Paradise

COVER: Beach-goers take in some afternoon sunshine recently at Higgs Beach.

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ReMARCable Tour de Keys coming up

The second annual ReMARCable Tour de Keys 2016 bike ride, from Key Largo to Key West, is scheduled Saturday, Sept. 24.

The event raises funds for the MARC program, which provides services for Monroe County adults who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Each rider must raise a minimum of $100, along with a registration fee.

For rider information, email Becki Balcer at rebecca.balcer@gmail.com. For bike information, call Mark Terrell at 305-395-1551. To register, visit http://www.raceroster.com and search for ReMARCable Tour de Keys.

Tickets for the Havana Bike Tour, which also raises funds for the MARC program, are available at the MARC Plant Store, 1401 Seminary St.

Only 200 tickets, at $50 each, will be sold for the five-day tour event, and a customized bike is provided for the tour with transportation from Miami, accommodations and visa.

For information, call Gordon Ross at 305-294-9526, Ext. 25, or the MARC Plant Store at 305-296-9556.

Terrible spellers sought for event

The third annual Keys Bees Costumed Spelling Bee — for adults only — will be held Saturday, Sept. 10, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Key West Lions Club. The event benefits Literacy Volunteers of America - Monroe County.

Good spelling skills are not necessary, but generosity, an open mind and sense of humor are critical at this Key West-style spelling bee in the style of Key West. Choose your words — easy or hard, clean or dirty — every judge can be bribed.

Three-member team sponsorships are $150. Admission is $10.

For information, call Literacy Volunteers at 305-294-4352, text 305-304-0578 or email info@lva-monroe.org.

Artist Worth to exhibit at SALT Gallery

Local artist Rick Worth’s newest exhibit, “Island Light,” will open Saturday, Sept. 3, at SALT Gallery with a preview from 6 to 8 p.m.

The exhibit will feature more than a dozen new paintings on wood, found objects, roofing tiles and canvas that celebrate the spirited, self-taught artist who arrived on the island in 1985. In the three decades he’s been here, he’s become a part of the creative fabric of the community: teaching at the The Studios of Key West, painting year-round, donating his work to charities, and changing the landscape of what art in public spaces means with his whimsical art-cars and insightful murals.

Worth’s work will remain on display at SALT gallery through September.

For information, call 305-896-2980.

SALT Gallery is located at 830 Fleming St. in Key West.
Key West BrewFest on tap this Labor Day weekend

Those who revere beer or love their lager can indulge their cravings over Labor Day weekend during the seventh annual Key West BrewFest.

Scheduled today through Monday, Sept. 1-5, the festival features nearly 200 beers and ales including unique microbrews. They are showcased at events ranging from mouthwatering beer dinners to the oceanfront Signature Tasting Festival.

Beer selections include the uniquely named Andygator by Abita, Harpoon Leviathan IPA, Dogfish Head Craft Brewed Ales and local offerings from the Florida Keys Brewing Co. and Waterfront Brewery.

BrewFest begins at 5 p.m. today, Sept. 1, with a kickoff party at the Waterfront Brewery, 201 William St., featuring Key West specialty draft beers.

Subsequent festival events include a pool party at the Southernmost Beach Resort, 1319 Duval St.; the All AmeriCAN Sunset party featuring leading canned craft beers at Ocean Key Resort’s Sunset Pier, 0 Duval St.; multi-course beer dinners at the Southernmost Beach Café, 1405 Duval St.; and a “Brews Cruise” with Fury Water Adventures.

The BrewFest Signature Tasting Festival, featuring nearly 200 beers from around the world, is set for 5 to 8 p.m. Saturday on Key West’s South Beach at 1405 Duval St. Admission is $40 per person in advance, $50 at the door or $75 in advance for entry to the tasting and a 3-5 p.m. VIP gathering.

At 8 p.m. a Second Line March is scheduled from South Beach down Key West’s legendary Duval Street. Led by the New Orleans brass band Water Seed, participants will dance their way to a party at the Green Parrot Bar, 601 Whitehead St.

BrewFest is presented by the Southernmost Beach Resort and the Key West Sunrise Rotary Club of the Conch Republic. Proceeds support the club’s charitable efforts.

Festival details and tickets will be on tap at the BrewFest Hospitality Suite at the Southernmost Beach Resort, open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

For information, visit http://www.keywestbrewfest.com.

‘Heroes Salute’ military tribute is a Florida Keys Labor Day weekend tradition

Military, fire rescue, police and medical personnel will be honored as part of an annual Heroes Salute tribute weekend held at Hawks Cay Resort, Villas and Marina at Duck Key, Friday through Sunday, Sept. 2-4.

Highlights of the “heroes in action” Labor Day weekend tribute include a family fun night Friday with food, games and a movie under the stars. The event is free and open to the public.

Saturday, an 8 a.m. Heroes Salute 5k Run/Walk is planned to start and finish at the newly opened Angler and Ale restaurant located at the resort’s marina. Registration fee is $30.

Also at the marina Saturday is a mini touch-a-truck event, from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., which gives kids and adults a chance to view vehicles and life-saving equipment used by everyday heroes of the fire department, police and more.

Saturday evening features a ceremonial lighting of the fire pit with a photographic video tribute at sunset to honor fallen heroes and those formerly and currently in action.

Sunday’s highlight is a festive American-style barbecue from 6 to 9 p.m. Entertainment includes a live music performance by Keys tropical rock musician Howard Livingston and his Mile Marker 24 Band, as well as a fireworks show.

