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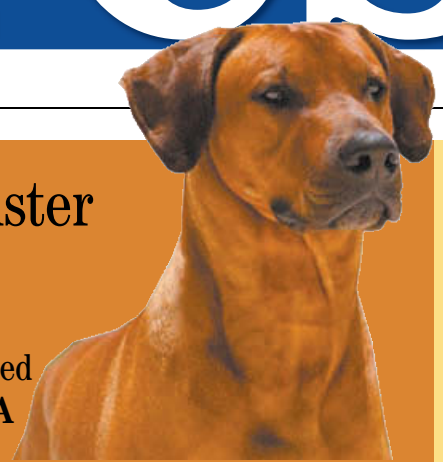
Drafted

Local's beer recipe tapped by brewery. **12A**

Westminster bound

Keys dog headed to big show. **6A**



Play ball

Prep baseball special section. **Inside**

Survey: Youth drug, booze use down

BY JOSH GORE
Free Press Staff

FLORIDA KEYS — Monroe County middle and high school students say they are smoking less marijuana and drinking less alcohol, according to a 2014 state health survey.

Nearly 12 percent of students ages 10 to 14 admitted to drinking alcohol in the last 30 days, according to the survey, which questioned 825 students throughout the Florida Keys and is administered every two years by the Florida Department of Health in Monroe County.

For high school students, 36.8 percent of those surveyed said they used alcohol in the same period.

Though above state averages, the numbers represent a 2 percent dip from 2012 for middle schoolers and 9 percent drop among high school students.

"These numbers are not something we want to be above average on," Monroe County Superintendent of Schools Mark Porter told the Free Press.

In Florida, 10.1 percent of middle school students and 28.4 percent of high school students reported using alcohol in the last 30 days, both below Monroe County's aver-

See **SURVEY**, page **7A**

Contributed photo

Local students say marijuana use is down.

Wrecking relic

MIKE HENTZ/Free Press

Above, wreckers converge on a ship in this 1878 Harper's Weekly illustration at the Key West Library. Below, from left, Norma Kula, county libraries director; library administrator Anne Layton Rice; library historian Tom Hambright; and archaeologist Corey Malcom of The Mel Fisher Maritime Heritage Society discuss the contents of a journal containing first-hand accounts of wrecking.

Journal adds to industry's storied past

BY ADAM LINHARDT
Free Press Staff

FLORIDA KEYS — An undercurrent of lawlessness has long colored the history of this island chain, and the storied wrecking industry perhaps best exemplifies that checkered past.

Wrecking, or the salvaging of ships that crashed along the reefs of the Florida Keys, was the most prominent trade to take root in the island chain from the 17th century days of gold-laden Spanish galleons to the late 1860s

See **WRECKING**, page **11A**

Canadian duo canoe across North America

BY BRIAN BOWDEN
Free Press Staff

KEY LARGO — Selling one's house, two vehicles, sailboat and almost every other worldly possession in exchange for a simple life aboard a canoe on the open water may seem like a nightmare for most.

But for Quebec City couple Pierre Pepin and Jennifer Gosselin, as well as their 4-year-old Karelian bear dog Jasmine, it's a world they've always dreamed of.

"This is the life," Pepin said Saturday before heading out on a half-day trip through Key Largo's Dusenbury Creek with a group at Florida Bay Outfitters.

The couple initially quit their corporate jobs and set out on their adventure, nicknamed NorAm Odyssey, last June in Ottawa. Their paddle has taken them through the Great Lakes, down the Mississippi River and out into the Gulf of Mexico before ending up in Key Largo three weeks ago.

Once they depart the Keys in two weeks, Pepin said, they are headed to the New York area via the Atlantic Ocean. After that, the couple will look at returning to Canada before dipping down into the Midwest and then heading north toward Alaska.

Pepin said they initially planned about a six-month trip on the water, but if funds could be stretched, they would push their adventure out to around

See **CANOE**, page **5A**

MICHAEL OUELLET/Contributed

Canadians Pierre Pepin, back, and Jennifer Gosselin, front, as well as their 4-year-old dog arrived in Key Largo recently.

keysnews.com FLORIDA KEYS | **INDEX**

Business & Real Estate..... 12A
Classifieds..... 11-13B
Crossword 4B
Horoscope..... 4B
Opinion 13A
Sports & Recreation 8-10B
Tides..... 10B
TV Guide 7B

UP FRONT

Governor pledges $5 billion for Everglades

BY TIMOTHY O'HARA
Free Press Staff

SOUTH FLORIDA — Gov. Rick Scott has proposed appropriating $5 billion for Everglades restoration projects in the next 20 years as part of his 2015-16 fiscal year budget he called "Keep Florida Working."

If passed by the state Legislature, $150 million would be funneled to the Everglades projects this year.

"Florida has an abundance of natural resources that help create a foundation for our growing economy, whether it is driving our state's tourism industry or providing a great quality of life that has attracted families to our state for generations," Scott said in a prepared statement.

The pledge comes five months after Scott made a campaign stop in Marathon to promote his "Let's Keep Florida Beautiful" proposal, which called for $1 billion to be spent to preserve and protect Florida's waters.

The effects of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project will be profound in Florida Bay and the Florida Keys, as they will be the final receiver site of millions of gallons of new fresh water a day once the project is complete, according to scientists and officials.

"The state has always been a major contributor," said Billy Causey, regional administrator for the National Marine Sanctuary Program and former Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary superintendent. "This is good news for the South Florida ecosystem and for the Keys ecosystem. We are dependent on clean water coming into Florida Bay and into the Florida Keys. Restoration will come down to the right quality, quantity, timing and distribution of water across the entire Everglades system. ... A healthy Everglades makes for a healthy environment in all of South Florida."

Decades of redirecting the natural flow of water for the benefit of developers and farmers in South Florida has cut freshwater flow into Florida Bay by 75 percent in the past 40 years. In turn, it has devastated fish and bird populations in South Florida and the Florida Keys, scientists and conservationists have said.

As part of the $5 billion investment, Scott committed to fully funding the state's share of restoration of the Kissimmee River and construction of the C-43 and C-44 reservoirs over the next four years. Collectively, these projects will provide more than 100 billion gallons of storage to protect estuaries from discharges of water from Lake Okeechobee, according to the governor's office.

A dedicated source of funding for Everglades restoration also will allow for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the South Florida Water Management District to identify and fund more storage projects in the future, Scott said.

Also, Scott's proposed budget includes $150 million that will be allocated toward land acquisition and management, which will focus in part on protecting land for the Florida panther.

"I am very pleased that the governor has set such a high standard for Everglades restoration," said Plantation Key-based Audubon scientist Jerry Lorenz, who has been conducting bird research in the Uppers Keys and Everglades for 30 years. "He has set a pretty high goal."

Lorenz, though, is disappointed that the governor did not announce any plan to purchase property owned by U.S. Sugar. That agriculture land to the south of Lake Okeechobee has been a significant source of nutrients that has polluted South Florida's waters. The land should be purchased and used for water storage, Lorenz said. An option for the state government to buy some of that land expires this year, Lorenz said.

"That purchase is the linchpin for successful Everglades restoration," Lorenz said. "We need an area to store and clean water."

The SFWMD holds an option to purchase all of U.S. Sugar's land through October 2020. It also has an option that expires in October to acquire only 47,000 acres.

State Sen. Dwight Bullard, D-Cutler Bay, said that the governor's proposal echoes the sentiments of Florida voters from the last election. Florida voters overwhelmingly passed a statewide land conservation measure called Amendment 1. The amendment sets aside millions of dollars a year for land conservation and water quality projects.

"The governor is responding to the sentiments of every three voters in the state," said Bullard, whose districts runs from Monroe County to Collier County.

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SFWMD: Everglades bird nesting declines

BY BRIAN BOWDEN
Free Press Staff

File photo by DAN CAMPBELL/Free Press

A heron pauses during a hunt for food in Everglades National Park.

SOUTH FLORIDA — The Everglades saw a 28 percent drop in the nesting of wading birds within its greater area from 2013 to 2014, according to a South Florida Water Management District report released in January.

But scientists say the numbers are not surprising as they tend to swing significantly from year to year.

"The bottom line is it fluctuates pretty dramatically," Plantation Key-based Audubon of Florida scientist Jerry Lorenz said.

The district uses wading bird nesting figures to determine how water management is impacting Everglades restoration. These birds, Lorenz said, are great ecological indicators of whether or not the park has a healthy environment.

The report recorded 34,714 nests within the greater Everglades area. Little blue herons, tri-colored herons and snowy egrets saw the biggest reductions in nesting. Their nests, respectively, dropped 83, 42 and 47 percent.

The nests recorded inside the confines of the park came in at 6,486, a 48 percent drop from the previous year's numbers. Snowy egrets, according to the report, were the only species that fared better in the park than the previous year with nesting efforts jumping 11 percent.

Florida Bay, as well, had plunging numbers.

Roseate spoonbill nests in the bay dropped to 126, according to the report, which is less than half of the previous year's numbers.

The central Everglades area, at 19,096 nests, had the healthiest amount. However, according to an Audubon analysis of SFWMD's report, it's below average when compared to nesting over the last 10 years.

The northern Everglades, which include Kissimmee River and Lake Okeechobee, recorded 2,923 nests. The western Everglades came in at only 623 nests.

Lorenz said if the overall numbers were to continue to decline then that would be just cause for alarm. But, he said, the Everglades tend to have a "super year" in terms of nesting every four to five years and that's what keeps the ecosystem chugging along in the right direction.

The seasonal pattern of rainfall and structured flow of water through the Everglades, according to Audubon analysis, are what contribute to wading bird nesting in southern Florida.

Lorenz said Everglades restoration projects need to continue moving forward for these numbers to show steady growth. While wading birds like shallow waters to hunt fish, the current situation is just too shallow, he added.

The bottom line, Lorenz said, is a healthy Everglades means a healthy Florida Bay. And a healthy bay means a booming economy for local fisherman.

"That's our economic engine," Lorenz said.

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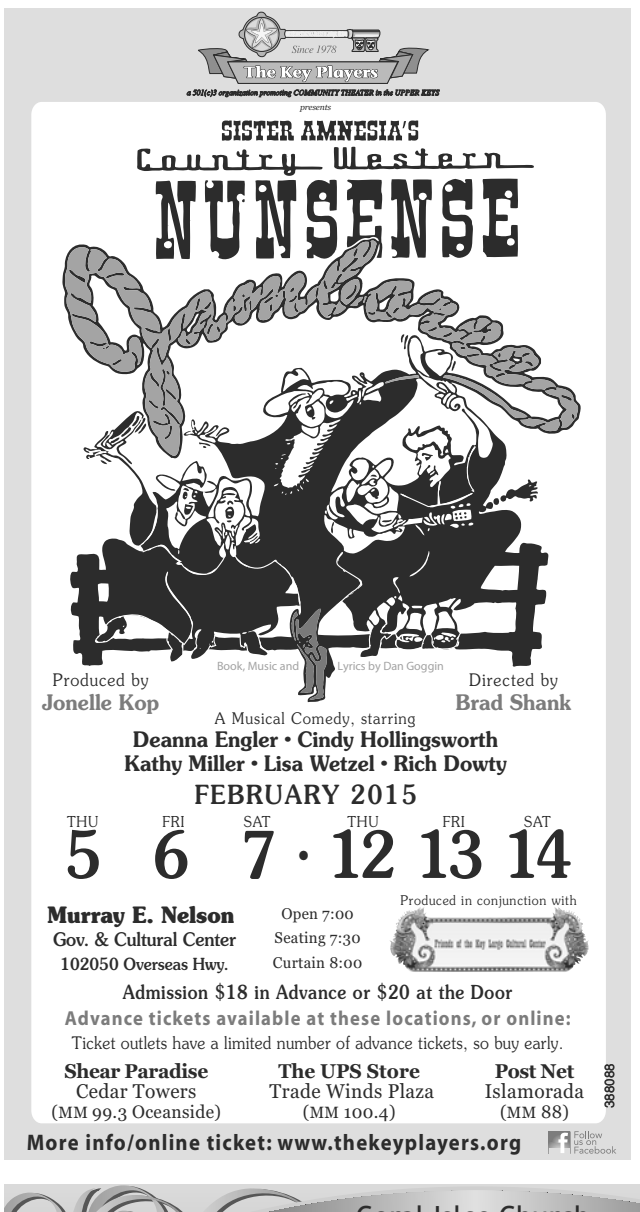
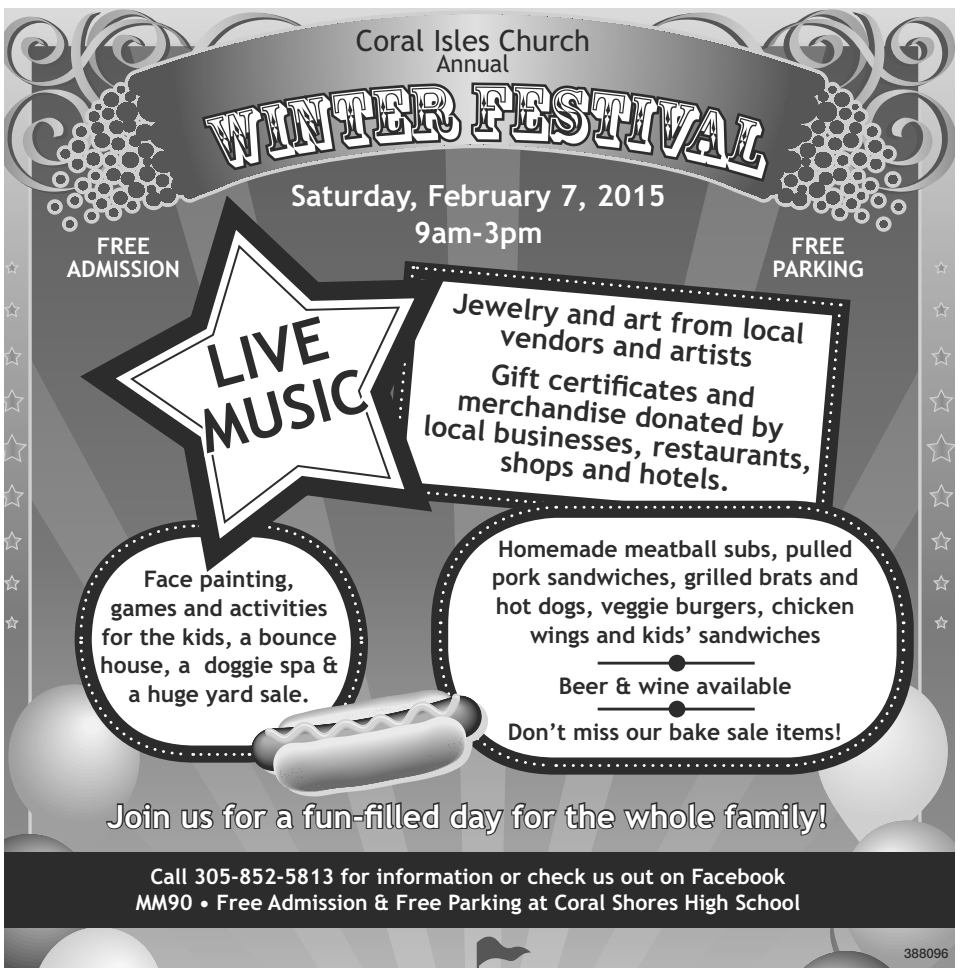
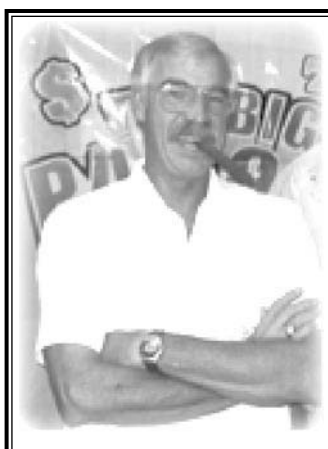




Mickey A Askins, 62



"The worst day I ever had was excellent."

A legend lost that will live on in our hearts forever. He was survived by his loving wife Jeanne, devoted son E.B. and his wife Anna and 2 adoring grandsons Mac and Parker. He was predeceased by his parents and brother Butch. He leaves behind siblings Bambi, Mike, Johnny, and Jimmy Askins and Tommy and Cindy Mead. Mickey lived his life his way making every moment a happy one for himself and everyone he came in contact with. In lieu of flowers please make donations in Mickey's name to the National Parkinson's Foundation at the University of Miami, by contacting Barbara at 305-243-1388. Celebration of Life will be held Saturday February 7th at his home from 3-6 pm.

388072

UP FRONT

Florida coast to remain drill free for 5 more years

BY TIMOTHY O'HARA
Free Press Staff

Florida's coastline has received a reprieve from oil and gas drilling.

President Barack Obama's administration announced last week a proposal that would keep the waters off Florida's coast free from oil and gas drilling for at least the next five years.

The moratorium came after "prodding" from U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., and others, Nelson's office said.

Nelson called the plan yet another victory in the fight to keep oil rigs off Florida's coast.

"They left us alone for the last five years, and it looks like they're going to leave us alone for the next five years," Nelson said.

The senator has been a long-time opponent of allowing oil rigs to operate close to Florida's coastline. In 2006, he and then-Sen. Mel Martinez, R-Fla., successfully brokered a deal to ban drilling off Florida's Gulf coast through the year 2022. Last summer, Nelson wrote to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell opposing any drilling off Florida's east coast.

Nelson says the state's tourism-driven economy is dependent on clean beaches and pollution-free water. He also argued that vital military training areas and launch activities take place at the Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station make drilling near Florida's coast "both impractical and unwise."

The Department of the Interior's current five-year plan ends in August 2017.

While Florida would remain off-limits under the proposal released, Florida's neighbors to the north are not so lucky. The Interior Department is moving ahead on allowing drilling off the coast of the middle and south Atlantic Ocean, including Georgia, the Carolinas, Virginia and Maryland.

In early 2010, state leaders were considering opening up drilling off Florida's coast, as some state legislators were arguing that new technology had made drilling for oil and natural gas much safer.

However, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill occurred that April and the much-touted technology no longer seemed so safe. Many considered the potential threat to Florida's tourism and fishing industries was not worth the risk.

Florida beaches, coral reefs and coastal waters generate $562 billion a year, according to the Florida Oceans and Coastal Council.

State Rep. Holly Raschein, R-Key Largo, says that enough time has passed since the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill to make Floridians comfortable about oil drilling.

"I don't think it is an all-out ban, but just a hitting of the pause button," Raschein said of Florida being exempt from drilling in the next five years.

"Deepwater Horizon is still fresh in people's minds."

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Coast Guard warns of unsafe reef lights

The U.S. Coast Guard is warning mariners to not climb historical reef lights in the Florida Keys because of deterioration and unsound structural integrity.

These lights include Alligator Reef, American Shoal Reef, Carysfort Reef, Sand Key Reef and Sombrero Key Reef Light.

While these structures are not at risk of collapsing, they are unsafe for climbing.

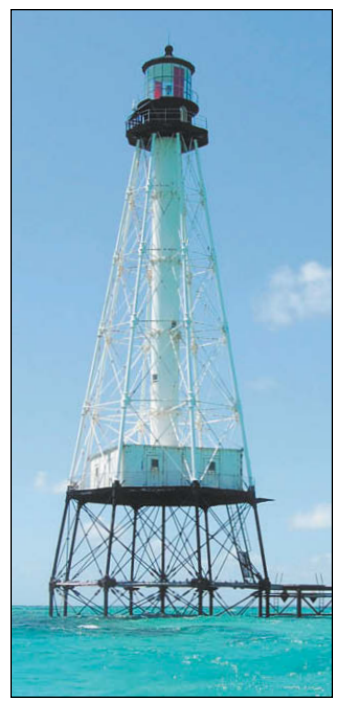
Boaters are prohibited from tying to, climbing, anchoring to or trespassing on any aid to navigation.

Because of extensive deterioration of the structures, cost to repair them and the inability to safely maintain them as navigational aids, the Coast Guard plans to shift current lighting from Alligator Reef, American Shoal and Sombrero Key Reef lights to more cost-effective structures with more reliable lighting equipment.

The original structures will not be removed. Conversions of Carysfort and Sand Key Reef lights have been completed.

The new lights cost an estimated $100,000 each; estimates to repair the existing historic structures would have cost taxpayers approximately $2 million a light, according to the Coast Guard.

For information call Lt. j.g. Peter Bermont at 305-292-8744.



File photo by JOSH GORE/Free Press

Alligator Reef Light off Islamorada is one of the Keys' offshore screw-pile lighthouses.

briefs

Tax help

MONROE COUNTY — Free federal income tax preparation and e-filing for middle- or low-income taxpayers is available from AARP Tax Aide through April 15. One does not need to be a member of AARP or a retiree to qualify, although special attention is given to those ages 60 and older.

AARP Tax-Aide volunteers are available to assist with personal income tax returns at the following locations:

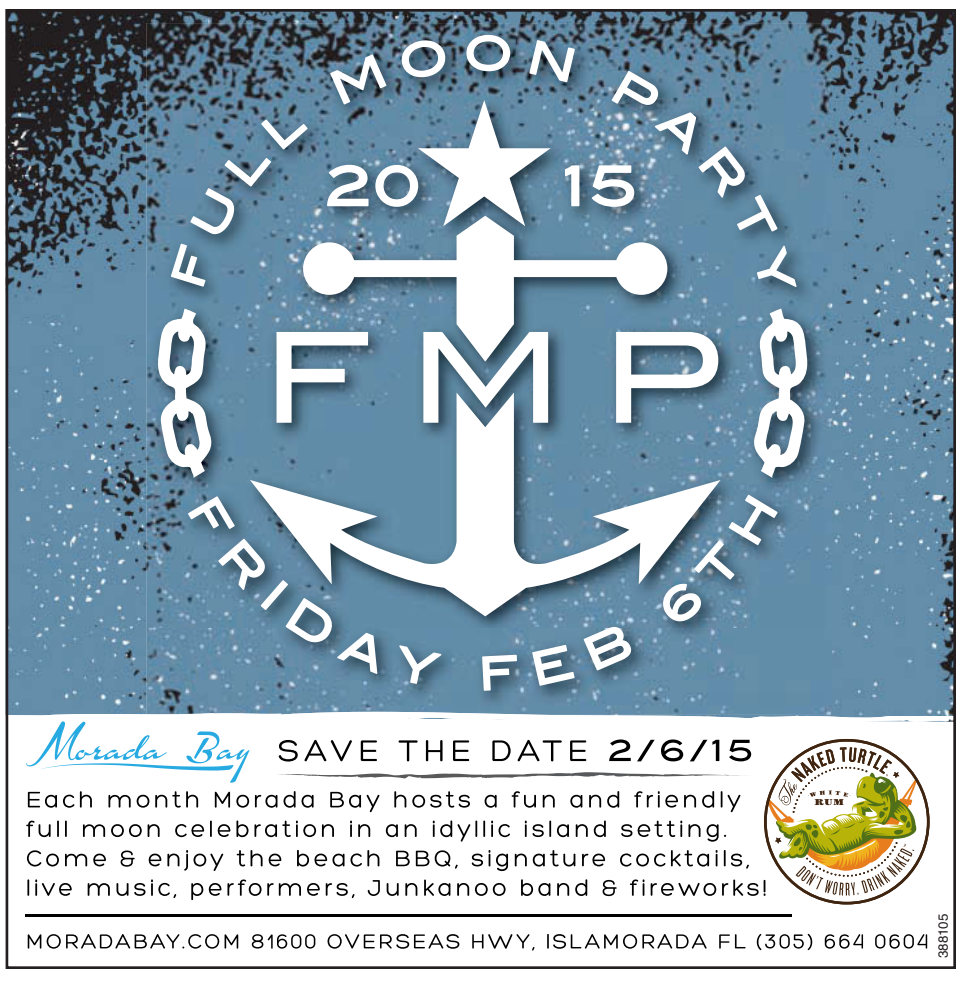
• Marathon Library – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays;

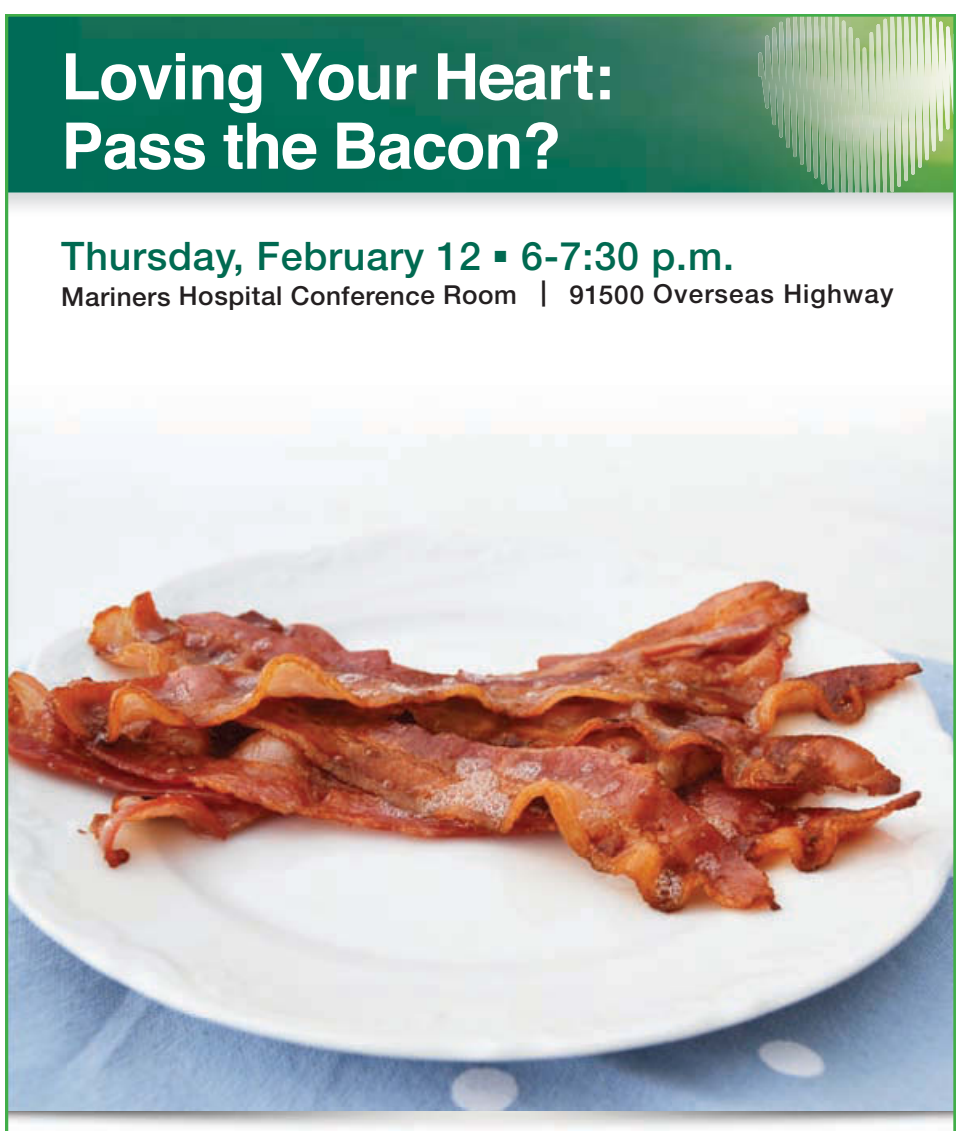
• Key Largo Library – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesdays;

• Marathon Senior Center – 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Wednesdays;

• Big Pine Senior Center – 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Thursdays.

Bring a copy of last year's tax return and all W2 and 1099 forms, along with Social Security cards for the filer and any dependents, a photo ID and details of health insurance coverage.





key largo news

District mulls plant takeover, architectural firm

BY BRIAN BOWDEN
Free Press Staff

KEY LARGO — The sewer district's board was scheduled Tuesday to resume talks on the takeover of a derelict wastewater treatment plant in Manatee Bay Marina near the northern county line after a recent public forum was held last month involving homeowner input.

Paul Christian, the district's general manager, was also set to stimulate board discussion involving the hiring of an architectural firm that would lay out plans for the confines of its new administrative office.

The Feb. 3 meeting took place after press time.

The treatment plant, located at mile marker 112 on the 18-Mile Stretch, was originally brought to the attention of the district when the state's Department of Health and Department of Environmental Protection asked for help to fix an ongoing leakage issue.

The plan entails the demolishment and replacement of the existing treatment plant as well as installing two basic gravity mains. Three treatment systems currently encompass the small community based around the marina.

The Jan. 21 forum showed that a majority of the homeowners, 17 of the 19 in attendance, were in favor of the district taking over the treatment plant. One homeowner was on the fence about it and the other opposed it.

According to previous estimates provided by the district, the design and construction phase would cost around $1.15 million. The majority of that funding would come from the state Mayfield grant as well as assessment revenue from the residents connecting to the system.

Christian told the Free Press that the board appears to be in favor of the takeover.

