lori Bosco.

After a 45-year hiatus from collegiate sports, the College of the Florida Keys dove back into athletics on Feb. 5 with the debut of its first-ever women's and men's swim teams competing at their first meets. Five student athletes — four female and one male — traveled to Fort Pierce to compete in the 2021 Stanton C. Craigie Memorial Swim Invitational Meet, hosted by Indian River State College, Feb. 5-7.

Sophomore Ericka Augst emerged as the star. She won her heats in the 50-yard butterfly, backstroke, breaststroke and freestyle races. Her performance qualified her for national-level competitions in multiple categories and set the bar for future CFK swimmers with nine school records. Junior Sarah Pietraszka also qualified for nationals in the 50-yard butterfly and 200-yard backstroke events and established three school records.

Sophomores Miranda College and Nikola Pavlicek, who are new to the sport, swam competitively for the first time at this meet. Pavlicek now holds three school records. The event marked a return to the pool after many years for sophomore Janna Moran, the team's most experienced swimmer. All CFK athletes established personal best

times, which will serve as a baseline for growth in this season and in the future.

"We're excited to have our first competition under our belt," said coach Lori Bosco, CFK's aquatics director. "The students have been training hard and it showed. The experience is valuable as we all work to grow and improve our new athletic program at the college."

Despite pandemic-related delays, CFK's swim teams have been training in the college's junior Olympic-size pool since mid-January. With ample space in and out of the water for social distancing and no contact required, there is minimal risk associated with the sport.

In 2019, CFK joined the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA), which is key to operating and competing in sanctioned, structured athletic events. The college is on track to join the ranks of colleges across the state and nation to compete for high-level recognitions by 2022. Eventually, the swim teams will compete in regular seasons against other Florida colleges and against colleges and universities from outside the South Florida region.

— Contributed

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4



5



6

DISTRICT CHAMPS!

MHS boys soccer team advances to regionals game on home field

Marathon High School soccer coach Arno Silva said the high school team has been dreaming about a championship trophy for three years.

"We felt this year it was our time to win a title," Silva said.

It was a rough first half for the team on Feb. 5. Both MHS and Keys Gate battled for the ball.

"In the water break, I stressed to our players that they needed to believe in their own game, which has been very successful throughout this season," Silva said. "As they got back on the field, I could see them calming down and controlling the ball and keeping possession for a little longer."

Henry Herrera scored four goals, and Anthony Machado scored another on a penalty kick to defeat Keys Gate, last year's district champions. MHS will play the loser of the Ransom vs. Westminster Christian game at home on Wednesday, Feb. 17 starting at 7 p.m. Go Fins!

BARRY GAUKEL/Keys Weekly
To see or purchase more photos, visit shadypalmphotography.com.

1. Sophomore Henry Herrera (15) celebrates one of his four goals for the night.
2. Marathon's Carlos Avena (20) heads the ball past a Keys Gate defender.
3. Patrick Crews (17) steps in to block a Keys Gate shot.
4. Fin Giancarlo Prieto (9) chases down the ball.
5. Marathon senior Mathias Trujillo (10) advances the ball with his head.
6. Marathon goal tender Matthew Kratzert makes another stop.



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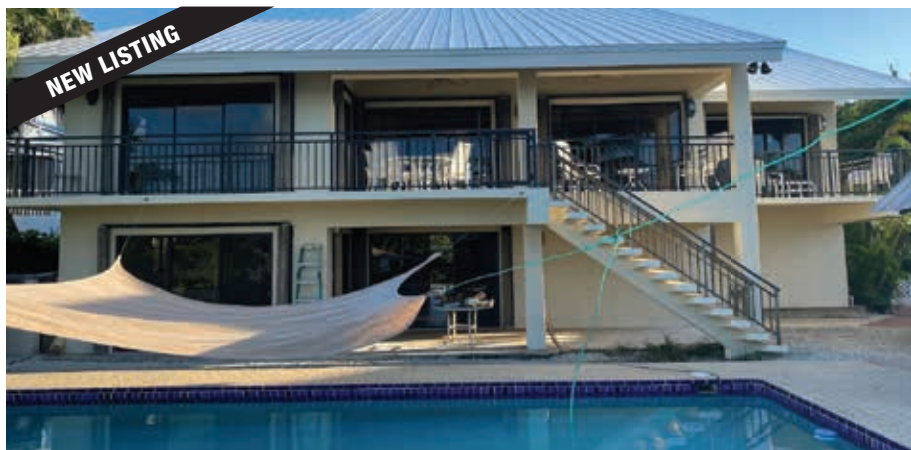
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How long have you been playing on the team? I have been playing tennis at MHS since the sixth grade, but I have been learning the game of tennis since I was only 6 years old. I've always been really into playing sports.

Describe one of your best moments in athletics. Tennis is an individual sport; it's something that you can rely on only yourself for. My best moments are with my teammates in practice, though. This team knows how to bring all our own talents into one. We are always out on the court to have a good time.

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What do you enjoy about being on the tennis team? I enjoy getting to grow as a player. Every year my skills increase. I really enjoy when new people join the team as well. Many think it's going to be boring and so they won't even try it, but after joining, they realize how much fun it really is.

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OFF TO STATES

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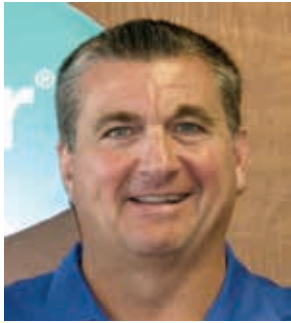
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Dawn McCurdy-Cale and husband Ed Cale in 2019. CONTRIBUTED Katie Lou and Adiel Ramirez in a recent photo. CONTRIBUTED

LOVE IN PARADISE

Locals have small-town dating challenges, but reason to hope

Angela is a 50-year-old divorcee in Key West who hasn't been on a date in two years. And she's just fine with that, thank you very much.

"I live a nice, peaceful life," the business owner told Keys Weekly. "I'm a really good solo act. I don't yearn for a partner."

But it also doesn't help that the last man she dated had more red flags than a marching band.

"The first date (in Cudjoe) was a fiasco. He got inebriated," she recalled. "I thought, 'I can't let this guy ride his motorcycle home.' He agreed to let me drive him. But he couldn't remember where he lived. Then he tells me he was going to walk back to Cudjoe to get his motorcycle, so I drove him back to Cudjoe. He said he didn't have his keys, and he starts ransacking my work van."

For another date, they agreed to meet up at her home to start the night. When he arrived, he immediately asked if he could take a nap. "I went out, and when I came home he was still asleep. I got a text from a friend asking me to go out. I couldn't wake him up, so I went to meet my friend. When I came home, he was gone. That was a couple of years ago, and that was my last real date."

Angela's story was just one of the doozies about dating that Keys Weekly has heard in response to a post we

wrote on a community Facebook page with 24,000 members. Seeing as how Valentine's Day is just a few days away, we had been thinking: What's it like to be single and dating in the Keys right now? And how has the pandemic affected the single life?

We asked locals these questions in our post. About 40 commenters, most of them female, left 120 comments, and our DMs blew up, full of people who wanted to share their tales, including Angela's. And hers was one that was tame enough to print.

Locals kept repeating two popular sayings about Keys dating. The first one? As one young Upper Keys single gentleman wrote, "In the Keys you don't lose your girl, you just lose your turn."

In other words, it's slim pickings out there.

"Everyone is related somehow, so better pick which family member you want Imao (I am joking but it's kinda true)," wrote one young single female.

"A breakup in 2017 caused me to LEAVE the Keys," said another female. "While housing, location, and other issues affected the move, a HUGE issue was the lack of a viable dating pool. Desirable, fit, stable, youthful men in the 55 to 65 range are pretty much non-existent in the Fla-Keys."

Thirty-year-old Samantha Dellilo first met her fiancé at Key Largo School when they were age 9. "When I go on a

jog in my neighborhood, I see three ex-boyfriends," she told us on the phone, half-jokingly.

Jesse Hayes, 37, is a single Islamorada commercial fisherman. "A s****y aspect of a small town is when you have (a relationship) go sideways, you go to the Trading Post to get chocolate milk, and you have to say hi," he said in his interview.

Speaking of going "sideways," it appears that many Keys relationships frequently do, thanks to unstable behavior. Enter the second thing that local daters often say to each other: "You have to import the good ones."

"The bar is so low here," said Angela, who dated the inebriated motorcycle guy. "I know a lot of people in relationships here, and I wonder if their behavior would be acceptable on the mainland."

"I think the Keys has a culture based on fishing and drinking and, those two things, when you put them together, the kind of people that that draws, I don't think they are gonna be paragons of responsibility," said fisherman Hayes, pointing out that it's not just men who are unstable. "I don't want to be disrespectful, but a lot of (women here) are emotionally unstable. I'm not looking down on women — that's not where I'm going with that at all. Everyone has things to work on. But it is a sh*t show here."

Throw in the pandemic, and you



Christopher Massicotte, left, and fiancé Eric Ault. CONTRIBUTED



Samantha Dellilo and fiancé Marky Berta. CONTRIBUTED

“Everyone is related somehow, so better pick which family member you want lmao (I am joking but it’s kinda true),” wrote one young single female.

have a mess. “I spend more time with lobsters than women,” Hayes joked. “(Dating is) nonexistent. I mean, what do you do? Get on f*****g tinder, the sh*t show Olympics? And then what? You end up having a text conversation and you never meet up? It’s an exercise in futility.”

