

FLORIDA WEEKLY[®]

KEY WEST EDITION

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22-28, 2018

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THANKSGIVING *in* KEY WEST



BY LAURA RICHARDSON

Florida Weekly Correspondent

TO THIS HUMBLE FLORIDA WEEKLY Key West Edition writer, December holidays be damned — Thanksgiving is the real most wonderful time of the year. When else are you allowed — nay, encouraged — to gorge yourself on a week's worth of food, walk around with your pants shamelessly unbuttoned (or, if you're a seasoned vet like I am, you eschew pants altogether and go with an outfit with a lot more stretch), and yell at the television while impossibly athletic dudes tackle one another for three hours

SEE TURKEY, A10 ►

Key West Artisan Market a seasonal treat

BY LAURA RICHARDSON

Florida Weekly Correspondent

Whether you're in the real world or in our isolated Cayo Hueso bubble, Sundays are sacred. Nothing wards off the Monday scaries like a decadent brunch, a nap and maybe an early dinner or a matinee at the Tropic Cinema. Not so if you're one of the hundreds of artists and artisans who live in Key West. Beginning in November, for our creative community Sunday mornings are for the Artisan Market — a smorgasbord of delicious eats, handmade crafts and local music.

We sense you're feeling skeptical. Listen, we know it's Sunday and we know it's early and we know you went out last night and probably drank a little more than you intended to and ended up at Bobby's Monkey Bar at 2 a.m., singing sappy love songs



COURTESY PHOTO

Live music accompanies the Artisan Market.

and making new best friends you'll never remember. But we promise, the Artisan Market is worth getting out of bed for — you can grab a mimosa or bloody Mary from Great Events, snack on Chickatoes™ to soak up the remnants of last night's debauchery and walk off your hangover while you browse

dozens of booths full of handmade goods (plus rum cake totally counts as hair of the dog, right?). And, if nothing else, the smell of Tennessee Steve's ribs will snap you out of whatever booze-induced coma you've fallen into. So, grab a glass of water and some Advil and get yourself together, you won't be disappointed.

The original Artisan Market was the result of a collaboration between creative genius Sean Krikorian, event planning maven Jill Snodgrass and Restaurant Store owner Richard Tallmadge. The Artisan Market was born in 2013, when Richard, Jill and Sean were simultaneously looking for a venue through which to channel their respective creative energies. "Richard wanted to do an event for ART! Key West over Thanksgiving weekend and Jill was looking for a venue

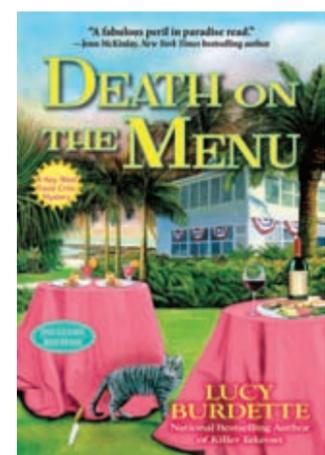
SEE MARKET, A13 ►

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Florida Writers

Havana/Key West conference encourages discussion but meets disaster. A6 ►



Top Picks

Top things to do in town this week. A9 ►



Real Estate

Affordable Old Town condominium at 1014 Varela St., #2. A18 ►

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FLORIDA WEEKLY
KEY WEST EDITION

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OFF OFF DUVAL

The most traveled and visible street in Key West is only the beginning, the surface, of what the town has to offer. Ask the locals about their favorite spots, stroll through quiet neighborhoods or down alleyways off Duval and you'll begin to dive deeper into the quieter, more diverse and less readily apparent offerings. Here are eight spots you might not see at first glance.

Better than Sex, 926 Simonton St. 305-296-8102; www.betterthanssexkeywest.com. A great place for couples. Swing by this dessert-only, adults-only restaurant late in the evening. Indulge your senses with chocolate dipped wine glasses and cheeky, homemade desserts and beverages such as an Ephemere Apple Spiced Ale in a tall beer glass with a signature caramel rim-job. Lick it good.