At the Tuesday meeting Christian was scheduled to give board suggestion to use Dave Boerner, Architect, PA as the firm to draw up plans for the district's newly purchased administrative office. Funds for that service, according to agenda paperwork, were set at $15,000.

The firm, based out of Tavernier, has a long list of past clients in the area such as Smuggler's Cove Marina and the visitor's center in Islamorada.

The district's new office is located at mile marker 103, oceanside. The building and land cost $660,000. An overhaul to bring the building up to standards before moving in, according to Christian, would push that number to around $820,000.

Also listed on the agenda, Commissioner Andy Tobin was to propose a future paid apprenticeship for the district.

Tobin suggested, through email correspondence with Christian, a $25,000 one-year work program for a Coral Shores High School graduate. The school, he wrote, could implement a selection process for interested seniors.

The board was scheduled to take action on two previously presented resolutions involving the waiving of Islamorada's salinity charges and approving a small commercial discount program.

bbowden@keysnews.com

The property upon which Key Largo Fire Station 24 sits, as well as an adjacent building, are owned by the Key Largo Volunteer Fire-Rescue Department, the local fire district's former provider.

THOMAS C. YAROCH/
Contributed

Board offers settlement proposal to ex-contractor

BY BRIAN BOWDEN
Free Press Staff

KEY LARGO — A long-standing legal quarrel between the local fire district and its previous service provider, the Key Largo Volunteer Fire-Rescue Department headed by Frank Conklin, may soon be coming to a close.

The district last week offered a settlement proposal to its old department that looks to benefit both parties.

The proposal, dated Jan. 26, outlines a plan that would call for the district to provide $50,000 to a 401(k) or similar-type retirement program that benefits fire-rescue personnel. In exchange, the old department would hand over the land on which the district's Station 24 sits as well as any disputed firefighting equipment.

The program, outlined in the proposal, would "provide a benefit to local firefighters, many of whom are or were members of the department, and resolve any outstanding legal issues with both the real estate and personal property. This allows the district to tie the land to the building on which the fire station sits and for the department to provide a benefit to the firefighters of Key Largo."

The retirement program also would assume the name of the old department or another of their choosing.

"We're doing everything we can [to try to resolve this] for the firefighters and taxpayers [of Key Largo]," District Chairman Bob Thomas said. "It's a win-win situation [for both sides]."

Conklin

The district initially cut ties with the old department in early 2013 because of management disputes. It currently has a contract in place that has it paying $1 a month to the old department for use of its land at mile marker 99, oceanside.

The district's five commissioners agreed in principal to the proposal.

The ball is now in the old department's court.

Conklin said he had glanced over the proposal upon receiving it and would present it to his board for review before making a final decision.

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briefs

Tourist dies after surfacing from dive

KEY LARGO — A man from Ontario, Canada, died last Thursday after diving at French Reef off Key Largo, according to the Monroe County Sheriff's Office.

Dive vessel Visibility pulled into John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park shortly after 3 p.m. with CPR in progress on 58-year-old James Leek. Paramedics took over at the dock, transporting Leek to Mariners Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The captain of the vessel told Deputy Jean Gonzalez his group had been diving about half an hour at 38 feet in depth. Leek was with a dive instructor in the water.

The two men surfaced and Leek appeared to be fine. When they reached the boat's ladder, Leek became unresponsive. He was loaded onto the boat, where they began performing CPR.

An autopsy will be done to determine the cause of death.

Public works talk

KEY LARGO — Kevin Wilson, director of Monroe County Public Works & Engineering, will address the Key Largo Federation of Homeowner Associations at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11, at the Key Largo Library community room, mile marker 101.4, oceanside.

Wilson will provide updates on county road repaving, design plans for Rowell's Waterfront Park, progress on refurbishing canals and other projects of local interest.

The federation will also hold its annual election of officers and executive committee members, review last year's accomplishments and discuss issues of importance.

For more information, call Dottie Moses at 305-451-4831.

Business burglaries

KEY LARGO — Monroe County Sheriff's detectives are investigating a string of burglaries to Key Largo restaurants that they believe may have been done by the same person.

The burglaries range from busting windows to take cash drawers to climbing through a ventilation system to steal a safe.

From June to February, the Pilot House, American Legion Post 333, Sharkey's Pub, Snook's Bayside, D-Hookers and Island Marketplace were burglarized, detectives say.

Anyone with information can call an Upper Keys detective at 305-853-3211 or 800-346-TIPS.

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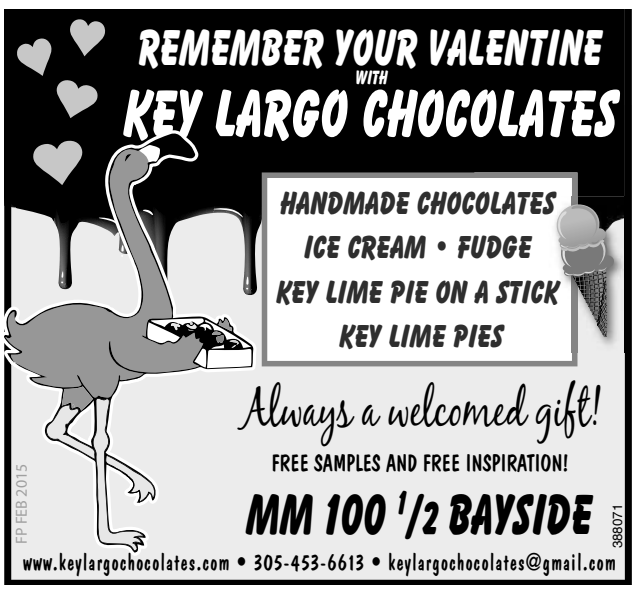
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KEY LARGO

Canoe

Continued from page 1A

four years.

"As long as we have money to keep us going [we will be out on the water]," Pepin said. "If we could find a sponsor we would keep on paddling forever and maybe write [a book] about it."

While Gosselin said the intention was never to write a book, so many people they've encountered along the way have asked if one is in the works. As of yet, Pepin said, there isn't one. But the couple continues to hold out hope that a sponsor will emerge.

Before hitting the water full-time last year, Pepin, 56, was working a myriad of jobs including a stint in the Canadian Army while Gosselin, 35, was an operations manager at a software company. But, he said, that 9-to-5 rat race is over for them.

"That's not how we want to live our life anymore," Pepin said.

The couple said most of their family and friends were envious upon learning about their extended trip.

"There was a lot of jealousy," Pepin said while laughing.

But it's not your typical, laid-back vacation. He said they paddle between 20 and 50 miles a day. And on a couple of rare occasions Pepin said they have done 24-hour paddles to enjoy the sunset, sunrise and full moon while on the water.

The only real scare the couple has come across is when Jasmine, only a month into the trip, fell ill after consuming poison sumac. It caused her kidneys to fail and the veterinarian suggested putting her down to avoid further suffering. Luckily though, after a four-day stay, the dog's vitals slowly improved and she fully recovered.

"We almost lost her," Pepin said.

The overwhelming kindness and generosity from complete strangers they have met along the way, the couple said, is the biggest surprise to them. They have met people from all walks up life who opened up their homes, refrigerators and wallets to assist them on their travels.

"It's not at all what we expected," Pepin said.

With no end in sight, the couple said they are just enjoying one day at a time.

"We're on a trip of a lifetime," Gosselin said.

The couple will be talking about their trip at a speaking engagement on Feb. 16 at the Key Largo Library, mile marker 101.4, oceanside. The event is free and open to the public.

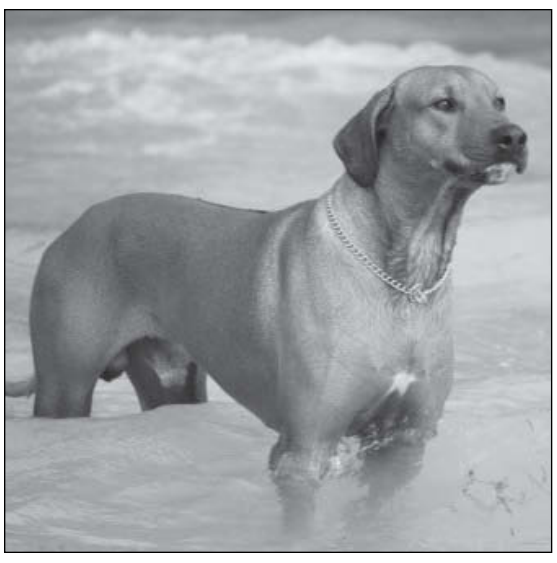
Track the couple's adventures through their website and blog at wildravenadventure.com.

bbowden@keysnews.com

BRIAN BOWDEN/Free Press and contributed

Above, Jennifer Gosselin, Pierre Pepin and dog Jasmine paddle along Blackwater Sound to Dusenbury Creek. Top left, the duo visit with Frank Woll at Florida Bay Outfitters in Key Largo. Bottom left, Jasmine at a sunset along the Mississippi River.

islamorada news



Contributed photos

From left, GCh Spring Valley's JoJo, a Rhodesian Ridgeback, takes a dip in the ocean off of Lower Matecumbe Key. JoJo with owner Jane Hlis. JoJo collects the reserve 'Best in Show' award in Pennsylvania in December.

Local canine pursues top-dog status at Westminster

BY BRIAN BOWDEN
Free Press Staff

ISLAMORADA — Lower Matecumbe Key residents Jane and Mark Hlis and their three-year-old competitive show dog, GCh Spring Valley's JoJo, are prepping for the canine's first run at the Westminster Kennel Club dog show in New York this month.

While JoJo, a Rhodesian Ridgeback, has competed in about 100 shows, this will be his first time in the nationally televised two-day event.

"He is pretty well trained [for the show]," Jane Hlis said. At this point in his career, she said, it just takes some fine tuning between events.

The hound will be a fresh face, but his lineage is no stranger at the world's top dog show. His late grandfather, Ch Spring Valley's Great Gatsby, took home the "Best of Breed" award at Westminster in 2000 and 2004. JoJo's greatest accomplishment to date has been winning the reserve "Best in Show" award at an event in Pennsylvania this past December. That, however, may change at Westminster.

Aside from a myriad of show awards JoJo has racked up in just three years, he was also ranked first in the state and seventh in the nation for his breed last year by the American Kennel Club.

The Upper Keys couple initially acquired JoJo in New Jersey through breeder Marie Cotton, who also happened to be their Islamorada neighbor during the winter. And while they originally picked the dog up as simply a family pet, Cotton peaked their interest about turning him into a show dog after she spoke about the prestigious events scattered across the U.S.

The couple, while up in New Jersey, decided to attend their first show that weekend. After that, Jane Hlis said, they were hooked.

"That really got me interested," she said.

JoJo entered his first show nine months later.

Both former competitive athletes, the couple now look at these shows as their playing field. But she said it is all just a hobby for the three of them.

"I just make sure he [JoJo] continues to like doing it," Hils said.

The canine's full name, quite a mouthful, encompasses his title as a grand champion (GCh), which he obtained when he was about one-and-a-half-years-old and is the highest title given to the tier in which he competes. The title of grand champion is bestowed upon a dog through the American Kennel Club. It is based on a system that awards titles as dogs place at shows and accrue points. Spring Valley signifies JoJo's pedigree, which refers to the kennel he came from.

While the couple doesn't travel to many of JoJo's shows, Jane Hlis said she will be present at Westminster. The dog's handler, Jack Seacrest, does most of the trips with the canine. Either way, she's excited for the competition even though she said one never truly knows what to expect from the animals when they walk in the ring.

"They're dogs," Hlis said while laughing. On a handful of occasions, she said, JoJo has sat when he has supposed to stand and jumped when was supposed to trot.

She is hoping that doesn't happen in two weeks.

Westminster, live from Madison Square Garden, will air on the USA Network Feb. 16 and 17. The network has covered the show since 1984.

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brief

Spearfishing snorklers nabbed

CRAIG KEY — Four people snorkeling and spearfishing for out-of-season snook were arrested Tuesday, Jan. 27, by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officers.

The four were charged with misdemeanor for taking snook out of season, spearing snook, possession of undersized lobster and spearing lobster.

An FWC officer spotted a group of snorkelers along the shoreline at the Channel 5 bridge near Craig Key, which is between Lower Matecumbe Key and Fiesta Key.

The officer noted discrepancies in their stories and also discovered the illegal fish and lobster, as well as a spear, in the water, reports state.

All four were taken to Monroe County Detention Center. They face up to 60 days in jail and $500 in fines for each violation.

Council talks lawsuit; LPA considers alcohol

BY JOSH GORE
Free Press Staff

ISLAMORADA — The Village Council will meet in closed session Thursday, Feb. 5, to discuss two ongoing lawsuits.

Both were filed by resident and resort owner Paul Bates, who has accused the town of creating a law specifically to force the closure of his bed-and-breakfast business.

Bates sued the village in July 2012 after town officials sought to compel the Florida Keys Electric Cooperative to shut off power at a bed-and-breakfast where Bates also lives with wife Magda and their five children. The village does not permit such establishments under current code.

The village cited fire code violations in getting a court order last summer for the power disconnect. Since filing the suit, Bates made an unsuccessful run for Village Council. In December, Bates' attorney, Patty Silver, filed a suit against her client for failing to pay attorney's fees.

Typically, legal strategy sessions are only open to the village manager, attorney, clerk and council.

The village's Local Planning Agency is expected to meet Monday, Feb. 9, to discuss a proposed alcohol ordinance. The law would limit the proximity to schools, daycare centers or places of worship of new establishments that sell or serve alcohol.

At a January meeting, the Village Council gave approval on first reading of an ordinance creating a 300-foot setback for alcohol. The village's planning staff had recommended a 500-foot setback.

The revised ordinance will be brought back to the council at a future meeting for a second reading later this month. Any business already serving or selling alcohol would be able to keep its license and use permit as well as transfer them to a new owner.

Key West bans alcohol sales within 300 feet of a church, school, cemetery or funeral home. Monroe County has no such regulation.

Marathon recently rescinded its prohibition of liquor sales near schools or other liquor stores.

jgore@keysnews.com

brief

Clinic fundraiser

UPPER KEYS — The Good Health Clinic has kicked off its fourth annual Big Kahuna Contest, a competitive event in which nominated community members raise money to support the free clinic.

The 2015 Big Kahuna nominees are Roger Young of Islamorada Brick Company; Jay Frins of ASAP Construction; Dirk Smits, Esq., partner with the law offices of Vernis and Bowling; and Rob Stober, Esq., partner with the law offices of Hershoff, Lupino and Yagel.

Supporters of each candidate can donate in their name, buy tickets for the Beach Luau event or attend their individual hosted events.

The Good Health Clinic is the only local 501(c)3 not-for-profit that provides free healthcare to uninsured residents of the Upper Keys who live at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty Level.

For more information, email kate@thegoodhealthclinic.org.

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FEB 08	SUN.	HARRY FRENCH-HARRY FRENCH 12-3 PM COLLINS AND WEBB 5 PM
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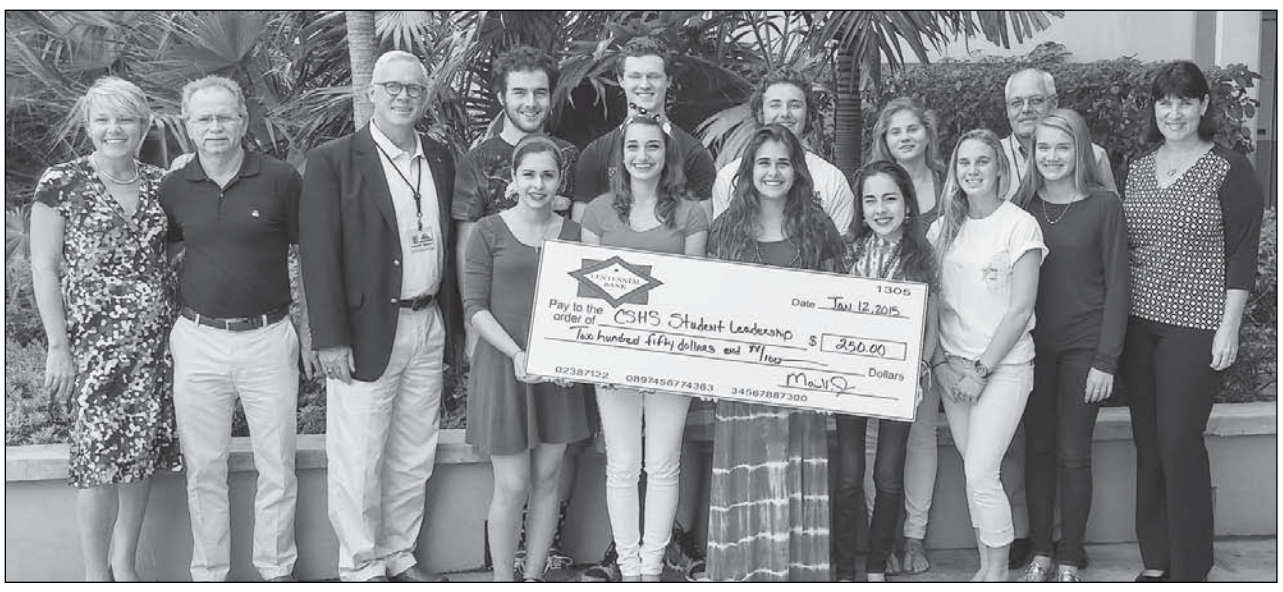
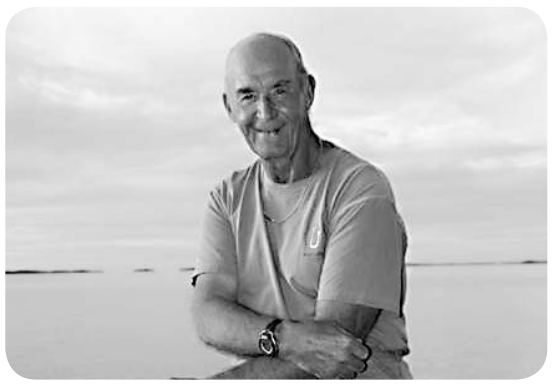


Contributed photo

Members of the Leadership Monroe County program recently presented a donation to the Coral Shores High School Student Leadership group to thank them for assisting with LMC's education and government session, held at Coral Shores. The students conducted an information 'scavenger hunt' for the current LMC class to teach them more about the high school's history and educational programs. Front row from left are students Carla Gonzalez, Lauren Farr, Natalia Gonzalez, Isis Majeska, Kelsey Caputo and Bailey Robinson. Back row from left are LMC alumna Stephanie Scuderi, LMC President Ray Rhash, Superintendent of Schools Mark Porter, students Robby Majeska, Dylan Knauer, Sam Kraus, Kelsea Volland, Coral Shores Principal Blake Fry and LMC board member Maria Jones.



I want to thank my loving wife, Maria, for the best birthday party. Miss Brenda Star was her usual (best entertainer ever), the food was delicious, and we hope everyone had a good time. I also want to thank all our friends who came to celebrate with us. Thank you all for making my day unforgettable.

Dan

388101

Survey

Continued from page 1A

ages.

Porter told the Free Press he has held recent meetings with school leaders to address student drug and alcohol use and each school tailors its own response.

"Each school reacts differently," Porter said. "Sometimes, unfortunately, it takes a tragedy to change people."

Students at Coral Shores High School still reeling from the sudden death of senior Roberto Ornelas early last month are in that type of situation, Porter said. Police reports from that incident suggest the student was having a bad reaction to some type of drug before later expiring at a Miami hospital. Toxicology reports from Miami-Dade County were not available at press time.

Statistics from the 2014 state health department survey also note a separation in usage depending on the gender of the student.

Females were more likely last year to be experimenting with drugs and alcohol than males, the numbers show.

Twenty-eight percent of girls surveyed admitted they had consumed alcohol within the past 30 days, while only 24 percent of boys admitted to having a drink. Questioned about marijuana use, 16.5 percent of the girls said they had used the drug in the last 30 days, while only 14 percent of boys admitted to using it.

"I'm just speculating, but perhaps females are being more honest," Porter said of the survey, which allows respondents to remain anonymous. "You're dealing with some degree of self-reporting."

A 17-year-old Coral Shores High School male student, who asked not to be named, participated in the survey.

"I was honest because they didn't make me put my name on it," he told the Free Press. "Anybody can lie, though."

The student said he had used alcohol, but not drugs, in the past month. When told that more females than males reported taking drugs, the student said he didn't believe the numbers reflected true usage.

"There must be some lying," he said.

In addition to the most popular drugs, such as alcohol, tobacco and marijuana, the survey also asks students about use of painkillers, hallucinogens, cocaine and heroin, among other drugs.

According to the survey, usage of those drugs saw a dip as well.

Coral Shores Principal Blake Fry, a 18-year local educator, said he believes alcohol- and drug-related incidents at school are down.

"We are seeing fewer referrals and disciplinary issues for this than we were 10 to 12 years ago," he said.

Porter credits the relationships between the school district and nonprofit organizations as a spark for the improving trend. Specifically, he mentioned the efforts of Students Against Drunk Driving and Students Working Against Tobacco.

Eyeing the numbers posted by middle school students, Porter said it is important to educate the students early.

"You'd rather prevent it than reverse it," Porter said.

In a brief interview, Sheriff Rick Ramsay said he hasn't yet seen the report. But his spokeswoman, Becky Herrin, told the Free Press in an email that school resource officers continue to offer the "Project Alert" program to seventh- and eighth-graders.

"It is a nationally recognized program that gives students insight, understanding and skills for resisting substance abuse," she wrote. "We also speak to younger kids on a regular basis about substance abuse issues, as is age appropriate."

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marathon news

Sombrero re-plat approved by city council

BY JILL ZIMA BORSKI
Free Press Contributor

MARATHON — The Marathon City Council last week unanimously passed a proposed Sombrero Beach land re-platting, agreeing the applicant met the city's development requirements.

While several councilmen expressed sympathy for neighbors concerned about traffic and increased density, they said there were no defensible grounds for rejecting the re-plat sought by RERR Unlimited, which seeks to build 18 duplexes and 14 homes near mile marker 50.

Mayor Chris Bull did not attend the meeting because Marathon High School's Lady Fins soccer team played a district game at home, and Bull serves as the team's assistant coach.

Councilman Dan Zieg presented options for new municipal legal services, saying he had spoken with Dirk Smits and Scott Black of Vernis and Bowling of Islamorada, both of whom expressed the law firm's interest in serving as the city's counsel at a rate of $140 an hour.

While he moved to recommend them for the position, Richard Keating slowed action suggesting the city issue a request for qualifications and proposals instead to see who else may be interested in the job and at what cost.

"This is something we need to vet," Keating said. "We need to see what's out there."

Councilman Bill Kelly said he wanted to put out a request for an in-house attorney, rather than an outside firm.

Vice Mayor Mark Senmartin, who ran the meeting in Bull's absence, said he had spoken with members of the GrayRobinson firm, Marathon's current legal team, and it agreed to see the city through the transition to an in-house attorney.

Just that day, attorney Valerie Haber of GrayRobinson said the city had been notified of new litigation, and she needed to hear from council whether she should proceed with a response. The council agreed to business as usual, for now.

Among the approved resolutions were a grant agreement for a $17 million reimbursement from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for continuing wastewater utility improvements; the purchase of a property in Crains Subdivision on Grassy Key by the Monroe County Land Authority for conservation land; and an increase in the city's fire safety inspection fees. These fees were last updated in 2006.

Drilling holes for the new city hall have been accomplished and construction is proceeding on time, said the city's construction manager.

Stacy Charlton, the city's building and code administrator, informed the council that collections of fees for the first quarter for building and zoning services is at 40 percent of the annual projected revenue, reflecting how busy the city is with construction and redevelopment.

The council gave input on the hours of a new code inspector, saying the 40-hour work week must include nights and weekends, when illegal activity tends to take place and complaints are likely. Kelly added Monroe County has code enforcement employees who work weekends "to catch violators."

Changes to a mobile vendor ordinance's hours of operation generated discussion because the one "mobile vendor" currently operating in Marathon is not mobile, but fixed. In order to enjoy five or unlimited hours of operations, both of which were options, according to council, the current vendor had to come into compliance with existing code. The current law allows two hours of operation. The proposed change for mobile vendors on private property first will go to the planning commission.

The council is to schedule a zoning and Future Land Use Map workshop, but no date has been set.

Hospital fundraiser to honor founding member

BY JILL ZIMA BORSKI
Free Press Contributor

MARATHON — The 55th Fishermen's Community Hospital Foundation Sweetheart Ball, set for Saturday, Feb. 7, is to honor Ruth Macumber Counihan and the Hospital Auxiliary's founding members.

To be held from 6 to 10 p.m. at the largest private hangar at the Marathon Jet Center at the Florida Keys Marathon Airport, the formal event is expected to draw about 300 guests for dinner and dancing.

Laurie Counihan Brown said it means so much to the entire family to see a photo of her mother, Ruth Macumber Counihan, and friend Ruth Ivins, posted on the foundation's Facebook page.

"My mother died in 1964, when Fishermen's Hospital had been in operation just under two years," Brown said. "I know she must be so very proud of what an important part of the community it still is today."

Counihan, a nurse and the auxiliary's first president, passed away at age 35, when Brown was only 7 years old. Counihan's family is flying in from New York for the event, according to Kim Gregory, foundation director. The foundation serves as the hospital's fundraising entity.

See **HOSPITAL**, page **13A**

MENTORING MONTH

The Marathon City Council recently proclaimed January as 2015 National Mentoring Month. At left, Take Stock in Children college success coach Katrina Wiatt and program coordinator Chuck Licis were on hand to accept the proclamation along with several students, mentors and parents. Sixty-two volunteer mentors meet each week for at least 30 minutes with their Take Stock in Children scholar attending Marathon Middle High School.

Contributed photo

briefs

Man picked up on 2006 warrant

MARATHON — A Mississippi man was booked into jail Jan. 24 on a warrant for dealing in stolen property in 2006.

In November 2006, the victim told deputies he let Frank Holland, 44, stay in a small apartment behind his Marathon home. He said he returned home after being out of town for a few days and found his rear sliding glass door ajar. His Rolex watch and cash were missing from inside.

The victim went to the Cash Flow Pawn Shop in Marathon, where he found his watch. He called the Monroe County Sheriff's Office to report the incident.

Investigations revealed Holland was the person who pawned the watch, receiving $150 in return for it, according to the sheriff's office.

On Jan. 5, the sheriff's office received notification Holland had been picked up in Mississippi. He was returned to Monroe County to face the dealing in stolen property charge as well as an outstanding charge of violation of probation for possessing a false identification, driving under the influence and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Gun threats arrest

MARATHON — A man and woman accused of threatening to shoot a

See **GUN**, page **13A**

Marathon school hosting slave trade traveling exhibit

MARATHON — Marathon Middle High School is hosting a traveling exhibit on the transatlantic slave trade in February as part of Black History Month.

Designed as a "pop-up" museum for Florida schools, the exhibit, which will be displayed in the school's media center, features 10 informative panels that highlight Florida's role in the slave trade.

The exhibit, "Spirits of the Passage: Stories of the Transatlantic Slave Trade," provides an overview of the slave trade and the economics that drove it. The exhibit also tells the story of the slave ship Henrietta Marie, which sank off the coast of the Florida Keys, and the African cemetery, which is located in Key West. Other panel topics include cultural diaspora, merchant or slave ship, piracy and slavery and underwater archaeology. Each panel also includes the story of a noteworthy person.

Marathon students in grades 6 to 12 will have the opportunity to explore the museum through self-guided tours with their social studies classes.

"We are thrilled to have this opportunity to bring the transatlantic slave trade time period to life for our students," said social studies department head Katie Balazs. "The format of the pop-up panels and the self-guided tours gives them opportunities to explore and investigate. We're hoping that a new understanding and some thoughtful discussions will arise."

The exhibit was created by the Mel Fisher Maritime Museum in Key West and is funded, in part, by a grant from the State of Florida's Bureau of Historical Resources

The Mel Fisher Maritime Museum is a fully accredited nonprofit museum and research facility. For more information, go to melfishermuseum.org.

IN THE KEYS

Wrecking

Continued from page 1A

or 1890s, depending on the source.

Ships in the earliest days of New World exploration were often overloaded. There were no charts that outlined coral reefs. Projected weather conditions were unknown, and lighthouses had yet to be built. Ships often crashed into the shallow, jagged reefs.

Even later, when the United States formed and Spain ceded Florida to the fledging country in 1817, the Florida Straits remained a maritime highway where vessels traveling west hugged the reef to avoid the powerful opposite-bound Gulf Stream, and wreckers continued to flourish.

It wasn't until the advent of the railroads, lighthouses and steamships by the time of the Civil War that wrecking began to wane, according to most histories.

Last week, a group of Key West historians, archeologists, librarians and donors met at the Key West Library to announce the discovery of a long-lost journal containing the first-hand accounts of wreckers and ship captains who fell victim to the reef in the mid-1800s.