The event is open to the public. Tickets are available for advance purchase and cover admission to the evening events. Ticket prices are $25.95 for adults, $13 for kids ages 4-12 and free for children age 3 and younger.

A portion of proceeds will donated to the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation.

For information, visit http://www.floridakeysheroes.com
Key West Music Scene

**BLUE MACAW**
- **Chris Case**
  Noon to 3 p.m. Thursday
- **Tony Roberts**
  4 to 7 p.m. Thursday and Tuesday
- **Nick Norman**
  Noon to 3 p.m. Friday
- **Andy Wescott**
  4 to 7 p.m. Friday and Sunday
- **Big Daddy Rich**
  Noon to 3 p.m. Saturday and Monday
- **The Moorelock Band**
  4 to 7 p.m. Saturday
- **Mark Lum**
  Noon to 3 p.m. Sunday
- **James Whitehead**
  4 to 7 p.m. Monday
- **Frankendread**
  Noon to 3 p.m. Tuesday
- **Miguel Perez**
  Noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday

**CASA MARINA**
- **Nick Norman**
  4 to 6 p.m. Saturday

**CHICAGO'S**
- **Amandah Jantzen**
  5 to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday
- **Biscuit Miller and the Mix**
  8 to 11:30 p.m. through Sept. 6

**GARDENS HOTEL**
- **Dom Carelli**
  5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday
- **James King III**
  5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Saturday and Sunday
- **Michael Robinson and Friends**
  5 to 7 p.m. Friday

**GATES HOTEL**
- **Nick Norman**
  4 to 7 p.m. Thursday

**FAIRFIELD INN**
- **Deb Hudson**
  2 to 5 p.m. Friday
- **Jeff Rookie**
  2 to 5 p.m. Saturday

**GREEN PARROT**
- **Water Seed**
  5:30 and 10 p.m. Friday; 10 p.m. Saturday and 5:30 p.m. Sunday
  Combining the joyous sounds of traditional New Orleans jazz with Parliament's adventurous

Trumpeter Kenny Fradley, left, and pianist Barry Cuda entertain the lunch crowd at Hog's Breath on Friday and Saturday, from 1 to 4 p.m.
funk, Water Seed, a big, bold ensemble from NOLA brings its unpredictable, experimental edge to town with a musical gumbo. Also, at 8 p.m. on Saturday, the group will take part in Brewfest's second line march from South Beach down Duval Street to the Green Parrot.

**Robert Albury**
5:30 p.m. Saturday
Albury offers his energetic style of soul music, guaranteed to keep the crowd dancing and singing along all night long.

**Claire Finley**
5:30 and 9 p.m Wednesday
Finley will join by guitarist Rich Fusco and Andy Wescott and drummer Randy Morrow in a pop, blues and soul quartet.

**Mike Zito**
5:30 and 9 p.m. Thursday
Zito brings a mix of rock, blues, country and bluegrass.

**GRUNT'S BAR**
The Shanty Hounds
8 to 11 p.m. Thursday and Sunday
Members Dani Hoy and Chris Rehm take on all musical genres, as well as offering original music.

**The Bubba System Band**
8 to 11:30 p.m. Saturday
Keith Franx
8 to 11 p.m. Wednesday

**Hilton**
Mike Naughton
1 to 4 p.m. Thursday

**Hogfish**
BAR & GRILLE
Bahama Village Social Club
7 to 11 p.m. Friday

**HOG'S BREATH**
Cuda and Fradley
1 to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday
Key West's own honky-tonk piano man, Barry Cuda, and the island's trumpeter, Kenny Fradley, return to entertain the lunch crowd.

**Joel Nelson**
1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday
Local singer Nelson is a popular afternoon entertainer.

**Zack Seemiller**
1 to 5 p.m. Monday
Seemiller, who has a voice that reminds many of a young Bob Dylan, performs a mixture of folk and rock, along with originals.

**Erica Sunshine Lee**
5:30 to 9:30 p.m. through Sept. 4
This Georgia native is a talented singer-songwriter with four albums under her belt.

**Myles Mancusco**
5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Sept. 11
Mancusco is a nationally recognized prodigy who fronts his own band, singing and playing guitar and keyboards.

**Carter Brothers**
10 p.m. to 2 a.m. through Sept. 4
The duo brings an eclectic sound that includes rock, folk, blues, country and bluegrass.

**Sister Funk**
10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Monday through Sept. 11
This all-female band brings a high energy stage show to the island, similar in sound and style to Maroon 5 and Pink.