Mellow Café and Gastro Pub, 1605 Roosevelt Blvd. 305-745-3874; www.mellowventureskeywest.com. Near the water in Old Town Key West, the café is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner and offers unique island fare with a mellow atmosphere to match. The menu items are crafted with fresh, locally sourced ingredients and include a fresh catch, Havana roasted pork, romaine leaf plates and caramelized banana chocolate tacos. Drink options include a large selection of craft beers, 11 rotating tap beers, wine, house-made sangria and champagne cocktails. They have a great happy hour daily from 5-7 p.m., and delivery is available.

Cuban Coffee Queen, 284 Marga-



COURTESY PHOTO

The Mellow Café and Gastro Pub is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

ret St. 305-292-4747; www.cuban-coffeequeen.com. The strong Cuban coffee at this hole in the wall is also rich in Key West heritage. A café con leche paired with a classic Cuban sandwich or some Havana rice and beans will keep you going long into a Key West night.

Firefly, 223 Petronia St. 305-849-0104; www.fireflykeywest.com. Being that Key West is home to the southernmost point of the continental United States, it's fitting that the island is home to a Southern-inspired restaurant. Firefly's plantation-style look and its menu give it the most down-home feel of any culinary experience on the island. The shrimp and grits, fried chicken and bacon-wrapped meatloaf are a few fan favorites.

Key West Island Bookstore, 513 Fleming St. www.Keywestisland-

books.com; 305-294-2904. This decades-old boutique bookstore offers a surprisingly varied wealth of current and used titles, from bestsellers to rare titles. Often open late, it's an inviting place to browse the crowded stacks.

La Rubia Fine Hats, 510 Fleming St. 305-296-6059; www.larubiakeywest.com. This is the Florida Keys' only importer of authentic Panama hats. The owners developed the boutique to carry on the centuries-old tradition of hand weaving hats (which come from Ecuador, not Panama, by the way). There are styles for men and women in a wide array of colors and weaves. There's also a nice selection of wearable fair trade crafts such as jewelry, ikat wraps and shigra bags.

Little Pearl, 632 Olivia St. 305-204-4762; www.littlepearlkeywest.com. Nestled in the heart of Old Town Key West and away from the bustling downtown streets sits this excellent spot for fresh local catch and innovative cuisine with a tropical twist. It's new and it's hot. Reservations are required.

Nancy Forrester's Secret Garden, 518 Elizabeth St. 305-294-0015; www.nancyforrester.com. Ms. Forrester has a secret, and it's not her garden, per se: It's what she keeps there. The longtime environmentalist has been caring for orphaned parrots for more than 30 years. She invites the public to meet them, take pictures, hold them and listen as she educates the community about her fine feathered friends. ■



COMEDY KEY WEST

Join us
EVERY THURSDAY & FRIDAY
DOORS OPEN AT 7:30PM • SHOW AT 8:30PM

Key West's **ONLY** weekly stand up comedy show at the southernmost comedy venue in the US with the **BEST** stand up comics from all over the world, from rising stars to household names.

This Week...

TUES November 21st	WED November 22nd	FRI November 23rd
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TOM DUSTIN

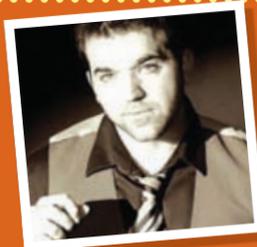
Tom Dustin enjoys partly true stories with sad endings. He was born the middle child of a drunken used car salesman and a blind "little person". It was as a toddler that Tom made the decision to talk to people for money. Onstage, his unmatched likeability allows him to push comedy to its limit without fear. Offstage, he's a mean, self-hating manic-depressive who unsuccessfully tries to be a good person up to two days per week.

TICKETS
\$15

Tom Dustin and Spencer James will perform with local Key West comedians at the Downward Dog Comedy Showcase at...