"This adds another level to the story of wrecking in the Keys," said Tom Hambright, who oversees the Florida History Department at the library. "This gives us more detail."

"These are the testimonies from the wreckers themselves that have never been seen before," said Key West-based archaeologist and maritime historian Corey Malcom, who serves on the board of the Key West Maritime Historical Society.

The book was purchased by the Key West Maritime Historical Society through a donation by Key West residents Mary and Karl Haffenreffer. The historical society officially handed over the journal to the library during a brief ceremony last week.

It should, they hope, shed light on what many said was a misunderstood industry often criticized in the annals of history by those forced to pay wreckers, who were usually first on the scene, to rescue shipwrecked crews and save their typically expensive cargo — for a hefty price.

One example at the library is an article from Harper's Weekly, dated Oct. 19, 1878, titled "Wreckers on the Florida Keys." It starts: "Here we have a business ostensibly legitimate, but closely allied to piracy. Its temptations are great. Every Key Westian should be by nature a wrecker."

It goes on to say, "No sooner does news reach Key West than the wreckers, both white and black, arouse from their lethargy, the boys spin cart-wheels of exultation on the dusty wharves, and, like sharks gliding toward their prey, the schooners steal out of port and make all sail to reach the wreck."

It says about the scuttled ship: "Her buoyant career is ended, and now boats, smacks, and schooners crowd around her, laden with yelling and shouting crews, swarming up her sides to strip her of her wings and her beauty, and leave her skeleton bleaching in the southern sun."

Such is the history of wreckers, but their past is far more complex than what the Harper's Weekly author attempts to paint, according to modern researchers.

Wrecking made Key West one of the most affluent cities in the young United States, led to wrecking-based settlements along the island chain and paved the way for the first federal courts in southern Florida. Nonetheless, "most expect that the entire gambit from heroism to outright piracy existed," according to the research of Upper Keys historian and resident Jerry Wilkinson.

Colorful local lore

Wreckers generally freed grounded ships by lightening their loads and waiting for high tide, general rules of physics that have long governed basic seamanship. Otherwise, wreckers would secure their own ships in deeper water, then lighten the victim ship's cargo as the tide rose and pull the stricken ship off the reef using their capstans — a rotating machine used to apply force to ropes on sailing ships.

"There are a lot of 'ifs' in doing this, like principally, weather permitting," Wilkinson wrote. Another would be that the ship's hull remain structurally sound, he added.

In one colorful reported instance, a beer-laden ship was salvaged and "considerable cargo was consumed in the process" in order to lighten its load. A judge would later deduct the consumed beverages from the wreckers' claims.

But no greater lore casts a darker shadow over the wrecking industry than claims of shenanigans involving the movement or dousing of navigational lights to cause groundings or the setting of ships on fire after salving them lest they be a warning to future mariners.

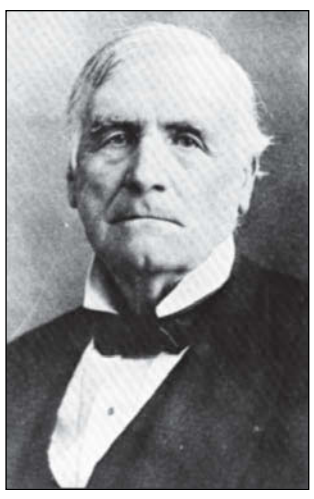
Wilkinson writes that there is "no real data to substantiate these allegations," and Hambright agreed.

"The general cause was weather and incompetent navigation," Hambright said.

Nevertheless, the allegations of malice persisted, whether there was proof or not.

"There were a lot of ship owners who didn't care for Key West and the wreckers here, and those victims of the reef made their complaints known in the newspapers," said Corey Malcom, an archeologist and maritime historian.

Some of the wreckers Wilkinson outlines sound as if they sprang from the pages of a Carl Hiaasen novel: Brandish "Hog" Johnson and "Bull" Weatherford. But none, perhaps, was so renowned as Jacob Housman, who worked from this Indian Key settlement off Islamorada from 1830 to 1840.



Contributed images

From left, federal Judge William Marvin, Commodore David Porter and the image of a Florida Keys wrecker from Harper's Weekly in 1878.

Housman was a former Staten Islander who set sail to Key West in 1820, ran aground somewhere in the Keys and was "personally indoctrinated into the Keys' wrecking industry, in which he became immediately interested," Wilkinson wrote.

Housman was involved in salvage court with a French ship, the Vigilant, which ran aground near Marathon. He was found guilty of consorting with the ship's master — in those days only military commanders were given the title captain — to cheat the ship's owner of the wrecking reward, according to Wilkinson.

Housman would later die after being crushed between two ships in Key West, Hambright said.

"Usually, the wreckers would say it was a dark and stormy night and the ship's master would describe a beautiful, calm day," Hambright said last week while discussing the legal battles that often ensued in court following a salvage.

"We present the salvage and wrecking industry and how it worked," said Clinton Curry, director of the Key West Shipwreck Museum, whose great-great-great-great grandfather, John Curry, was a wrecker. "We cover all sides. We're not calling them pirates, but yes, like in all walks of life, some people break the law and some don't."

In its earliest days there were no courts to adjudicate wrecking cases. Only the "common laws at sea" applied to wreckers, primarily that a ship's crew was more important than its cargo. But Wilkinson notes: "From its inception, wide differences of opinion and almost constant controversy on the pros and cons, ethics and nature of wrecking existed."

It would be 1823 before the Territory of Florida passed the Wrecking Act of 1823, which states that anything "with the intent to mislead, bewilder or decoy the mariners of any vessel on the high seas, whereby such vessel may be cast ashore, or get aground ... if convicted [the offender] be deemed guilty of felony and shall suffer death."

Legal firsts

Key West wasn't declared an official port of entry until 1822. Shortly thereafter, Commodore David Porter arrived with his anti-piracy fleet to ensure U.S. shipping proceeded without harassment.

"During this process, Commodore Porter wrote to the Secretary of the Navy of the [wrecking] dilemma in regard to the lack of written legal statutes," Wilkinson wrote.

The Wrecking Act of 1823 followed, and with it came wealth that Key West and other Keys had never seen.

According to records, the taxes paid on regular goods landed in Key West shot to $14,108 in 1823 from only $389 the year before.

By comparison, there was $293,353 in taxed wrecked goods alone in 1825, according to the journals of businessman John Simonton, Wilkinson cites in his book.

By 1828, the U.S. formed a federal court in Key West with admiralty jurisdiction, but it wasn't until 1839 that Judge William Marvin appeared and literally wrote the book on wrecking laws, Hambright said.

"Judge Marvin made considerable improvements on the then adversarial system against the ship owners," Wilkinson wrote. "The only other courts were at St. Augustine and Pensacola, so almost all of the Florida Keys wrecking property was taken to Key West. The wrecking act was further tightened in 1847."

The first case in the newly formed superior court involved a ship that had a salvaged cargo of cotton valued at $60,000.

The wreckers, it should be noted, were awarded $10,000. It was not reported how many, if any, of the crew the wreckers rescued in that case.

It's also worth noting that Florida's first millionaire, Key West's William Curry, operated a wreckers' warehouse, the job that landed the most money, historians said Thursday. All those wrecked goods had to be stored somewhere, and the warehouse men charged rent just as storage companies do today.

Just how much money flowed into Key West during the wrecking heyday?

"No one knows," Hambright said. "There was no federal income tax and no way of measuring."

Still, the much-maligned salvage industry yielded a great deal of affluence in Key West.

The Wrecking License Bureau of the court closed in 1921, according to Wilkinson's research. The last known licensed wrecker, Capt. Chet Alexander, died in 1984, and thus the final curtain closed, Wilkinson wrote.

"We're all about preserving the history here," Curry said. "My goal is to protect it. It's very easy to just say, 'They were all pirates,' but there is much more to it, and I like to present the other side — the bigger picture."

The small Harper's Weekly article being preserved at the library that summarized the wrecking scene so vividly could perhaps apply to the history of the faded industry itself.

"There she lies fast, firmly imbedded on the coral, treacherously guided there, perchance, by the pilot. Such things have been. Never more shall she ride the waters like a thing of life."

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big pine key news

Store hosts reusable bag giveaway

BIG PINE KEY — Winn-Dixie will partner with nonprofit Green Living and Energy Education's "Got Your Bags? Florida Keys" program to host a reusable bag giveaway and sale event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at its mile marker 30 store.

GLEE volunteers will provide free reusable shopping bags to shoppers at a station set up just outside the store. The reusable bags have been donated by local businesses and individuals who support the program. Volunteers will also sell reusable Winn-Dixie bags inside the store at $1 for two bags.

"We are thrilled to be the first large grocery chain in the Keys to support this initiative, and for the opportunity to partner with the 'Got Your Bags?' campaign to bring Winn-Dixie's sustainability efforts to life," said Big Pine Key store director Kenny Lowe.

Lowe and the store's area service manager, Dan Jensen, will be on hand to support the effort.

"Each person's efforts to reduce single-use plastic bags makes a difference by eliminating litter on streets, highways and shorelines, and more importantly, the harm to the wild birds and marine animals from ingestion and entanglement," said GLEE board member Shirley Gun.

At a similar event in December, GLEE gave away almost 400 reusable shopping bags and received cash donations for 50 more (funds are used to acquire more reusable bags to give away). In-store volunteers distributed approximately 350 of the Winn-Dixie bags.

The program, operated as part of GLEE's nonprofit pro-environmental mission, started as a local citizen's initiative on Big Pine Key in 2012. Winn-Dixie is the first major chain to adopt the program, which is expanding throughout the Keys.

For more information, visit GLEE's website at keysglee.com/gyb.

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business & real estate news

JOSH GORE/Free Press

Islamorada homebrewer Pat Kennedy, left, recently sold his Keybilly ale recipe to Lakeland-based craft brewery Brew Hub, which is now distributing the beer commercially.

Homebrewer's Keysy recipe goes commercial

BY JOSH GORE
Free Press Staff

ISLAMORADA — Sometimes to be successful you have to take a leap of faith or land a little luck.

For Pat Kennedy, it involved both.

The 47-year-old Lower Matecumbe Key resident brewed a 5-gallon batch of ale with a hint of Key lime, gave it a Keysy name and sold his creation to a Lakeland-based brewery, where it is being produced and distributed commercially.

Keybilly Island Ale began hitting stores last Thursday.

"I always wondered how do I get the beer to the shelves?" homebrewer Patrick Kennedy said last week sitting in his downstairs home office surrounded by Keybilly beer cans, coasters and related merchandise.

Kennedy's first introduction to do-in-yourself beverages came when he was working on a sailboat and the captain would make an orange-based syrupy wine.

"It was just disgusting," he said.

But Kennedy liked the idea and began trying to concoct a tasty batch of beer. In 2013, he won a local homebrewing competition, which encouraged him to begin marketing his Key lime-flavored beer. But first he needed the right brand name.

"I was driving one day and it hit me," he said. "The sun got brighter, the birds chirped louder, I was going to call the beer Keybilly."

The name originated from a little needling between Kennedy and an employee of the wealthy Ocean Reef Club enclave in north Key Largo. When Kennedy referred to the residents of the gated community as "Ocean Griefers," the other man replied, "Well, you're a Keybilly."

Kennedy embraced the name, which he describes as a relaxed, common person.

"I'm proud to be a Keybilly," he said.

To get his beer brewed commercially, Kennedy found a brewery in Lakeland, Brew Hub, that was just opening and looking to team up with craft brewers. He called several times and sent several emails and never received a response.

"Weeks would go by and nothing," he said. "I was starting to worry."

Then, out of nowhere, a response.

A Brew Hub representative called Kennedy and asked him to mail her pamphlets about his product.

"Sure, no problem," he responded. "I didn't have any pamphlets," he told the Free Press.

He found himself on the computer all night creating a presentation for his beer. The brewery then called back a couple weeks later asking for samples.

"Sure, no problem," Kennedy told her. "Of course, I didn't have any beer ready," he told the Free Press.

He said he went to work right away to get a new batch of Keybilly started.

Kennedy said he spent $90 trying to ship the beer to the company's tasters in St. Louis and Boca Raton. That shipment, though, failed as the South Florida heat interrupted the fermentation process. Determined, Kennedy packed up some beer and drove to the Boca Raton home of one of Brew Hub's executives.

Contributed photo

Islamorada's Shrimp Shack began offering Keybilly beer on draft last week.

"I was scared to death and didn't know what to think," he said. "I thought this guy might shoot me."

To his surprise, Kennedy was invited in by chief brewer Paul Farnsworth, who is also a professor of microbiology at Florida Atlantic University.

"He wouldn't drink my beer in front of me, and as I left, he said, 'If nothing else, we'll be good drinking buddies,'" Kennedy recalled.

More time went by, and eventually Kennedy received a phone call that Brew Hub wanted to make his beer. So far, he isn't raking in the money. Kennedy sold the brew rights to Brew Hub and will receive a royalty based on sales.

Kennedy picked the ale because he wanted to reach out to a larger beer drinking base. Though a fan of the more hoppier IPA, he said he didn't want to go to the extreme.

But he did want people to be able to taste the Key lime, as long as it wasn't overwhelming. He said he uses lime juice from a Key West company.

Keybilly beer is available on draft at Shrimp Shack on Upper Matecumbe Key as well as in cans at Crazy Billy's on Lower Matecumbe Key.

As more is shipped from the Lakeland brewery, he expects the distributor to begin placing Keybilly in the Upper Keys.

Soon Kennedy will be selling Keybilly T-shirts and other merchandise to increase brand recognition. Pint glasses, hats and coasters are already available for purchase.

jgore@keysnews.com

BIG PINE KEY

GRAFFITI GONE

Monroe County Sheriff's Deputy Donald Stulken recently found graffiti in several spots near the south end of Bahia Honda. Sgt. Linda Mixon's squad worked together to get supplies and paint over the vandalism. Pictured are Deputies Stulken, Jon Riggs and Nancy Roberts.

Contributed photo

briefs

TripAdvisor honor

ISLAMORADA — Islamorada has been named to TripAdvisor's roster of 16 of the world's top romantic destinations with vacation rentals.

According to TripAdvisor's Ashlee Centrella, the list was compiled from data culled from the online travel site's vacation rental section. The list was assembled based on different metrics, such as places most Googled, vacation rental bookings and reviews.

Other destinations that made the list include Cape Cod, Rome, Bali and California's Catalina Island.

For more information, visit tripadvisor.com/VacationRentalIdeas-zfm3-Romantic_Vacation_Rentals.

New Rotarian

KEY LARGO — Artist Susan Lane has joined the Rotary Club of the Upper Keys.

Lane, originally from Lebanon, N.H, has been an Upper Keys resident for 35 years. She is the owner and artist of Lane Artwork, exhibiting her acrylic paintings at nearly 50 festivals around the country annually. Her first book, "25 Days of a Tropical Christmas," was recently published.

The Rotary Club of the Upper Keys, established in 1967, meets at noon Tuesdays at Craig's Restaurant in Tavernier.

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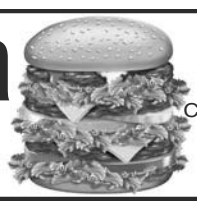

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Passing medical marijuana legislation preferable to amending constitution

The legalization of medical marijuana in Florida seems inevitable. Last year the ballot initiative to amend the Florida Constitution to allow medical marijuana failed by a slim margin. Any amendment to the Florida Constitution requires passage by 60 percent. The initiative garnered 57.6 percent of the vote. Here in Monroe County, the vote was 70 percent in favor of the amendment. Those in favor of the amendment have vowed to raise the signatures to put it back on the ballot again in 2016.

Vogel

Our Florida Legislature recognizes that the majority of Florida residents want medical marijuana to be available to treat those suffering serious illness. Those opposed to the amendment often site lack of oversight of prescriptions and inherent abuses as the basis for their objection.

The good news is that the Legislature recognizes that the issue is not going away. They realize that the better way of handling the legalization is to pass legislation legalizing medical marijuana for a variety of illnesses with appropriate controls. State Sen. Jeff Brandes of St. Petersburg has introduced Senate Bill 52 making medical grade marijuana legal for maladies including cancer, AIDS, Parkinson, ALS, MS and Crohn's.

Legislation is a far more flexible way of addressing this issue. Once a constitutional amendment is passed in Florida, it takes 60 percent of the voters to repeal or change it. If legislation is found to be in error, the recourse lies with the legislators who can act immediately. Once a Constitutional amendment is in place regarding medical marijuana, there are no guarantees what effect it would have on the ability of the legislature to regulate its distribution.

Furthermore, being a lawyer, I am opposed to using the constitution to handle this type of issue. A constitution should be used to establish more general principals of a government, such as the right to free speech or the right to vote or powers of the judiciary.

Legislators are on the right track to face the legalization of medical marijuana where it can be debated, where the medical community can have input and the public can weigh in, and where a comprehensive bill can be written that addresses concerns of both proponents as well as opponents of legalization. Even those who oppose legalization of medical marijuana must recognize it is more likely than not that it will come to pass. It is better that the Legislature has some control of the implementation of the legalization and legislation is a wise avenue.

Catherine Vogel, state attorney, Monroe County

Monks on peace tour

Keys to Peace [recently] hosted eight Tibetan monks of the Drepung Gomang Monastery in southern India. The monks are on the Sounds of Peace Tour throughout the Upper Keys. The monks are sharing prayers for peace while continuing to raise awareness through their nonviolent resistance after their exile from Tibet in 1959.

A not-so-known fact is that a preacher of the gospel, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., made a trip to India in April 1959 and spoke of how his trip deepened his resolve in a nonviolent resistance approach to civil rights in America.

While enjoying the Keys, the monks created a peace mandala that was poured into the sea on their last day before they voyage to Miami to bless an 8-foot Buddha at the Japanese botanical gardens.

The monks enjoyed miniature golf at Dolphin Golfin' in Key Largo and swam with the dolphins at the Dolphin Encounter.

Feb. 18, before the monks' departure back to India, celebrations of peace aboard the Island Star at the Smugglers Cove Marina will be held at sunrise and sunset with an opportunity to meet the monks and purchase dharma supplies at their Tibetan marketplace during the day. Tickets are $40, with proceeds going to fund the monks' further education at the Drepung Gomang Monastery in India.

Please contact me at 941-306-7013 for more information.

Sherri Mechelle Clarke, Key Largo

Library expands children's services

The Key Largo Library has expanded its collections to include downloadable books and audio books for all ages. Families who want to familiarize children with this new technology before purchasing a tablet may now check out tablets with their library card. A grant from the Ocean Reef Children's Foundation allowed the library to purchase several Samsung Galaxy and Kindle Fire tablets for this purpose.

Special E-Reader Lending Guidelines must be signed and agreed to before checkout. The card holder who is checking out the tablet must be 18 years of age or older. They will need to produce a photo ID such as a valid driver's license, state ID, military ID, student ID and/or passport. Only one e-reader per household can be checked out at any given time. They must be checked out from and returned to the Key Largo Library only.

The juvenile e-book collection contains over 400 titles with at least 100 of them geared toward young adults. Picture books and easy readers like "Curious George" and "Dr. Seuss" titles abound. Juvenile fiction includes popular titles such as the "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" and "Divergent" series. There is also a very large collection of e-audio titles. All are available via a library card.

So if you want your children to learn the new tablet technology and enjoy downloadable books before you invest in a tablet, they are now available with your library card. The Key Largo Library is located in the Publix Tradewinds Shopping Plaza, 101485 Overseas Highway.

Claudia Moriarty, Key Largo

FPL will make responsible decisions on water usage

Recently, an article titled "Could permit threaten Keys drinking water?" appeared in the Free Press. While this is a reasonable question, it is important that readers understand the context for the question as well as the proactive steps Florida Power & Light is taking to improve the water quality and health of the Turkey Point canal system.

FPL is committed to providing reliable, low-cost electricity in a way that protects and preserves our natural environment. In order to improve the overall health of the cooling canal system, FPL developed a multi-part, multi-year strategy that includes adding additional water to the canals in order to reduce their salinity. Our analysis shows that this approach will eventually bring the salinity in the canals to a level that is consistent with Biscayne Bay. It is very important for readers to understand that to accomplish this objective we have neither suggested nor plan to add drinking water to the canals. Rather, we have proposed adding salty water from the Biscayne and Floridan aquifers, in addition to excess stormwater from the South Florida Water Management District's network of canals that currently discharge into Biscayne Bay. Importantly, the water from the SFWMD's canals would only be used if there was more water than they needed to meet its environmental commitments.

In regards to the part of the story related to the saltwater intrusion, it is well documented that saltwater intrusion in the Biscayne aquifer has existed west of the Turkey Point site since the 1940s, more than three decades before the plant began operating. Based on significant study, we know that there are many factors that affect groundwater movement near Turkey Point, including land-use practices, mining operations and groundwater withdrawals from the Biscayne aquifer. Working with the state and other agencies, the approach we have outlined is designed to help address this issue for future generations — and avoid a threat to drinking water.

It also is important to emphasize that the administrative order issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in late December is not a permit but rather a requirement for FPL to freshen the water in the canal system. We recognize that proper management of water resources in South Florida is an important issue and will meet the order by obtaining the necessary permits. We also recognize that the best way to address these issues responsibly is to rely on science, data and work closely with federal, state and local agencies to make responsible decisions.

Randy LaBauve, vice president, FPL Environmental Services

[Ed. note: The Biscayne aquifer supplies the Florida Keys with up to 17 million gallons of drinking water a day.]

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MARATHON

Hospital

Continued from page 8A

The hospital's past has changed with the times. For 25 years, it was a for-profit venture operated by a management company, but when it came time to renew that contract in 2011, the board of directors instead opted to pursue not-for-profit status.

Gregory said Islamorada's Green Turtle Inn is catering the Sweetheart Ball, and farm-raised turtle chowder, lobster mac-and-cheese, prime rib and mahi mahi are on the menu. Live music and a silent auction are part of the festivities, as well as a photo both, which was popular last year. Tickets are $100 apiece.

Proceeds from the event are slated to buy a 64-slice scanner which would enable cardiologists to speed up the procedure for readings related to the heart.

For more information, call Gregory at 305-393-5720 or email kim.gregory@fhcares.com.

Gun

Continued from page 8A

man were arrested last week, according to a Monroe County Sheriff's Office report.

Nicole Rice, 33, and Michael Ivens, 26, face charges of aggravated assault, carrying concealed firearms and intimidating a witness.

Deputies first ran into Ivens, Rice and the alleged victim at 10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23, at Manor Lane while responding to a suspicious vehicle. Two handguns were also found at the scene: a .22-caliber pistol on the ground and a 9mm pistol in the truck. Both guns were loaded, and the one in the truck had a round stuck as if it jammed upon firing, reports state.

All three individuals said they had no knowledge of the guns, adding that they were all friends and there was no problem.

None had warrants, the guns were legal, so all three were allowed to go, reports state.

The next day, however, the victim reported that he had been threatened by Ivens and Rice, but he was afraid to say anything the previous night, reports state.

He said there was a confrontation with Ivens, who reportedly was wearing surgical gloves and had one of the handguns. There was a struggle, and Ivens reportedly yelled to Rice, "Shoot him."

The man said Rice pointed a second gun at him and pulled the trigger, but the gun jammed just before deputies arrived on the scene, reports state.

The man called the sheriff's office on Sunday, Jan. 25, to report receiving texts and calls from Ivens, stating, "Thank you, but I'm still going to shoot you," reports state.

Warrants were issued for Ivens and Rice. They were taken to the Marathon jail.

Men with turtle tail, sharks arrested

MARATHON — Two Miami men caught with a sea turtle tail and sharks were arrested by state wildlife officers last Thursday, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

David Hernandez Sordo, 47, and Pedro A. Suarez, 58, face charges of felony possession of a marine sea turtle and possession of over-the-limit sharks. The men allegedly had two blacknose sharks and one sharpnose shark in their possession. FWC rules state that only two sharks are allowed per vessel, said FWC officer Bobby Dube.

The men were stopped by FWC officers at mile marker 54 on U.S. 1 at 3 p.m. Jan. 29 after officers noticed the Ford truck pulling a 24-foot Mako that was not secured with tie-down straps from the vessel to the trailer. The driver also ran a red light at U.S. 1 and Coco Plum Drive, reports state.

The officers found three sharks and multiple mackerel inside a cooler, reports state. A tail of a marine sea turtle was in the bottom of the cooler, which the men reportedly said they found floating past their vessel. Suarez told officers he retrieved the tail with a net and put in their cooler to use as bait, reports state.

Both men were taken to the Marathon jail.

More charges may be pending from the Monroe County State Attorney's Office, reports state.

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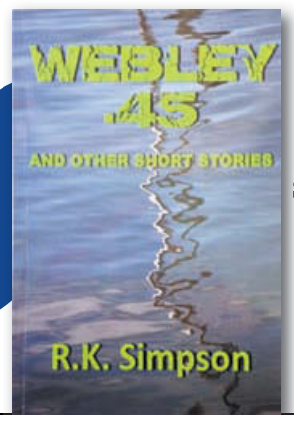


Short stories as they should be **2B**

Jazz show

Legendary horn player comes to Islamorada. **3B**

Olympian

Jamaican bobsledder visits Key Largo. **8B**

History touches down

File photos by ROB O'NEAL/Free Press

Above, visitors to the 2014 'Wings of Freedom Tour' reads inscriptions on a World War II-era B-24 J Liberator bomber at the Florida Keys Marathon Airport. Below, war birds are again lining the tarmac in Marathon through Thursday.

BY SANDRA FREDERICK
Free Press Staff

MARATHON — The Collings Foundation has been crisscrossing America for 26 years, flying vintage World War II planes as part of its living history lesson straight out of the 1940s.

Earlier this week, four of the nonprofit's war planes opened their doors to the public as part of the "Wings of Freedom Tour" at Florida Keys Marathon Airport, mile marker 52, gulfside. The public can tour the war birds from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, and 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, Feb.

See **HISTORY**, page **5B**

TRACI HOLSTEIN/Contributed

Riders on Keys for MS team include, from left, Wendell Karcher, Rosie Sanchez and Nelson Sanchez.

Bike MS personal for some riders

BY JILL ZIMA BORSKI
Free Press Contributor

KEY WEST — One doesn't have to be affected by multiple sclerosis to want to do something to help others afflicted with the disease. But for some, it is personal.

It is Traci Holstein's second year of volunteering for the Bike MS: Breakaway to Key Largo Ride, an annual cycling event in March from Miami to Key Largo that raises funds for multiple sclerosis research.

Holstein's father has MS and her husband and a coworker rode last year on a team named Keys for MS. Keys for MS is a group of cyclists in the Florida Keys who raise money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and ride in its annual South Florida event. This year, the Keys-based team has grown to about 20 members, including two from Key West.

Holstein, an Islamorada resident, has participated in MS walks wherever she lived. But, when she moved to the Keys, there was no organized walk, so last year she worked the MS Ride as a volunteer. She says she cannot ride a bike because she has had two back surgeries.

MS is a debilitative nervous system disease. Symptoms may be mild, such as numbness in the limbs, or severe, such as paralysis or loss of vision.

Twenty-five years ago, Holstein's father's MS manifested itself in one eye at the age of 40. He was a chemist for Pfizer, and at first, the problem was not so noticeable. After 10 years, he had to walk with the aid of a cane and then a walker. He has had to use a wheelchair for the last three years.

Her father took disability 15 years ago, and her mother, who was a regis-

See **MS**, page **6B**

Unusual habit: Forgetful nun sings country-western

Contributed photo

The Key Players will present the musical comedy, 'Sister Amnesia's Country Western Nunsense Jamboree,' during the first two weekends of Feburary at the Murray E. Nelson Government and Cultural Center in Key Largo.

BY JOSH GORE
Free Press Staff

KEY LARGO — The Key Players community theater group is presenting the musical comedy, "Sister Amnesia's Country Western Nunsense Jamboree," an off-Broadway romp about the multi-talented Sister Mary Paul.

Jonelle Kop will be producing this month's show, which features Kathy Miller, Cindy Hollingsworth, Deanna Engler, Lisa Wetzel and Rich Dowty. It is directed by Brad Shank.

The show is a sequel to the play "Nunsense" and follows a country singer turned nun who regains her memory after suffering from amnesia. In the play, the nun realizes she was a rising country music sensation before a crucifix fell on her head. Now Sister Mary Paul is on a promotional tour for her new album, "I Could Have Gone to Nashville."

The play is separated into two acts and includes an opening song that catches the audience up on how the nun lost and is beginning to regain her memory.

"The audience will not be lost because this is a sequel," Kop told the Free Press.

The producer said she likes musicals because of the challenge it takes when putting a cast together. Some of the members of this performance drove in from Homestead. Others, like Miller, are a mainstay for Key Players productions.

Kop said it took weeks to secure the costumes and props for the play to be held at the Murray E. Nelson Government and Cultural Center. In the past, the group has encountered trouble using the stage because of scheduling and logistical conflicts. The production is open to the whole family.