But we heard lots of positive stories too. For example, not just one, but four different women commented to say that they met their husbands at Key Largo’s Sharkey’s Sharkbite Grill, a.k.a. “The Tank.” And Upper Keys poster Nikki Dunn Cullen met her husband at a kickball game. “My husband and I started dating thanks mostly to being on the same Founders Park kickball team the first season they held it. Our team won the championship and John won my heart!”

Dellilo’s story of meeting her fiancé in elementary school would charm even the most jaded heart. When he walked into their fourth-grade classroom, “I hit my friend on the shoulder, and said, ‘Oh my god, he is a hunk.’ I was so smitten. We were friends for years. I was crazy about him, and everybody knew it,” she said.

Katie Lou Ramirez, 32, is a mother

of two who met her husband, Adiel Ramirez, at her father’s workplace in the Keys. “I was single down here until I was 24,” she told us in an interview. “I was lucky to meet my husband because he was working for my father. He came from a good family from Mexico, and he came to the Keys not for girls but to make money for his family. He’s my soulmate. It’s crazy that it took someone coming from Mexico.”

He charmed her when he and his brother dressed as Super Mario Bros. to impress her nephew. “After my nephew’s birthday party, Adiel went to my dad and asked permission to ask me for a date. And we’ve been together ever since.”

Dawn McCurdy-Cale met her husband of 30 years at the Safari Lounge in 1987. Her advice? “Don’t give up hope. And try searching for companionship before searching for romance,” she told us in a DM.

We contacted Melinda Van Fleet, a success coach and a Keys Weekly columnist, for more guidance. “When looking for love, it’s important to be aware of yourself in conjunction with your expectations,” she told us. “Often, we have things we have to work on

first. And doing that work is important.”

We also asked Tavernier relationship and family counselor Diane Saleeby Gardner for her thoughts. “Expanding and thinking outside the box can be exciting. Joining groups such as book clubs or other interest groups could bring not only different people but include common interests that bond people in deeper ways. You could also find an international group that expands your world views. There are pros and cons in dating during Covid, but it gives one the opportunity to do something different. You may end up finding the partner of your dreams.”

And we all need to remember that we are fortunate to live in paradise.

Christopher Massicotte, 45, told us, “I met my fiancé in a hotel bar in Orlando, on March 6, just before lockdown. He is a flight attendant for American and was on a layover, and I was there for work. I invited him to come visit, and he never left. Nine months later, we were engaged. I proposed to him at the Dry Tortugas. But if it wasn’t for Key West, we wouldn’t be together. Someone asked him if I’d said, ‘I live in Columbus, Ohio,’ would he have come to visit, and he said, ‘Probably not.’”

**Some names have been changed to protect identities ... and give them a fighting chance at another date one day.*

FAMOUS SHIP'S MISSION WAS TO RETURN FREED SLAVES TO AFRICA

W BRAD BERTELLI
www.keyweekly.com

BLACK
HISTORY
MONTH



The African Cemetery is marked with a history plaque in Key West. MARK HEDDEN/Contributed

President James Monroe, on March 3, 1819, signed “An Act to Protect the Commerce of the United States, and Crimes of Piracy.” The act gave the U.S. Navy the ability to establish the West Indies Squadron. The mission of this specialized force was to combat both piracy and the slave trade. Commodore James Biddle was named its first commander.

One of the ships assigned to Biddle was the schooner Alligator. The ship-of-war, built in the Boston Navy Yard and commissioned in March 1821, was armed with 12 cannons. The Alligator’s inaugural mission was not a military one but one of a humanitarian nature. The schooner escorted representatives of the American Colonizing Society to the west coast of Africa. The objective of the society, founded in 1817, was to repatriate freed slaves. The purpose of the journey was to find land on which to establish a colony. In 1847, that colony was recognized as the Republic of Liberia.

Before the Civil War, it was legal to own slaves — to buy and sell people. Decades earlier, several countries had banned the smuggling of human cargo across international waters. By 1827, the international slave trade had been illegal in Spain for seven years, the United States for 19 years, and Great Britain for 20 years. Against the law or not, the practice did not end. For instance, Spanish-held Cuba, in need of an abundant supply of plantation labor, paid little heed to the prohibition.

In 1860, the Navy apprehended three U.S.-based ships attempting to smuggle human cargo to Cuba. The ships Wildfire, William, and Bogota had more than 1,400 African refugees on board. They were given a military escort to the nearest American port of entry, Key West. In 1860, Key West had a population in the neighborhood of 3,000 people, and the sudden introduction of 1,432 refugees pushed the community beyond its limits. With nowhere to house such a large, sudden influx of people, many of whom were suffering from illness and malnutrition due to being packed into the holds of slave ships like chattel, Key West’s people worked to build housing and provide food, clothes and medical attention.

During the refugees’ nearly three months on the island, 294 died. They were buried in shallow sand graves at what, in 1860,

was an undeveloped area of the island. Eighty-five days after arriving, the remaining refugees were once again boarded on to ships. After sailing out of the harbor, a course was set for Liberia where, by 1867, the American Colonizing Society had worked to repatriate 13,000 freed slaves.

In 1861, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers surveyed an area on which to build the Civil War era fortification West Martello. The map they created was marked with X’s identifying the location of the “African Cemetery.” When construction on the fort began the following year, human remains were uncovered in shallow sand graves, moved to an empty field nearby, and largely forgotten for more than 100 years.

Based on rediscovered documents, historians and archaeologists theorized that all of the grave sites had not been covered by the red-bricked West Martello and that it was likely additional graves were beneath the sand at neighboring Higgs Beach. In 2002, the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum organized an archaeological investigation. Using ground-penetrating radar, 15 shallow grave sites were discovered buried about 2 to 3 feet under the sand and measuring 5 to 6 feet in length. They were left undisturbed, and in 2007 the African Cemetery Memorial was installed to protect and commemorate the burial site, honor those buried beneath the sand in 1860, and tell this important story.

Again using ground-penetrating radar, human remains that had been moved during construction of the West Martello site were rediscovered in shallow graves on the other side of what is today Atlantic Boulevard. The land had become a public dog park. The dog park has been relocated and plans have been made to reroute Atlantic Boulevard around the burial site to better honor the entirety of what has become of the cemetery.

As for the schooner Alligator, shortly after returning from its African mission, it left its mark on the Florida Keys. Reassigned to the West Indies, the Alligator engaged pirates off the coast of Cuba in 1822. After rescuing American merchant ships and escorting the rag-tag fleet back to America, it ran aground at a reef offshore of the Matecumbe keys. Today, that reef is known as Alligator Reef, home to the second-largest lighthouse marking the Florida Reef, Alligator Lighthouse.

LOCAL CLINIC HOLDS VACCINE WEBINAR

Doctors address minority vaccination rate



Dr. Saint Anothmy Amofa



Dr. Edwin Bosa-Osorio



Dr. Elizabeth Philippe



Dr. Jheanel White

Did you know that only 54% of black adults said they would get a coronavirus vaccine in 2020, as opposed to 74% of hispanic and white adults?

In honor of Black History Month, CHI is hosting an online conference to raise awareness of this issue. The webinar will address the history of vaccine hesitancy and the current challenges of convincing vulnerable populations to get the COVID-19 vaccine. The live webinar is set for Monday, Feb. 15 at 1 p.m., but will also be recorded and posted for later viewing.

The webinar will be moderated by CHI's chief medical officer, Dr. Saint Anthony Amofah, and will include panel experts Dr. Edwin Bosa-Osorio, Dr. Elizabeth Philippe and Dr. Jheanel White.

- Topics will include:
- The important contributions of blacks in the development of vaccines.
 - The unjust and cruel history of the experimentation on blacks.
 - The CDC's vaccine recommendations and ethical principles for distribution.

To register, visit chisouthfl.org/blackhistory.