THE BOTTLECAP'S BLUE ROOM • 1128 SIMONTON STREET



Come See **SPENCER JAMES**
November 29th & November 30th

A former fat kid turned ugly duckling, Spencer James has a charming likability with a hint of a Midwest accent that endears him to every type of audience. Date night, fellas night, ladies night, lonely night, drunken night, and yes even bachelorette parties (sure), there's something for everyone.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT WWW.COMEDYKEYWEST.COM



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CRAZY LADY HONEY BLONDE ALE

This blonde ale brewed with local honey is good as it gets. A nice clean ale with a subtle honey-like sweetness that lingers just long enough. Very drinkable and smooth.

ISLAND LIFE AMERICAN LAGER

Standard American Lagers are the "regular" strength versions of the light American lagers. The style guidelines for this beer are almost identical as those for the light versions.

LAZY WAY IPA AMERICAN IPA

A medium-bodied, lightly toasted IPA with a malt character and a balanced bitterness. The piney hop notes carry through to the flavor. Finishes crisp and fairly dry.

*Drank
in the Keys!*



BREWERY TOURS

THURSDAY AND FRIDAY AT 5PM
SATURDAY AND SUNDAY AT 2PM

BOOK ONLINE AT
WWW.THEWATERFRONTBREWERY.COM

On Draft at:

HOTEL KEY WEST
STOCK ISLAND

-
FIREFLY
KEY WEST

-
TIPSY ROOSTER
KEY WEST

MAP IT OUT



Getting around Key West

1. Southernmost Point

The corner of South and Whitehead streets
www.southernmostpointwebcam.com
 The city of Key West erected this concrete buoy in 1983 to denote the southernmost point in the continental United States.

2. Conch Tour Train

303 Front St.
 305-294-5161 or 888-916-8687
www.conchtourtrain.com
 The iconic train has been winding its way through the streets of Key West since 1958.

3. Sloppy Joe's

201 Duval St.
 305-294-5717
www.sloppyjoes.com
 A Key West tradition since 1933, this bar's famous patrons include Ernest Hemingway and rum runner Habana Joe.

4. Mallory Square Sunset Celebration

1 Whitehead St.
 786-565-7448
www.sunsetcelebration.org
 This nightly festival begins at water's edge an hour or two before sunset and includes street performers, local artisans, food carts, palmists and psychics.

5. Truman Little White House

111 Front St.
www.trumanlittlewhitehouse.com
 The Little White House adds a presidential luster to the Conch Republic. Originally built for Naval officers in 1890 and used as a command headquarters in three wars, the Little White House later served as lodging for President Harry S. Truman's winter retreats from 1946 to 1952.

6. The Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum

907 Whitehead St.
 305-294-1136
www.hemingwayhome.com
 Take the tour and say hello to one of the 40-50 six-toed cats, all descendants of Hemingway's cat, Snowball.

7. The Key West Butterfly & Nature Conservatory

1316 Duval St.
 305-296-2988 or 800-839-4647
www.keywestbutterfly.com
 More than 50 butterfly species from around the world and 20 exotic bird species coexist in this climate-controlled, glass-enclosed habitat that includes waterfalls, flowering plants and trees.

8. Mel Fisher Maritime Museum

200 Greene St.
 305-294-2633

www.melfisher.org

Exhibits include treasures from the Spanish galleons of 1622 discovered by Mel Fisher and his crew.

9. Mile Marker 0 Sign

490 Whitehead St. (corner of Fleming Street)
 U.S. 1 begins here in Key West and continues 2,369 miles north up the East Coast before ending in Fort Kent, Me. Stop here to commemorate your visit to Key West with a photo next to the iconic Mile Marker 0 sign.

10. Key West Express Ferry Terminal

100 Grinnell St.
 239-463-5733
www.Keywestexpress.net
 Traveling via the Express is truly the best way to get between Key West, Fort Myers Beach or Marco Island. You'll enjoy air-conditioned interiors, exterior sun decks, couches, tables and even reclining airline-style seating. There's a full-service galley, full-service bar and flat-screen TVs with satellite television.