**KIKI'S SANDBAR**
The Shanty Hounds
6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Saturday

**Lazy Gecko**
**Nick Norman**
4 to 7 p.m. Friday

**Little Room Jazz Club**
**Larry Baeder and Bill Blue**
8:30 p.m. Thursday
**Mike Gillis**
6 p.m. Friday

**Denis Hylan**
Jazz Quartet
9 p.m. Friday

**Terri White**
Cuda, Fradley, Kilgos
8:30 p.m. Sunday

**Open Mic Jazz**
Jam with Larry Smith
8:30 p.m. Monday

**Ericson Holt**
8:30 p.m. Tuesday

**Women in Music**
Melody Cooper
8:30 p.m. Wednesday
Cooper wraps up 40 plus years in the Key West jazz scene.

**QQ-TAY**
**Dave Feder**
9 p.m. Thursday

**PIER HOUSE BEACH BAR**
**Brian Roberts**
Noon to 3 p.m. Thursday

**Din Allen**
4 to 7 p.m. Thursday; 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday

**Alphonse Subarsky**
Noon to 3 p.m. Friday and Saturday

**Joel Nelson**
4 to 7 p.m. Friday

**Amandah Jantzen**
Noon to 3 p.m. Sunday

**Raven Cooper Band**
7 to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday; Monday noon to 5 p.m.

**Rum Row**
Nick Norman
4 to 7 p.m. Thursday

**Larry Baeder**
5 to 8 p.m. Saturday

**Deb Hudson**
5 to 8 p.m. Sunday

**SALTY ANGLER**
Keith Franx
Noon to 4 p.m. Friday; 6 to 10 p.m. Tuesday

**Dani Hoy**
Noon to 4 p.m. Sunday

**Ben Taddiken**
Noon to 3 p.m. Monday and Tuesday

**SCHOONER WHARF BAR**
**Sam Ramos and Chris Case**
7 to 11 p.m. Thursday
These two will play all the classic rock tunes in between funk, reggae and Motown selections.

**Mike Zito**
9 p.m. Thursday

**Michael McCloud**
Noon to 5 p.m., Thursday, Tuesday, Wednesday; with friends, Friday through Sunday

**Raven Cooper Band**
7 to 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday; Monday noon to 5 p.m.

**Gary Hempsey**
Noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday
Hempsey offers up acoustic classic rock with a twist.

**Tom Taylor**
7 to 11 p.m. Tuesday
Taylor will provide an evening of classic and Generation X rock.

**SMOKIN' TUNA**
Chris Bandi Duo
6 p.m. Thursday through Sunday

**Nick Norman**
6:30 p.m. Monday through Sept. 10

**Caffene Carl and Friends**
9 p.m. Friday and Saturday

**Claire's Outfit**
9 p.m. Tuesday

**Claire Finley and the E'Claire's**
9 p.m. Wednesday

**SUNSET TIKI BAR**
Clint Bullard
6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Sunday, Wednesday

**VIRGILIO'S**
Latin Night with Caribe
10 p.m Thursday

**Muse Gurus**
10 p.m. Friday and Saturday
Dora Gohlson and Larry Baeder combine their talents

**Robert Douglas**
9:45 p.m. Sunday

**Deb and the Jellyfish Martini Band**
9:30 p.m. Monday

**Persistent Trio**
9:30 p.m. Wednesday
to advertise your "fun stuff" in this section call (305) 292.7777
Key West’s architectural crown jewel celebrates 125 years

Whether by land, sea, or air, it’s hard to miss the ornate, four-story Custom House Museum that stands sentinel over the island—just about everyone who lives in or visits Key West can reference the red brick building located at the foot of Front Street. What might not be so obvious is the history it holds—from the exhibits within, to the gallery walls they are hung upon, and the tin roof that protects it all—and the painstaking efforts that have been made (and are still underway) to preserve the architectural crown jewel of the island.

This year, the Custom House building celebrates its 125th anniversary. Key West Art & Historical Society, stewards of the iconic landmark structure with their offices headquartered there, commemorates this anniversary with a special exhibition — “Custom Made” — that hails the building’s majestic structure and the federal offices that occupied the space for decades. The historic exhibit will be open through Dec. 6.

Among the most architecturally significant buildings in Florida and a superb example of Richardsonian Romanesque Architecture (and the only one of its kind in the Keys), the Custom House wasn’t always a museum. Opened to the public in 1891 as a centerpiece of federal authority in the State of Florida, it originally housed the Collector of Customs, the Postal Service, Federal Courthouse and the Lighthouse 7th District Office, serving as “Key West’s nerve center,” said society curator Cori Convertito.

“Plans and specifications for the construction of a court house and post office in Key West, Florida were executed under the direction of the supervising architect of the Treasury Department,” said Convertito. “Although the design was considered ornate for Key West, it was a typical government building of the period with similar structures being executed in other locations, including an almost identical post office and district court constructed in 1887 in Aberdeen, Mississippi.”

The exhibit will offer opportunities to enjoy the architectural marvel’s finery: the grand staircase of carved wood, 20-foot high ceilings textured in intricately molded plaster, arched windows and doorways, eleven fireplaces, and an immense wraparound porch that provided shade to residents and visitors conducting business in the building. Visitors can also explore rare artifacts including sections of the building’s original woodwork, a Collector of Customs’ letter book, nineteenth century customs forms, views of the original floor plans, and materials used in the edifice’s restoration, part of a nine-year, $9-million project spearheaded by the society that began in 1999.

The multimillion-dollar effort, funded by the federal ISTEA program, the State of Florida, Division of Historical Resources, the Division of Cultural Affairs, as well as many private foundations, businesses and individuals, culminated with the Custom House’s grand opening as a flagship museum in 1999.

“The construction, abandonment and restoration of the Custom House serves as a remarkable example of safeguarding our past in order to support our future,” Convertito said.

Today, the museum is undergoing Phase III of five phases of renovations, insuring that preservation continues today for the generations to come.

For information, call Convertito at 305-295-6616, Ext. 112, or email convertitofarrar@kwahs.org.

CUSTOM HOUSE CELEBRATION FEATURES PHOTO CONTEST

Photographers from across the globe have long been drawn to the Custom House’s architectural majesty, and for good reason — with its stately archways and sweeping wrap-around porch set against the tropical landscape and horizon, the ornate, four-story red brick museum that stands sentinel over the island provides spectacular images for just about anyone with a camera or smartphone. Now, with a $250 cash prize and tickets for two to go “Back In Time” to the Custom House’s 125th anniversary celebration fundraiser, it will provide that and more for three lucky people.