"Anyone can come out and grab a laugh," Kop said.

Like Kop, the actors are excited about the show and are ready for takeoff.

"This is a role I wanted," Miller said, who stars as Sister Mary Paul.

See **NUN**, page **6B**

read see do

Ordinary characters face extraordinary events

BY SNOW PHILIP
Special to the Free Press

WEBLEY .45 AND OTHER SHORT STORIES
By R.K. Simpson

R.K. "Chip" Simpson has joined the roster of Key West writers with the publication of "Webley .45 and Other Short Stories."

Now you won't need to read "The Brothers Karamazov" to get a taste of tragedy and redemption, childhood heartbreak, the wistful deception that can accompany infidelity and a host of other human woes and joys. Simpson deals with all of these and more in this collection of stories, and you won't have to try to keep track of complicated Russian names as you read.

Chip and wife Patty live in Alexandria, Va., and Key West. But before he settled into this routine, Simpson was an Air Force brat, a Dartmouth graduate, a U.S. Marine, a diplomat and finally a registered nurse before becoming a published author. His varied life has enabled him to write competently about a wide range of subjects. When you read his book, you'll find subtle references to warfare, medicine, Spain and a childhood spent as a military dependent woven into stories, some of which reflect his life experiences.

Short stories are notorious for taking a long time to write, but by definition they take a short time to read. These 10 stories about extraordinary things that happen to ordinary people are quick to read as well as interesting and enjoyable. You will probably want to read some of them a second time. Simpson establishes early in his tales the tension that draws a reader into the narratives and makes you want to continue reading. Most readers will find in this collection at least one story with a theme to which they can relate.

Who among us has not experienced a childhood disappointment whose heartbreak can be eased but never entirely erased, even in adulthood? When you read "The Ump," you will be sure to realize that you too have a memory of an early calamity that continues to resonate.

Ever made a snap decision that forever changed your life and the lives of others? "Ignition" looks at the quasicomic circumstances that can lead to such a momentous alteration. Next, set in the first half of the 20th century, "Hoodwinker" recalls a family friend who lived the agonizing life of fearful deception as an African-American passing for white. "The Elephant Hunt" looks at the complex relationship among a father, his closeted homosexual son and the son's unfulfilled love.

Other stories deal with a husband's practical joke on his wife, a youthful love recalled in old age and the remarkable strength of family ties.

Simpson's characters are believable and well-drawn, usually with just a few sure strokes. He is able to get down on paper plausible local dialect — not an easy task. Much of his writing is delightful; the philandering husband in

See **REVIEW**, page **4B**

top 10 bestsellers

HARDBACK FICTION

1. All the Light We Cannot See
2. The Girl on the Train
3. The First Bad Man
4. Gray Mountain
5. The Boston Girl
6. The Goldfinch
7. Redeployment
8. The Rosie Effect
9. Station Eleven
10. Saint Odd

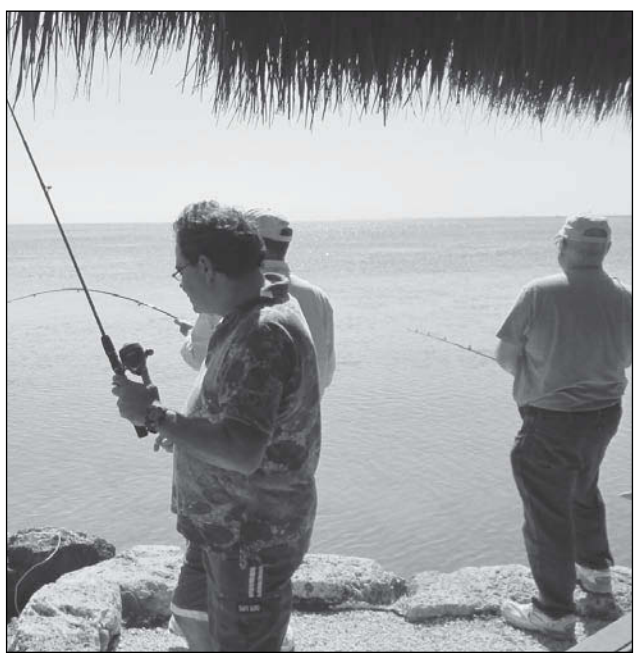
HARDBACK NONFICT.

1. Being Mortal
2. The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up
3. Yes Please
4. Deep Down Dark
5. Not That Kind of Girl
6. Killing Patton
7. Everything I Need t Know I Learned From a Little Golden Book
8. Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?
9. Small Victories
10. What If?

The Indie Bestseller List is produced by the American Booksellers Association and is based on sales in independent bookstores nationwide during the week ended Jan. 24, 2014.

faces & places

CLINIC OUTING



ALI ADAMS/Marathon Parks and Recreation

The Personal Growth Center, a program run by the Middle Keys Guidance Clinic, recently enjoyed a pizza and fishing outing at Marathon's Oceanfront Park. The activity was possible due to donations from Organized Fishermen of Florida, Captain Hook's Bait, Capt. Jim Martin, Fish Florida and Marathon's Parks and Recreation Department. The clinic's Jackie Strama organized the activity.

PUMPED UP

Contributed photo

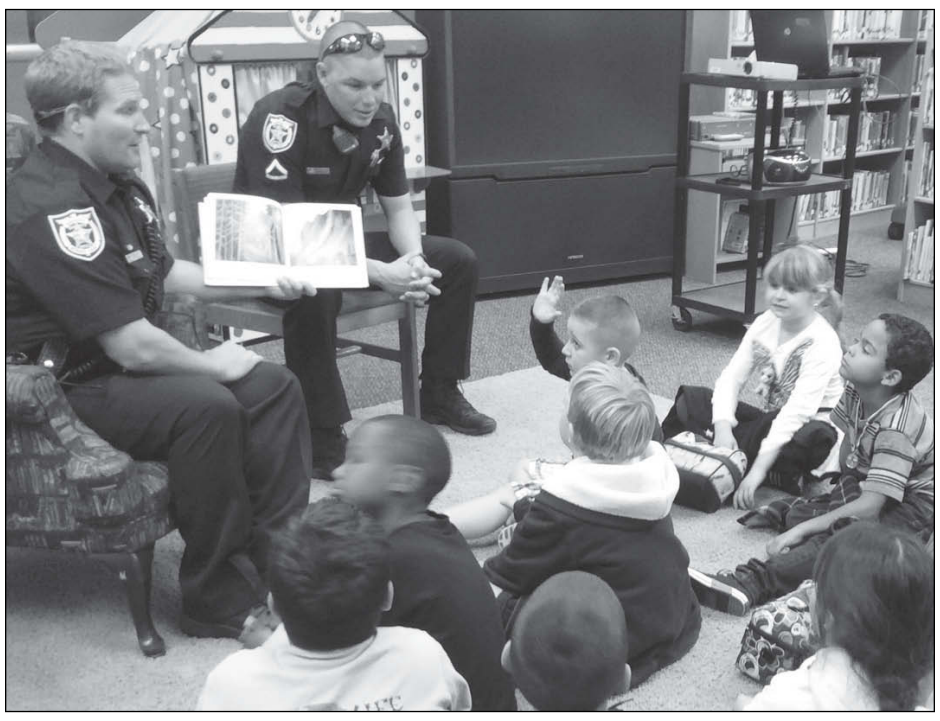
The King Neptune statue outside Jim Williams' Sugarloaf Key home got into the Super Bowl spirit this past week with a nod to the New England Patriots' 'deflategate' controversy.

VALUABLE LESSONS

Contributed photo

Plantation Key School fifth-graders created posters for Monroe County's 'I BElieve' program, which teaches students to be safe, be responsible, be there and be respectful. Posters depicted lessons learned, such as having empathy and respect, listening with attention, being assertive and accepting differences. Pictured are Robert Gazboda, Jada Rodriguez and Jaffet Gallardo-Paguaga.

PROMOTING LITERACY



Contributed photo

The Monroe County Sheriff's Office partnered with Stanley Switlik Elementary School recently to celebrate Literacy Week. Lt. Derek Paul, Detective Sgt. Tom Walker, Detective Scott Ward and Deputies James Hager, Matthew Pitcher, Caridad Calloway, participated in reading to children. Pictured are Hager and Pitcher.

live entertainment

LOCAL BAND AND VOCALIST PERFORMANCES

FRIDAY, Feb. 6

Boondocks: Corbitt Brothers 6:30 to 11 a.m.
Caribbean Club: Luke Sommer Glenn Band 10:30 p.m. to 3 a.m.
Dockside Cafe: Ericson Holt Trio 7 to 11 p.m.
Gilberts: Static 7 to 11 p.m.
Holiday Isle Tiki Bar: Cat Daddies 8 p.m. to midnight.
Holiday Isle Raw Bar: Reggie Paul noon to 4 p.m.
The Hurricane: Grass Is Dead 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Islamorada Fish Company: Kenny Channels 6 to 10 p.m.
Island Grill: Lung 6 to 9 p.m.
Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill: Jimmy Ray and Derrick Henning 6 to 10 p.m.
Looe Key Tiki Bar: TBA 6:30 to 11 p.m.
Lorelei: Dana Collins Band 5 to 9 p.m.
Morada Bay: Jess Atkins noon to 4 p.m.
Pilot House: The Dropouts 6 to 10 p.m.
Porky's Bayside: Don Irwin 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Snapper's Waterfront Restaurant: Joey Shalling 7 to 10 p.m.
Snooks: Liquid Remedy 6 to 10 p.m.
Sunset Grille: Key Like Brothers 6 to 9 p.m.

SATURDAY, Feb. 7

Boondocks: See Friday listing.
Caribbean Club: See Friday listing.
Dockside Cafe: See Friday listing.
Fish House Encore: Lee Sharp 7 to 10 p.m.
Gilberts: Scotty Meyer 1 to 5 p.m., Shane Duncan Band 7 to 11 p.m.
Holiday Isle Tiki Bar: Moose & The Bulletproof Blues Band 8 p.m. to midnight.
Holiday Isle Raw Bar: Cameo 1 to 5 p.m.
The Hurricane: See Friday listing.
Islamorada Fish Company: Dennis Holmes noon to 5 p.m., Kenny Channels 6 to 10 p.m.
Island Grill: Derrick Henning 6 to 10 p.m.
Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill: The Dropouts 7 to 11 p.m.
Looe Key Tiki Bar: See Friday listing.
Lorelei: Chris Bellamy noon to 3 p.m., Brothers of Others 5 to 9 p.m.
Morada Bay: Micah noon to 4 p.m.
Pilot House: Mike & Mike 6 to 10 p.m.
Porky's Bayside: Tommy Tune & Rocketman the Pirate 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Snapper's: Steve Webb 3 to 6 p.m., Joey Shalling 7 to 10 p.m.
Snooks: Gypsy Rose 1:30 to 5 p.m., Bobbe Brown Band 6:30 to 10:30 p.m.
Sunset Grille: Ray West 6 to 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, Feb. 8

Caribbean Club: Cat Daddies 5:30 p.m. to closing.
Dockside Cafe: Jam night 6 to 10 p.m.
Fish House Encore: See Saturday listing.
Gilberts: The Dropouts 1 to 6 p.m.
Holiday Isle Tiki Bar: Island Magic 2 to 6 p.m.
Holiday Isle Raw Bar: Yishka 11 a.m. to 24 p.m.
Islamorada Fish Company: Kenny Channels 6 to 10 p.m.
Island Grill: Kenny Channels noon to 4 p.m.
Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill: Stereo Underground 4 to 8 p.m.
Lorelei: Harry French noon to 3 p.m., Collins & Webb 5 to 9 p.m.
Morada Bay: See Friday listing.
Oceanview Lounge: Brenda Starr 3 to 7 p.m.
Pilot House: Jimmy Ray & Derek 2 to 6 p.m.
Porky's Bayside: Tim Dee & Jim Hill 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Snapper's: Frank C. 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Snooks: Sweetwater Band 1:30 to 5 p.m., Sir Cedric's Steel Drums 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Sunset Grille: Bahama Boyz 1 to 5 p.m.

IN THE KEYS

Weekend art festival will benefit historic Pigeon Key

MARATHON — Artists and craftspeople from around the country will share their wares at one of the largest winter art festivals in the Florida Keys, when the Pigeon Key Art Festival returns to the Marathon Community Park Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 7 and 8.

The festival includes pottery, paintings, glass, sculpture, photography, jewelry and more. Each year artists demonstrate their skills during the show, giving attendees a glimpse of the techniques behind their original creations.

Now in its 21st year, the event is named for Pigeon Key, a small island beneath the Old Seven Mile Bridge that housed workers constructing the Over-Sea Railroad in the early 1900s. Today, Pigeon Key is a cultural landmark.

The park at mile marker 49 will host food and beverage booths, as well as live music and children's crafts.

Marine artist Wyland plans to be on hand to create paintings to be auctioned live as part of the annual event that helps support the not-for-profit Pigeon Key Foundation.

Attendees also can purchase tickets to win among 50-plus other pieces of artwork during Sunday's traditional art raffle. Tickets are to be available through 2 p.m. Sunday.

Festival hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is $7 per person for adults and free for children under 12. Parking is free at Marathon Community Park.

Patrons who retain their ticket stubs can redeem them for a half-price ferry trip to Pigeon Key within one week of their show admission.

Festival proceeds help support the Pigeon Key Foundation, which is dedicated to delivering education to the public about the historical, environmental and cultural significance of the Florida Keys.

For more information, visit pigeonkeyartfestival.com.

Legendary jazz trumpeter to perform in Islamorada

Contributed photo

Ira Sullivan toured with Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers.

ISLAMORADA — Ira Sullivan was just a teenager when he became a part of the Chicago jazz scene of the 1950s playing in the clubs.

In 1956, he toured with Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers — a collective of jazz greats and an incubator for young talent — and has been performing around the globe ever since.

On Sunday, Feb. 8, Sullivan and his Inter/Outer Continental Quartet will perform at the ICE Amphitheater at Founders Park, mile marker 87, bayside. The concert begins at 7 p.m.

Sullivan plays trumpet, flugelhorn and peck horn; tenor, alto and soprano saxophones; flute; and an occasional round of drums. His quartet covers a wide spectrum of the jazz milieu.

"Ira Sullivan is truly one of the jazz's true masters, playing in Chicago at the birth of Bebop in the 1950s," said David Feder, ICE president.

"Though he has called Miami home for the last several decades, Sullivan is widely recorded and tours on the national and international jazz circuits."

Sullivan has played or recorded with many of jazz's seminal musicians, including Charlie "Bird" Parker, Johnny Griffin, Dexter Gordon, Red Garland, Tommy Flanagan and Roy Haynes, among others.

Opening for Sullivan will be Feder and son Nyan, both guitarists. Nyan Feder will also perform as a guest member of the Inter/Outer Continental Quartet.

Admission for the Ira Sullivan concert is $15 for adults, $5 for students and free for ages 12 and under. For more information, visit keysice.com.

QUILT SHOW

The Florida Keys Quilters will present a free mini-quilt show, featuring this year's challenge of a 'Black & White & One Other Color' quilt. The show will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 6 and 7 at the Key Largo Library community room, mile marker 101.4, oceanside. Quilts will be on display with a ballot given to each visitor to vote on for quality and design.

Contributed photo

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IN THE KEYS

briefs

Auditions for youth theater

PLANTATION KEY — Auditions are taking place for the Kids' Theatre spring selection, "Back to the '80s: The Totally Awesome Musical."

Set on a 1985 high school campus, this musical is a nostalgic romp through the greatest hits of the decade, featuring such songs as "Walking on Sunshine," "Love Shack" and "Material Girl."

Any sixth- through 12th-grader enrolled in Monroe County schools can audition. Participants should be prepared to read a scene and sing a song. Girls may choose to sing either "Let's Here it for the Boy" or "Girls Just Want to Have Fun," while boys may choose either "Footloose" or "Man in the Mirror."

Vocal auditions will be from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, at the Coral Shores Performing Arts Center. Dance auditions and callbacks are from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5.

Cast members must be able to commit to a weekly rehearsal schedule and performance dates on May 1-3 and May 8-10.

For more information, contact Michele Zofchak at michele.zofchak@keys-schools.com or call 305-853-3222, ext. 56332.

Bee lecture

KEY LARGO — Kim Gabel, environmental horticulture agent for Monroe County Extension Services, will present "Honeybees: European, Africanized and Natives" as part of the Delicate Balance of Nature lecture series.

Gabel will discuss different bee species, how to protect homes from the unwanted types and how to plant gardens with native plants to attract the desirable bees.

The free lecture begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, at John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park visitor center, mile marker 102.5, oceanside. Doors open at 7 p.m. and seating is limited.

Call 305-451-1202 for details.

'Yappy hour'

ISLAMORADA — MarrVelous Pet Rescues and Adoptions will host "Yappy Hour" 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 5, at the Lorelei, 81924 Overseas Highway.

Meet adoptable dogs and their foster families in a relaxed setting. Vaccinated, well-socialized dogs and their owners are welcome.

Then and now

KEY LARGO — The Historical Preservation Society of the Upper Keys will present a PowerPoint slide show, titled "Then and Now," by Loralea Carrera, at 7 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, in the Key Largo Library community room, mile marker 101.4, oceanside.

The program will feature a series of Upper Keys vintage photo and postcard images, each followed by a photo of how the location looks now.

The public is invited, admission is free and refreshments will be served.

Call Jerry Wilkinson at 305-852-1620 for more information.

Flagler program

BIG PINE KEY — Bahia Honda State Park will host a reenactment of the history of Henry Flagler and the Over-Sea Railroad at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 6.

Interested visitors should meet at the Old Bahia Honda Bridge at the train car stage and bring chairs. The event is included with park admission.

For more information, call 305-872-9807.

PIANIST PERFORMS

Contributed photo

Pianist and composer Michael Brown will perform at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 9, at San Pablo Church, mile marker 52, and Tuesday, Feb. 10, at Island Community Church, mile marker 83.3. Tickets can be purchased online or at the door for $25. For more information, visit floridakeysconcerts.com or call 305-451-0665.

ART ON DISPLAY

Contributed photo

Artists in Paradise is featuring the works of Dale Malone in its showcase window through Feb. 15. On display are some of her large originals, including 'Osprey Nest Construction,' which won first place at last spring's Florida Keys Watercolor Society show. Artists in Paradise is located in the Winn-Dixie shopping center at mile marker 30. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Review

Continued from page **2B**

"The Dancer" who excuses himself for his infidelities as he goes to bed alone, and thinks those thoughts that will make him feel less than the heel he knows himself to be: "These obedient sheep jumped out of their stalls when summoned and trotted docilely across his conscience — each bearing a piece of wooly truth — until he fell asleep."

And this from "Ignition" when a first-time father is finally accepted by the ancient patriarch of his wife's Sicilian family: "... Papa Lou embraced Arthur for the first time. The shriveled jackal, regnant but warm, had reached his mottled hands up, up to Arthur's face, pulled him forward ... and kissed him on both cheeks."

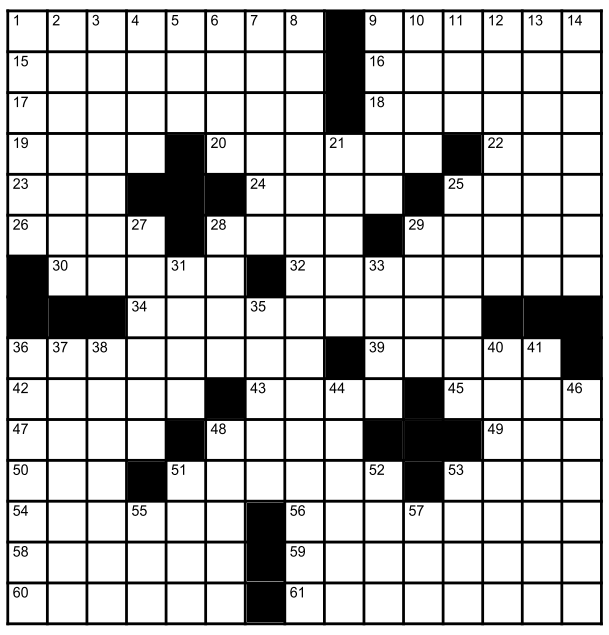
I love this description of a performer: "The musical genes of her grandmother ... spawned in Jeannie's pool. At seventeen, she had a smoky contralto, a broken heart and perfect pitch, nice credentials for a blues singer."

So I suggest that you read these stories for their well-constructed plots, their wise observations of human nature, and their forays into humor and angst. Save the beautiful vignette, "Melon for Maid Service," for dessert. I frankly enjoyed these stories a lot more than "The Brothers Karamazov," and read them in a fraction of the time demanded by the brothers.

Happy reading.

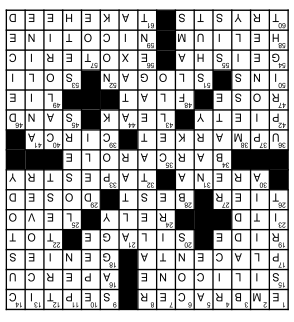
– Snow Philip lives in Key West and is a 'sometime writer.'

KEY crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Hugger
9. Infected
15. Non-toxic cookware liner
16. Outline
17. Afterbirth
18. Bottled spirits
19. Carnival attraction
20. Fodder preserved through fermentation
22. "Sesame Street" watcher
23. Etc. in Polish
24. Bank
25. Rotating to the left, shortened
26. Ticket info, maybe
28. Numero uno
29. Prescribed in specified amounts
30. "Gladiator" setting
32. 1971 Carole King album
34. Venetian gondolier's song
36. Appealing to high-income consumers
39. About
42. Devotion
43. Pipe problem
45. Beach, basically
47. Gift on "The Bachelor"
48. Apartment
49. Deception
50. ___ and outs
51. Product motto
53. Arias, usually
54. Japanese ___ girl
56. Suitable for the general public
58. Atomic no. 2
59. Addictive tobacco substance
60. Assignations
61. Listen and pay attention (2 wds)

CLUES DOWN
1. Lively intelligence
2. Word in the Second Amendment
3. Distensible membranous sac
4. Houston university
5. Trick taker, often
6. Bamboozles
7. Aggregate
8. One who facilitates the sale of land (3 wds)
9. Drooping
10. Rapier with three-sided blade
11. Ballpoint, e.g.
12. Dullest
13. Become covered with frozen water (2 wds)
14. Guardianship
21. Church part
25. Non-winners
27. Money back
28. Kennel cry
29. Kosher ___
31. ___ a one
33. Kind of mark
35. Quartet member
36. Vertical
37. Panasonic rival
38. In an untidy manner
40. Unit of heat
41. Component in making dyes and drugs
44. Loss of muscle coordination
46. Removed frozen water, as from a plane's wing
48. Deceptions
51. Close
52. Groove that holds a bowstring
53. Actor Green of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"
55. A sib
57. "For shame!"



KEY horoscopes

AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18
Once broken, trust is hard to regain. Make sure what you are about to do will be worth it, Aquarius. Vacation planning begins. Look to a pro for advice.

PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20
Poor Pisces. You did all that you could, but it did not work out. Better luck next time. A senior's recovery is nothing short of a miracle. Celebrate the good news.

ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20
Get ready to shine, Aries. The spotlight will soon be on you. Last-ditch efforts at home do not go unnoticed. The mood lifts, and all is right with the world once again.

TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21
Hang in there, Taurus. Help is on the way. Party invites arrive by the handful. Accept them all. You deserve a little fun now and then. A date draws near.

GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21
You're a generous soul. People take note and will bless you time and time again, Gemini. Principles are questioned at a meeting. Stand firm

CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22
Look out, Cancer. Trouble is brewing at home, and if you aren't careful, you could be pulled into the thick of things. A breach in confidence is no reason to panic.

LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23
Believe in the impossible, reach for the stars and that which you hope for will come true, Leo. There is more to an inquiry than meets the eye.

VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22
Hopes are dashed with a cut in funding, but there is no reason to despair, Virgo. A new source of revenue will soon be made available.

LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23
The workload decreases with an addition. Take everyone out to celebrate, Libra. A youngster's passion grows tenfold. Indulge them.

SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22
Could have, would have, should have. Time to let go of regrets and focus on what's ahead. You know better now, Scorpio. It will not happen again.

SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21
Soul searcher you are not, but it might be in your best interest to become one this week, Sagittarius. The answer to that nagging problem is within.

CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20
Introspection leads you down a new path. Tread with care, Capricorn. There will be obstacles. A glimmer of hope keeps a friend going. Be there for them.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

FEBRUARY 1
Lisa Marie Presley, Singer (46)

FEBRUARY 2
Shakira, Singer (37)

FEBRUARY 3
Sean Kingston, Singer (24)

FEBRUARY 4
Oscar De La Hoya, Boxer (41)

FEBRUARY 5
Bobby Brown, Singer (45)

FEBRUARY 6
Rick Astley, Singer (48)

FEBRUARY 7
Chris Rock, Comedian (49)

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NOTICE OF INTENT TO USE UNIFORM METHOD OF COLLECTING NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS

The Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District (the "District") hereby provides notice, pursuant to section 197.3632(3)(a), Florida Statutes, that it will consider the use of non-ad valorem assessments for the costs of facilities and services in connection with wastewater treatment within the District at a public hearing to be held at 5:00 p.m. on February 10th, 2015, at the offices of the Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District, 98880 Overseas Highway, Key Largo, Florida. If the District determines to use non-ad valorem assessments, it will use the uniform method for collecting such assessments.

Pursuant to section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if any person decides to appeal any decision by the District with respect to any matter considered at the above-referenced public hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings and he or she may 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.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation or an interpreter to participate in this proceeding should contact the District at 305-451-4019 seven days prior to the date of the hearing.

Dated this 8th day of January 2015

By Order of: **Paul Christian**

Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District

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399393

IN THE KEYS

This iridescent foliage is a real show-stopper

BY ROBIN ROBINSON
Key West Garden Club

Persian shield's vibrant purple and fuchsia 10-inch-long leaves look like an alien from outer space. They take up temporary residence on earth to spy on our more plebian green plants. The iridescent leaves are coated with a silver shimmer and feature dark green, serrated edges and veins. The wide purple undersides flash in the breeze.

The tubular, insignificant blue-violet flowers grow on short stalks. They don't look like much, but they pack a powerful punch. Once the plant has flowered, it cannot be rooted from plant cuttings. Since cuttings produce most of the commercial plants, flowering throws a monkey wrench in nursery-growers profits.

Erin Elizabeth Gamrod wrote a 114-page master's thesis in which she researched this problem. Gardeners need not go to that trouble. Do not let it flower, simply pinch off the bloom. Persian shield is propagated by putting a soft-stemmed cutting in a glass of water and waiting for roots. Pinching back the plant also makes it bushier.

Although growers value this spectacular, evergreen plant for its colorful lance-shaped leaves, many countries call it a weed and try to eradicate it. There is no biological control agent available for this plant. In Queensland, Australia, naturalists recommend pulling it up by hand being sure to get all of the roots. They suffocate it in a tied-off plastic bag to make sure it doesn't escape into the wild again.

The plant arrived from Burma in the Victorian period when greenhouses were all the rage among England's hoity-toity. It even won a British Royal Horticulturalist Society award. Persian shield does not like cold weather, so it is grown as a hothouse or houseplant in chillier climates. It thrives with high humidity, at least above 50 percent, in wet, well-drained soil, such as in the Florida Keys.

This plant is easily potted and moved in your garden to find its best location. It is one of those versatile shade plants that stretches when in deep shade, becomes tighter with dappled shade and becomes very tight in the sunshine. The understory plant grows on the margins of rainforests and near creek lines to keep its roots wet. Plant it with water absorbing granules to keep the roots damp.

ROBIN ROBINSON/Contributed

Persian shield's vibrant purple and fuchsia leaves are an attention grabber.

It will wilt in the summer sun. This tropical plant will last years if it is grown in zones where it does not get cold. If it gets cold, leaves fade and fall and it needs more sun to survive. Don't plant Persian shield near a swimming pool as chlorine damages its leaves.

In the garden, this plant looks good beside silver plants such as artemisia, Marguerite ornamental sweet potato, caladiums or elephant ears.

Persian shield also is the larval food for butterflies, but the butterflies are native to Burma, now called Myanmar. Planted in the quick-draining ground of the Keys, it has no pest or disease problems.

Big Pine and No Name Key gardeners will be happy to know that deer consider it alien and do not like munching on it.

Key West Master Gardener Robin Robinson was a columnist for the Chicago Daily News and syndicated with Princeton Features. Her books, "Plants of Paradise" and Award-Winning "Roots Rocks and Rain: Native Trees of the Florida Keys," can be found at the Garden Club and on Amazon.com. For information visit keywestgardenclub.com.

File photo by ROB O'NEAL/Free Press

Visitors inspect the B-24 J Liberator at last year's 'Wings of Freedom Tour' exhibition.

History

Continued from page 1B

5. Flights above the Middle Keys are also available.

"This will leave a lasting impression," said Hunter Chaney, director of marketing for the Collings Foundation, based in Stow, Mass. "The [restored] planes are straight out of the war and this lets people learn more about what happened during WW II."