— Contributed



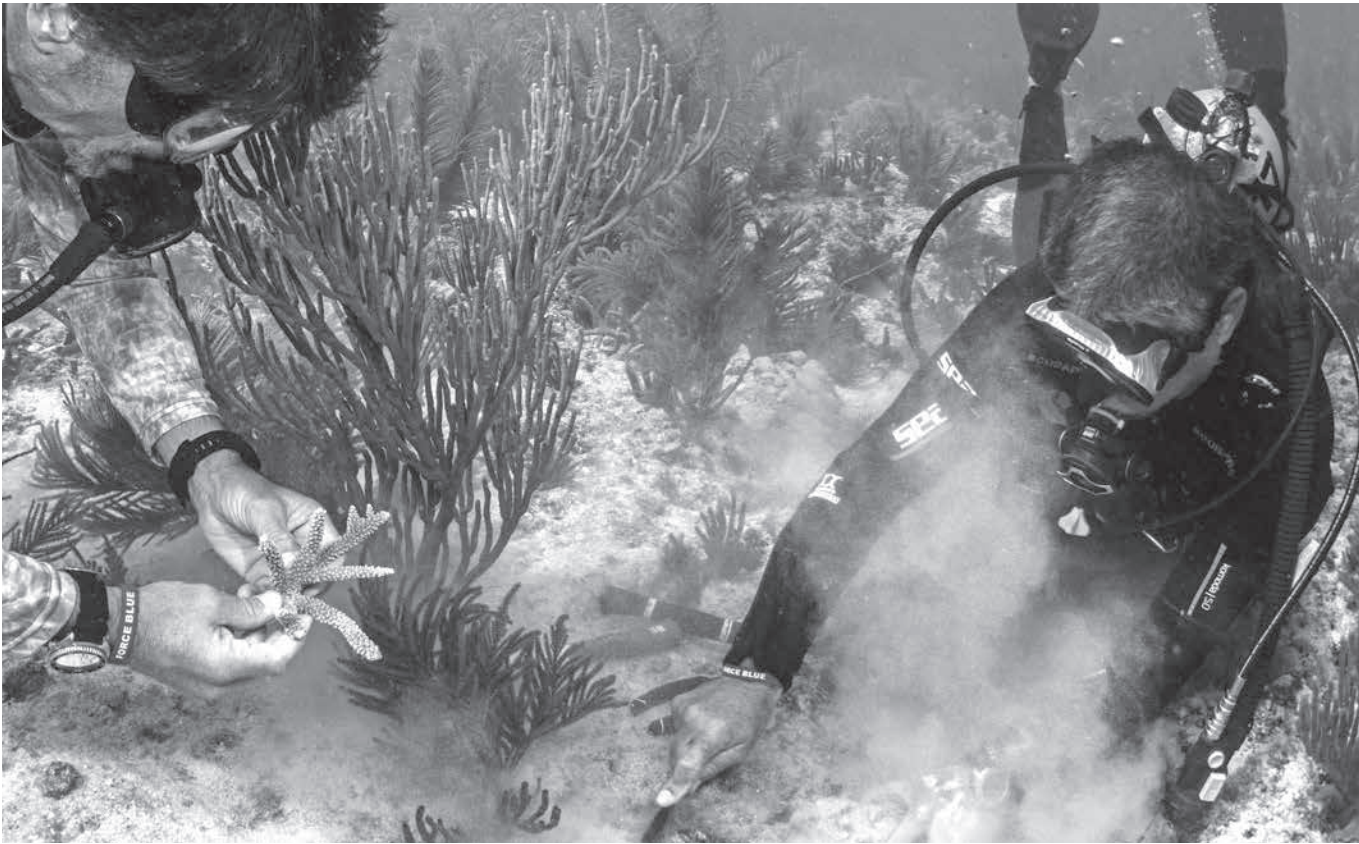
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Military vets and coral scientists work together to restore 100 yards of endangered corals off Miami. ZACH RANSOM/Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science

UNDERWATER TOUCHDOWN

The NFL's groundbreaking coral collaboration for Florida's reef

TIFFANY DUONG
tiffany@keysweekly.com

“Unlikely bedfellows.” That’s how Jim Ritterhoff, executive director of Force Blue, described the coming together of military veterans, the National Football League (NFL), coral scientists, government and corporate entities, all collaborating to benefit Florida’s coral reef.

Force Blue, which helped organize the project, retrain and redeploys former special operations veterans and military-trained combat divers to work alongside scientists and environmentalists on marine conservation missions. The veterans act as a “highly skilled workforce” to accomplish difficult and critical scientific work, in return gaining “a new mission and a sense of continued service” in fighting for the planet, Ritterhoff explained.

Last year, for Super Bowl LIV in Miami, Force Blue divers joined scientists from The Florida Aquarium (FLAQ) and the University of Miami Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS) to plant 100 endangered staghorn corals in Biscayne Bay, off Miami. The symbolic project celebrated the NFL’s 100th season last year.

The ocean-focused project was a first for the NFL.

“NFL Green had never worked on an underwater environmental project until beginning work on coral restoration in Florida. Doing so allowed us to bring together the most diverse group of partners we’ve ever worked with,” said Susan Groh, Associate Director for NFL Green, the NFL’s environmental and sustainability wing.

The project expanded throughout the year into “100 Yards of Hope,” a multi-year coral restoration project aimed at reseeding a football field-sized area off Biscayne Bay with multiple species of endangered corals. The hope is to turn the tide for Florida’s iconic reef and to drive even more awareness about its plight.

The end zones and center of the football field-sized reef were placed in fall 2020, followed by divers planting thousands of staghorn and mountainous star corals from FLAQ, RSMAS, SECORE International and Frost Science, Deborah Luke told the Keys Weekly.

“This critically important project is helping to restore Florida’s Coral Reef, the third-largest barrier reef in the world, which is in crisis,” said Luke, FLAQ senior vice president of conservation.

Now, as a capstone to NFL Green Week, which precedes each year’s Super Bowl and serves as a way to galvanize community greening efforts in the host city, the team planted 150 elkhorn corals, another threatened coral species, in the field. RSMAS provided 55 of the corals in celebration of Super Bowl LV. FLAQ provided the remaining corals. A final planting of massive brain and star corals in the spring will complete 100 Yards of Hope, the NFL’s Groh said.

“100 Yards of Hope is a symbol of what passionate, hopeful individuals can accomplish when working towards a shared vision,” said Dalton Hesley, a senior research associate at RSMAS, whose team spearheaded restoration efforts. “What started as a celebration of the NFL’s 100th season has transformed into a fight for the future of our coral reefs.”

He added, “Coral restoration is a tremendous tool in the fight for Florida’s Coral Reef as it helps recover degraded coral populations and safeguard the ecological services they provide.”

So, what are these benefits? Coral reefs support one out of every four marine species and act as critical nursery grounds, Groh explained. They also reduce storm and wave energy, protecting our coastlines, lives and livelihoods.

As we know well in the Florida Keys, Florida’s coral reef also underpins our entire economy and way of life. Many view saving it as a way to also save ourselves and our future.

“Every year coral reefs pump \$3.4 billion into the U.S. economy through jobs, tourism, seafood, even the medicines we take,” Groh said. “But coral reefs are under threat by a changing climate, pollution and warmer, more acidic oceans, and they won’t survive without significant restoration and conservation efforts.”

FLAQ’s Luke agreed, saying, “Over 90% of (the reef’s) corals have died... restoration of Florida’s Coral Reef is imperative if we are to continue reaping (its) benefits.”

The unexpected collaboration has also had an unforeseen, positive impact by getting an unlikely crowd involved.

Force Blue’s Ritterhoff explained that the touchdown in these efforts is using Navy SEALs and the NFL, people you don’t traditionally see talking about conservation, to reach an audience who wouldn’t necessarily pay attention to coral reef scientists.

“People listen because these guys are their heroes,” he told the Keys Weekly. “We have to reach beyond the choir in marine conservation. We have to get more people involved.”

Most importantly, he noted, “we don’t care if you get on board from the right side or the left side; we’re on the same boat. That’s what 100 Yards of Hope is all about. It’s about bringing together people from all walks of life, different political aisles, life experiences, and making them aware of a problem that exists. Cooperating and coming together to be a solution. That is a symbol of hope.”

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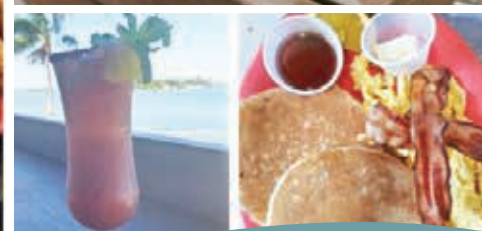
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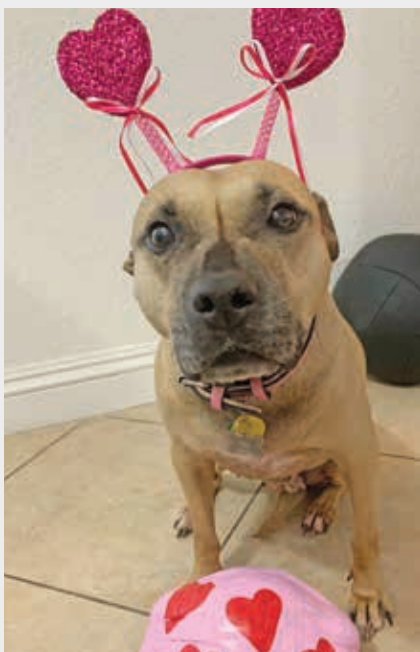
My husband Troy and I have the same birthday. We were on our first date having the "getting to know you" conversation, and when he told me his birthdate, I didn't believe him. He had to show me his drivers license. KAT WHEATLEY/Contributed



The bonds between family run strong; even tragedy and loss can't take away the love between brothers, or that of a father for his sons. Pascal may no longer be by our side, but he will forever be in our hearts. #PascalsWay ARI POHOLEK/Contributed