11. Audubon House and Garden

205 Whitehead St.
 305-294-2116
www.Audubonhouse.com
 Original lithographs by John James

Audubon are on display in this former home of shipwreck salvager Capt. John Geiger.

12. Key West City Cemetery

Bordered by Angela, Frances and Olivia streets and Windsor Lane
 305-292-6718
www.Friendsofthekeywestcemetery.com
 Stop by the sexton's office near the entrance at Passover and Windsor lanes and pick up a map that includes a free walking tour.

13. Fort Zachary Taylor State Park and Beach

At the ocean end of Southard Street and bordering the Naval Reservation.
 305-295-0037
www.Fortzacharytaylor.com
 "Fort Zach" is known to locals and tourists alike as one of Key West's best beaches. In addition to the expansive beach, the 54-acre park has nature trails, bike paths, picnic tables and grills and Historic Fort Zachary Taylor. Enjoy the beautiful view of the Atlantic Ocean and the Key West Shipping Channel. ■

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FLORIDA WRITERS

Havana/Key West conference encourages discussion but meets disaster

philJASON
philjreviews@gmail.com



Members of a Cuban-American family get caught in the tangle of cross-purposes, and there is a scandal over the disappearance of a rare piece of Hemingway memorabilia the Cuban visitors had loaned to the event.

Who stole the piece from its display case? And why? How and why was Gabriel, a member of that Cuban-American family and assisting the event, murdered? Well, of course, Hayley can't help pushing herself into the investigation — even when her boyfriend, police Det. Nathan Bransford, warns her about going too far.

As with previous titles in this series, Hayley's investigations give the author the opportunity to provide colorful — and flavorful — tours all around Key West. Ms. Burdette brings this unique town fully to life, in both its physical and cultural dimensions. The inside look at the Truman Little White House is delightfully engaging, as is the portrait of the Hemingway home and all the adjacent neighborhoods.

Hayley's connection with the conference catering, as well as her need to generate three restaurant reviews for Key Zest, take readers into a series of food establishments. The focus for the conference menu and for Hayley's column are Cuban specialties, and these vivid scenes will make readers' mouths water.

Suspense tightens when a relative of the murdered Gabriel is at first missing and then found seriously injured. It gets even tighter when Det. Bransford allows Hayley to play a dangerous role in the

investigation as part of his plan to draw out the perpetrator.

Like other "cozy mystery" titles, "Death on the Menu" blends serious matters with light-hearted tension relief. In this case, the humor stems from Hayley's exuberant personality and her dogged determination to pursue answers as well as justice. She is at once caring and silly, capable and overwhelmed. She overloads herself by saying "yes" to way too many requests. Sometimes even she knows that she is overextended and exhausted, but she doesn't frown for long. More importantly, she can laugh at herself.

Miss Gloria is also a comic character, an older woman who doesn't take her limitations seriously and becomes a kind of role model for active senior living. Hayley's time living on Gloria's houseboat is time well spent for both of them — and for Ms. Burdette's readers.

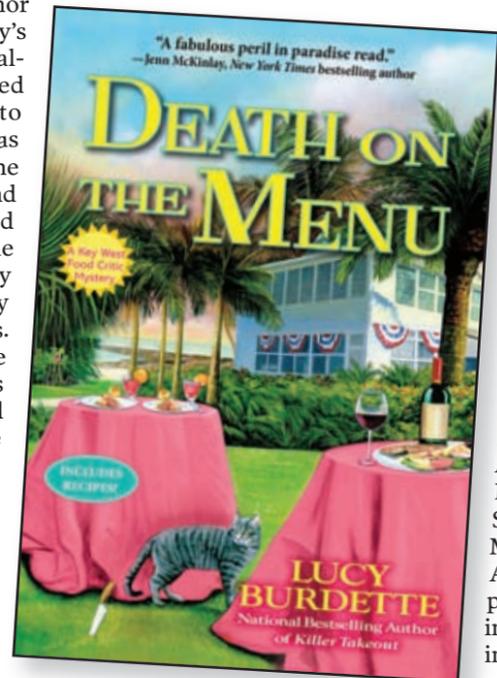
The complications of Hayley's love life and of her relationship with her mother are powerful ingredients in the author's

cozy mystery recipe. The blend of ingredients provides just the right mixture of thoughtfulness, action and escape.