The B-24 Liberator, two heavy B-17 Flying Fortresses and a P-51 Mustang, a restored dual-cockpit war fighter — the only one in the world, according to Chaney — are part of the fleet in Marathon.

Jerry Metcalf, a retired Air Force pilot, said he will be there to walk around the historical planes.

"It's fantastic," he said. "I took a friend of mine, who flew in them during the war, last time they were here and he got to walk around them. He didn't want to climb the ladder, but he said he already knew what they looked liked because he spent enough time in them. It is really something people need to see."

Part of the mission of the Collings Foundation is to preserve the oral histories of those who flew in the global war or were impacted by the restored aircraft.

But the history lesson comes with a financial burden.

It costs more than $60,000 to replace just one B-24 engine; $4,000 per hour to fly a B-17 flight; and a whopping $9,000 per hour to keep the F-4 in the air, according to the foundation's website.

The tickets for the walk-through are $12 for adults and $6 for children ages 12 and under. Bomber flights in the B-17 or B-24 are $450.

The "stick time" flight in the P-51 Mustang fighter is $2,200 for 30 minutes and $3,200 for an hour.

For more information, visit cfdn.org.

sfrederick@keysnews.com

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The winner will receive dinner, flowers, one night at the Faro Blanco Resort and Yacht Club from The Key West Citizen.
Drawing will be held Thursday, February 12th at noon.
Winners will be announced in Friday, February 13th's Key West Citizen.

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Name: _____
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Only original newsprint forms will be accepted.

Mail to: The Key West Citizen
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No photo copies. Contest ends Wednesday, February 11, 2015.

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at the movies …

IN THE KEYS & SOUTH FLORIDA

opening this week:

The Seventh Son (PG-13, Action/Adventure and Sci-Fi/Fantasy) - Master Gregory is a warrior of a mystical order who had imprisoned the malevolent witch, Mother Malkin, centuries ago. But now she has escaped and is seeking vengeance. Summoning her followers of every incarnation, Mother Malkin is preparing to unleash her terrible wrath on an unsuspecting world. Only one thing stands in her way: Master Gregory.

Jupiter Ascending (PG-13, Action/Adventure and Sci-Fi/Fantasy) - Jupiter Jones was born under a night sky, with signs predicting that she was destined for great things. Now grown, Jupiter wakes up each day to the reality of a job cleaning toilets and an endless run of bad breaks. Only when a genetically-engineered hunter, Caine, arrives on Earth to track her down does Jupiter begin to glimpse the cosmic fate that has been waiting for her all along.

SpongeBob: Sponge Out of Water (PG, Family, Comedy and Animation) - The continuing adventures of SpongeBob SquarePants and his friends from Bikini Bottom.

now showing:

Project Almanac (PG-13, Thriller and Sci-Fi) - A brilliant high school student and his friends uncover blueprints for a mysterious device with limitless potential, inadvertently putting lives in danger.

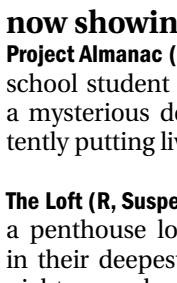
The Loft (R, Suspense and Thriller) - Five guys secretly share a penthouse loft in the city where they can indulge in their deepest fantasies. But the fantasy becomes a nightmare when they discover the body of an unknown woman in the loft, and they realize one of the group must be involved.

Black or White (PG-13, Drama) - Attorney Elliot Anderson is widowed after the car crash death of his wife. He has raised his bi-racial granddaughter Eloise since his daughter died in childbirth. As he struggles with his grief, Elliot's world is turned upside-down when the child's African American grandmother demands that Eloise be brought under the care of her father Reggie, a drug addict who Elliot blames for the negligence that led to the death of his own daughter.

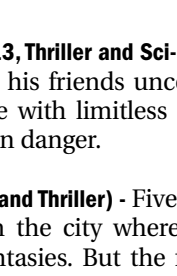
Mortdecai (PG-13, Comedy and Crime) - Juggling some angry Russians, the British Mi5, his impossibly leggy wife and an international terrorist, debonair art dealer and part-time rogue Charlie Mortdecai must traverse the globe armed only with his good looks and special charm in a race to recover a stolen painting rumored to contain the code to a lost bank account filled with Nazi gold.

Information courtesy of www.yahoo.com

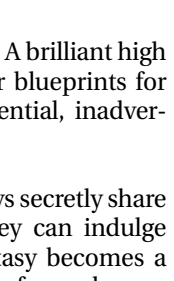
future releases:



Lazarus Effect



Fifty Shades of Grey



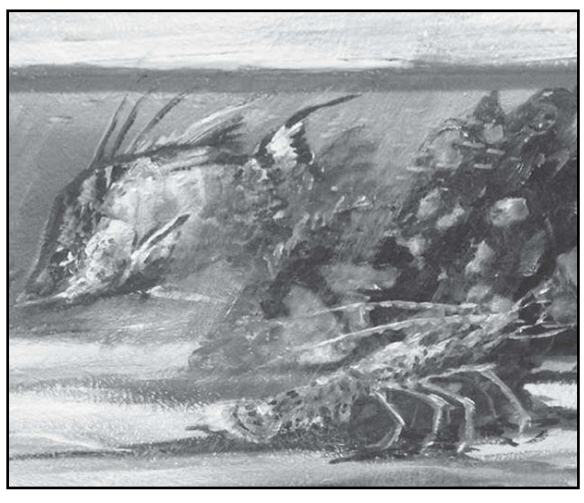
Hot Tub 2

dvd releases

PICK OF THE WEEK

John Wick (R, Action/Adventure and Thriller)
When a widowed retired hit man's restored 1969 Ford Mustang is stolen and his adored dog is killed by a sadistic thug, the former hit man goes back into action for revenge. The skilled, ruthless hit man, a known legend in the criminal underworld, tracks down the young thug only to discover he is the son of a major crime boss, a former employer.

mystery PHOTO



If you recognize the scene in this week's Free Press Mystery Photo, call us at 853-7277, starting at 9 a.m. Wednesday. If you are the first caller with the correct identification, you will receive one free lunch at Sharkey's Pub & Galley Restaurant, 522 Caribbean Drive, in Key Largo. Only one winner per household allowed every 90 days. Please pick up certificate within 30 days.

LAST WEEK'S PHOTO:
Lencho's Mexican Restaurant, Marathon

WINNER: Renee Shain

MS

Continued from page 1B

tered nurse, was able to take early retirement. Now, she cares for her husband full-time.

Miami Lakes' Mindy McDaniel started training for the MS Breakaway to Key Largo Ride in 2007 and joined the popular Bacardi team in 2009. It is a large team which includes Keys riders.

Because riders are asked to raise funds for the South Florida chapter of MS, McDaniel volunteered for the ride and helped in the bike parking zone when she was not able to meet the minimum goal. She became interested in the MS ride after participating in the Team-in-Training program in which she competed in triathlons while fund raising for specific needs.

McDaniel "got sick," as she called it, last year. Her first encounter with MS was when she woke up in Mesquite, Texas, and could not walk a straight line. She said she felt like she had been drinking. She had double vision, but that did not last long. It came and went.

She was a long-distance truck driver and enjoyed seeing the country from her big rig. She wondered if its fumes were making her sick. She asked for her truck to be checked to see if it was the cause of her problems.

She also used to enjoy taking her 90-pound Rottweiler for walks and on training runs, but sometimes the 47-year-old found that she could not run a mile without tripping over her right foot.

Still struggling to learn what was happening to her, the last straw came when she had bladder problems and went to a doctor, who said, "I don't want to scare you, but …," and confirmed Dec. 31, 2013, she had multiple sclerosis.

McDaniel lost her truck driving job, and after 30 days, her medical leave ran out. Subsequently, she lost her health insurance.

McDaniel consulted with the MS Foundation, which helped her with medication and information. Despite her diagnosis — or maybe because of it — she is determined to do the MS ride in early March. She plans to ride with a couple of friends and they expect to go at a leisurely pace. But she has her sight on a bigger goal. She wants to do an Ironman-length triathlon in Maryland in the fall of 2016. "I want to try it before I can't walk at all," she said.

The Keys for MS team is hosting a Pajama Ride fundraiser at 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, at the Islamorada Moose Lodge, mile marker 81.5, oceanside. Participants are invited to wear their best "jammies" and walk or ride along the Old Highway. For a $20 donation to the MS Society through the Keys for MS team, pajama-clad riders will receive a goody bag, 20 percent off food and beverages at the lodge after the ride and free dessert.

The Bike MS: Breakaway to Key Largo is set for March 7 and 8, beginning at the Florida International University stadium. Riders can register as an individual, join a team or form their own team. The finish Saturday is at mile marker 100 in Key Largo, and Sunday the riders return to Miami via Card Sound Road. Teams and individuals compete for prizes.

For more information, email fls_msbike@nmss.org or call the Bike MS director at 954-676-3911.

Contributed photo

The Bacardi team gets set to break away to Key Largo from Miami.

Nun

Continued from page 1B

Miller said singing brought new challenges for the actress, who enjoys making people laugh.

"I love to see smiles on people's faces," she said.

The play's director, Shank, said the production is polished and ready for the stage.

"The cast were absolutely dedicated to learning their roles," he said. "They've gone through a lot of rehearsing."

Shank said the play lasts about two hours and should keep the attention of the audience throughout.

"It's a moving musical and isn't too long or drawn out," he said.

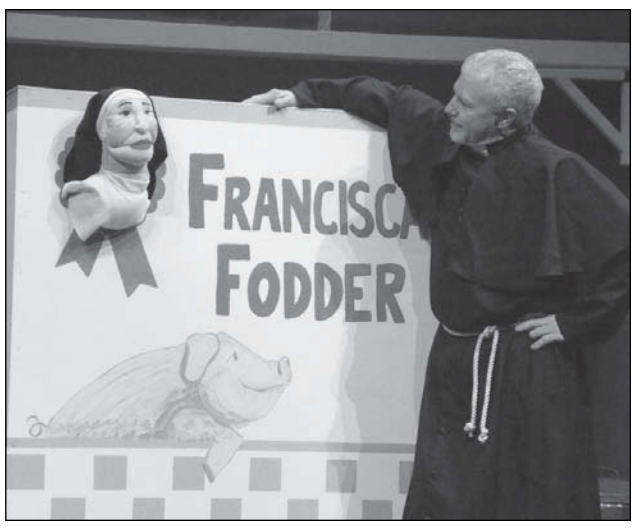
Shows are set for 8 p.m. Feb. 5, 6 and 7 as well as Feb. 12, 13 and 14.

Doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at Shear Paradise, mile marker 99.3, oceanside; Post Net, mile marker 88, bayside; or The UPS Store at Tradewinds Plaza, mile marker 100.4, oceanside. Tickets can also be purchased at thekeyplayers.org.

jgore@keysnews.com

Contributed photo

The musical comedy pokes a little good-natured fun at two well-established institutions: the Catholic church and Nashville music.



Contributed photo

The comedic romp makes use of the talents of Kathy Miller, left, and Rich Dowty.

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What To Watch This Week

WEDNESDAY EVENING — FEBRUARY 4

	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
ABC	The Middle	Fresh-Boat	Mod Fam	Fresh-Boat	Nashville (N) 🎧 CC		News	J. Kimmel
CBS	The Mentalist (N) CC		Criminal Minds (N) 🎧		Stalker "Lost and Found"		CBS4 News	Letterman
FOX	American Idol (N) CC		(:01) Empire (N) 🎧 CC		News		News	Deco Drive
NBC	The Mysteries of Laura		Law & Order: SVU		Chicago PD (N) 🎧		News	J. Fallon
PBS	Nature 🎧 CC (DVS)		Earth: A New Wild Humans and the wilderness. CC				Wild Caribbean 🎧 CC	
UNI	Mi corazón es tuyo (N)		Hasta el Fin del Mundo		Que te Perdone		Noticias 23	Noticiero
A&E	Duck Dynasty 🎧 CC		Duck D.	Duck D.	Wahlburgr	Donnie	(:03) Nightwatch 🎧 CC	
AMC	★★★ **"Casino Royale"** (2006, Action) Daniel Craig, Eva Green. CC						★★★ **"Air Force One"**	
CNBC	Shark Tank 🎧 CC		Shark Tank 🎧 CC		Car Chasers	Car Chasers	Shark Tank 🎧 CC	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Anthony Bourdain Parts		CNN Tonight (N)		Anderson Cooper 360	
CSPN	Capitol Hill	Key Capitol Hill Hearings Speeches. 🎧				Key Capitol Hill Hearings Speeches. 🎧		
DISC	Dual Survival: Untamed		Dual Survival "Episode 4"		Fire in the Hole (N) CC		Dual Survival "Episode 4"	
DISN	K.C. Under.	Liv-Mad.	Austin	Dog	Austin	Jessie 🎧	I Didn't	Liv-Mad.
ENC	★★★ **"Starman"** (1984) Jeff Bridges. iTV. 🎧 CC				★★ **"The Lone Ranger"** (2013) Johnny Depp. CC			
ESPN	NBA Basketball Chicago Bulls at Houston Rockets. (N) (Live)					NBA Basketball: Mavericks at Warriors		
FAM	Melissa	Baby Daddy	★★ **"The Wedding Date"** (2005) Debra Messing.				The 700 Club 🎧 CC	
HBO	**Meet**	(:45) ★★★★ **"12 Years a Slave"** (2013) Chiwetel Ejiofor. 🎧 CC					Real Time With Bill Maher	
LIFE	Little Women: LA CC		Little Women: LA (N)		Big Women: Big Love (N)		(:02) Little Women: LA	
MAX	(7:15) ★★ **"Poseidon"**		Banshee 🎧 CC		★★ **"Bad Words"** (2013) 🎧 CC			**Sex Bug**
NICK	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Prince	Prince	Friends 🎧	(:36) Friends
SHOW	Inside the NFL 🎧 CC		Shameless 🎧 CC		Episodes	Lies	Inside the NFL 🎧 CC	
SPIKE	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC
SUN	College Basketball		College Basketball Clemson at Florida State. (N)				P1 AquaX USA	
TNT	Grimm "Love Sick" 🎧		Grimm "Cat and Mouse"		Grimm 🎧 CC (DVS)		Grimm 🎧 CC	
USA	NCIS "Devil's Triad" 🎧		NCIS "Kill Chain" 🎧		Suits "Respect" (N) CC		(:01) Sirens	(:31) Sirens
WGN-A	Funniest Home Videos		How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan (N)	

THURSDAY EVENING — FEBRUARY 5

	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
ABC	Grey's Anatomy (N) CC		Scandal (N) 🎧 CC		Get Away With Murder		News	J. Kimmel
CBS	Big Bang	(:31) Mom	Two Men	McCarthys	Elementary "Hemlock" 🎧		CBS4 News	Letterman
FOX	American Idol (N) CC		Backstrom (N) 🎧 CC		News		News	Deco Drive
NBC	The Blacklist CC		The Blacklist (N) CC		Allegiance "Pilot" 🎧		News	J. Fallon
PBS	Call the Midwife CC		WPC 56	(:45) WPC 56		Masterpiece Mystery! 🎧		Railroad
UNI	Mi corazón es tuyo (N)		Hasta el Fin del Mundo		Que te Perdone		Noticias 23	Noticiero
A&E	The First 48 🎧 CC		The First 48 (N) 🎧 CC		(:01) Nightwatch (N) CC		(:02) Nightwatch 🎧 CC	
AMC	★★ **"Young Guns"** (1988) Emilio Estevez, Kiefer Sutherland. CC					★★ **"Young Guns II"** (1990) CC		
CNBC	Shark Tank 🎧 CC		American Greed		American Greed (N)		American Greed	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Morgan Spurlock Inside		CNN Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360	
CSPN	Key Capitol Hill Hearings		Key Capitol Hill Hearings Speeches. 🎧				Key Capitol Hill Hearings	
DISC	To Be Announced		To Be Announced					
DISN	★★★ **"Cars"** (2006) Voices of Owen Wilson. 🎧				Austin	Jessie 🎧	I Didn't	Liv-Mad.
ENC	**"Chronicles of Narnia: Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe"**					**"Mortal Instruments"**		
ESPN	College Basketball		College Basketball Cincinnati at Southern Methodist.				SportsCenter (N) CC	
FAM	**Wedding**	★★★ **"Grease"** (1978) John Travolta, Olivia Newton-John.					The 700 Club 🎧 CC	
HBO	Mel Brooks Live		★★ **"Riddick"** (2013) Vin Diesel, Karl Urban. 🎧 CC				Cathouse: Back/Saddle	
LIFE	Project Runway All Stars		Project Runway All Stars (N) CC			(:32) Project Runway All Stars CC		
MAX	★★★ **"Lone Survivor"** (2013) Mark Wahlberg. 🎧				★★ **"The Break-Up"** (2006) Vince Vaughn. 🎧 CC			
NICK	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Prince	Prince	Friends	(:36) Friends
SHOW	Roberta Flack: Killing		Lies	Episodes	Shameless 🎧 CC		Penn/Teller	Lies
SPIKE	(7:30) ★★ **"The Expendables 2"** (2012, Action) 🎧				★ **"The Condemned"** (2007, Action) Steve Austin. 🎧			
SUN	Lightning	NHL Hockey Tampa Bay Lightning at Dallas Stars. 🎧 (Live)					Lightning	Lightning
TNT	NBA Basketball Los Angeles Clippers at Cleveland Cavaliers. (N)					NBA Basketball: Suns at Trail Blazers		
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Mod Fam	Mod Fam
WGN-A	Funniest Home Videos		How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met
WTBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan (N)	

FRIDAY EVENING — FEBRUARY 6

	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
ABC	Last Man	(:31) Cristela	Shark Tank (N) 🎧 CC		(:01) 20/20 🎧 CC		News	J. Kimmel
CBS	Undercover Boss (N) 🎧		Hawaii Five-0 (N) CC		Blue Bloods (N) 🎧 CC		CBS4 News	Letterman
FOX	World's Funniest Fails (N)		Glee (N) CC (DVS)		News		News	Deco Drive
NBC	Constantine (N) 🎧 CC		Grimm "Marechaussee"		Dateline NBC (N) CC		News	J. Fallon
PBS	Washington	McLaughlin	Shakespeare Uncovered		Shakespeare Uncovered		Richard Pryor -- Icon 🎧	
UNI	Mi corazón es tuyo (N)		Hasta el Fin del Mundo		Que te Perdone		Noticias 23	Noticiero
A&E	Criminal Minds 🎧		Criminal Minds 🎧		Criminal Minds 🎧		(:01) Criminal Minds 🎧	
AMC	**"Resident Evil: Afterlife"**		The Walking Dead CC		The Walking Dead "Sick"		The Walking Dead CC	
CNBC	Shark Tank 🎧 CC		The Celebrity Apprentice A boat tour of New York.				American Greed Fugitives	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		This Is Life		This Is Life		This Is Life	
CSPN	Key Capitol Hill Hearings Speeches. 🎧				Key Capitol Hill Hearings Speeches. 🎧			
DISC	Gold Rush - The Dirt (N)		Gold Rush (N) 🎧 CC		Alaskan Bush People (N)		Gold Rush 🎧 CC	
DISN	Jessie (N)	Girl Meets	Phineas	Wander	I Didn't	Liv-Mad.	Dog	Jessie 🎧
ENC	★★★ **"Frozen"** (2013) iTV. 🎧 CC			(:45) ★★★ **"Starman"** (1984) Jeff Bridges. iTV. 🎧				**My Cousin**
ESPN	NBA Basketball: Clippers at Raptors			NBA Basketball Miami Heat at San Antonio Spurs. (N) (Live)				
FAM	**Grease**	★★★ **"Pitch Perfect"** (2012) Anna Kendrick, Skylar Astin.					The 700 Club 🎧 CC	
HBO	★★ **"300: Rise of an Empire"** (2014, Action) 🎧 CC				Real Time With Bill Maher		Real Time With Bill Maher	
LIFE	Bring It! CC		Bring It! (N) CC		Preachers' Daughters (N)		(:02) Bring It! CC	
MAX	★★ **"Draft Day"** (2014) Kevin Costner. Premiere. 🎧				Banshee "Tribal" (N) 🎧		Banshee "Tribal" CC	
NICK	Turtles	Turtles	Full House	Full House	Prince	Prince	Friends 🎧	(:36) Friends
SHOW	Shameless 🎧 CC		The Affair 🎧 CC		Shameless 🎧 CC		X-Rated: Great	
SPIKE	Cops CC	Cops CC	GLORY 19: Fayetteville (N) 🎧				Cops CC	Cops CC
SUN	Tampa Bay Rays Encore		Boxing From Aug. 11, 1998, in Miami.				Boxing	
TNT	Cold Justice (N) CC		★★★ **"The Town"** (2010) Ben Affleck, Rebecca Hall. CC (DVS)					Cold Justice
USA	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Sirens	Sirens
WGN-A	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	King of the Nerds (N)		★★ **"Valentine's Day"** (2010) Jessica Alba. (DVS)			

SATURDAY EVENING — FEBRUARY 7

	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
ABC	★★★ **"Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone"** (2001) Daniel Radcliffe. 🎧						News	ThisMinute
CBS	NCIS "Choke Hold" 🎧		NCIS: New Orleans CC		48 Hours (N) 🎧 CC		CBS4 News	Ent
FOX	Red Band Society The group copes with a loss. 🎧				Weekend News at 10		Ch. 7 News	Animation
NBC	Dateline NBC The death of a pregnant newlywed. 🎧				Saturday Night Live 🎧		News	SNL
PBS	Keeping Up	As Time...	★★★★ **"Casablanca"** (1942) Humphrey Bogart.				Moone Boy	Que Pasa?
UNI	Sábado Gigante (N) (SS)						Noticias 23	Noticiero
A&E	The First 48 🎧 CC		Nightwatch 🎧 CC		Nightwatch 🎧 CC		(:01) Nightwatch 🎧 CC	
AMC	The Walking Dead CC		The Walking Dead "After"		The Walking Dead CC		The Walking Dead CC	
CNBC	Secret Lives	Secret Lives	The Suze Orman Show		Restaurant Startup		Restaurant Startup	
CNN	Morgan Spurlock Inside		Morgan Spurlock Inside		CNN Special Report		Anderson Cooper Special	
CSPN	Washington This Week		Washington This Week 🎧				Washington This Week	
DISC	Alaskan Bush People 🎧		MythBusters (N) 🎧 CC		To Be Announced		MythBusters 🎧 CC	
DISN	**"Pants on Fire"** (2014) Premiere. 🎧			Mighty Med	Lab Rats 🎧	K.C. Under.	Liv-Mad.	Austin
ENC	★★ **"St. Elmo's Fire"** (1985) Rob Lowe. iTV. 🎧 CC				(9:50) ★★ **"Striptease"** (1996) Demi Moore. iTV. 🎧			
ESPN	College GameDay (N)		College Basketball Kentucky at Florida. (N) (Live)				SportsCenter (N) CC	
FAM	**Pitch**	★★★ **"Hitch"** (2005) Will Smith, Eva Mendes. Premiere.					★★★ **"Pretty Woman"**	
HBO	★★★ **"Edge of Tomorrow"** (2014) Tom Cruise. CC				★★★ **"The 40-Year-Old Virgin"** (2005) Steve Carell.			
LIFE	**"Megachurch Murder"** (2015) Tamala Jones. CC				Movie			
MAX	(7:15) **"The LEGO Movie"**		Banshee "Tribal" CC		★★ **"Draft Day"** (2014) Kevin Costner. 🎧 CC			
NICK	Henry	Nicky, Ricky	Bella	Awesome	Prince	Prince	Friends 🎧	(:36) Friends
SHOW	Episodes	Lies	Shameless 🎧 CC		★★★ **"Cold in July"** (2014) Michael C. Hall. CC			
SPIKE	Cops (N) 🎧	Cops CC	Vegas	Vegas	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC	Cops CC
SUN	Lightning	Lightning	Kentucky Signing Day		Paradise	Florida	Special how to Do florida	
TNT	**"Inglourious Basterds"**		Transporter: The Series		Transporter: The Series		Transporter: The Series	
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Mod Fam	Mod Fam
WGN-A	Blue Bloods "Chinatown"		Blue Bloods 🎧 CC		★★ **"Deep Blue Sea"** (1999) Thomas Jane. CC			
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Ground	Cougar

SUNDAY EVENING — FEBRUARY 8

	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
ABC	★★★ **"The Hunger Games"** (2012) Jennifer Lawrence. Premiere. 🎧						News	Sports
CBS	The 57th Annual Grammy Awards Excellence in the recording industry. (N) 🎧 (Live) CC							CBS4 News
FOX	Simpsons	Brooklyn	Family Guy	Burgers	News		Ch. 7 News	Sports Xtra
NBC	American Ninja Warrior Teams from the U.S., Japan and Europe. 🎧 (DVS)						News	Sports Final
PBS	Masterpiece Classic (N)		Masterpiece Classic (N)		Masterpiece Mystery! (N)		Vicious 🎧	Moone Boy
UNI	Nuestra Belleza Latina (N)				Sal y Pimienta		Noticias 23	Noticiero
A&E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage
AMC	The Walking Dead CC		The Walking Dead (N)		Better Call Saul "Uno"		(:15) Talking Dead (N)	
CNBC	Ultimate Factories		Ultimate Factories		Ultimate Factories		Car Chasers	Car Chasers
CNN	Death Row Stories		Death Row Stories		Death Row Stories		Death Row Stories	
CSPN	Q & A 🎧		House of Commons		Road to the White House		Q & A 🎧	
DISC	Alaska: The Last Frontier		Alaska: The Last Frontier		Alaskan Bush: Off Grid		Alaska: The Last Frontier	
DISN	Austin	K.C. Under.	Liv-Mad.	Girl Meets	Jessie 🎧	Dog	Austin	K.C. Under.
ENC	★★★ **"Heat"** (1995, Crime Drama) Al Pacino, Robert De Niro. iTV. 🎧 CC						(10:55) **"Unforgiven"** CC	
ESPN	Grantland Basketball		30 for 30 (N)				SportsCenter (N) CC	
FAM	(7:00) ★★★ **"Hitch"** (2005) Will Smith.		★★★ **"Pretty Woman"** (1990) Richard Gere, Julia Roberts.					
HBO	The Jinx: The Life		Girls (N) 🎧	Together	Looking (N)	Girls CC	Last Week	The Jinx
LIFE	(7:00) Movie		Movie				(:02) Movie	
MAX	**Good Day**	★★ **"Bad Words"** (2013) 🎧 CC			★★★ **"Lone Survivor"** (2013) Mark Wahlberg. 🎧			
NICK	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Prince	Prince	Friends 🎧	(:36) Friends
SHOW	Episodes	Lies	Shameless (N) 🎧 CC		Lies	Episodes	Shameless 🎧 CC	
SPIKE	Bar Rescue 🎧		Bar Rescue (N) 🎧		Coaching Bad (N)		Bar Rescue 🎧	
SUN	Sportsman	Florida	Fins/Skins	Fishing	Women's College Basketball: Owls at Roadrunners			
TNT	★★ **"Red"** (2010, Action) Bruce Willis. CC (DVS)				(:15) ★★★ **"The Bourne Supremacy"** (2004) CC			
USA	NCIS "The Good Son" 🎧		NCIS Ziva's father visits.		NCIS "Shiva" 🎧		NCIS 🎧 CC (DVS)	
WGN-A	★★ **"Deep Blue Sea"** (1999) Thomas Jane. CC				Salem CC		Wrestling	Wrestling
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	**"Sorcerer's Apprentice"**	