Here are my loves. DEREK HAGEN/Contributed



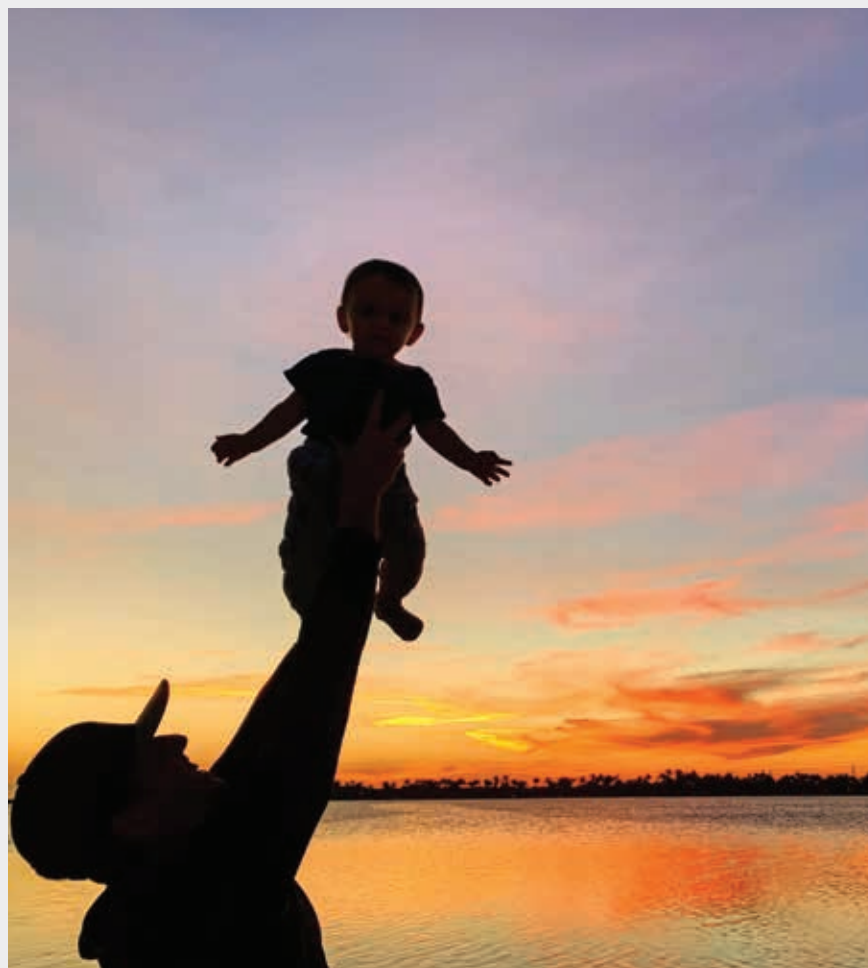
Maggie is my favorite Valentine. DEBRA HOLLIS/Contributed



Dear Aaron, I couldn't be me without you. Love you and Happy Valentine's Day. CAROL AUSTIN/Contributed



"Love my dogs and they love their home here." TODD CHANDLER/Contributed



Enjoying a "son-set" with my son Rizon. BOB FINER/Contributed

FLORIDA KEYS IN FOCUS

Love on the Rock

W TIFFANY DUONG
tiffany@keysweekly.com

Our theme for FEBRUARY is LOVE ON THE ROCK. We want to know about what love is like in our islands (the good, the bad and the funny), so send us pictures of you self-quarantining on a Saturday night, your favorite selfie with your honey/kids/pets, the last time you went dancing at Hog Heaven, or "girls night out" in Key West. Love hurts and love heals — let's celebrate together!

Photos, captions and photo credit can be emailed to tiffany@keysweekly.com.

Rules, schmules:

All photos must be original work and feature something in the Keys.

Photos can be images that have been published before.

No third party may own or control any materials the photo contains, and the photo must not infringe upon the trademark,

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Rich and Deb Riolo celebrated 40 years of marriage with a masked kiss at St Mary's Star of the Sea. Their first-born was born on Valentine's Day. Now that's true love. DEB RIOLO/Contributed



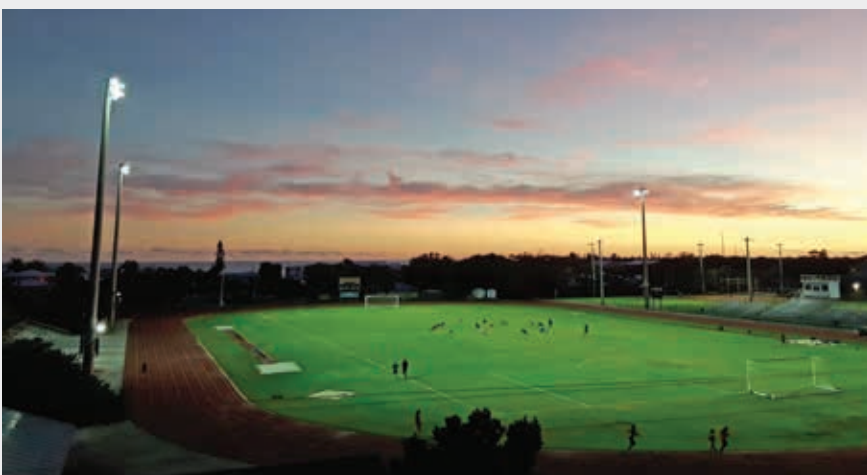
Coral Restoration Foundation loves our interns and much as zooxanthellae loves coral! CRF/Contributed



Nature and love are always new — with the resiliency of driftwood and the fluidity of water. JENNIFER JUNIPER/Contributed



Love is my own ocean. DANIEL EIDSMOE/Contributed



Love cheering on Coral Shores High School as a 5th floor condo cheerleader! DEBRA LONDON/Contributed



Bud and Jeanne Conlin: 47 years and counting, and still working for a just society. BUD CONLIN/Contributed



Love long walks on the beach on Long Key. MARI NOVO/Contributed

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CHANGE OF WATCH

Marathon Yacht Club had its Change of Watch for 2021 on Jan. 31 and the new officers were installed: Joanne Carlson, secretary, left; Loyal Eldridge, treasurer; Bob Mininni, rear commodore; Sandy Yenik, vice commodore; Bill Warner, commodore; Rosemary Thomas, past commodore. The evening included a meal by new executive chef Jamie Pruitt and music by Johnny Live. The club is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. CONTRIBUTED

BRIEFLY

Key West library hosts Lily King & Judy Blume

The Friends of the Key West Library's speaker series will present novelist Lily King in conversation with Judy Blume via webinar on Monday, Feb. 15. All lectures in the 2021 season will be presented online due to the pandemic. As in past years the lectures are free and open to all, but you must register to receive the presentation link. Visit friendsofthekeywestlibrary.org/registration to register.

King will discuss her latest book, "Writers & Lovers," one of the New York Times 100 notable books of 2020.

Garden experts host virtual, in-person clinics

The UF/IFAS, Monroe County Master Gardener Volunteers will continue to offer plant clinics via zoom and in-person, addressing residents' plant, insect, and gardening questions. The virtual plant clinics will include a 15-minute topical discussion at the start of each event.

The virtual plant clinic covers cold-damaged plants on Tuesday, Feb. 23 from 10 to 11 a.m. Pre-Registration is required. Please email monroe@ifas.ufl.edu or call 305-292-4501 to register in advance.

In-person plant clinics will be offered at the following locations

and days from 9 a.m. to noon. Masks and social distancing are required:

– Wednesday, Feb. 17 at Garden Club of the Upper Keys, Key Largo.

– Saturday, Feb. 20 at The Home Depot, Marathon.

– Thursday, Feb. 25 at Island Home Nursery, Islamorada.

More information is available at monroe@ifas.ufl.edu or 305-292-4501.

Sheriff honors Monroe County employee

Sheriff Rick Ramsay presented Monroe County Project Manager Matthew Howard with a certificate of appreciation this week.

Howard spearheaded a project to repair leaks and other damage at the sheriff's office administration building next to the main jail on Stock Island. The extensive project required the entire exterior of the building to be inspected, tedious repairs done and finally painted. Howard is also overseeing the new 48,240 square foot Plantation Key jail/courthouse project, which is projected to be completed a year ahead of schedule.

"Project Manager Howard keeps hitting home runs for the sheriff's office," said Ramsay.

37 AND COUNTING...

A Florida Keys music story

Thirty-seven years. Three-point-seven decades gone by. 1984 was a big year in my world, and the world in general. Apple introduced the Macintosh. Michael Jackson was burned filming a Pepsi commercial, and Marvin Gaye was shot and killed by his father. Prince released "Purple Rain," Tina Turner released "Private Dancer," Springsteen released "Born in the U.S.A." and Van Halen released (of course) "1984."

And February of 1984 was when I performed my first gig in the Keys, at the old Compass Lounge in the old Holiday Inn.

I had already been on the road a few years at that point, working in a duo with Sallie Foster, another veteran entertainer. The Holiday Inn in Marathon was just another road gig (so we thought) on a five-week South Florida leg that included a stint on the old SeaEscape cruise ship sailing daily to Freeport and back.

Neither of us expected the warm welcome and loads of gig offers we received when we got here. As a musician, it was (and is) an amazing gift to be able to perform in one wonderful tropical island destination, and make a living playing music without having to travel. Thus began the Perpetual Island Tour!

Marathon was a bit different in 1984. U.S.1 through town was mostly two-lane and didn't become four lanes until the Overseas Lounge. During season, traffic could be problematic. During the three years of the four-lane construction, traffic was a legitimate nightmare. Aviation Boulevard was the Marathon construction bypass. There was no McDonald's. No Wendy's. No Walgreens. No Publix. Winn Dixie was where Beal's is now. And where Winn Dixie now sits was a grocery store called Pantry Pride.

Things that were here then and still are today, mostly unchanged, include the Cracked Conch, the Brass Monkey, Kmart, Island Service Auto Repair, Specialty Hardware, Marathon Lumber, Castaway Restaurant and a few other hardy establishments. Many others have changed and evolved, and more than a few were victims of storms and the passage of time. What I wouldn't give for a burger from the old Quay Tiki bar...