Hosted by KWAHS, the free-entry competition will take place on Facebook and will award one winner from three separate categories— color, black and white, and nighttime photos — with winners based on the amount of “likes” their post upload receives. Entrants can submit as many images of the exterior or interior of the building as they like through Nov. 9, when the contest officially closes.

“The Custom House, whether seen by land, sea, or air, has a powerful presence and with its 125 years of history, she draws you in,” says photographer and Key West Art & Historical Society board member Todd Feit. “For me, the Custom House provides a sense of comfort, and depending on the time of day, she glows with different colors of light.”

A celebration of the architectural crown jewel of Key West would not be complete without a gala event. “Back In Time” — a Key West formal fundraiser with a history twist — offers the contest winners and other party-goers a chance to break out their timely fashions on Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 6 p.m. for a costumed evening of revelry, music, dancing and dinner at the Custom House and Westin Resort. Event proceeds support the ongoing preservation needs of the building.

For information about the photo contest or the “Back In Time” 125th anniversary celebration fundraiser, visit http://www.kwahs.org.
“Paparazzi’ is a photo-driven entertainment feature compiled by Citizen staffers from in-house and contributed photos. Snaps of social events, arts and entertainment-related activities and what “wild art” will be welcomed for submissions to these pages. Please send invitations to cover events to paparazzi@keysnews.com, and we will do our best to get a photographer there. If we can’t make it, send your photos and information of said shindig instead, and we will try to fit them in.

Paparazzi in Paradise

Key West resident and former serviceman Coffee Butler sings an a cappella version of the tune ‘My Buddy,’ as photos of past U.S. Marine Corps flash across a video screen at the Doubletree Grand Key Resort on Saturday.

Architect Bert Bender stands among artifacts, memorabilia and educational media at Friday evening’s opening of “Custom Made,” an exhibition at the Custom House Museum that celebrates the history of the 125-year-old Custom House building. Bender headed a nine-year project, begun in 1991, that restored the “architectural crown jewel” of Key West to its early 20th-century appearance.

At the Friday evening opening of “Custom Made,” an exhibition focused on the iconic 125-year-old Custom House building, Banana Grass shows plastic replicas of some of the metal work from the exterior of the historic four-story brick building — now a museum. The molds were used to replace damaged pieces during the nine-year restoration project launched by KWAHS in 1991. “Custom Made” will run at the Custom House Museum, 281 Front Street, in Key West through Dec. 6.

On the inaugural celebration of ‘Bill Hudson Day’ declared by Key West Mayor Craig Cates last week, from left, Rick Lopez, Jason Wolf, ‘Blit C. Hudson, Calen and ‘The Bird’ gather for a photo at the nerve center of The Bill Hudson Equineport’s radio show.

Former caravaner Sue Rasnoff, left, is running this year for King of Fantasy Fest. He performed his opening act, assisted by Blaine Montgomery, at last Friday’s kickoff event held at the Southernmost House.

Christopher Ropers of La Te Da is running for King of Fantasy Fest. He had a great act from The Lion King this year’s kickoff held at the Southernmost West House.

Queen of Fantasy Fest candidate Kristen Livengood, second from right, performs Friday night at the Southernmost House during the Fantasy Fest kickoff party.

Donna Barnett and Broadway star Bert White come out to support this year’s King and Queen of Fantasy Fest kickoff. Bert is currently appearing at the Little River Jazz Club and will perform in this year’s Hoedown Ball.

Chef Doug Shook, Isle Cook Key West co-proprietor Eden Brown, and chef Martha Hubbard wrap up Saturday evening’s Conch Revival Picnic with Key Lime pie, white wine and a kitchen knife, respectively. Co-presented by Key West Art & Historical Society and Isle Cook Key West, 100 ticket holders enjoyed a lavish spread of traditional and historic Conch cuisine offerings crafted by acclaimed chefs Haskell, Dave Furtman, Martin Lie, Paul Menta, Shook and Dorris Schwartz. Event proceeds benefit KWAHS programs.

Queen of Fantasy Fest candidate Winton Livengood, second from right, perform at the Fantasy Fest kickoff party.

From left, Chef Doug Shook, John Key Key West co-proprietor Eden Brown, and chef Martha Halkis wrap up Saturday evening’s Conch Revival Picnic with Key Lime pie, white wine and a kitchen knife, respectively. Co-presented by Key West Art & Historical Society and Isle Cook Key West, 100 ticket holders enjoyed a lavish spread of traditional and historic Conch cuisine offerings crafted by acclaimed chefs Haskell, Dave Furtman, Martin Lie, Paul Menta, Shook and Dorris Schwartz. Event proceeds benefit KWAHS programs.

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Queen of Fantasy Fest candidate Winton Livengood, second from right, perform at the Fantasy Fest kickoff party.
Womenfest to feature fun, festivities Sept. 7-11

Thousands of women are expected to flock to Key West Wednesday through Sunday, Sept. 7-11, for the annual Womenfest celebration in the island city known for its all-welcoming diversity.

The popular festival for lesbians and their friends features activities ranging from snorkeling and water-sports excursions to high-energy late-night parties.

Activities are designed to allow singles, couples and groups of women to experience the atmosphere of openness and acceptance that has made Key West an internationally acclaimed lesbian and gay vacation destination.

Womenfest’s entertainment highlights typically include comedy performances by top female comedians, gallery showings, film screenings and musical offerings by award-winning singers and bands. Headliners in past years have ranged from Sister Funk to Jennifer Corday.