MONDAY EVENING — FEBRUARY 9

	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
ABC	The Bachelor (N) 🎧 CC				(:01) Castle (N) CC		News	J. Kimmel
CBS	Broke Girl	Mike	Scorpion "Love Boat" (N)		(9:59) NCIS: Los Angeles		CBS4 News	Letterman
FOX	Gotham "The Scarecrow"		Sleepy Hollow (N) 🎧		Ch. 7 News at 10:00 (N)		News	Deco Drive
NBC	The Celebrity Apprentice		The Celebrity Apprentice		State of Affairs (N) 🎧		News	J. Fallon
PBS	Antiques Roadshow (N)		British Baking		A Path Appears (N) 🎧 CC			Ole Miss
UNI	Mi corazón es tuyo (N)		Hasta el Fin del Mundo		Que te Perdone		Noticias 23	Noticiero
A&E	The First 48 🎧 CC		The First 48 🎧 CC		(:01) Nightwatch 🎧 CC		(:02) The First 48 CC	
AMC	(7:45) Breaking Bad		Better Call Saul "Uno"		Better Call Saul "Mijo"		(:04) Better Call Saul	
CNBC	Shark Tank 🎧 CC		Restaurant Startup		Restaurant Startup		American Greed	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N) CC				CNN Tonight			
CSPN	Key Capitol Hill Hearings Speeches. 🎧				Key Capitol Hill Hearings Speeches. 🎧			
DISC	Street Outlaws: Full Throt		Street Outlaws (N) CC		Fat N Furious: Rolling		Street Outlaws 🎧 CC	
DISN	★★★ **"The Princess and the Frog"**			Mickey	Jessie 🎧	Liv-Mad.	I Didn't	Dog
ENC	★★★ **"Misery"** (1990) James Caan. iTV. 🎧 CC				(9:50) ★★ **"The Vanishing"** (1993)			**Witches**
ESPN	College Basketball		College Basketball Iowa State at Oklahoma. (N) (Live)				SportsCenter (N) CC	
FAM	The Fosters (N) 🎧 CC		Chasing Life (N) 🎧 CC		The Fosters 🎧 CC		The 700 Club 🎧 CC	
HBO	**"The Way, Way Back"** 🎧		The Jinx	(:45) ★★★★ **"Her"** (2013) Joaquin Phoenix, Amy Adams. 🎧 CC				
LIFE	★★ **"The Notebook"** (2004, Romance) Ryan Gosling, Rachel McAdams. CC						To Be Announced	
MAX	Banshee "Tribal" CC		★ **"Queen of the Damned"** (2002) 🎧		(:45) ★★★ **"Gravity"** (2013) 🎧 CC			
NICK	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Prince	Prince	Friends 🎧	(:36) Friends
SHOW	Shameless 🎧 CC		Lies	Episodes	Shameless 🎧 CC		Episodes	Lies
SPIKE	(7:30) ★★ **"I Am Number Four"** (2011) Alex Pettyfer.				★★★ **"I Am Legend"** (2007) Will Smith. 🎧			
SUN	Sportsman	Florida	Fins/Skins	Fishing	Captain's	Extreme	Inside HEAT	Paradise
TNT	Castle 🎧 CC (DVS)		Castle 🎧 CC (DVS)		Bones 🎧 CC		Bones 🎧 CC	
USA	WWE Monday Night RAW (N) 🎧 (Live) CC						(:05) Sirens	(:35) Sirens
WGN-A	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		★★ **"A Knight's Tale"** (2001) Heath Ledger.			
WTBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan (N)	

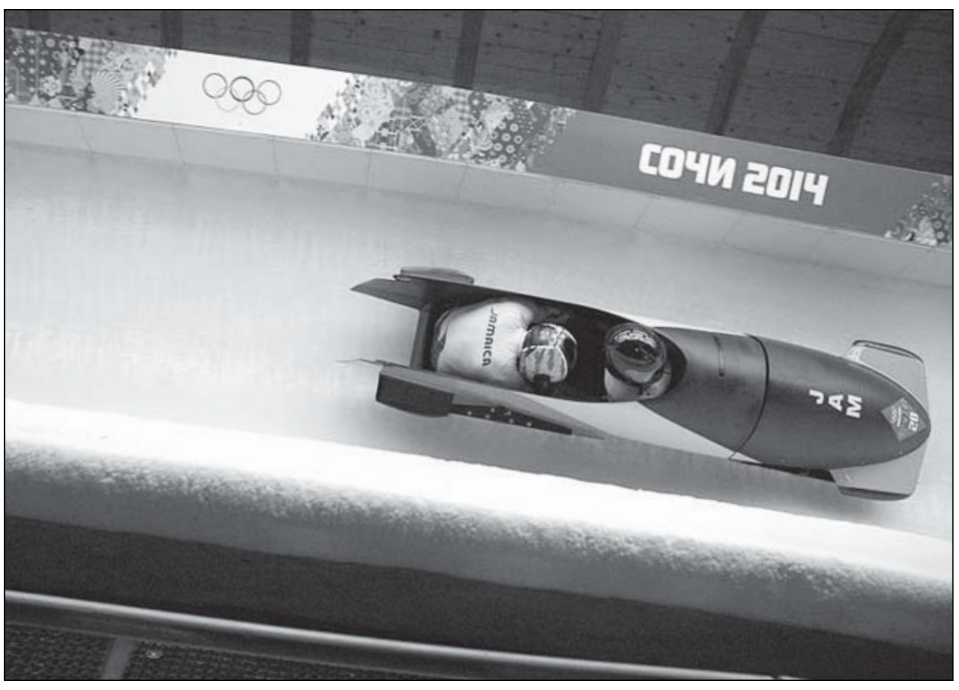
TUESDAY EVENING — FEBRUARY 10

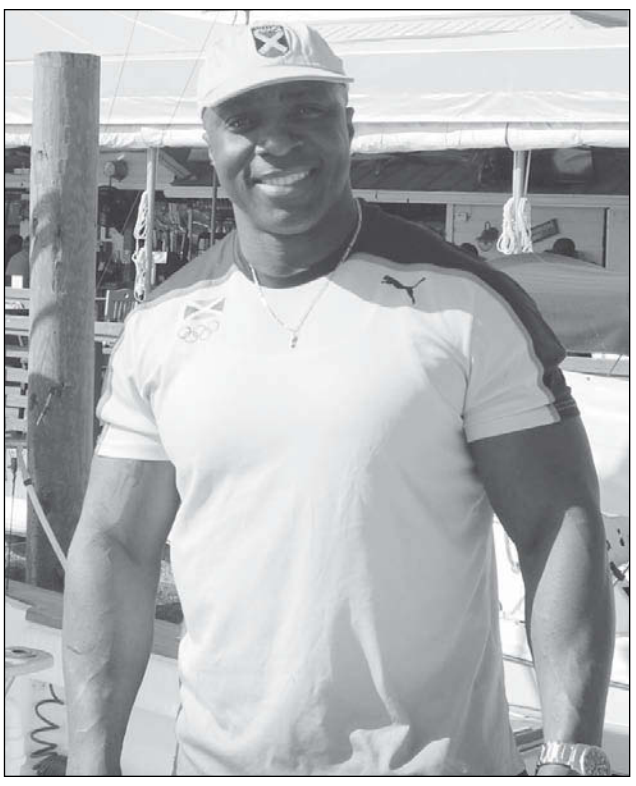
	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
ABC	Fresh-Boat	Fresh-Boat	Marvel's Agent Carter (N)		Forever (N) 🎧 CC		News	J. Kimmel
CBS	NCIS (N) CC (DVS)		NCIS: New Orleans (N) 🎧		(:01) Person of Interest		CBS4 News	Letterman
FOX	MasterChef (N) 🎧		New Girl (N)	Mindy	Ch. 7 News at 10:00 (N)		News	Deco Drive
NBC	Parks	Parks	Marry Me	About a Boy	Chicago Fire (N) 🎧		News	J. Fallon
PBS	Genealogy Roadshow (N)		The Forgotten Plague		Frontline "Being Mortal"		Black in Latin America 🎧	
UNI	Mi corazón es tuyo (N)		Hasta el Fin del Mundo		Que te Perdone		Noticias 23	Noticiero
A&E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Shipping	Shipping	Storage	Storage
AMC	★★★ **"The Departed"** (2006, Crime Drama) Leonardo DiCaprio, Matt Damon. CC							**Gridiron**
CNBC	Shark Tank 🎧 CC		Shark Tank 🎧 CC		Restaurant Startup (N)		Shark Tank 🎧 CC	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		A Life Lost & Found		CNN Tonight (N) (Live)		Anderson Cooper 360	
CSPN	Capitol Hill	Key Capitol Hill Hearings Speeches. 🎧				Key Capitol Hill Hearings Speeches. 🎧		
DISC	To Be Announced		Amish Mafia 🎧 CC		Big Giant Swords (N) 🎧		Amish Mafia 🎧 CC	
DISN	K.C. Under.	Liv-Mad.	Austin	Girl Meets	Jessie 🎧	Liv-Mad.	I Didn't	Dog
ENC	★★★ **"American Hustle"** (2013) Christian Bale. iTV. 🎧 CC					(:20) ★★★ **"Starman"** (1984) iTV. 🎧		
ESPN	College Basketball		College Basketball Wisconsin at Nebraska. (N) (Live)				SportsCenter (N) CC	
FAM	Pretty Little Liars (N) 🎧		Switched at Birth (N) 🎧		Pretty Little Liars CC		The 700 Club 🎧 CC	
HBO	Together	★★★ **"Edge of Tomorrow"** (2014) Tom Cruise. 🎧				Girls CC	Looking 🎧	The Jinx
LIFE	Dance Moms (N) CC		Dance Moms (N) CC		(:02) Child Genius (N)		(:02) Dance Moms CC	
MAX	**47 Ronin** 🎧	★★ **"Idiocracy"** (2006) Luke Wilson.			★★ **"Fast & Furious 6"** (2013) Vin Diesel. 🎧 CC			
NICK	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Prince	Prince	Friends 🎧	(:36) Friends
SHOW	Shameless 🎧 CC		D.L. Hughley: Clear CC		Lies	Episodes	★★★ **"Cold in July"** 🎧	
SPIKE	Bar Rescue 🎧		Bar Rescue 🎧		Framework (N) 🎧		Bar Rescue 🎧	
SUN	NHL Hockey Tampa Bay Lightning at Nashville Predators. 🎧 (Live)					Lightning	Lightning	Lightning
TNT	NBA Basketball Houston Rockets at Phoenix Suns. (N) (Live) CC					NBA Basketball: Nuggets at Lakers		
USA	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Sirens (N)	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam
WGN-A	(7:00) ★★ **"A Knight's Tale"** (2001) Heath Ledger.				Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling
WTBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Ground	Cougar	Conan (N)	

sports & recreation

Jamaican bobsledder speaks of experience

BY JOSH GORE
Free Press Staff





SANDER VAN GINKEL/Creative Commons and JOSH GORE/Free Press

Above, Winston Watts, seated in back, competes in the two-man bobsleigh competition at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. Right, Watts outside Key Largo's Pilot House last week.

KEY LARGO — Being an Olympian demands physical toughness, stamina and the mental strength to outperform your opponent.

Winston Watts, 47, competed in four Olympics games representing Jamaica on its bobsleigh team. This past week, Watts spent time in Key Largo speaking about the motivation and hard work it took for him to succeed.

"You have to get up and go get it," he said. "It's hard work. No matter the obstacle, just keep your head down and get through it."

Watts traveled to South Florida where he made an appearance in a new HBO series starring Dwayne Johnson. While in Key Largo, he appeared on an Upper Keys radio show and spent time training at Froggy's Fitness in Tavernier.

Working out for Watts consists of explosive sprints and intense weight training.

Watts said he plans on spending at least two more years in the sport before stepping aside and giving younger athletes an opportunity. He, though, is confident he can still perform at a world-class level.

"In the tryouts, it's who can run the fastest as well as lifting speed and strength," he said. "I am going to be on the next team. I never think about coming in second."

In his 2014 Olympic performance, Watts represented Jamaica in the Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.

"It was crazy, just crazy," he said. "I never thought I would be in that country."

Watts said his country's team — a Caribbean crew participating in a snow-based sport — is idolized by fans throughout the world.

"We were the most famous people in Russia," he said.

In addition to Sochi, Watts also performed in the 2002, 1998 and 1994 Olympic Winter Games.

See **BOBSLED**, page **10B**

Marathon girls fall in semifinals, end season

BY RON COOKE
Free Press Staff

KATHY LANCASTER/Contributed

Savannah Rodamer moves the ball away from two Miami Country Day players in regional semifinal play in Marathon.

MARATHON — The Marathon High School girls soccer team fell 1-0 to Miami Country Day last week in the Region 4-1A semifinals at Switlik Field in Marathon, ending their season.

Marathon ends its best season with a 20-3-1 mark, but the Lady Fins could not overcome an early goal by the Lady Spartans and fell out of the playoffs.

In their previous meeting, Marathon routed the Miami team with a 7-1 win without starting goalie Laurel Ivory.

Ivory made the difference last week, stopping all four of Marathon's first-half shots and adding three more saves in the second half.

In the first half, the Lady Spartans only had two shots on goal. The first, from Amanda Martin at 25 yards out, put Miami Country Day up 1-0 in the 12th minute.

Marathon created plenty of scoring opportunities but could not overcome their speedy and physical opponent.

In the second half, Miami Country Day picked up the intensity, and Martin picked up a double-yellow card in the 49th minute.

Despite the Lady Spartans being down a player, Marathon could not penetrate the solid defense and Ivory.

"They were very good," Marathon coach Cindy Durkin Bull said. "It's ironic. We were talking yesterday [whether] one player [can] make a difference. I guess so. I guess one player can make a difference.

"But the bottom line is our team played with integrity, we didn't take any cheap shots and we didn't try to take somebody out or try to hurt other players. ... We knew it was going to be a close one, and it was a close one. And one little goal made the difference."

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LADY CANES SENIOR NIGHT

Contributed photo

The Coral Shores High School girls basketball coaches and seniors stand together Jan. 16 at midcourt during a Senior Night ceremony on the Hurricanes' campus. The Lady Canes ended their season with the school's first winning season in years with a record of 6-5. 'There was great morale and teamwork as the season progressed,' said coach Alena McNew. From left, assistant coach Alphonzo Bryant, Brooklyn Irwin, Karyna Doering, Amberlyn Casas, Yami Vargas, Myah Greer, assistant coach Joshua McNew and coach McNew.

Swamp Guides to celebrate 25th year

ISLAMORADA — Anglers can celebrate the Swamp Guides Ball and Auction's 25th year as a backcountry fishing challenge Friday and Saturday, Feb. 6 and 7. The all-release tournament targets bonefish, redfish and snook.

All anglers are welcome to compete and are not required to hire a professional guide to participate. Several backcountry guides trade their push poles for fishing poles each year to join fellow angling competitors.

Headquartered at the Lorelei Restaurant and Cabana Bar, mile marker 82, the event benefits the nonprofit Guides Trust Foundation, which assists

See **GUIDES**, page **10B**

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Panthers Lacrosse Club is in its 12th year! New players welcome!
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For more information call Nicole Kraus at 305.733.7901, nmkraus@me.com
388103

SPORTS & RECREATION

ERIC BASS/Free Press

The Coral Shores High School tennis team started practicing last week for the 2015 campaign.

Hurricanes' spring sports teams are ready to roll

BY ERIC BASS
Free Press Staff

PLANTATION KEY — The 2015 spring sports schedule at Coral Shores High School features a number of competitions as the first week of February begins.

First on the docket is a lacrosse match for the Lady Canes under the direction of coaches Mark and Cindy Hall. The girls will host a tournament against Key West and Coral Reef High at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4.

Over the past five seasons, the Lady Canes have won numerous district titles. However, last season was a rebuilding year and the team came away with a losing record of 5-8.

This year, the Lady Canes will be young again at just about every position with only three senior players on the squad. Coral Shores will open the regular season on the road against Palmer Trinity on Feb. 9.

Coral Shores' boys lacrosse team will play Key West High School and Westminster Christian Academy at 4:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, as it also hosts a preseason tournament.

The Hurricanes will be coached by Dan Flynn, who replaces Barnaby Rich after he stepped down at the end of last season.

Flynn was an assistant coach with the program for three years. Rich has elected to serve as an assistant coach.

The Hurricanes will open their regular season with a home game against Westminster Christian at 7 p.m. Feb. 11.

On the tennis courts, the Coral Shores boys and girls tennis teams will open the season with a home match against Monsignor Pace at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 4, and will then host Doral Academy at 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6.

The Hurricanes baseball team will compete in a two-day tournament in Naples Feb. 6 and 7 and will then play their home opener Feb. 12 against Ransom Everglades.

The Lady Canes softball team starts play with a home game at 4 p.m. Feb. 10 against Keys Gate.

The Coral Shores boys and girls track teams will have their first competition at the Rippoll Relays at Belen Christian. The time and date was not known at press time.

Lady Eagles' season ends at district

BY ERIC BASS
Free Press Staff

ISLAMORADA — The Island Christian School girls basketball team's season ended last week with a 36-34 loss to rival Princeton Christian 36-34 in the District 16-2A championship game.

The game was tight in the first quarter with Princeton holding an 8-7 lead.

The second quarter was another story as ICS, led by seventh-grader Lexy Brito, took control. The Lady Eagles scored 16 points to Princeton's seven to go up by eight at the half.

The second half turned out to be a tale of two teams. The Lady Eagles played the Lady Panthers to a draw in the third quarter with each team scoring nine points. At the end of the stanza ICS was up 32-24.

The fourth quarter, however, saw Princeton rally to score 12 points as the Lady Eagles went cold, mustering only two points to drop a hard-fought game by two.

Princeton's top scorer, Diane Cobb, was the difference maker in the fourth quarter and ended the game with 21 of the Lady Panthers' points. Brito was the top scorer for the Lady Eagles with 16 points. ICS's Jade Basilius scored eight, Alexis Sather seven and Joy Russell three.

To get to the District 16-2A championship game against Princeton, the Lady Eagles routed the Redland Christian Falcons by 37-5 earlier in the week.

Against Redland, Brito scored a team high 13 points and Basilius had eight, while Sather and Russell each had five.

Dolphins win, head to postseason

BY J.W. COOKE
Free Press Staff

PLANTATION KEY — Playing three consecutive nights for the first time this season, the Marathon High School boys basketball team was able to overcome a sluggish start for a 63-25 victory last Thursday at Monroe County rival Coral Shores.

In Nelson Rojas' final regular-season game for Marathon (15-9 overall), the senior picked up a double-double with a game-high 17 points and 10 rebounds. He also had six assists.

Fellow senior Jaasiel Bacallao (eight points) and Orlando Garcia (10 points) each scored career highs, while Robi Garcia added eight points, three rebounds and two assists.

For Coral Shores (1-14), senior Cameron Rowland had a team-high eight points, with Paul Null chipping in seven.

Marathon coach Kevin Freeman said playing three nights in a row may have taken a toll on his team, as the Dolphins took only a 10-8 lead at end of the first.

Late in the first half, Marathon switched its defense and built a 28-16 lead at the half.

In the third quarter, the Dolphins turned up the defensive pressure, holding the Hurricanes to just three points. Marathon began making open shots in transition to pull away for a 41-19 lead at the end of the quarter.

The Dolphins seniors remained in the game to play their final quarter in the regular season and outscored Coral Shores 22-6 in the fourth.

Marathon moves on to the postseason as the No. 6 seed in the District 16-3A tournament. The Dolphins were to open against No. 3 Westwood Christian Monday, Feb. 2. Results were not available at press time.

jwcooke@keysnews.com

Falcons continue to frustrate Lady Fins

BY J.W. COOKE
Free Press Staff

MIAMI — For the second straight season, one team has stood between the Marathon High School girls basketball team and a District 16-3A championship. Once again, Palmer Trinity proved to be too much for the Lady Fins, winning Saturday's district game 65-22.

"I think we could have played better, but they have 16 girls on their team and 12 of them are really good players," Marathon coach Paul Davis said. "They just outran us today and you could tell we got tired."

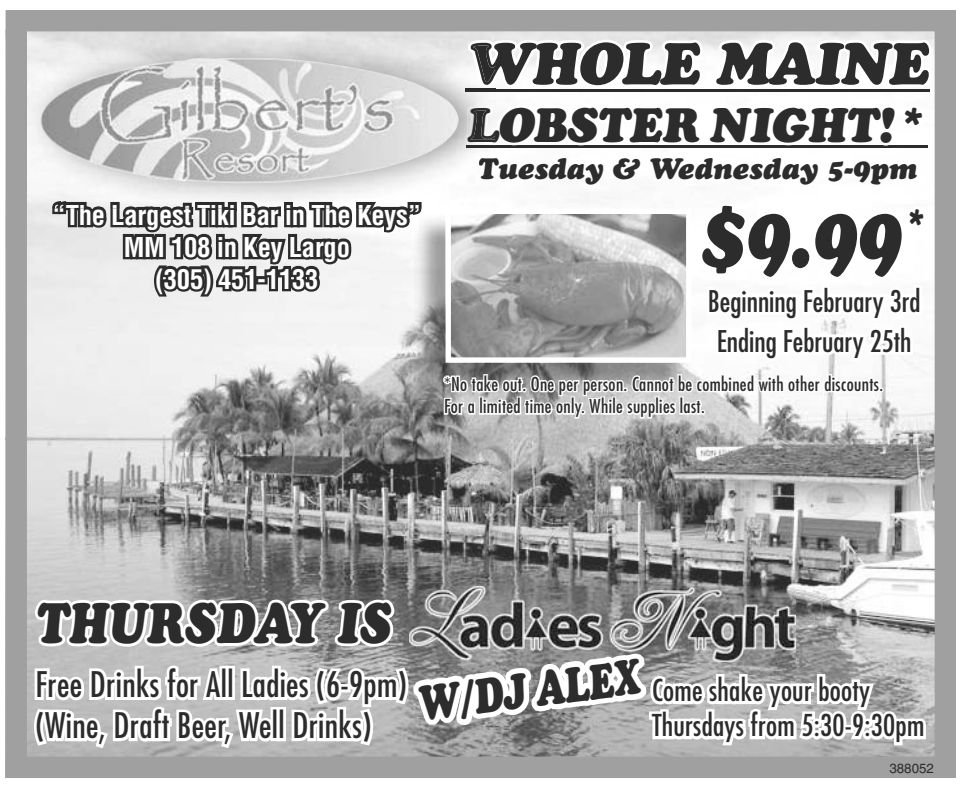
John'Nisha Quall scored a team-high 13 points for Marathon, with Amanda Davis adding nine.

"I thought we did OK once we started to find our momentum, but we couldn't stop them on offense," Davis said. "They had a lot of layups and hit a lot of threes, which they always do."

The Lady Fins finished as the district runner-up last year, and now six of their last 10 losses over a two-year span have come against the Lady Falcons.

Marathon was expected to face Miami Country Day, ranked No. 22 in the nation, in the opening round of the Region 4-3A tournament Tuesday. The game took place after press time.

jwcooke@keysnews.com



SPORTS & RECREATION

Island Christian hosts wrestling tournament

BY ERIC BASS
Free Press Staff

ISLAMORADA — Island Christian School, which is fielding a wrestling program for the first time, hosted an 11-team tournament last Saturday, the 2015 ICS "Battle at the Beach" District Duals.

The team title went to the Key West Conchs, followed by Keys Gate, Westminster and Doral.

Also competing were Coral Springs, Riviera, Pinecrest, Columbus, Palmer Trinity and Coral Shores.

Coral Shores was led once again in individual wins by junior Dante Jiovenetta who remained undefeated and scored five wins in the heavyweight division.

The Hurricanes' Rion Hunter, also a junior, scored five wins at 145 pounds and Brandon Finch, a sophomore, earned his first victory of the season with a pin over a Doral wrestler.

Island Christian seventh-grader Carter Coussens, competing at 120 pounds, defeated Nicholas Cielo from Columbus by 8-7 in one of his matches.

ERIC BASS/Free Press

Carter Coussens, top, a seventh-grade wrestler from ICS, won a hard-fought 8-7 match against varsity wrestler Nicholas Cielo from Columbus.

Bobsled

Continued from page **8B**

Following the 2002 performance, he left the sport to pursue interests in the private sector.

"I had a family and had to make a living," he said.

The first Jamaican bobsleigh team first grabbed international headlines in the 1988 Olympics in Calgary, Alberta, and inspired the 1993 John Candy film, "Cool Runnings," which portrayed the group's efforts to train and qualify for the Winter Games.

Watts referenced the movie as accurate in its portrayal of the team using carts and running on sand to increase speed.

When Jamaica first began looking to put together a bobsleigh team, Watts said the first place they looked was the military. That's where he was found and he later decided to give it a shot.

"They wanted people with good hand-eye coordination," he said. "People thought I was crazy to try bobsledding."

Watts had never seen snow until a few months before his first Olympic performance. Growing up in Jamaica, he said he tried to make his mark in track-and-field events. He threw shot put and discus and competed in the long jump and high jump.

"My goal was to compete in the Olympics," he said.

Watts now works in the private sector in North Dakota when he is not training. He has a home and lives with his family in Wyoming.

His Olympic dream remains to bring Jamaica home a medal for bobsledding.

"I want to see us up on the podium," he said.

jgore@keysnews.com

Guides

Continued from page **8B**

fishing guides who can't work because of serious injury or illness.

Registration, kick-off party and silent auction are set for 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 6, at the Lorelei beach. A rules meeting begins at 6 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Friday evening's silent auction features fishing and boating gear, artwork and guided fishing trips. The auction is open to the public and is free to attend. The auction closes at 7 p.m.

Boats depart the Lorelei at 7 a.m. Saturday, Feb 7. Lines-out is to be called at 3 p.m. and final check-in with the scorekeeper is set for 5 p.m.

Cocktails and a fund-raising raffle are to begin Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Lorelei beach, followed by the awards ball at 6:30 p.m.

Entry fee is $200 per two-angler boat team and includes two social tickets, two T-shirts and a ditty bag.

For more information, visit fkfga.org/swamp-guidesball.html.