Back in 1984, bars could stay open 24 hours, and many did. Late nights turned into early mornings, and I recall more than a few nights coming out of a dark club and being blinded by sun-



JOHN BARTUS

is a City of Marathon councilman. He also is a musician who performs around town. For more see johnbartus.com

light. The Idle Hour, the Driftwood, the Overseas, the Dog House, the Reef Bar, and the Brass Monkey all stayed open as late or as early as the clientele hung out. And there was a place called Fanny's ... you might be able to guess what happened there. The Howard Johnson's (where the Hampton Inn is now) catered to the late-night crowd — very late dinners or very

early breakfasts were quite popular at 2 a.m. and beyond.

Throughout the past 37 years, I've performed at nearly every venue in the Keys at one time or another (except, of course, Fanny's). I have shared the stage with insanely talented people like Adrienne Z, Roy McAdams, Steven Miller, Terry Cassidy, Clarence Clements, Freddie Bye, Brian Roberts, Glenn Faast, David Howell and far too many others to mention. I still enjoy taking the stage armed with nothing but a good acoustic guitar. And more than 8,000 performances later, there's nothing I'd rather be doing than playing music to an appreciative audience.

On that note (pun definitely intended), I'd like to invite you to my 37th Anniversary Concert this Sunday, Feb. 14, at 4 p.m. at Sunset Park in Key Colony Beach. The Key Colony Beach Community Association (www.kcbca.org) has asked me again to kick off their Concerts In The Park series, and I am honored to do so. I'll be performing songs from my "Keys Disease" and "Live From The Florida Keys" CDs, new originals, crowd favorites, and some love songs for Valentine's Day! Of course, we will be practicing social distancing, and the concert is outdoors.

This show is a special thank-you to all the people I've been lucky enough to play music for in these islands the past 37 years. I hope to see you there!

Catch John Wednesdays at Herbie's, Thursdays at Sparky's Landing, this Friday on Facebook Live for his Social Distancing Concert, Saturday night at the Key Colony Inn, and this Sunday at KCB's Sunset Park, 4 p.m. Music available wherever you get your streaming. www.facebook.com/john.bartus

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LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the Limited Liability Company name of "The BooNey Chubby Mermaid" located at 985 Chestnut Street, Freeland, PA 18224, intends to register said name with the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.

FICTITIOUS NAME NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of Marathon Plaza located at 11524 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL 33050, intends to register said name with the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE U-HAUL COMPANY OF MIAMI Notice is here by given that on February 22nd, 2021, Leonard Richford Jr. Storage Auctioneer, Executive Administrator for U-Haul Company of Miami, Will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien Process, By Public Auction, the following storage units.

103530 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, FL 33037. Names And Last Known Addresses are as Follows: William Parent Unit 1425 \$2,124.23 William Parent Unit 1165 \$962.30 Francis Baggott Unit 1207 \$593.31

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR COMPETITIVE SOLICITATIONS The City of Marathon, Marathon, Florida, will receive sealed proposals for Term Contract for Grants Management Services. Sealed proposals will be received by the Clerks Department of the City of Marathon, Marathon, Florida at 9805 Overseas Highway until 3:00 p.m., on March 4, 2021.

LEGAL NOTICES

proposals which are incompetent, conditional, non-responsive, or which contain additions not allowed for; reject any or all proposals in whole or in part with or without cause, and accept the proposal which best serves the City of Marathon.

LEGAL NOTICE OF MEETING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN an Evaluation Committee of the City of Marathon will meet at 11:00 am March 8th, in the City Chambers located at 9805 Overseas Highway, in Marathon to review, evaluate and make a recommendation to the City Council concerning the proposals received in response to the RFP for Term Contract for Grants Management Services.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, that on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, at 1:30P.M., at its virtual meeting, the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida, intends to consider the following:

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moderate-income (LMI) persons. Prevent or eliminate slum or blight conditions. Address urgent community development needs, which pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community for which other funding is not available.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF COUNTY ORDINANCE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN that on February 17, 2021 at 1:30 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County, Florida, intends to consider the adoption of the following County ordinance:

IF A CITIZEN HAS A ROKU DEVICE, they can search for and add "MCTV" to their personal lineup. Monroe County's "MCTV" is also provided via the Monroe County mobile apps for iOS and Android and through our streaming web portal @ https://monroe-fl.vod.castus.tv/vod/?live=ch1&nav=live.

LEGAL NOTICES

need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. ADA ASSISTANCE: If you are a person with a disability who needs special accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the County Administrator's Office, by phoning (305) 292-4441, between the hours of 8:30 a.m.--5:00 p.m., no later than five (5) calendar days prior to the scheduled meeting;

NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of Celia Ann Daniels, deceased, whose date of death was October 9, 2020, is pending in the Circuit Court for Monroe County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 500 Whitehead Street, Key West, FL 33040. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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or (669) 900-6833 and, when prompted, enter the Webinar ID 995 7249 8241 followed by the # key, then *9 to "Raise your Hand" to be recognized by the Zoom webinar host.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO.: 21-CP-00003-P IN RE: ESTATE OF NELLIE MATLOSZ Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of Nellie Matlosz, deceased, whose date of death was August 31, 2020, is pending in the Circuit Court for MONROE County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 500 Whitehead Street, Key West, Florida 33040.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO.: 21-CP-07-K DIVISION: LOWER KEYS IN RE: ESTATE OF NELLIE MATLOSZ Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of the estate of Celia Ann Daniels, deceased, whose date of death was February 4, 2021, is pending in the Circuit Court for Monroe County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 500 Whitehead Street, Key West, FL 33040.

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having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO.: 21-CP-00003-P IN RE: ESTATE OF GEORGE WIELANDER, JR., Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of George Wielander, Jr., deceased, whose date of death was October 13, 2020, is pending in the Circuit Court for Monroe County, Florida, Probate Division, File Number 21-CP-00003-P, the address of which is 50 High Point Road, Plantation Key, Florida 33070.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO.: 21-CP-08-P DIVISION: UPPER KEYS IN RE: ESTATE OF CHARLES W. GRISWOLD Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of Charles W. Griswold, deceased, whose date of death was December 20, 2020, is pending in the Circuit Court for MONROE County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 88820 Overseas Highway, Tavernier, Florida 33070.

LEGAL NOTICES

Telephone: (305) 981-8889 Facsimile: (305) 405-7979 Publish: February 4 & 11, 2021 The Weekly Newspapers

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO.: 20-CP-000295-K IN RE: ESTATE OF CYLIA ANN DANIELS, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of Cylia Ann Daniels, deceased, whose date of death was October 9, 2020, is pending in the Circuit Court for Monroe County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 500 Whitehead Street, Key West, FL 33040.

ALL CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENT AND OTHER PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST DECEDENT'S ESTATE ON WHOM A COPY OF THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED TO BE SERVED MUST FILE THEIR CLAIMS WITH THIS COURT ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO.: 21-CP-08-P DIVISION: UPPER KEYS IN RE: ESTATE OF CHARLES W. GRISWOLD Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of Charles W. Griswold, deceased, whose date of death was December 20, 2020, is pending in the Circuit Court for MONROE County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 88820 Overseas Highway, Tavernier, Florida 33070.

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LEGAL NOTICES

the 1st day of March 2021 at 11 o'clock a.m., at 500 Whitehead Street, Monroe County, in the City of Key West, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for CASH the Following described property situated in Monroe County, Florida, to wit: Unit 5713, Week 23, Annual Windward Pointe Condominium, a Leasehold Condominium ("Condominium"), according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded in Official Records Book 1803, Page 844, Public Records of Monroe County, Florida, and all exhibits thereto, and any amendments thereof (the "Declaration"). Pursuant to ORDER TO RESCHEDULE SALE AS TO COUNT VI entered in a case pending in said Court, the 29th day of January 2021 Style of which is: WINDWARD POINTE II, LLC, A DELAWARE LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, Plaintiff vs. JANNIELISA ABREU, et al. Defendant And the Docket Number of which is Number 44-2019-CA-000597-K WITNESS my hand and the Official Seal of Said Court, this 4th day of February, 2021. KEVIN MADOK Clerk of the Circuit Court Monroe County, Florida By: Shonta McLeod Deputy Clerk Publish: February 11 & 18, 2021 The Weekly Newspapers

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 15-CA-000173-K DIVISION: Civil Judge Mark Wilson Beach House Development Partnership, a Florida general partnership Plaintiff, vs. Dale Del Bello, et al. Defendants. NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT(S) I, II Notice is hereby given that on March 1, 2021 at 11:00am, at 500 Whitehead Street, Monroe County, in the City of Key West, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for CASH the following described Timeshare Ownership Interest: Unit A21, Week 9, Beach House, a Condominium according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded in Official Records Book 1510, Page 225, Public Records of Monroe County, Florida, and all exhibits thereto, and any amendments thereof (the "Declaration"). (Contract No.: 3-7904) Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from this sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. The sale is being held pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure, entered on February 20, 2020 in Civil Case No. 15-CA-000173-K, pending in the Circuit Court in Monroe County, Florida. WITNESS my hand and the Official Seal of Said Court, this 5th day of February, 2021. KEVIN MADOK CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA By: Shonta McLeod Deputy Clerk Publish: February 11 & 18, 2021 The Weekly Newspapers

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 19-CA-000830-K DIVISION: Civil Judge Timothy Koenig Windward Pointe II, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Plaintiff, vs. Lise S. Haupt, et al. Defendants. NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT(S) COUNT XV Notice is hereby given that on March 1, 2021 at 11:00am, at 500 Whitehead Street, Monroe County, in the City of Key West, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for CASH the following described Timeshare Ownership Interest: Unit 5422, Week 32, Annual Windward Pointe Condominium, a Leasehold Condominium ("Condominium"), according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded in Official Records Book 1803, Page 844, Public Records of Monroe County, Florida, and all exhibits thereto, and any amendments thereof (the "Declaration"). (Contract No.: 2-20570) Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from this sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. The sale is being held pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure, entered on March 16, 2020, in Civil Case No. 19-CA-000830-K, pending in the Circuit Court in Monroe County, Florida. WITNESS my hand and the Official Seal of Said Court, this 4th day of February, 2021. KEVIN MADOK CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Key West PD, LLC d/b/a Island Private Care, which is located at 1720 North Roosevelt Boulevard, Key West, Florida 33040, will close effective February 26, 2021. For a copy of patient records, please contact the Privacy Department at LHC Group, Inc., 901 Hugh Wallis Road South, Lafayette, Louisiana 70508, (337) 233-1307.