Other offerings include sunset sails on the azure Keys waters, lively pool parties at local guesthouses, drag performances by renowned female impersonators, a themed bike tour of Key West’s historic Old Town and gatherings at leading clubs.

Attendees can discover the island city’s culture and heritage by touring local museums, and take an entertaining trolley tour to learn about the history, contributions and landmarks associated with the flourishing LGBT community. A curator-guided tour of the acclaimed Tennessee Williams Key West Exhibit also is planned, showcasing the playwright’s life and work.

In addition, the Womenfest schedule includes flag football clinics and a friendship game presented by the International Women’s Flag Football Association.

For information, visit http://www.womenfest.com.

Gallery on Greene marks 20 years with exhibition

The Gallery on Greene continues its celebration of 20 years of artistic distinction with an exhibition featuring the works of veteran gallery artists as well as new artists. The show will be on display through Sept. 22.

In the hazy, warm Key West summer, little is more refreshing than reclining on the beach in the mist of the warm ocean or enjoying a family trip to the mainland. This exhibit, the Summertime Salon, reminds the viewer of this seasonal sentiment. The two long walls of the gallery are a mosaic in artwork that evoke the feelings and memories of summer.

The works of the 37 gallery artists come together communally, reinforcing the overall sense of unity that the exhibit creates as a whole. Details from one image flow from into the next, elevating every work of art in a distinctly unique way.

This year’s invitational image by Peter Vey, Perfect Porch, features a view from an idyllic veranda with a schooner passing in the distance. The tropical image evokes an extreme sense of relax in the shady Key West spirit. Though the ocean is tauntingly beautiful, the conch resting on the rail is the soft tone of pink, nearing rose frames the left with a coconut.

Participating artists include Mario Sanchez, Peter Vey, Suzie DePoo, Andy Thurber, Cindy Wynn, Roberto Fabelo, Sandra Ramos, Priscilla Coote, Mabel Poblet, Carol Feuerman, Mike Rooney, Wayne Garcia, Linda Reike, The-Merger, Bill Thompson, Tamayo, Alpizar, Bottle Bob, Jeff MacNelly, James Kerr, Michael J. Harrell, Henry LaCagnina and Tennessee Williams.

The Gallery on Greene is located at 606 Greene St.

Poker Run bikers to ride iconic Florida Keys Overseas Highway Sept. 15-18

An iconic American road trip awaits motorcyclists participating in the 44th annual edition of Phil Peterson’s Key West Poker Run, set for Thursday through Sunday, Sept. 15-18.

Riders on up to 10,000 bikes are expected to travel from mainland Florida to Key West along the Florida Keys Overseas Highway, which stretches more than 100 miles and features 42 bridges over open water. The highway is Florida’s only federally designated All-American Road and has earned repeated recognition as of the USA’s great scenic drives.

Beginning Sept. 1 bikers can register at Peterson’s Harley-Davidson of Miami, 19400 NW 2nd Ave., and Peterson’s Harley-Davidson South, 19825 S. Dixie Highway. Online registration is accepted before that date at www.petersonharley.com. The Poker Run is a fundraiser for the Diabetes Research Institute and charities of the Key West Sunrise Rotary Club. Events conclude Sunday, Sept. 18, with a biker brunch at the Two Friends Patio Restaurant, 512 Front St.

For information, visit http://www.petersonharley.com.
Residents get free admission to attractions on Sunday

A number of attractions in Key West are free to locals on Sunday. There is no cost for admission for residents with Monroe County identification. Check with the business for hours and tour times.

**The Custom House**
Towering over Mallory’s historic seaport, the Custom House is as stunning a sight to visitors today as it was when it opened in 1891. Originally home to the island’s customs office, postal service and district courts, this four-story architectural marvel was built to keep pace with the increasing population and wealth accumulating from Key West’s lucrative trade routes and maritime industries. Today, the building is an award-winning museum and official headquarters of the Key West Art and Historical Society. Experience two floors of exhibitions that weave together two centuries of history, art, people and events.

**East Martello Tower**
Construction began in 1862 by the U.S. Army on this Civil War fort and tower in order to provide extra protection for Key West and defend against the possibility of a Confederate sea assault. Today, visitors can explore the preserved battlement’s collection of relics from the Civil War, learn about the wrecking and cigar-manufacturing industries which shaped the Florida Keys, view the unique folk art of Mario Sanchez and the imaginative metal sculptures of Stanley Papio, as well as meet the Ghosts of East Martello, including the infamous Robert the Doll.

**Truman’s Little White House**
While president, Harry S Truman spent 175 days in Key West in Quarters A on the Truman Naval Station. Today, as Florida’s only presidential museum, the Little White House provides a personal glimpse of one of America’s greatest presidents.

**Lighthouse Tower and Keeper’s Quarters**
Almost immediately after the U.S. Navy established a base in Key West in 1823, the need for a lighthouse became evident. Erecting a lighthouse was essential in assuring the safe arrival of both military and commercial vessels navigating the shallow, reef-laden waters off the Florida Keys. The current lighthouse opened in 1848 with a woman as its Keeper; nearly unheard of during the 19th century. Today, visitors can walk up the 88 steps to the top of the light as well as explore the belongings, photographs, and words of the lighthouse Keepers and their families who lived a now obsolete, yet never forgotten, way of life.