KEYS tides

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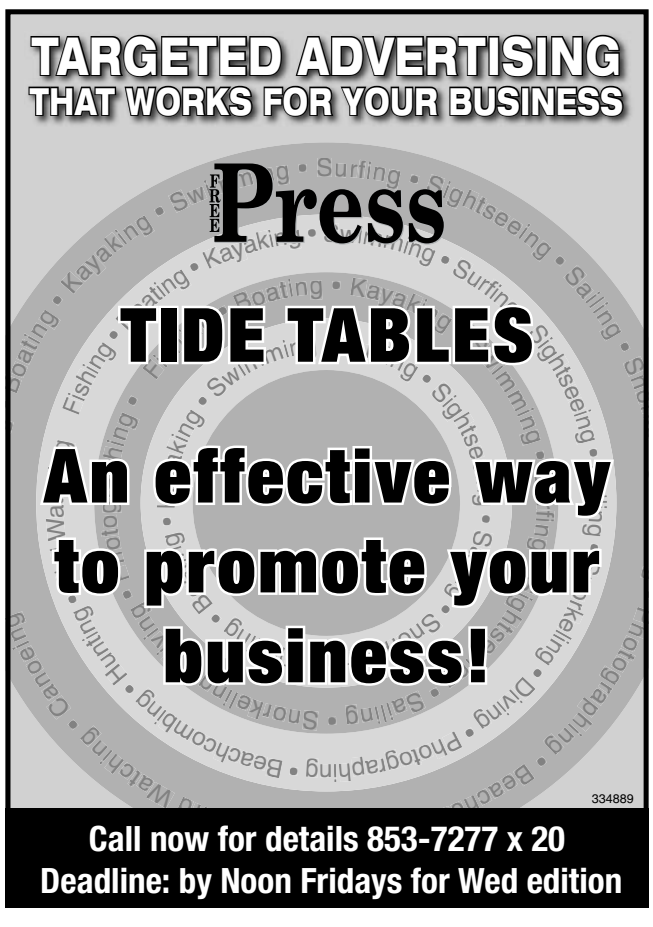

DAY	HIGH TIME	HT	HIGH TIME	HT	LOW TIME	HT	LOW TIME	HT	SUN RISE	SUN SET
BIG PINE KEY										
Wed 4	09:44a	0.8	09:28p	1.2	03:59a	-0.1	03:35p	0.0	7:06a	6:13p
Thu 5	10:12a	0.9	10:03p	1.2	04:30a	-0.1	04:14p	0.0	7:05a	6:13p
Fri 6	10:41a	0.9	10:39p	1.1	05:00a	-0.1	04:53p	0.0	7:05a	6:14p
Sat 7	11:11a	1.0	11:18p	1.1	05:29a	0.0	05:00p	0.0	7:04a	6:15p
Sun 8	11:43a	1.0			05:58a	0.0	06:18p	0.0	7:04a	6:15p
Mon 9	12:00a	0.9	12:17p	1.0	06:28a	0.0	07:07p	0.0	7:03a	6:16p
Tue 10	12:47a	0.8	12:56p	1.0	07:02a	0.1	08:06p	0.0	7:03a	6:16p
MARATHON										
Wed 4	09:25a	1.3	09:09p	1.9	03:23a	-0.2	02:59p	0.1	7:05a	6:12p
Thu 5	09:53a	1.4	09:44p	1.9	03:54a	-0.2	03:38p	0.1	7:05a	6:12p
Fri 6	10:22a	1.4	10:20p	1.8	04:24a	-0.2	04:17p	0.0	7:04a	6:13p
Sat 7	10:52a	1.5	10:59p	1.7	04:53a	-0.1	04:58p	0.0	7:03a	6:14p
Sun 8	11:24a	1.5	11:41p	1.4	05:22a	0.0	05:42p	0.1	7:03a	6:14p
Mon 9	11:58a	1.5			05:52a	0.1	06:31p	0.1	7:02a	6:15p
Tue 10	12:28a	1.2	12:37p	1.5	06:26a	0.2	07:30p	0.1	7:02a	6:16p
ISLAMORADA										
Wed 4	09:08a	1.4	09:20p	1.4	03:15a	-0.1	03:38p	0.0	7:03a	6:09p
Thu 5	09:43a	1.4	09:57p	1.4	03:52a	-0.1	03:38p	0.0	7:03a	6:10p
Fri 6	10:18a	1.4	10:34p	1.4	04:28a	-0.1	04:50p	0.0	7:02a	6:11p
Sat 7	10:52a	1.4	11:12p	1.3	05:03a	0.0	05:24p	0.0	7:02a	6:11p
Sun 8	11:27a	1.3	11:52p	1.2	05:38a	0.1	05:59p	0.0	7:01a	6:12p
Mon 9			12:04p	1.2	06:15a	0.1	06:38p	0.1	7:01a	6:13p
Tue 10	12:35a	1.2	12:44p	1.2	06:56a	0.2	07:23p	0.1	7:00a	6:13p
KEY LARGO										
Wed 4	09:14a	2.3	09:26p	2.2	02:51a	-0.2	03:14p	0.0	7:03a	6:08p
Thu 5	09:49a	2.3	10:03p	2.2	03:28a	-0.2	03:51p	0.0	7:02a	6:09p
Fri 6	10:24a	2.3	10:40p	2.2	04:04a	-0.1	04:26p	0.0	7:02a	6:10p
Sat 7	10:58a	2.2	11:18p	2.1	04:39a	0.0	05:00p	0.0	7:01a	6:10p
Sun 8	11:33a	2.1	11:58p	2.0	05:14a	0.1	05:35p	0.1	7:01a	6:11p
Mon 9			12:10p	2.0	05:51a	0.2	06:14p	0.1	7:00a	6:12p
Tue 10	12:41a	2.0	12:50p	1.9	06:32a	0.4	06:59p	0.1	7:00a	6:12p

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853-7277 X12
MON-FRI 8AM - 5PM

MasterCard VISA AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

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000 ANNOUNCEMENTS
010 Public Notices
040 Personals
050 Lost & Found
060 Pets Found

100 SERVICES
110 Child Adult Care
112 Money To Lend
120 Private Instructions

200 EMPLOYMENT
210 Jobs Wanted
220 Help Wanted Lower Keys
230 Help Wanted Middle Keys
240 Help Wanted Upper Keys

300 MERCHANDISE
305 Pets
310 Sporting Goods
315 Bicycles
320 Household Goods
321 Furniture
325 Miscellaneous
327 Jewelry
329 Yard Sale Map
330 Yard Sale Lower Keys
331 Yard Sale Middle Keys
332 Yard Sale Upper Keys
335 Antiques
337 Art
340 Musical Instruments
345 Appliances
350 Office Equipment
351 Electronics
355 Wanted to Buy

400 RENTALS
402 Roommates
404 Rooms Lower Keys
406 Rooms Middle Keys
408 Rooms Upper Keys
410 Mobile Homes Lower Keys
412 Mobile Homes Middle Keys
414 Mobile Homes Upper Keys
416 Furnished Condos Lower Keys
417 Unfurnished Condos Lower Keys
418 Condos Middle Keys
420 Condos Upper Keys
422 Furnished Apts. Lower Keys
424 Furnished Apts. Middle Keys
426 Furnished Apts. Upper Keys
428 Unfurn. Apts. Lower Keys
430 Unfurn. Apts. Middle Keys
432 Unfurn. Apts. Upper Keys
434 Furn. Houses Lower Keys
436 Furn. Houses Middle Keys
438 Furn. Houses Upper Keys
440 Unfurn. Houses Lower Keys
442 Unfurn. Houses Middle Keys
444 Unfurn. Houses Upper Keys
446 Wanted To Rent Lower Keys
448 Wanted To Rent Middle Keys
450 Wanted To Rent Upper Keys
451 Mobile Homes/RV Sites
452 Vacation Rentals Lower Keys
454 Vacation Rentals Middle Keys
456 Vacations Rentals Upper Keys
458 Vacation Rentals Elsewhere
460 Commercial Rentals
462 Office Space
464 Storage

500 REAL ESTATE
Mobile Homes
502 Lower Keys
504 Middle Keys
506 Upper Keys
508 Lots Lower Keys
510 Lots Middle Keys
512 Lots Upper Keys
Homes For Sale
513 Timeshares
514 Condos Lower Keys
516 Condos Middle Keys
518 Condos Upper Keys
520 Homes Lower Keys
522 Homes Middle Keys
524 Homes Upper Keys
Commercial
526 Business Oppurtunity
528 Business Wanted
530 Investments
532 Income Property
534 Commercial Property
Other Real Estate
536 Lots & Acreage Lower Keys
538 Lots & Acreage Middle Keys
540 Lots & Acreage Upper Keys
542 Realty Elsewhere
544 Realty Wanted

600 AUTOS/ TRANSPORTATION
Autos/Trucks
610 Trucks
620 Autos For Sale
622 SUVs For Sale
625 Classic Autos
630 Autos Wanted
640 Auto Parts
Recreation
650 Scooters
652 Motorcycles
654 Travel Trailers
658 RVs/Motor Homes
661 Marine Parts
662 Powerboats
664 Sailboats
665 Houseboats
667 Misc. Boats
669 Dockage/Storage
670 Aviation

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CHANGES
Once an ad has been placed only acceptable minor changes can be made to the ad.

220 HELP WANTED LOWER KEYS

AUTO MECHANICS FOR BUSY TAXI CO.
Needed for taxi company in Key West.
*Applicants must possess their own tools.
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The hours are 40 per week and this will include weekends.
Interested, please call **305-296-1800.**

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For more information, please visit www.cheeca.com and select the Career link or call 305-517-4429 EOE
388060

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Sand, paint, fiberglass, gelcoat, Awl Grip or equivalent.
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Apply at 105 Whitehead St.

CityView Trolley Tours
Is seeking
***Full or Part Time Trolley Tour Drivers**
*with CDL class C or higher Passenger endorsement preferred. $10 per hour to train, $13 per hour plus tips after certification. Drug and alcohol-free workplace
Contact John at 305-896-9216 or apply at 105 Whitehead St. office to fill out application.

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Excellent pay
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Fun Tropical Setting. Great opportunity!
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Happy, positive attitude is a must. Please apply in person at Robbies Marina.
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Greene Street Cigar Company is hiring a retail associate part time. Background screening, resume required. Min age 21. Qualified applicants will be energetic, positive and willing to learn. Must have bartending experience, cigar knowledge is preferred. Mornings and Afternoon shifts available. Please submit resume to greenestreet cigarcompany@comcast.net

HOSPITALITY OPPORTUNITIES
In the Beautifully Renovated La Concha Hotel
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EOE

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Qualifications:
* No experience necessary.
* Manual dexterity and strength to lift up to 50 pounds
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* Work schedules may vary based on business needs, including nights, weekend and holidays.

Apply with resume and application: Key West Citizen, 3420 Northside Dr., Key West, FL 33040. Attn: Dave McGlathery, or dmcglathery@keysnews.com
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Media Sales for Key West & the Lower Keys.
Exp. preferred but not essential. Good base plus commission.
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Afternoon shift daily, M-F. Must be personable, organized, computer skilled & reliable in fast paced environment. No license required.
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Apply at Schooner Wharf Bar
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Hourly wage position. Must possess good written and verbal communication skills to inform and assist private community residents and visitors in the compliance of rules. Competitive wage offered. Apply in person at: Venture Out at Cudjoe Cay, Inc., 701 Spanish Main Dr., Cudjoe Key.

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Independent Contractors
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Please, forward your resume to hr@pierhouse.com or stop by to complete an application.
Only qualified applicants will be considered.

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We are looking for an experienced full time fine dining waiter for dinner time. Apply in person between 3pm and 4pm at Martin's Restaurant.
917 Duval Street
Resume Required
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Send resume to: 305-872-4041

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For a minimum 3 years experienced pantry/line cook who wants to work in a great environment, A/C kitchen, and good pay.
Apply in person between 9am and 10:00am at Martin's Restaurant, 917 Duval St, resume required.
E.O.E.

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DRIVERS: $5,000 SIGN-ON BONUS!
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MM 102

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Now accepting applications for the following full time position:

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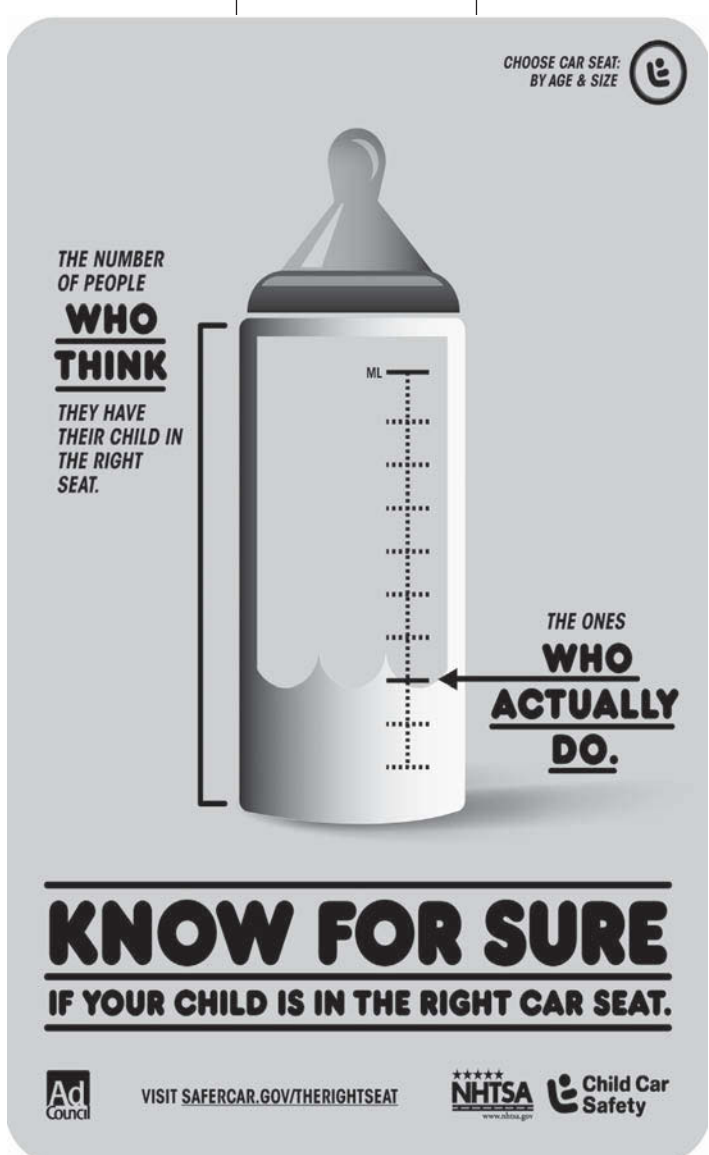
Ask for Mike. EOE
388094



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Very good money. 25 minutes from Homestead. Call 305-815-9203

OFFICE ASSISTANT
Need for construction company business office. Successful candidate will have a working knowledge of accounting practices, bilingual a plus. Call 305-453-0368.

Rex Air is seeking:

*Dispacher
*Accounts Payable/ Receivable
*Office Manager

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321 FURNITURE

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seats 6-8 people
& **Mermaid Waterfall**
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leave a message

332 YARD SALES UPPER KEYS

HAMMER POINT
Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale. MM 93, B/S Sat. Feb. 7, 8am-Noon

LAYTON GARDEN CLUB
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21 MERIDIAN ST.
Key Largo. Sat. 8am-2pm. Furniture, household, and more.

335 ANTIQUES

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$3,500/ month
long term
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464 STORAGE

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$825,000
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Realtor owned.

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Seller pays 1st year insurance.
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All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation or the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.
328029

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3BR/2BA, Call for details. 305-923-4153.

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Baypoint. 3BR/2BA, Call for details.
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For Sale By Owner
Asking **$326,000**
"AS IT IS"
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526 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

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180 Seats & vacant lot.
$20,000/mos.NNN
***Quiznos** 80 Seats, all F,F,E. $150,000
***221 Duval St.**

534 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

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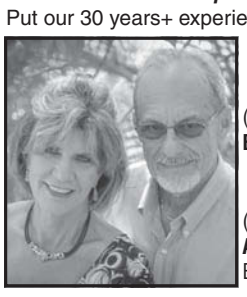

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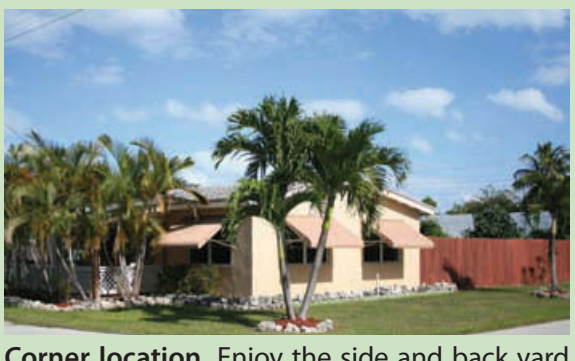

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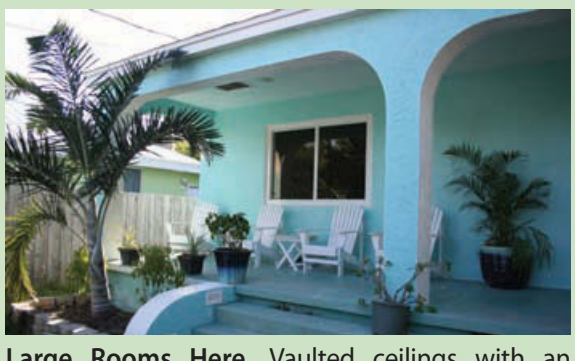

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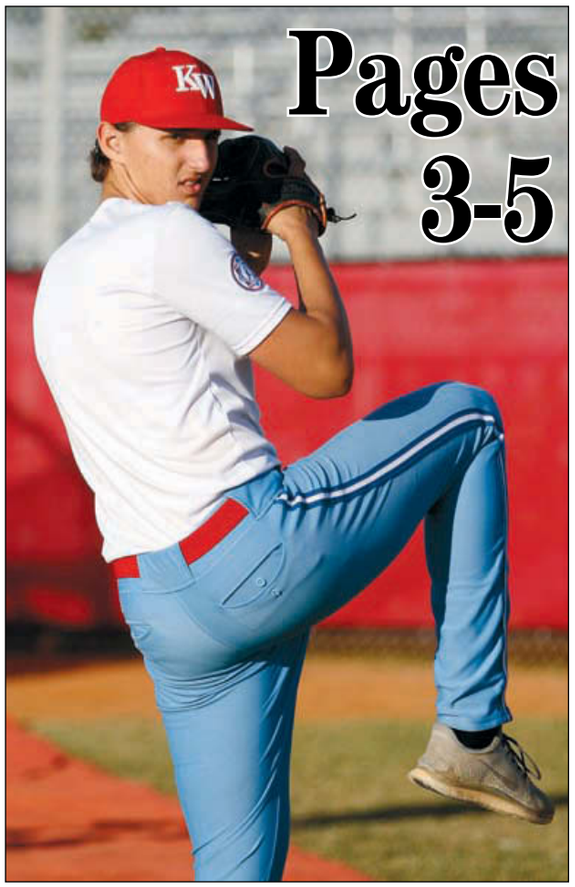

Pages 3-5

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Pages 8-9

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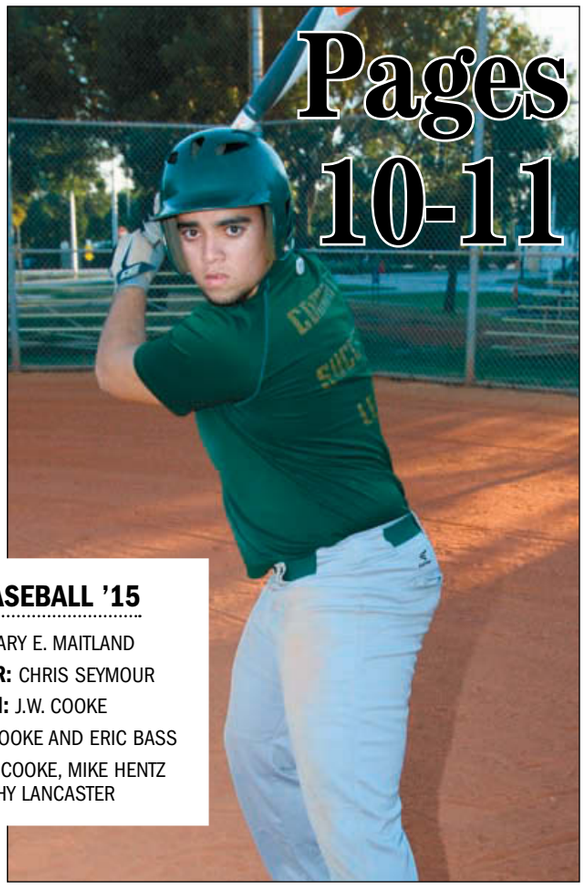

Pages 10-11

PREP BASEBALL '15

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PHOTOS: RON COOKE, MIKE HENTZ AND KATHY LANCASTER

ISLAND CHRISTIAN

Eagles still without coach, full team or schedule

BY ERIC BASS
Citizen Staff

ISLAMORADA — The Island Christian School Eagles' baseball team was thin on numbers last year and things do not look much better for this season.

After a 2-10 regular-season record in 2014 the Eagles' head coach Bruce Davis elected to step down this year after the arrival of his second child. The two wins the Eagles recorded were both against Princeton Christian.

Currently the Eagles are without a coach to replace Davis with just a few weeks to the start of this season.

Handling duties at this juncture is assistant coach A.C. Burke.

"We were really thin on players last year, but we hope to get a few more boys to come out," said Burke. "We will try to get some seventh and eighth graders interested."

Right now the team is not practicing as a number of the players who will be joining the baseball team are still participating in winter sports.

The Eagles had only nine players on the team last year. At the end of the 2014 campaign the ICS team could not compete in the district tournament when one of the players got sick and they could not field a full team.

This year the Eagles are expecting to field a young team filled with sophomores — Kurt Ihrig, David Calderwood, Cameron Carter, Stephen Dostaler and Zane Phair.

The team has just one returning senior player in Tucker Jones and one freshman at this time in Danny Rivera to bring the expected roster to eight.

All of the players will be expected to play different positions as needed and Burke is hoping they may get some help from a transfer student.

Until then, Island Christian will continue to put the pieces together including a schedule that was not been constructed yet.

MIKE HENTZ/The Citizen

Gregory Veliz hopes to take a shot at breaking Khalil Green's single-season, school-record batting average of .500 this year.

Veliz using experience to help lead this year

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

KEY WEST — Entering this season Gregory Veliz is at a much different place in his baseball career than he was just a year ago, but for the Key West High junior nothing has changed in the way he prepares to play the game.

"I'm just going to continue to come out and work my butt off every day and be a good team player," said Veliz. "It's the same mentality as always: play my hardest and go for title No. 12,"

Mentally, Veliz may say nothing is different, but a lot has changed in with his baseball career in just one year.

This time last season he was admittedly nervous about his sophomore campaign, which was his first as a full-time starter in the middle of the lineup.

This season he comes in as one of the top ranked players by Perfect Game in the 2016 graduating class, with the verbal commitment to the University of Miami.

That ranking could have even been higher entering the season if not for an ankle injury during a busy offseason playing with Perfect Game playing in Florida and Georgia. He was also selected to go to California,

See **VELIZ**, page **5**

Full roster has Conchs ready for playoff return

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

KEY WEST — Last year the Key West High baseball team had just enough varsity players to field a team, yet the Conchs still made a run deep into the postseason and ended with only four loss on the year.

With a strong returning core and several new additions Key West has depth at all the positions for Coach Ralph Henriquez's disposal. That has the squad believing this season they have an opportunity to add another title to the school's record of 11 state championships.

"It takes a lot of things to win a state championship," said Henriquez. "Everybody says, 'Oh go out and win a state championship.' I've won three of them here and one in pro baseball and I'll tell you they don't come easy. But I think these guys see it and they want it."

The depth of the team is noticeable in the strength of the pitching staff this season.

"Provided we keep everybody healthy we should have a really good pitching staff that's going to give us some good quality innings," said Henriquez. "I've been asked, 'Who's our No. 1 starter?' Our No. 1 is who ever I give the baseball to. We've got some talented kids."

Leading the way will be junior Gregory Veliz, whose fastball reaches the mid-90s.

"He's a high school power-type pitcher because of his velocity," Henriquez said about Veliz. "But we've been working with him on his curve ball and change up and I think that's going to really help him tremendously this season."

Veliz finished 9-0 last season and will be at the top of Henriquez's piggyback system, followed by senior southpaw Brandon Presley and senior Kyle Pierce, who transferred from Marathon this season.

"Kyle doesn't even know how good they can be yet," said Henriquez. "Kyle is a very talented kid that throws from a lot of different arm slots. He gives us a third quality guy we can rely on."

Conch senior quarterback Andrew Freeman will also be a part of staff, but still needs to settle back into baseball, after taking last season away from the diamond.

Fellow senior Jay Feather will part of the rotation and bullpen, while seeing time at shortstop, third base, second base and outfield.

"They are going to be big assets that give us more depth in that rotation," Henriquez said about Feathers and Freeman. "Andrew is a heck of a ball player and once he gets focused back in baseball, once all his recruiting stuff is over, he could also have a chance at a baseball scholarship. He just has to have a good season."

MIKE HENTZ/The Citizen

Conchs Coach Ralph Henriquez watches from the dugout during his first season back with the Key West baseball team. This year the Conchs are looking to go as least as far as they did last year.

In the bullpen, Henriquez said he will be relying on Damon Taylor, Hunter Mattheessen and Ty Hughes.

"If you look at last season, the three regular-season losses we had came on weeks where we had three ball games," said Henriquez. "We didn't have that depth but with the guys we have this year I think we will be much better there this year."

Joining the varsity is freshman Kyle Iarrobino.

"He's got an average high fast ball, but he's got a changeup of a junior or senior," said Henriquez. "He's going to be seeing more time while Andrew is trying to catch up."

See **KEY WEST**, page **5**

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PREP BASEBALL '15: Key West

Presley making big changes to pitching style

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

KEY WEST — In his first three seasons with the Conchs, Brandon Presley said he mainly used his curve ball as his two-strike pitch.

That will not be the case this season, as he is also looking to change things up with not only his pitch sequence, but also his delivery.

"With the help from a lot of coaches out here, I've switched a couple things in my windup and I've done a lot of hitting," said Presley. "I've realized with the more that I stride the better I can get out on my front foot and that's less distance the hitter has to see me throw."

That change, as well as another growing spurt — bringing him into the season an inch taller now at 6-foot-6 — has the southpaw's fastball up to 87 mph.

"I think I'm done growing though because I haven't grown since my last birthday," said Presley. "I usually check every birthday and I didn't grow since my last one."

While physically it is easy to see Presley is bigger, mentally the senior said he has changed his whole game plan.

"We've found that I work better backwards," said Presley. "I used to throw my curve when I was ahead, but now I'm throwing it earlier in the count."

He is taking the same approach at bat.

"I'm gotten more aggressive at the plate and I'm not looking to wait till I get to two strikes any more," he said. "But there is more pressure because there are a lot more hits we have to get from last year's lineup."

In order to prepare this season, he said has worked in all different way from swimming and running to weightlifting and of course pitching.

He attended one showcase with Perfect Game and that resulted in a scholarship offer from Florida Southwestern College, formerly Edison College in Fort Myers.

MIKE HENTZ/The Citizen

Brandon Presley will be one of three main starters for the Conchs this season.

"It's a lot less weight on my shoulders having that," Presley said about having an offe to play at the next level.

Conchs coach Ralph Henriquez said he is extremely please with Presley's progress in the offseason.

"Brandon has been absolutely outstanding this fall," said Henriquez. "He's added more rhythm to his delivery and he's really taken a liking to it. He's also improved his breaking ball and velocity and his changeup has been outstanding."

Teamed with a deep pitching staff, Presley said he is expecting to help propel the Conchs deep into the postseason.

"I definitely think we have the potential to go to states," said Presley. "With the addition of the guys from Marathon and some of the guys that are coming back that didn't play last year I think with really do have the potential.

"With the schedule we have against some good team and with the pitching we have it should be a lot of low scoring games," he added.

After losing last season, Presley said he put committed to improving this year so help could help to reach that team goal.

"I'm definitely trying to better myself where I can to help the team," said Presley. "All I can think about is doing whatever it takes to help the team win."

jwcooke@keysnews.com

Henriquez willing to do anything it takes for title

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

KEYWEST—Affectionately know as Cheese, because of his propensity to smile, Conch captain Anthony Henriquez has high expectation from his team during his final season.

Those goals include winning a 12th State Championship in Key West High history, and he said he is will to do anything it takes to reach that apex.

His coach Ralph Henriquez, no relation, took the senior up on his willingness to help the team and asked the returning All-Monroe County second baseman to make the switch to left field this season.

Henriquez has never played a game in the outfield, even in little league, but said that it has not been a big transition — just new.

"It's a little different than fielding off the ground, but it's been pretty smooth," said Henriquez. "The first few weeks there were things I had to adjust like changing my footwork and stuff, but along the way it came along pretty smooth. Now I'm ready to go."

When he found out about the change he would be making, the captain said he went to work right away at learning his new position and how to read the ball off the bat.

"It's different off a live bat, but we do enough live hitting that I've had enough time out there to get used to it," said Henriquez. "Also it was tough learning to play the wind, because depending on how it's blowing you have to make adjustments to that, too."

It will be Henriquez's second stint this school year as a Conch captain; he also led for the football team, which he said has helped prepare him for this role.

"I don't really look at it as pressure," said Henriquez. "Everybody has pressure on the team to execute and do a good job. But I think we do a good job of picking each other up and contributing to the team. But I don't look at it as any more pressure because there is pressure in everything you do everyday.

"Pressure can either crush pipes or make diamonds and that's kind of how I look at it," he added

Instead, he said he continues to focus on fielding and hitting above the .400 mark this season. He finished with a .370 average

See **HENRIQUEZ**, page **5**

MIKE HENTZ/The Citizen

Key West senior Anthony Henriquez will bat second in the Conchs lineup this season.

PREP BASEBALL '15: Key West

Veliz

Continued from page 1B

MIKE HENTZ/The Citizen

Gregory Veliz will bat third for Key West this season, while primarily playing shortstop and pitching.

but could not make the trip while rehabbing.

"I'm back now and I'm 100 percent," said Veliz. "It was a long process because I tore both ligaments on both sides of my ankle but I'm back and better than I was, stronger than I was and ready."

Veliz said last year he noticed he fatigued a bit late in the season, but with the extra experience in the offseason he thinks he can improve his overall game.

"Getting older and getting stronger will help with that, but also not getting big headed will be a big part of that," said Veliz. "I have to keep trying to do the little things like hitting the ball the other way and making all the plays that are hit to me. That will help me pass that wall."

While his ultimate goal this year remains on the title, Veliz has set his sights on Khaili Green's 1998 record of a single season .500 batting average.

"Last year I was in the high .400s, but I think I can get .500 this year," said Veliz. "Both me and Stevie (Wells) flirted with it last year, but this year, being older and more wise, I should be able to do it."

With his team motivated after the abrupt ending last season, Veliz said the work ethic has been infectious this season and made it easy to prepare for the year.

"We have a bad taste in our mouth," said Veliz. "You can see that we are grinding and we are working hard out here all night. We don't want to have that taste in our mouth again.

"We are just going step by step," he added. "There's always a big picture in it and JetBlue is always in the back of our heads, but right now we have to win the district before that."

Despite his new recognition, Veliz said it is that drive of his teammates has kept him motivated to excel.

"It's a team effort and it always has been," said Veliz. "It's not just me out there. I don't feel pressure because I have my teammates and if I have a bad night I know they are going to have a great one."

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Henriquez

Continued from page 1B

"I want to get over that hump," said Henriquez. "I really just want to improve from last year in all aspects."

His high work rate has caught the attention of Wesleyan University in Middletown, Conn., where he said he could potentiality play both baseball and football at the next level.

"They actually encourage two-sport athletes," said Henriquez. "

Before he gets to that point the senior has his focus on his final season and winning the state title.

"We just expect to go deep in the playoffs this year and win a lot of ball games," said Henriquez. "If we all do our part, we should be able to do it."

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Key West

Continued from page 1B

Making the switch from starting junior varsity pitcher to full-time infielder this season is sophomore Kyle Snow who will be replacing Hugo Valdes at first base, while also playing third base and catcher.

"If Kyle keeps swing the bat well, he's going to keep playing," said Henriquez.

Also transferring from Marathon, Carlos O'Farrill will slot in as lead-off hitter, replacing Steven Wells, and start at second base.

Veliz, Feathers and O'Farrill will take turns at shortstop, depending on who is on the mound, while Mattheessen is returning to the hot corner.

"I have the ability to move the players around this year," said Henriquez. "We've got kids competing for job this season everytime we get on the field."

In the outfield, Presley and Freeman will split time in right field, as well as in center field with Feathers and in left field this season is the team captain Anthony Henriquez.