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MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA By: Shonta McLeod Deputy Clerk Publish: February 11 & 18, 2021 The Weekly Newspapers

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 19-CA-000597-K DIVISION: Civil Judge Timothy Koenig Windward Pointe II, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Plaintiff, vs. Jannelisa Abreu, et al. Defendants. NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT(S) COUNT IX Notice is hereby given that on March 1, 2021 at 11:00am, at 500 Whitehead Street, Monroe County, in the City of Key West, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for CASH the following described Timeshare Ownership Interest: Unit 5323, Week 44, Annual Windward Pointe Condominium, a Leasehold Condominium ("Condominium"), according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded in Official Records Book 1803, Page 844, Public Records of Monroe County, Florida, and all exhibits thereto, and any amendments thereof (the "Declaration"). (Contract No.: 2-19561) Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from this sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. The sale is being held pursuant

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to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure, entered on January 17, 2020, in Civil Case No. 19-CA-000597-K, pending in the Circuit Court in Monroe County, Florida. WITNESS my hand and the Official Seal of Said Court, this 4th day of February, 2021. KEVIN MADOK CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA By: Shonta McLeod Deputy Clerk Publish: February 11 & 18, 2021 The Weekly Newspapers

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 19-CA-000597-K DIVISION: Civil Judge Timothy Koenig Windward Pointe II, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Plaintiff, vs. Jannelisa Abreu, et al. Defendants. NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT(S) IV Notice is hereby given that March 1, 2021 at 11:00AM, at 500 Whitehead Street, Monroe County, in the City of Key West, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for CASH the following described Timeshare Ownership Interest: Unit 5732, Week 37, Annual Windward Pointe Condominium, a Leasehold Condominium ("Condominium"), according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded in Official Records Book 1803, Page 844, Public Records of Monroe County, Florida, and all exhibits thereto, and any amendments thereof (the

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"Declaration"). (Contract No.: 2-20101) Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from this sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. The sale is being held pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure, entered on December 5, 2019, in Civil Case No. 19-CA-000597-K, pending in the Circuit Court in Monroe County, Florida. WITNESS my hand and the Official Seal of Said Court, this 4th day of February, 2021. KEVIN MADOK CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA By: Shonta McLeod Deputy Clerk Publish: February 11 & 18, 2021 The Weekly Newspapers

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 19-CA-000773-K DIVISION: Civil Judge Timothy Koenig Sunset Harbor Development Partnership, a Florida general partnership, Plaintiff, vs. D'Awryn Keith Daniels, et al. Defendants. NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT(S) I Notice is hereby given that on March 1, 2021 at 11:00am, at 500 Whitehead Street, Monroe County, in the City of Key West, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for CASH the following described Timeshare Ownership Interest:

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Unit 412, Week 26, Sunset Harbor Resort Condominium Resort, a Condominium according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof as recorded in Official Records Book 1376, Page 1093, Public Records of Monroe County, Florida, and all exhibits attached thereto, and any amendments thereof (hereafter the "Declaration"). (Contract No.: 1-17772) Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from this sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. The sale is being held pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure, entered on February 20, 2020 in Civil Case No. 19-CA-000773-K, pending in the Circuit Court in Monroe County, Florida.



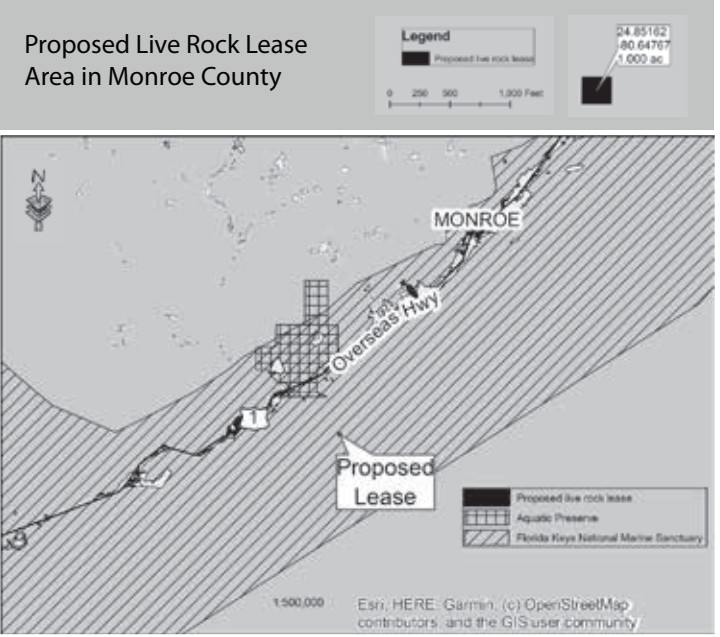
NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED COMMISSIONER

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Division of Aquaculture

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND

Section 253.69, Florida Statutes – Rule 18-21.021, F.A.C.

NOTICE OF AQUACULTURE LEASE APPLICATION



NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to Section 253.70, Florida Statutes, that the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund has received an application (44-AQ-2017) from: David A. Curls, of 119 West Plaza Del Sol, Islamorada, Florida. The applicant is requesting approval of a sovereignty submerged land aquaculture lease preempting 1.0 acre, more or less of sovereignty submerged land, in the Atlantic Ocean in Monroe County, Florida to conduct live rock aquaculture. The proposed lease is not located in an aquatic preserve, but is located within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. A map identifying the location of the proposed activity accompanies this notice. Anyone having any questions or comments regarding the proposed project should file them in writing with the Division of Aquaculture, 600 South Calhoun Street, Suite 217, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, on or before 5:00 pm on the 6th day of March 2021.

Publish: February 4, 11 & 18, 2021
The Weekly Newspapers

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LEGAL NOTICES

WITNESS my hand and the Official Seal of Said Court, this 4th day of February, 2021.
KEVIN MADOK
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA
 By: Shonta McLeod
 Deputy Clerk
 Publish:
 February 11 & 18, 2021
 The Weekly Newspapers

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 19-CA-000830-K DIVISION: Civil Judge Timothy Koenig Windward Pointe II, LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, Plaintiff, vs. Lise S. Haupt, et al. Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE AS TO COUNT(S) COUNT VII AND VIII Notice is hereby given that on March 1, 2021 at 11:00am, at 500 Whitehead Street, Monroe County, in the City of Key West, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for CASH the following described Timeshare Ownership Interest: Unit 5121, Week 31, Annual Windward Pointe Condominium, a Leasehold Condominium ("Condominium"), according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded in Official Records Book 1803, Page 844, Public Records of Monroe County, Florida, and all exhibits thereto, and any amendments thereof (the "Declaration"). (Contract No.: 2-19888)

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from this sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed. The sale is being held pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure, entered on March 17, 2020, in Civil Case No. 19-CA-000830-K, pending in the Circuit Court in Monroe County, Florida. WITNESS my hand and the Official Seal of Said Court, this 4th day of February, 2021.
KEVIN MADOK
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA
 By: Shonta McLeod
 Deputy Clerk
 Publish:
 February 11 & 18, 2021
 The Weekly Newspapers

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 44-2019-CA-1052-K NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE BY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Kevin Madok, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Monroe County, Florida, will, on the 1st day of March 2021 at 11 o'clock a.m., at 500 Whitehead Street, Monroe County, in the City of Key West, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for CASH the Following described property situated in Monroe County, Florida, to wit: Unit 5421, Week 3, Annual Windward Pointe Condominium, a Leasehold Condominium ("Condominium"), according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded in Official Records Book 1803, Page 844, Public Records of Monroe County, Florida, and all exhibits thereto, and any amendments thereof (the "Declaration"). Pursuant to IN REM SUMMARY FINAL JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE AS TO COUNT(S)

LEGAL NOTICES

I entered in a case pending in said Court, the 4th day of January 2021
 Style of which is:
WINDWARD POINTE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION OF KEY WEST, INC., A CORPORATION NOT-FOR-PROFIT UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA
 Plaintiff
 VS.
UNKNOWN SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE OF THE BARBARA A. PIETRANGELO TRUST DATED JANUARY 26, 2007, et al
 Defendant
 And the Docket Number of which is Number 44-2019-CA-1052-K

WITNESS my hand and the Official Seal of Said Court, this 11th day of January, 2021.
KEVIN MADOK
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 Monroe County, Florida
 By: Shonta McLeod
 Deputy Clerk
 Florida Statute 45.031: Any person claiming as interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.
 Publish:
 February 11 & 18, 2021
 The Weekly Newspapers