**Botanical Garden**
Locals are free Sunday at the Key West Tropical Forest and Botanical Garden, 5210 College Road. The garden is open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The entrance fee will be waived for residents with Monroe County identification. For information call 305-296-1504 or go to keywestbotanicalgarden.org. The garden is handicapped accessible.

**Historic Tours of America**
HTA offers all locals with Monroe County identification a free ride on the Conch Tour Train and the Old Town Trolley, as well as other attractions. The historic Key West Aquarium is home to alligators, jellyfish, sharks and many other marine animals. The Key West Museum combines actors, films and the actual artifacts from the 1985 rediscovery of the wrecked vessel Isaac Allerton, which sank in 1856 on the treacherous Florida Keys reef.
Melania Trump may have “borrowed” from Michelle Obama’s speech ... but Hollywood does it all the time.

Take the new film “The Light Between Oceans.”

It’s playing this week at Tropic Cinema. Other than the lighthouse setting, the film may bring on a case of déjà vu.

Go back and watch “The Deep End of the Ocean,” the 1999 tearjerker starring Michelle Pfeiffer. Does it seem familiar?

In “The Light Between Oceans” a lighthouse keeper (Michael Fassbender) and his lonely wife (Alicia Vikander) find a baby adrift in a small lifeboat. Of course, they adopt the child as their own.

Years later, on a trip to the mainland, the coast of Western Australia, they meet a woman (Rachel Weisz) who lost her husband and baby daughter to a kidnapping. Get out your hankies.

Now compare that with the other “Ocean” movie. A couple (Michelle Pfeiffer and Treat Williams) lost their young son to a kidnapping. But years later, after moving to a new neighborhood, they find him living with another family.

Both films have their claim to originality, being based on separate books.

“The Deep End of the Ocean” was a best-selling novel by Jacquelyn Mitchard. It was the first selection for Oprah’s Book Club on September 17, 1996. A prolific writer, Mitchard has published nine other novels.

“The Light Between Oceans” was the debut novel by M. L. Stedman. Published in 2012, it was longlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award, an annual prize for the “novel which is of the highest literary merit and presents Australian life in any of its phases.”

Coincidence or not, each book stands on its own. Besides, even Shakespeare borrowed plots from other works.

srhoades@aol.com

The Light Between Oceans’ echoes a previous ‘ocean’ film

Reviewed by
SHIRREL RHOADES

Melania Trump may have “borrowed” from Michelle Obama’s speech ... but Hollywood does it all the time.

Take the new film “The Light Between Oceans.”

It’s playing this week at Tropic Cinema. Other than the lighthouse setting, the film may bring on a case of déjà vu.

Go back and watch “The Deep End of the Ocean,” the 1999 tearjerker starring Michelle Pfeiffer. Does it seem familiar?

In “The Light Between Oceans” a lighthouse keeper (Michael Fassbender) and his lonely wife (Alicia Vikander) find a baby adrift in a small lifeboat. Of course, they adopt the child as their own.

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Top 10 movie bad guys who won

Reviewed by
SHIRREL RHODES

We like to think good guys always win. But not always so in movies. Here are 10 films in which the bad guy came out on top. Drat.

Warning: Don't read these listings if you don't want to know the endings.

10) "Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back" (1980) — Darth Vader and the Galactic Empire win in this one, with Han Solo (Harrison Ford) ending up on ice and Luke Skywalker (Mark Hamill) losing the upperhand ... so to speak.

9) "The Silence of the Lambs" (1991) — Serial killer Hannibal Lecter (Anthony Hopkins) outsmarts FBI agent Clarice Starling (Jody Foster) and goes off in search of some fava beans and a nice chianti.

8) "Memento" (2000) — What happens when you forget you're the bad guy? Leonard Shelby (Guy Pearce) suffers from a rare form of amnesia, but that doesn't stop him from framing his friend Teddy (Joe Pantoliano) and getting away with it.

7) "Nightcrawler" (2014) — Creepy Louis Bloom (Jake Gyllenhaal) is a freelance cameraman who knows how to create opportunity for himself. And get away with it.

6) "Gone Girl" (2014) — Amy (Rosamund Pike) frames her husband (Ben Affleck) for her death, and there's nothing he can do about it ... even when she turns up alive.

5) "No Country for Old Men" (2007) — Psychopathic killer Anton Chigurh (Javier Bardem) is relentless. Despite all his mayhem, he manages to walk away scot-free.

4) "Se7en" (1995) — Serial killer John Doe (Kevin Spacey) is compelled to act out the Seven Deadly Sins, and by decapitating the wife of Detective David Mills (Brad Pitt) he forces the aggrieved lawman to kill him in a fit of wrath ... with Doe winning by dying.

3) "Primal Fear" (1996) — A stuttering, shy boy (Ed Norton) is accused of murdering an archbishop, but attorney Martin Vail (Richard Gere) gets him off, only to find that the boy's multiple personality defense was a clever ploy.

2) "Rosemary's Baby" (1968) / "The Omen" (1976) — You can't beat the devil ... or so it would seem in these two horror classics. Poor Rosemary (Mia Farrow) is chosen by a satanic cult to bear an evil offspring. And sweet little Damian (Harvey Keitel) is off his mom and sets out to enjoy his heritage as the antichrist.

1) "The Usual Suspects" (1995) — Everybody's looking for master criminal Keyser Söze, but nobody suspects gimpy Verbal (Kevin Spacey).