"Anthony will hit second in the lineup because of his ability to bunt," said Henriquez.

After missing last season, Joey Figueroa is returning this year and will be the Conchs' sixth outfielder, behind Damon Taylor, who Henriquez said is the best defensive outfielder on the squad.

"Those players will change each night depending on whose turn it is in the piggyback," said Henriquez. "But they all have the ability and we've prepared them to be ready to play each of these positions. I only put kids at positions where I feel they can excel and that's why we spend so many hours doing what we do."

Feathers

Pierce

O'Farrill

Key West plays 18 of its 26 games at home this season, with four of the away games coming during a trip to Arizona.

Three of the other four road games will be played in Tavernier or Homestead.

The playoffs will begin on the road at the much smaller facilities of Gulliver Prep, which will play host to the 16-4A District tournament.

"We had a great season last year so the expectations is to come back and not necessarily do more but get back to at least there and keep improving," said Henriquez. "I think we will pick up right where we left off from last year."

Gulliver is one of 10 teams that Henriquez said has a legitimate chance to win the 4A State Championship this season. Of those teams, Key West is the only public school.

"The 4A hands-down is the toughest division to win a state championship in," said Henriquez. "But we've beat them in the past and we have to be prepared to play and win again this year."

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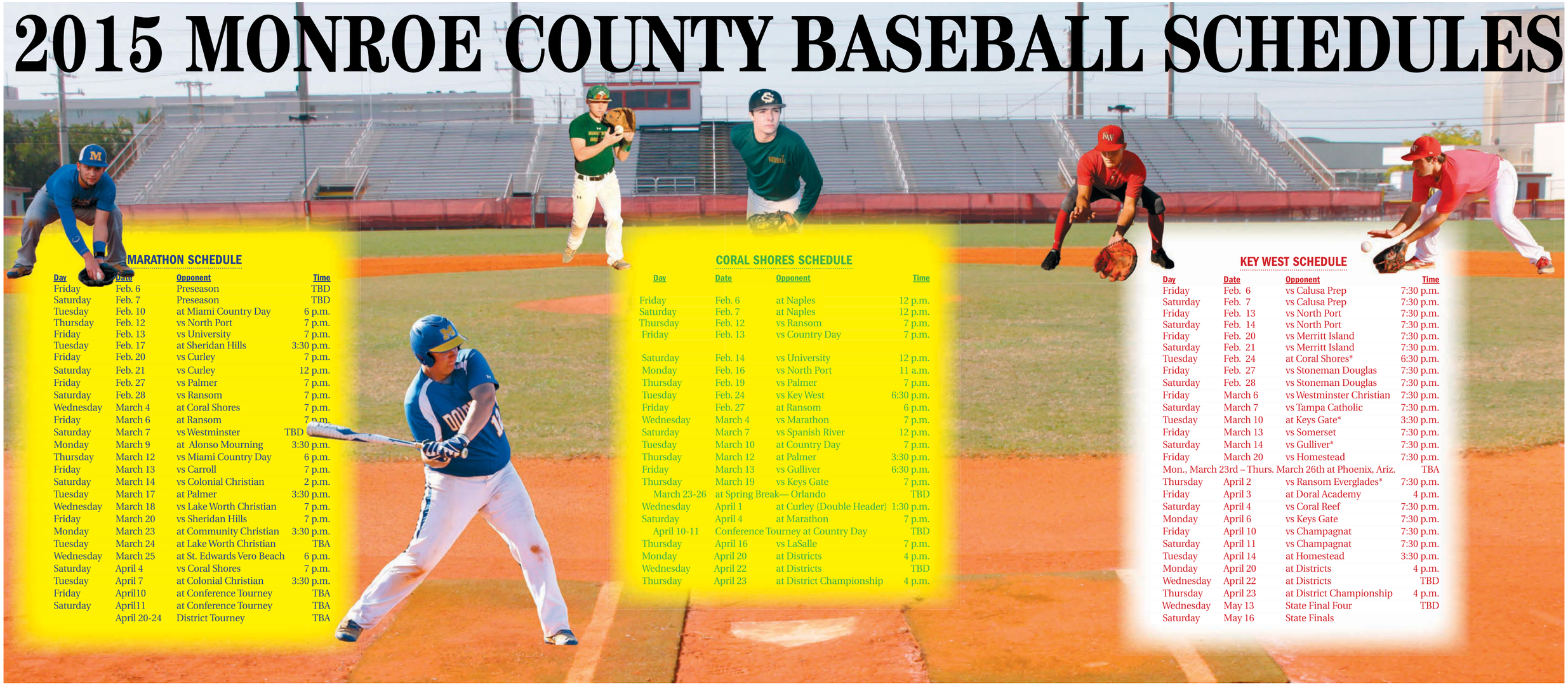
2015 MONROE COUNTY BASEBALL SCHEDULES



MARATHON SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Opponent	Time
Friday	Feb. 6	Preseason	TBD
Saturday	Feb. 7	Preseason	TBD
Tuesday	Feb. 10	at Miami Country Day	6 p.m.
Thursday	Feb. 12	vs North Port	7 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 13	vs University	7 p.m.
Tuesday	Feb. 17	at Sheridan Hills	3:30 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 20	vs Curley	7 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 21	vs Curley	12 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 27	vs Palmer	7 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 28	vs Ransom	7 p.m.
Wednesday	March 4	at Coral Shores	7 p.m.
Friday	March 6	at Ransom	7 p.m.
Saturday	March 7	vs Westminster	TBD
Monday	March 9	at Alonso Mourning	3:30 p.m.
Thursday	March 12	vs Miami Country Day	6 p.m.
Friday	March 13	vs Carroll	7 p.m.
Saturday	March 14	vs Colonial Christian	2 p.m.
Tuesday	March 17	at Palmer	3:30 p.m.
Wednesday	March 18	vs Lake Worth Christian	7 p.m.
Friday	March 20	vs Sheridan Hills	7 p.m.
Monday	March 23	at Community Christian	3:30 p.m.
Tuesday	March 24	at Lake Worth Christian	TBA
Wednesday	March 25	at St. Edwards Vero Beach	6 p.m.
Saturday	April 4	vs Coral Shores	7 p.m.
Tuesday	April 7	at Colonial Christian	3:30 p.m.
Friday	April10	at Conference Tourney	TBA
Saturday	April11	at Conference Tourney	TBA
	April 20-24	District Tourney	TBA

CORAL SHORES SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Opponent	Time
Friday	Feb. 6	at Naples	12 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 7	at Naples	12 p.m.
Thursday	Feb. 12	vs Ransom	7 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 13	vs Country Day	7 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 14	vs University	12 p.m.
Monday	Feb. 16	vs North Port	11 a.m.
Thursday	Feb. 19	vs Palmer	7 p.m.
Tuesday	Feb. 24	vs Key West	6:30 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 27	at Ransom	6 p.m.
Wednesday	March 4	vs Marathon	7 p.m.
Saturday	March 7	vs Spanish River	12 p.m.
Tuesday	March 10	at Country Day	7 p.m.
Thursday	March 12	at Palmer	3:30 p.m.
Friday	March 13	vs Gulliver	6:30 p.m.
Thursday	March 19	vs Keys Gate	7 p.m.
March 23-26	at Spring Break— Orlando		TBD
Wednesday	April 1	at Curley (Double Header)	1:30 p.m.
Saturday	April 4	at Marathon	7 p.m.
April 10-11	Conference Tourney at Country Day		TBD
Thursday	April 16	vs LaSalle	7 p.m.
Monday	April 20	at Districts	4 p.m.
Wednesday	April 22	at Districts	TBD
Thursday	April 23	at District Championship	4 p.m.

KEY WEST SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Opponent	Time
Friday	Feb. 6	vs Calusa Prep	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 7	vs Calusa Prep	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 13	vs North Port	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 14	vs North Port	7:30 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 20	vs Merritt Island	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 21	vs Merritt Island	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	Feb. 24	at Coral Shores*	6:30 p.m.
Friday	Feb. 27	vs Stoneman Douglas	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	Feb. 28	vs Stoneman Douglas	7:30 p.m.
Friday	March 6	vs Westminster Christian	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	March 7	vs Tampa Catholic	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	March 10	at Keys Gate*	3:30 p.m.
Friday	March 13	vs Somerset	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	March 14	vs Gulliver*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	March 20	vs Homestead	7:30 p.m.
Mon., March 23rd – Thurs. March 26th		at Phoenix, Ariz.	TBA
Thursday	April 2	vs Ransom Everglades*	7:30 p.m.
Friday	April 3	at Doral Academy	4 p.m.
Saturday	April 4	vs Coral Reef	7:30 p.m.
Monday	April 6	vs Keys Gate	7:30 p.m.
Friday	April 10	vs Champagnat	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	April 11	vs Champagnat	7:30 p.m.
Tuesday	April 14	at Homestead	3:30 p.m.
Monday	April 20	at Districts	4 p.m.
Wednesday	April 22	at Districts	TBD
Thursday	April 23	at District Championship	4 p.m.
Wednesday	May 13	State Final Four	TBD
Saturday	May 16	State Finals	

PREP BASEBALL '15: Marathon

Dolphins forced to rebuild on the fly

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

MARATHON — Missing two key components to the team, the Marathon High baseball squad will has had to adjust on the fly this season, but so far Coach Luis Leal said his team has responed in a positive way.

"I feel bad for the seniors that stayed because they got left in a hard position, but they've embraced it well," said Leal, who will be without expected starters Kyle Pierce and Carlos O'Farrill who transferred to Key West. "I've been really impressed with how they have been teaching the young guys how we do things and how to prepare for practice and the game."

The Dolphins will turn to their youth, which will see plenty of playing with a lack of depth on the team. Marathon will only field 13 to 14 total players on the varsity roster this season, many of which will be underclassman or even middle-school players.

"Right now seven of the nine players we've had every day are returning starters and, out of the 14, nine will have varsity experience," said Leal. "It's just a matter of them get playing together and the younger guys getting some varsity experience and how to get everything covered the way we want it be done ."

On the mound for the Dolphins will be Richie Wells, Frankie Gonzalez, Mark Keller and Clay Daniels. Leal said he will not name a No.1 starter this season.

"It's going to be who ever can give us the most innings that day," said Leal. "Mark, Frankie and Richie have all pitched for us in the past and can eat up a lot of innings. We feel really comfortable with each of them throwing."

While the pitching must still establish itself, the strength will be defensive, with returning starters Keller, Gonzalez and junior Max Elliott anchoring the infield.

"Everybody in the infield has varsity starting experience," said Leal. "Mark started at third base for us last year when Kyle was pitching. Frankie has played every infield position for us before and Max started at second last year."

While Elliott will be the primary second baseman, he will shift to shortstop when Gonzalez takes the mound. Freshman Lucas Ponzoa will have the responsibilities of backing up those two roles — but that also depends on who comes out after basketball season.

Wells, along with freshman Randy Culmer will be seeing time at first base, but it has yet to be decided for who will replace Keller at third when he pitches.

KATHY LANCASTER/The Citizen

Frankie Gonzalez will be relied upon to fill in for both Kyle Pierce and Carlos O'Farrill at pitcher and shortstop.

Seventh-grader Mason Neller may have the opportunity to be called up to the varsity season for infield depth, while classmate Brendan Rooney will start at catcher.

"Even though he's a seventh-grader he played a few games for us last year on varsity," Leal said about Rooney. "He'll be alright. He's caught a lot of hard throwers before and he's been working with Ralph Henriquez III. He also plays club ball with the teams in Miami, so he can handle the strain of a full 25-game season for high school."

The outfield will also be made up of varsity experienced players with Robi Garcia in center, Jack Hill in left

See **DOLPHINS**, page **9**

Keller in tough position entering final season

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

MARATHON — At the end of last season Mark Keller did not think he was going to be looked to as the senior leader for the Marathon High baseball this year.

That all changed with the departure of a pair of his teammates — Kyle Pierce and Carlos O'Farrill to Key West — leaving him as one of two seniors on the Dolphins' roster this year.

Keller

"I had really high expectations coming into this year, but seeing how it has started with our two seniors leaving to go to Key West my expectations kind of dropped," said Keller. "But as I see now with how much hard work we have had, my expectations have come back up a bit. I can see we have the heart and the dedication and I like how we are looking right now."

Despite the unexpected lunge into a leadership role, Keller said he thrives on the pressure and hopes he has pass on the Marathon traditions to the next generation.

"I really enjoy that feeling and I really do give as much effort as I can to help teach them," Keller said about being a leader to the younger players. "Because we have a lot of guys from the JV that will be moving up and we have a big hole for them to fill because of our two seniors that left us."

While he said he has made the move into his new position, the Dolphins pitcher and third baseman said it still has been tough without his teammates and friends Pierce and O'Farrill.

"I've been playing baseball with them since my third-grade year and we are lifelong friends," said Keller. "It's probably better for them to go down there because they want to have a better life in baseball, but honestly it's kind of a kick in the face. It's been tough.

"I want to come out and show people that just because these two people left it doesn't mean a thing," he added.

Since Keller found out they were headed south, he said that before the winter break he was throwing bullpen session every other day to be ready to be on the hill on opening night. He is throwing in the mid-70s with a lot of junk.

"I've been learning a lot of new pitches," said Keller. "There are not a lot of personal goals, it's more team goals. We need to come out and just play our game."

While he has been putting in the work to prepare, Keller is also coming off a dislocated shoulder to his non-throwing shoulder that kept him out an extended

See **KELLER**, page **8**

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Elliott remains positive about Dolphins' chances

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

MARATHON — Marathon High junior Max Elliott has already proven he is willing to do anything to help his team win.

Last season, the career infielder willingly attempted to make a switch to catcher in order to relieve some pressure at the position.

Admittedly so he was not "too swell," at the position and this year he is moving back to the middle of the infield where he and teammate Frankie Gonzalez will be looking fill a big hole left by Carlos O'Farrill.

"I had a good bond with Carlos last year, but I definitely think Frankie can step up and do more than Carlos did," said Elliott.

Even with his belief in his new double-play partner, Elliott said he wasn't thinking about being in a leadership position this season.

"We had those other guys that were going to be there," said Elliott. "So there's a much different mentality coming in, but I think I'm more prepared than I ever have been coming into a season."

Even with a lack of experience on the team Elliott still remains positive about the sqaud's chances to win this season.

"Baseball is a lot different than any other sport," he said. "The younger guys out there can play just as good as the upper classmen on any certain day.

"I'm a little bit concerned with the experience of the team," Elliott added. "I think we can handle it, I just don't know how much the inexperience will come into play."

Elliott will start the season as the Dolphins' everyday second baseman, but will move positions depending on which teammate is on the mound.

While there is no doubt that Elliott is willing to do anything for the team, but there is one position the Dolphins quarterback will not be playing is pitcher, as he separated his throwing shoulder and has been rehabbing it since.

KATHY LANCASTER/The Citizen

Max Elliottwill be manning second base this season, but it will be his expereince the Dolphins are relying ton to lead the team.

Elliott has also steadily improved his batting number in his second year with the 'Fins, but he said he would still like to improve on his .300 average.

Marathon will need him to do that in order to return to the South Florida Baseball Conference postseason and a winning record.

"With the core guys we have right now, we look good," said Elliott. "We are definitely expecting to go deep into conference again. We have to still look for big things this year. Just because two people left I don't think it will affect us that much."

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Dolphins

Continued from page **1B**

and Richie Wells or freshman Michael Companioni in right.

"We'll be good defensively, we just have to hope we can put some runs on the board," said Leal. "We are going to have to move them around and find what works. The good thing is we've been able to bring a couple other athletes in that we are trying to develop. Since we have so many young kids we are going to use this year to build the program and hope by the end of the year we are playing good ball. Then next year we will have a more experienced squad."

Leal said he has not had this young of a squad since the 2007 season when it was all freshmen and sophomores.

"We haven't really set expectations with number of wins," he said. "We've just told the kids to come out, play hard and make the routine plays you are supposed to make. As long as they are getting better every game and just competing: those are our expectations."

Marathon has 25 games on the schedule this season with 15 at home, along with a Spring Break trip to Fort Pierce and Vero Beach.

"It's going to have to be patient year and we are going to have our bumps and bruises," said Leal. "There is going to be a lot of teaching, but the kids have come out with a great attitude and worked real hard. As long as they do that we don't mind it."

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Keller

Continued from page **1B**

time during football season.

Still, none of it has slowed him down from enjoying his final season with the Marathon baseball program, which he has been a part of since his seventh-grade season.

"We just don't have as much experience as we have had in the past years," said Keller. "Since we are a lot younger this year than we have been in the past years, I'm trying to teach them as much of what (Coach Luis) Leal has taught me. They are starting to look a lot better since we started."

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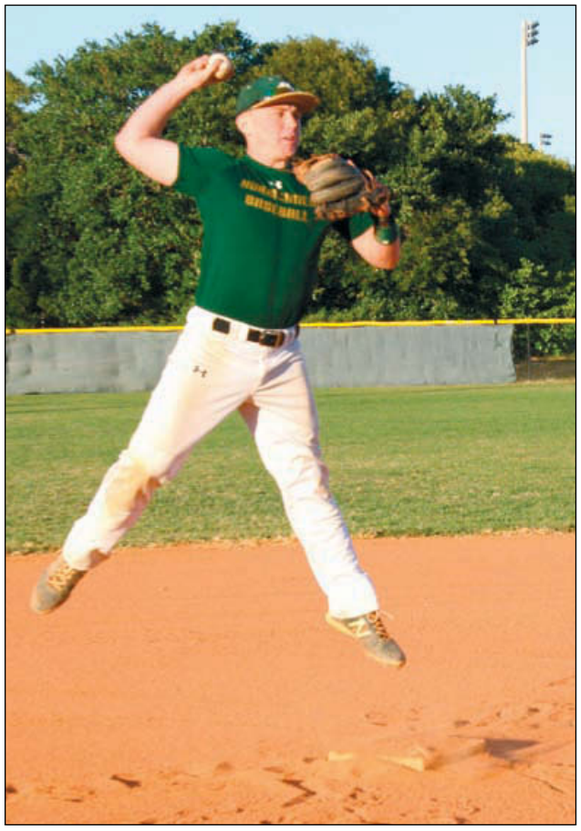
PREP BASEBALL '15: Coral Shores

'Canes relying on Richards, Chou in fourth season



RON COOKE/The Citizen

Coral Shores will rely on the experience of senior Cody Richards in the middle infield this season.

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

TAVERNIER — For the past three seasons, seniors Daryl Chou and Cody Richards have been preparing for this year.

Now that it is here, the Coral Shores senior infielders said they are just looking to go out and do the best they can do.

"There is some pressure, but we have been doing it for so long we are kind of used to it," said Chou. "We are just trying to pass on what we know to the younger kids."

During their time on varsity there has never been as strong of a senior presence as there is on this season's squad, which has tem expecting big things as a team.

"There are a lot more of us on this team and so everybody is expecting us to do better," said Richards. "So that has to be our goal to prove everybody right."

RON COOKE/The Citizen

Senior Daryl Chou will be the Hurricanes' captain for the second straight season.

"We want to go out with a bang," added Chou. "We are trying to repeat in conference and we also have the talent to compete in districts this year. If we don't accomplish that, we will feel bad about the season."

While both have personal goals they would like to reach this season, both said their main goal this year is winning.

"We not only want to improve our personal stats, but we want to improve the team stats more," said Richards. "We really, really want to repeat as the conference champions and take a shot at the district title."

While winning this year is important to the duo, they both want to pass on the knowledge to the next generation of Hurricanes.

"We want the next guys to continue doing what we've been doing and were taught to do by the guys before us," said Richards. "We also want to make sure they don't make the same mistakes we did."

While they are passing on what they know, both are also pursuing college opportunities to keep their careers going at the next level.

See **SENIORS**, page **11**

'Canes add speed in the outfield

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

TAVERNIER — Last season, Dalton Falcucci was one of the Hurricanes top base stealers and fastest players in the outfield.

This year, he is going to fight to find a spot in the speedy Coral Shores outfield with the additions of seniors Paul Pauchey and Colin Dickerson, as well as the return of Kirk Sentz.

"Now with all these guys back I'm probably the slowest guy out of all of them," said Falcucci, who will be used as a designated hitter this season. "I think everyone will step up and do what they need to do. I'm happy to have the extra outfielder, so we can sit out if someone is hurt."

Coach Joe Joyce said he is going to find room for all them this season, especially Falcucci who led the team in batting last season.

"Dalton might see some time at DH, but in the outfield he may be the odd man out," said Joyce. "There is no doubt our overall team speed has gotten faster adding these three guys."

Pauchey, an All-Monroe County soccer and football player for the last two seasons, is making a return to baseball for first time since his freshmen year — after injuries kept him out last season.

Sentz also took off last season and Dickerson, who transfered to the Upper Keys school this year, is a state-qualifying cross country runner.

See **OUTFIELD**, page **11**

RON COOKE/The Citizen

The Coral Shores outfield will be made up of, from left, Dalton Falcucci, Kirk Sentz, Paul Pauchey and Colin Dickerson, not pictured.

Goodwin, Lima will anchor 'Canes staff

BY J.W. COOKE
Citizen Staff

TAVERNIER — In his first varsity season for the Coral Shores High baseball team, Will Goodwin was relied upon to take the mound as much as possible.

Eventually he wore down his arm and he was unable to finish his sophomore campaign.

Last season, the Hurricanes added Jose Lima in the starting mix as a freshman and it paid off for both players.

Now entering this season, the No. 1 and No. 2 rotation has been truly established.

"I like having someone there that can carry the team if I'm not able to go," said Goodwin. "I can really trust him in that position. Before I knew if I was coming out, we really didn't have anyone else that was focused on pitching and not another position.

"It really comes down to who is feeling better before the game," added Lima.

Despite being the team's top pitchers, the two are on different schedules and rarely throw at the same time.

"I like it this way because you know, if you are well rested, you know you have to go and if your arm hurts or something you can take the week off to rest it," said Lima.

That made for a completely different offseason where Lima put in extra work and Goodwin made sure his arm was rested for the season.

"This summer I tried to get as much baseball in as I could," said Lima, who will not start the first three weeks of the season to give his arm a rest. "I think all the hard work will pay off."

Entering his senior year, Goodwin's fastball is reaching the mid 80s while he said he is comfortable enough to throw his curveball or changeup on any pitch.

"It's just a matter of what's working that day," said Goodwin.

Lima has been maxing out at 86 mph and averaging 83 to 84 mph, while his go-to pitch is his slider.

"Last year I was nervous and this year I feel good and I know what's coming," said Lima. "I think we will take the conference, but I want to take the next step and be able to win a couple in districts."

Goodwin also has other reasons to play well, as he has a pair of colleges interested in his services next year.

"I'm just looking to make it the best season I can have because it's my last year," said Goodwin.

First-year head coach Joe Joyce, who has been with the Coral Shores program for six seasons, said he is excited about the potential of his two aces.

However, he is still concerned with the depth of the rotation with Lima potentially missing the first three weeks of the season with tennis elbow.

A.J. Juliano and Fernando Garcia will also see plenty of time on the mound and in relief roles are Daryl Chou and Cody Richards.

"We have a bunch of guys that can go," said Joyce. "When we are healthy and can establish a couple of more guys in the rotation, pitching will be a strength for us."

Lima and Goodwin think it can lead them to another conference championship.

"I think we will take the conference," said Lima. "But I want to take the next step and be able to win a couple in districts."

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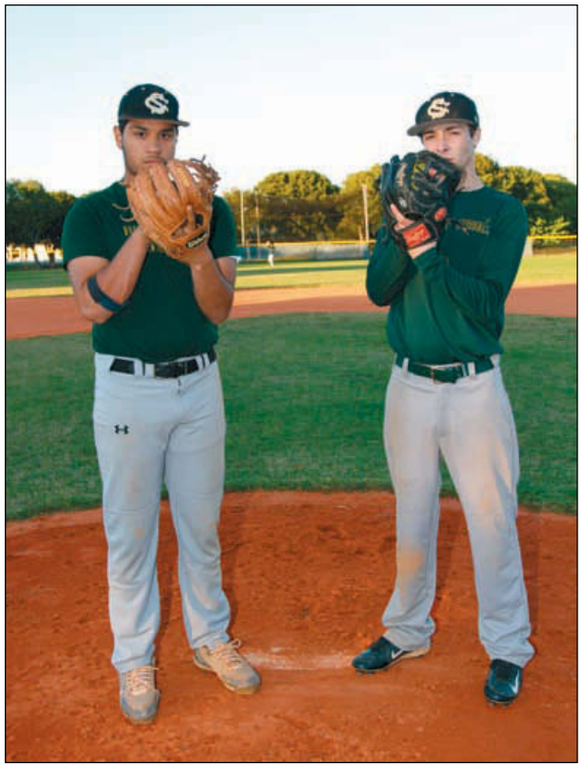

RON COOKE/The Citizen

Jose Lima, left, and Will Goodwin will start a majority of the games for Coral Shores.

Seniors

Continued from page 1B

"I think we both want to play in college but we are still looking," said Richards. "I think our chances will get better as this season goes on, especially if we do well."

While college is still a year off, they do not deny that the pressure of making four years of hard work pay is beginning to build.

"I definitely started feeling it at the start of the senior year," said Richards. "Not just with baseball, but getting everything together to just go to college."

"Everything is going so quick that by he time we are playing baseball it will hit us that it's our last year," added Chou.

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Outfield

Continued from page 1B

"I think we can all play any of the positions out there," said Sentz.

Thus far, they have taken advantage of all their speed.

"I don't think there's a lot that's going to get down out there," said Pauchey.

"It's been fun with all the dives we have been making," added Falcucci.

Defense is not the only place that they are planning on using their speed. At the plate, they will all be bunting and once again using their speed to cause havoc on the base paths.

"I'm not sure where any of us will bat, but I know we can all bunt," said Falcucci. "But we still have time to get where we want to be."

By season's end they all said they expect to be up to full-speed , which could make a difference in the playoffs.

"I want to win at least one district game," said Falcucci. "We should be able to win the conference again and be better than last year. It's a lot to say because we were really good at the end of the year last season."

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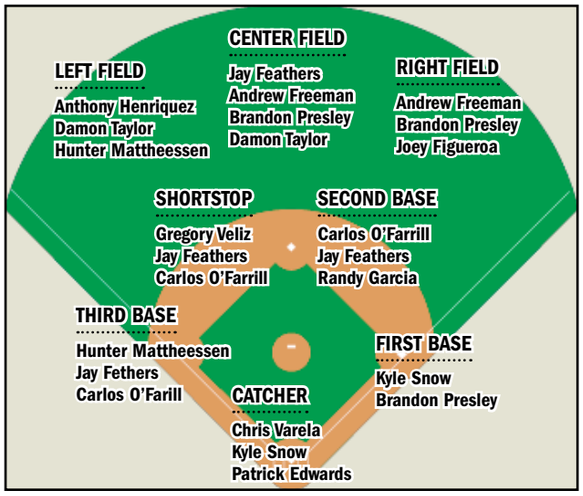
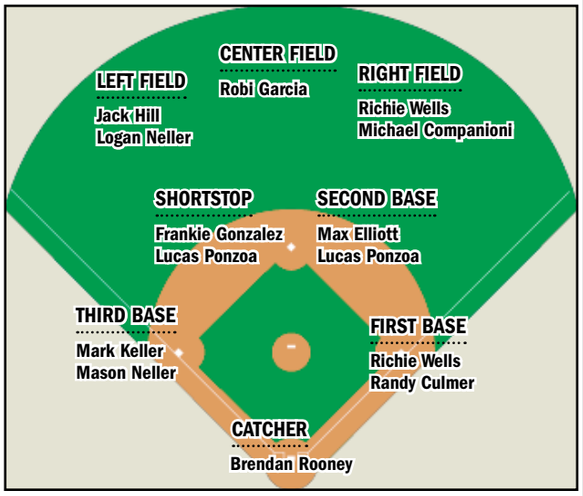
PREP BASEBALL '15

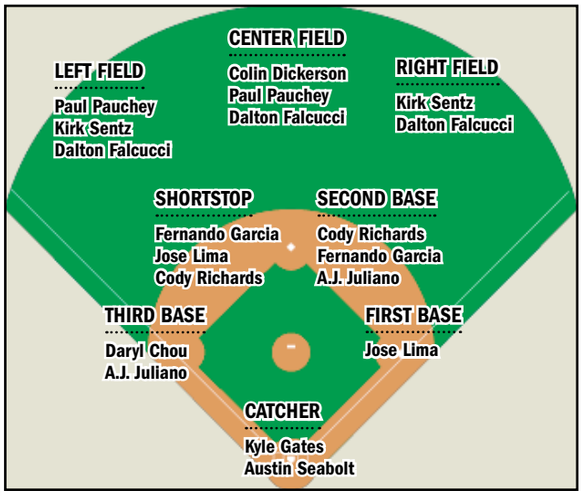
CONCHS' DEPTH CHART



DOLPHINS' DEPTH CHART



'CANES' DEPTH CHART



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