Speaking of ingredients and recipes, the book includes 15 pages of recipes that focus on the Cuban palate.

About the author

Clinical psychologist Lucy Burdette has published 15 mysteries, including the latest in the Key West food critic mysteries. Her books and stories have been short-listed for Agatha, Anthony and Macavity awards. She's a member of Mystery Writers of America and a past president of Sisters in Crime. She lives in Madison, Conn., and Key West. ■



— Phil Jason, Ph.D., United States Naval Academy professor emeritus of English, is a poet, critic and freelance writer with 20 books to his credit, including several studies of war literature and a creative writing text.

This is the eighth installment of Lucy Burdette's Key West Food Critic mystery series featuring the loveable Hayley Snow. This time out, it's under the imprint of a new publisher.



BURDETTE

When a major three-day event is planned to find common ground between the cities of Havana and Key West, Hayley's mother gets the catering contract. The venue is the Harry Truman Little White House. As the conference approaches, conflicting political agendas seem likely to undermine this opportunity for fostering goodwill. They are also undermining the aspirations of the man who manages the Little White House facility.

Hayley and Miss Gloria (Hayley's 80-plus-year-old landlady and friend) are pressed into service to help with the catering chores. Meanwhile, Hayley is being pushed by her employers at Key Zest magazine to meet several deadlines.

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FL WEEKLY



Hand-painted nutcrackers on auction at Studios of Key West

BY LAURA RICHARDSON
Florida Weekly Correspondent

No matter how you feel about Christmas decorations on display in big-box stores before Thanksgiving, 'tis the season for snowflakes and sugar plum fairies. Fortunately, we Keys-dwellers still get to experience the warmth of the season (both the feelings and the climate) while skipping the finger-numbing snow shoveling thanks to Joyce Stahl's biennial production of "The Nutcracker," a colorful tribute to the original ballet with a tropical twist.

To mount a production the caliber of "Nutcracker Key West" takes money — lots and lots of money. Every iteration of the ballet requires a tremendous fundraising effort and this year that effort was rendered even more onerous because the show needs an entirely new set for Act II. To raise the additional \$25,000, Ms. Stahl will be auctioning off 14 conchified nutcrackers, each one painted and embellished by a local artist.

Sculptor Tom Joris cast the plaster conch nutcrackers from the original mold of the nutcracker used in "Nut-

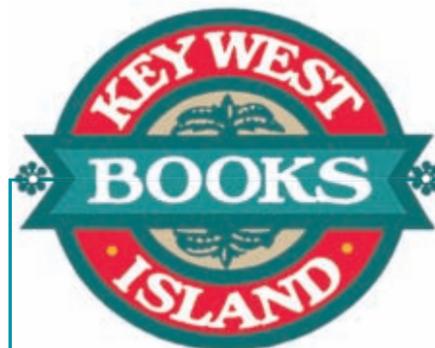
cracker Key West." Joyce then contacted local artists to contribute their talents, including Adam Russell, Marky Pierson, Pam Hobbs, Robert Sharpe, Andy Thurber, Fran Decker and Tony Gregory. "These nutcrackers are unlike any others in existence," Joyce says. "There are no conch nutcrackers anywhere else in the world. And each one is so different and so amazing — each one really reflects the character of the artist who painted it. We even have one that was modeled after (famous drag queen) Inga!"