Why didn't we include "The Wicker Man"? Because there's not just one bad guy ... all the townspeople are behind the ritualistic sacrifice of Sgt. Howie.

srhoades@aol.com

What's Up at The Tropic

OPENS FRIDAY
"Light Between the Oceans" — Rated R (See review, Page 12)

"Bad Moms" — Rated R (See review, Page 12)

HELD OVER
"Indignation" — Based on Philip Roth's latest novel, the movie takes place in 1951, as Marcus Messner (Logan Lerman), a brilliant, working-class Jewish boy from Newark, New Jersey, travels on scholarship to a small, conservative college in Ohio, thus exempting him from being drafted into the Korean War. But once there, Marcus's growing infatuation with his beautiful classmate Olivia Hutton (Sarah Gadon), and his clashes with the college's imposing dean Hawes Caudwell (Tracy Letts), put his and his family's best laid plans to the ultimate test. Rated R

"Star Trek: Beyond" — Captain Kirk (Chris Pine) and the crew of the Enterprise encounter an alien warrior race when marooned on a distant planet after the destruction of their spaceship in this continuing series, directed by Justin Lin. Rated PG-13

"Captain Fantastic" — Deep in the forests of the Pacific Northwest, isolated from society, a devoted father (Viggo Mortensen) dedicates his life to transforming his six young children into extraordinary adults. But when a tragedy strikes the family, they are forced to leave this self-created paradise and begin a journey into the outside world that challenges his idea of what it means to be a parent and brings into question everything he's taught them. Rated R

"Finding Dory" — The film reunites the friendly-but-forgetful blue tang fish with her loved ones, and everyone learns a few things about the true meaning of family along the way. Featuring the voices of Ellen DeGeneres, Ed Harris and Ty Berell. Rated PG

"Florence Foster Jenkins" — A wealthy New York heiress (Meryl Streep) attempts to become an opera singer despite her horrible singing voice. Hugh Grant and Rebecca Ferguson co-star in this biopic directed by Stephen Frears. Rated NR

SPECIAL EVENTS
72-Hour Film Challenge Screenings
5:30 and 8 p.m. receptions with 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. screenings on Wednesday, Sept. 7; 8 p.m. reception and 8:30 p.m. screening on Thursday, Sept. 8
**DISCOUNTS | ACTIVITIES | ENTERTAINMENT | SHOPPING | DINING**

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**TO DO**

**DINING IN THE FLORIDA KEYS**

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**CAFE SOLE**

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50% Off Entrees & 2-4-1 Select Wines by the Glass
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- 1/2 Off All Beers, House Wine and Well Drinks
- $9 Dozen Oysters on the 1/2 Shell
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Since 1972 the Half Shell Raw Bar has been the locals favorite restaurant for fresh seafood!

Enjoy our awesome Happy Hour everyday 4:30PM-6:30PM (7 days a week!)

Join us for • 1/2 Off All Beers, House Wine and Well Drinks
• $9 Dozen Oysters on the 1/2 Shell
• $14.00 Pound Peel & Eat Shrimp
• $9.50 Bucket of Steamed Clams and more.

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**SUMMER FUN**

- Free Delivery To All of Key West Including Stock Island
- 40% Off All Food Delivered Through September
- Major Credit Cards or Cash Accepted
- Package Liquor, Beer, and Wine Available

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**SUMMER FUN**

-_half shell raw bar
- Half Shell Raw Bar
- Half Shell Fish Market
- Azur Restaurant
- CAFE SOLE
- Two Friends Patio Restaurant
- Prime Steakhouse
- Azur Restaurant
- Grand Cafe Key West
- Half Shell Fish Market
- Half Shell Raw Bar
- Prime Steakhouse
- Half Shell Fish Market
Florida Keys Council of the Arts Cultural Calendar for Thursday, Sept. 1 through Wednesday, Sept. 7. Visit http://www.keysarts.com, Cultural Calendar for more listings and events throughout the Keys.

KEY WEST HAPPENINGS

ARTIST RECEPTIONS/EXHIBITIONS

Friday
Upper Duval Art Stroll, 6 p.m. Special art exhibitions and receptions at galleries and shops along Upper Duval from United Street to Truman Avenue, including Frangipani Gallery, SoDu Gallery, Cocco & Salem, Island Arts, Key West Pottery, Cork & Stogie, Millionaire Gallery, Dog Tired Studio & Gallery and Rock House Gallery.

Saturday
"Worth his Salt: Rick Worth Exhibit," opening reception, 6 p.m. Featuring more than a dozen new paintings on wood, found objects, roofing tiles and canvas that celebrate the spirited self-taught artist. Salt Island Provisions, 830 Fleming St. http://www.saltislandprovisions.com

CLASSES and WORKSHOPS

Thursdays (through Sept. 15)
Acrylic painting class, "Words to Live By" with Maggie Ruley, from 1 to 4 p.m. Add inspirational words, quotes or poetry to your acrylic painting. Students will be invited to participate in a group show in October. Call to register 305-304-1013. Island Inspirations, 933B Fleming St. http://www.saltislandprovisions.com

FESTIVALS/FUNDRAISERS

Thursday
Suzanne Westenhoef er, 8 p.m. Enjoy a wild night of comedy during Womenfest. The Studios of Key West, 533 Eaton St. http://www.tskw.org

FILM
"The Key West 72 Hour Film Challenge," Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 7-8, 8:30 p.m. Local actors, filmmakers and general creative-types participated in the annual 72-Hour Film Challenge. All entries will be shown at screenings open to the public at the Tropic Cinema, 416 Eaton St.http://www.tropiccinema.com

DANCE CLASS


LITERARY

Sunday
Key West Poetry Guild meeting, 7 p.m. Open mic, all are welcome. One Island Family, 801 Georgia St. 305-296-4369.