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE SIXTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 44-2020-CA-102-K AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE BY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Kevin Madok, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Monroe County, Florida, will, on the 1st day of March 2021 at 11 o'clock a.m., at 500 Whitehead Street, Monroe County, in the City of Key West, Florida, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for CASH the Following described property situated in Monroe County, Florida, to wit: Unit 5711, Week 47, Even Year Biennial Windward Pointe, a Leasehold Condominium ("Condominium"), according to the Declaration of Condominium thereof recorded in Official Records Book 1803, Page 844, Public Records of Monroe County, Florida, and all exhibits thereto, and any amendments thereof (the "Declaration"). (Contract No.: 2-18218)
 Pursuant to IN REM SUMMARY FINAL JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE AS TO COUNT(S)

I entered in a case pending in said Court, the 17th day of December 2020
 Style of which is:
WINDWARD POINTE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION OF KEY WEST, INC., A CORPORATION NOT-FOR-PROFIT UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA
 Plaintiff
 VS.
THE ESTATE OF KAREN KAY BECKER, et al
 Defendant
 And the Docket Number of which is Number 44-2020-CA-102-K

WITNESS my hand and the Official Seal of Said Court, this 21st day of December, 2020.
KEVIN MADOK
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 Monroe County, Florida
 By: Shonta McLeod
 Deputy Clerk
 Florida Statute 45.031: Any person claiming as interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.
 Publish:
 February 11 & 18, 2021
 The Weekly Newspapers

AUTOS WANTED

ALL YEARS!
 Junk or Used.
 Cars - Vans - Trucks-
 Running or Not.
 \$CASH\$ 305-332-0483

AUTOS FOR SALE

1995 Mercedes E320
 Cabriolet, 103k miles, Smoke Silver/Beige. Very nice. Located in Marathon. \$12,900 415-310-5915

1988 Buick Park Avenue
 \$2,000 Gray 271k miles. Great 2nd family car. New battery, vinyl top. Marathon 305-923-0266

2007 LXR Cadillac,
 14,000 miles, Silver, Florida Statute 45.031: Any Located in Key West, \$38,000. Call 419-467-0788

Place your Car For Sale
 ad here. Only \$25.00/ week for up to five lines of copy. Call 305-743-0844 today and Sell Your Car!

2001 XK8 Jaguar Red
 Convertible. 74k miles. Excellent condition. Located in Upper Keys. \$6,000 Call 305-766-6804
SOLD IN LESS THAN TWO WEEKS!!

BOATS FOR SALE

Never pay rent again!
 1985 44' Gulfstar Cabin Cruiser for sale. Handyman's dream. Engines have been removed. Currently in Boot Key Harbor. \$4,200.00 305-289-9884

1999 World Cat 27' with
 twin 175 Suzuki motors. Runs good. Dual stations. Located on Duck Key. \$40,000 OBO 305-481-1316

1997 Grady White 209
 Escape 21' center console. New custom T-top, new rub rails. Brand new electronics and switches. 2 stroke Mercury outboard. \$15,000 OBO Located in Marathon. Call 305-481-1463

Place your Boat For Sale
 ad here. Only \$25.00/ week for up to five lines of copy. Call 305-743-0844 today and Sell Your Boat!

EMPLOYMENT

Seeking Security Guard in
 Marathon -40 hrs a wk - overnight position. \$15/hr to start. Must have security license. Call Ralons Security 7 8 6 - 6 1 5 - 5 5 2 2

Part-time Office Assistant
 needed in Marathon. Duties will include answering calls, clerical, dispatching and scheduling. Call 305-248-6149.

Dishwasher & Kitchen
 Helper needed. Apply in person at King Seafood, 10925 Overseas Hwy, Marathon

EMPLOYMENT

FI Keys Diesel - Marathon
 now hiring: Diesel Technician - Competitive compensation package. Exp in the marine field preferred but not necessary. Exp w/ Caterpillar and Cummins Marine Engines a plus. Diesel Mechanic Assistant position available. Motivated candidate willing to learn a new trade or expand current skills. Company willing to train. Qualified applicants please call 305-289-2070 or email resume to neil@allkeysdiesel.com . Drug Free and valid Drivers License a must.

Keys Fisheries looking
 to hire Process Foods Manager, pie makers (night shift), and process food workers (night shift) to expand production of products we are now selling to supermarkets. These positions will be full time and be eligible for a benefits package. Restaurant hiring for all positions. Apply within at 3390 Gulfview Avenue, Marathon

Carpenter, Laborer
 and Project Manager needed in Upper Keys. Must have valid driver's license and transportation. Call 305-852-3002

City of Marathon - Job
 O p e n i n g - Street Maintenance. EOE, FULL BENEFITS www.ci.marathon.fl.us

Serve/Bartend on the
 ocean FT/PT Ocean front private swim club is seeking customer service oriented Server/Bartender. Serve on pool deck, beach and/or bar lounge. Open year round, 10am-7pm daily. Full time/Part time. Small friendly staff. Above average hourly wage plus tips. Apply in person at Cabana Club, 425 E. Ocean Dr. Key Colony Beach or call April (305) 393-0631.

Boat rental company
 in Marathon needs mechanic with knowledge of outboard motors Call 305-481-7006

Come Join Our Family and
 Have Fun At Work! Hiring: Host, Hostess & Servers - Full &/or part-time. AM & PM Shifts. Apply in person at Castaway Restaurant, end of 15th Street, Oceanside, Marathon or email: lobstercrawl@gmail.com.

Place your Employment
 ad here. Only \$25.00/week for up to five lines of copy. Call 305-743-0844 today and get the job filled!

Bridge Operator position
 available in the Snake Creek Drawbridge, located in Islamorada. Paid training will be provided. Payrate: \$10.50/hr. Email resume to jschultz@fdi.team or call Jeff

WE NEED YOU!

Royal Furniture in Marathon and Key West is looking for motivated, hardworking people to join our sales team.

COMPETITIVE PAY & BENEFITS AVAILABLE

Call Christopher:
 305-481-1790



www.RoyalFurnitureAndDesign.com

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EMPLOYMENT

Schultz at 708-214-0311.
HIRED TWO NEW EMPLOYEES thanks to advertising in the Keys Weekly Newspapers!!

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PRIVATE COLLECTOR WANTS Rolex, Dive Watches and Pilot Watches. Old Model Military Clocks & Watches. Call 305-743-4578

HOUSING FOR RENT

2BR/2BA Large Apt. 10826 5th Avenue Gulf, Marathon. \$1,850/month plus utilities. F/L/S. Taking applications. Call (305) 394-4545

Place your Home For Rent ad here. Only \$25.00/week for up to five lines of copy. Call 305-743-0844 today and rent your house!

HARRY HARRIS PARK, MM93, 3BR/2BA, Central Air, No Pets, Long Term Lease. \$1,800/mo F/L/S Call 786-493-7829

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LOST & FOUND

LOST: Wener Kayak Paddle off Morton Street, Grassy Key. Sentimental value. Reward - Call 518-257-0301

OFFICE SPACE

Beautiful Office Space available for rent now on US1 in Tavernier @MM92. Call 305-394-0530

STORAGE SPACE

Storage space located on Peter Jay Street in Marathon. 1,800 sq. ft. (2) 12X14 roll up doors. Small office with A/C. \$2,400/month 305-393-0643

YARD SALES

Estate Sale Fri/Sat/Sun Feb. 12-14 from 8a-4p Furniture & household items. Everything must go! 444 91st Street, Marathon

Sat. Feb 13 from 8A-2P 531 10th Street, Key Colony Beach. Cash only. Refrigerator, Upright Freezer, Ice Machine, Plywood, Bicycles & much more.

Place your Yard Sale ad here. Only \$25.00/week for up to five lines of copy. Call 305-743-0844 today and get your stuff sold!

YARD SALES

Yard Sale #2 of 5 - SAT. Feb 13 from 8am-1pm. Each sale will feature many new items as well as items from sale #1. Something for the guys and the ladies. Lots of decor items, household serving items, rugs, art, card table w chairs, Christmas items, tools, fishing gaffs, Weber Vieluxe Grill, new 36" white kitchen cabinet, tall bar cabinet, painting planks and 26 1/2 ft. Tiara Pursuit 1986 w/ tower - less than 600 hrs on engines. 1134 Bulevar De Palmas, Marathon (Take Sombrero Beach Rd. to beach approx. 2 miles then turn right on Avenida Primiceria and follow signs.)

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★ **SHORT NOTICE AUCTION** ★
Pekadito's Restaurant Auction

Tuesday February 16th @ 11AM
11980 SW 8th St., Miami, FL 33184

Inspection begins @ 9AM morning of sale.

60 Chairs, 20 Tables, 4 Bar Stools, 3 Door Glass Cooler, 5 TV's, Glassware, 2 Sets of Swing Doors, 2 True 3 Door S/S Cooler, True 3 Door S/S Freezer, True 72" Mega-Top Sandwich Prep Table, 5 Assorted S/S Tables, Microwave, China, 24" Char-Broiler, 2 Fryers, S/S 3 Compartment Sink, True 2 Door S/S Cooler, True 48" Sandwich Prep Table, Trash Receptacle, Peruvian Gas Rotisserie, True 50" Bottle Cooler, S/S 3 Compartment Bar Sink, Alto-Sham Cook & Hold, Small Wares & MORE..