MUSEUMS, HISTORY and CULINARY

Sunday
Locals Free Sunday at the Key West Botanical Garden, 10 a.m. Bring your lunch and picnic in the courtyard by the waterfall. 5210 College Road. 305-296-1504. http://www.keywestbotanicalgarden.org

MUSIC CLASSES

Classical guitar classes, for children and adults throughout the Keys. Learn how to play your favorite songs and read music from concert professional Mateo. 305-304-1437.

MIDDLE KEYS HAPPENINGS

LITERARY

Wednesday
Keys Writers meeting, 1 p.m. A read-aloud critique group for all forms of creative writing. All levels welcome. Big Pine Library, Winn-Dixie Shopping Plaza. 305-872-0992. http://www.keyslibraries.org

THEATER

Marathon Community Theater, open auditions for the 2016-2017 season, Sept. 17-18. Dance and vocal auditions begin at 9 a.m. both days and script reading auditions begin at 12:30 p.m. both days. In addition, auditions for MCT's annual fundraiser "One Weekend Only" will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 5-6. 5101 Overseas Highway, 305-743-0408 or 305-743-0994. http://www.marathontheater.org

UPPER KEYS HAPPENINGS

LITERARY

Wednesday
Latitude 25 writers meeting, 7 p.m. Key Largo Library, Tradewinds Shopping Center Mile Marker 101.4. 305-451-4164. gibbsail43@gmail.com

ONGOING ARTISTS EXHIBITIONS


In 1961, Key West Art & Historical Society presented the first public showing of Mario Sanchez's art at Fort East Martello Museum.


The exhibit lauds the celebrated Cuban-American folk artist's sketches done on brown paper bags, a process Sanchez used to guide the layout of his famed bas-relief woodcarvings.

"Much like sculptors employ maquettes, Sanchez used his sketches to visualize and experiment with shapes and ideas without undertaking the effort of producing elaborate woodcarvings," said curator Cori Convertito.

More than 70 sketches — the majority on permanent loan from local philanthropist David Wolkowsky — will offer a look into everyday Key West life, exemplified by vivid details and outdoor street scenes that Sanchez based on actual memories.

A self-taught artist born in 1908 in Key West's Gato ville cigar-making neighborhood, Sanchez began working artistically in 1930, creating upwards of 600 paintings and woodcarvings in his lifetime.

In 1985, Sanchez was presented with the Florida Folk Heritage Award by the Florida Secretary of State and the Florida Folklife Council.

Today, Sanchez is considered one of the nation's greatest folk artists.

For information, email Cori Convertito at cconvertito@kwahs.org or call 305-295-6616, Ext. 112.
Cuban (good) humor can be an acquired taste

BY ROB O’NEAL
Paradise

There are so many reasons why I love visiting Cuba. Apart from the plethora of photo opportunities every 10 feet or so, it is the Cuban people who never cease to amaze. Take for instance, Lourdes, seen with her confectionery creation. From this image, I agree, it’s hard to tell what it is she is making.

While rooting around in my friend’s refrigerator in Central Havana one afternoon, I came across a copy of the state-run newspaper Granma in the freezer. Curious, I opened it up and spied a delicious-looking, if not sort of strange combination of cake and ice cream. “Un sandwich de helado,” his Spanish-only speaking wife said. Oh, right, an ice cream sandwich. And while it hadn’t come neatly-wrapped with “Good Humor” written all over it, it was every bit as good. I immediately had to know its origin and if it was possible to see the process. Now, had I known the lady lived in a sixth-floor, walk-up apartment, I might have passed, but looking back, I’m glad I went. After a few minutes of gasping for my breath, I introduced myself to Lourdes in my best possible Spanish. She spoke no English, so this was gonna take some work.

Now, as I’ve mentioned in this space previously, the Cuban government in 2008 began to allow people to start small businesses, and Lourdes had found her niche. Starting with thin pieces of cake, she spreads slightly-softened ice cream of varying flavors across the sugar-coated cake, then refreezes the entire thing, cuts it into pieces, then wraps and sells them in the neighborhood.

While this is mildly interesting on its own, it’s the resulting joke that would follow that makes this whole thing priceless. As you can see, Lourdes carefully places the plated cake on two water glasses inside a styro-foam tray filled with water. “Why do you do that?” I managed to ask. “Ormigas!”

Huh? You see, five years ago, my Spanish was truly in the larval stage and it took a little bit of explanation on her part for me to understand she meant ants.

After shooting my photos, I bought an inordinate amount of product from her and slid back down the stairs and back to my buddy’s house to share the bounty. I was eager to tell them about the “anti-ant” maneuver I had just witnessed.

Before I share the joke, you must realize that as much as I love Cuba with its rich history, old cars, great food, gorgeous landscapes, pristine beaches and overall coolness factor, it is the demeanor, humor and joie de vivre of the Cuban people that pulls me in like a Star Wars tractor beam.

As I shared the newest batch of ice cream sandwiches with my friend’s family, I began to explain the styrofoam/water glass trick. With a mouthful of ice cream and without missing so much as a beat, my friend shot the whole thing down.

“You see, my brother, this seems like a good idea, but it will never work.” What? Why is that? I asked.

“You must remember that these are Cuban ants and if they want to go for the cake, for sure they will build a raft and with the oars they will cross the water to the glasses and get what they want.” See what I mean?

roneal@keysnews.com