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SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER

The Monroe County Planning & Environmental Resources Department is seeking a qualified, detail oriented person with a strong background in regulatory permit review in both biological/environmental AND planning disciplines. Technical skill in plan review for compliance with land development regulations is essential. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in related field & 4 years prior experience in permit and plan review -OR- Master's degree in related field & 3 years experience in permit and plan review. Comprehensive knowledge of the flora and fauna native to the Florida Keys preferred. Salary \$61,277.81/40 hpw (based on experience).

To apply, please contact Human Resources at careers@monroecounty-fl.gov. APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT WWW.MONROECOUNTY-FL.GOV. 305-292-4557. Veteran's Preference Available; E.O.E.



Assistant Manager/Store Manager

Dion's C- Stores is currently accepting applications for Store Managers and Assistant Managers at all locations from Marathon through Key West. Qualified applicants will provide prompt, efficient, and courteous service to our customers. Applicants must be able to work nights and weekends. Retail sales and customer service experience is preferred. Starting salary is commensurate with experience. All interested candidates can call Nina Simpson at 305-296-2000 Ext. 107 or forward a resume to nsimpson@dionllc.com. EOE/Drug Free Workplace



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Captain Pip's in need of a dedicated mate for our busy snorkeling boat. Great customer service is a must as part of our job is to enhance our client's experience. We usually run three trips a day. Some days are long. This is a per trip pay schedule. Best salary paid in Marathon. 1099 status.

Send resume to captlips@aol.com or come into the office at 1480 Overseas Highway, Marathon between 10 am and 2 pm to fill out an application. No phone calls please, as we are a very busy office.

CAPTAIN PIP'S IS AN AWESOME PLACE TO WORK, WE TREAT OUR EMPLOYEES GREAT. COME JOIN OUR TEAM.



NOW HIRING

ADMINISTRATION/OFFICE HELP

Fast paced, busy resort in need of Office Help. Must be able to multi task, stay calm under pressure and have great communication skills. Most important be dependable. We are a small office and don't need any drama. Saturday or Sunday is a required day, so if you cannot work Saturdays or Sundays, no need to apply.

If you want to be part of a great team, please apply! 3 to 4 days a week.

Send resume to captlips@aol.com or come into the office at 1480 Overseas Highway, Marathon between 11 am and 2 pm to fill out an application. No phone calls please.

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- Close to you with **two convenient locations** in the Keys.



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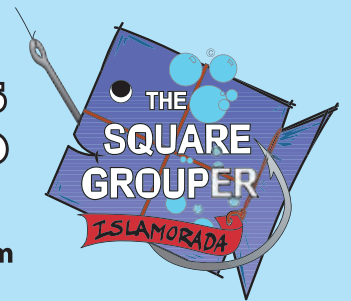


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- Night Auditor
- Bellperson

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Spottswood Companies

- Area Executive Housekeeper
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- Room Inspector
- Room Attendant
- Houseperson
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Excellent Benefits Package
EOE M/F/D/V

Apply online: www.spottswood.com/careers



DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
\$190,000 - \$200,000

The Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority is searching for a professional to fill the **Deputy Executive Director** position. The duties for this position involve broad policy development and assisting the Executive Director with strategic planning, managing the capital improvement plan and technical and operational responsibilities. Applicants who fit this description with the following qualifications should apply: Must have ten (10) years previous experience and/or training that include progressively more responsible positions in a water utility, governmental or related agency with a minimum of six (6) years of significant management and administrative responsibility; or any equivalent combination of education, training, and experience which provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for this job. Bachelor's Degree or Master's degree may substitute as one year's equivalent of basic experience. Benefit package is extremely competitive! **Must complete on-line application at: fkaa.com.** EEO, VPE, ADA



Home Care Agency
Founded in 2007

NOW HIRING!

- Experienced personnel from Key Largo to Key West!
- RN/LPN
- P/T, O/T & Speech Therapists
- Social Workers
- Private Duty Aides

Please email your resume to:
Vanessa@amerihealthhomecare.com
We look forward to hearing from you!

AHCA License #299992897



Now Hiring in Marathon
Teller II

We are seeking a motivated Teller II in Marathon. This position requires at least one year of teller experience. You need to be detail oriented and a self-starter and must have great communication, organization and cash handling skills.

To apply, please go to www.my100bank.com, then click Careers.
For assistance contact HR@my100bank.com.

EEO/AA/M/F/Veteran/Disabled



PART-TIME PREVENTION PROGRAM MANAGER POSITION FOR BUSY NON-PROFIT

20 hours per week. Must have excellent communication, organizational, and computer skills. Must be compassionate and professional. Bachelor's degree and field experience a plus. Spanish speaker. Drug free workplace, EOE. Please send resume and cover letter to sholt@fkoc.org. No phone calls.

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Position immediately available for an energetic store manager. Retail experience required, supermarket experience a plus. Duties include managing inventory, hiring, training and scheduling of store associates, facility maintenance and other duties as assigned. Reports to the General Manager. Salary based on experience. Competitive salary and benefits. Applicants must complete company application form found on-line at www.faustos.com. Applicants may also apply in person at Fausto's Food Palace. 1105 White Street, Key West.



MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR POSITION WITH BUSY NON-PROFIT.

FT with benefits. Long-term position w/room for growth. Valid DL required. Must have maintenance or related experience, computer skills and relate well with people. Very physical position, heavy lifting, heat, etc. Drug-free workplace, EOE. Please send resume and cover letter to sholt@fkoc.org. No phone calls.



The Turtle Hospital in Marathon

Immediate openings: full and part-time Educational Program Guides/Gift Shop Sales. Public speaking & retail sales experience helpful. \$13.00/hour to start

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Do you love dolphins, being outdoors and taking photographs? We have the job for you! Dolphin Research Center has full-time openings for Visual Communications Staff Members (Permanent & Seasonal opportunities available). Applicants should be familiar with digital photography/videography. Benefits include medical, life, disability insurance, 401(k), paid vacation, sick & holidays. Job description available at www.dolphins.org. E-mail cover letter, DRC application and your resume to drc-hr@dolphins.org. EOE



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- LINE COOK
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Bungalows Key Largo is an EOE



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MARATHON

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*Behavioral Health Technicians

(3 shifts) (PT/FT & per diem)

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ACROSS

1. Newton's first name
6. Part of smog
9. Hissy fit
13. Human trunk
14. Form of "to be"
15. Illegal booze
16. Editorial changes
17. Crematorium jar
18. #56 Down, alt. sp.
19. *One of six Presidents named James
21. *First President previously divorced
23. Civil War's Johnny
24. Manage without help
25. Military procedures
28. Cone-shaped quarters
30. MLB bench
35. Cowboy's necktie
37. A whole lot
39. *Whig, e.g.
40. Resembling wings
41. Nightly necessity
43. Experience emotion
44. Large ray
46. Glacier's deposit
47. "Watch out!" on a golf course
48. Traditional sock pattern
50. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
52. Knight's title
53. Bypass
55. Foot digit
57. *President Chester _____
60. *He signed legislation to create Medicare
64. Fauna, Merryweather and _____, fairy godmothers
65. Expert
67. Convex molding
68. Bumpkins
69. Café alternative
70. Car ways
71. Trans-Siberian Railroad city
72. Piercing part
73. Slightly drunk

DOWN

1. Any thing
2. *Trump had button on desk to order his favorite one
3. Desertlike
4. Up and about
5. Coddle
6. Half-man, half-goat
7. Legendary NHLer
8. Tragedy, or comedy, or satire
9. Cheap form of payment?
10. Before Scotia
11. Clickable picture
12. Olden day "your"
15. Be in charge, two words
20. Newspaper notices
22. What all of #70 Across do
24. Painting or poetry
25. *He beat McCain and Romney
26. Kind of cap
27. Colloquialisms
29. *First "dark horse"
31. Gamecock's spur
32. Dessert sandwiches
33. Wombs
34. *#29 Down predecessor
36. Creative
38. 18-wheeler
42. Green pasta sauce
45. Big Island greetings
49. Australian flightless bird
51. Group of people, often in research
54. Extremely angry
56. Concluding stanza in poetry
57. *G. W. Bush to Yale, e.g.
58. Schneider and Lowe, e.g.
59. Major bike maker
60. Audience's rejection
61. Sold in bars
62. Auto pioneer
63. Like a busybody
64. Back, to a pendulum
66. Latin dance three-step move, once



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**Diesel Mechanic
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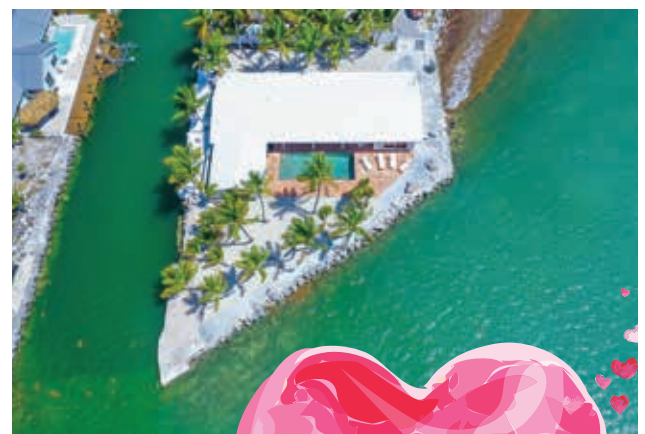
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