The nutcrackers will be on display at The Studios of Key West (533 Eaton St.) until Nov. 29. Of the 14 nutcrackers, two have already been snatched up by excited, generous donors. To win one of the remaining 12 works of art, patrons



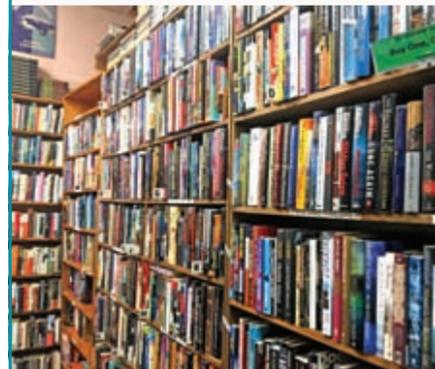
can purchase raffle tickets for \$25 or \$30, depending on the desired nutcracker. One hundred raffle tickets will be sold for each nutcracker and there is no limit on how many tickets a donor can purchase.

To purchase a raffle ticket, call Linda Shagena at 305-240-9452 between 3 and 5 p.m. Once the 100 tickets allotted for each nutcracker have been sold, that nutcracker will be pulled from the auction and the winning ticket will be drawn. Any nutcracker that does not reach its raffle quota before Nov. 29 will be displayed at the Nutcracker Key West boutique table in the lobby of the Tennessee Williams Theater during the show's run. ■



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KEY WEST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPECIAL EVENTS

A Handmade Holiday Market

Local Artists
Nov. 24, noon
Mallory Square
400 Wall St.

NFL Sunday

Nov. 25, noon
Mary Ellen's Bar
420 Appelrouth Lane

City of Key West

Tree Lighting Ceremony
Nov. 26, 6 p.m.
Bayview Park
1320 Truman Ave.

Samantha Fish

Nov. 27, 8 p.m.
The Key West Theater
512 Eaton St.
www.thekeywesttheater.com

MUSIC

Green Parrot Bar

601 Whitehead St.
Live music nightly
Check the schedule at
www.greenparrot.com

Irish Kevin's

211 Duval St.
Live music nightly
Check the schedule at
www.irishkevins.com

Mary Ellen's

420 Appelrouth Lane
• Open Mic with Comedy Key West,
Mondays, 9 p.m.



DE LA GALLERY / COURTESY PHOTO
Photographer/artist Jorge de la Torre and master framer Jeffrey Rodriguez specialize in large format coastal, seaside and landscape fine art photography at De La Gallery. Stop by and see the ongoing exhibition at 419 Duval St. www.delagallery.com, 305-395-2210. Pictured above: "Beach Confetti."

- Drunken Spelling Bee, First Monday of each month, 9 p.m.
- Trivia, Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
- SIN Night (Service Industry Night), Wednesdays 8 p.m. to 4 a.m.



Mellow Café and Gastropub

Bike Nights, Live Music
Ride your bike and get half off your meal

Thursday, 6-10 p.m.
1605 North Roosevelt Blvd.
www.mellowkw.com

Smoking Tuna

4 Charles St.
Live music nightly
Check the schedule at
www.smokingtunasaloon.com

Sloppy Joe's

201 Duval St.
Live music nightly
Check the schedule at
www.sloppyjoes.com

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographs by Jorge de la Torre

Ongoing
De La Gallery
419 Duval St.
www.delagallery.com
305-395-2210

Homegrown

Photographs by Michael Marrero
Ongoing
Gallery on Greene
606 Greene St.
www.galleryongreene.com

CINEMA

Tropic Cinema

416 Eaton St.
www.tropiccinema.com
Check the website for ongoing films

LGBT



Aqua Nightclub

711 Duval St.
• Aqua Idol for Fantasy Fest King and Queen
Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.
• Drag shows
Nightly, 7 and 9 p.m.
• Karaoke
Monday through Thursday, 11 p.m.
www.Aquakeywest.com




THE REVIVALISTS

APRIL 6TH

AT THE KEY WEST AMPHITHEATER

ON SALE OCT 19TH

WWW.KEYWESTCONCERTSERIES.COM

KEY WEST CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Bobby's Monkey Bar
900 Simonton St.
Karaoke, nightly, 9:30 p.m.
Bobby's Monkey Bar on Facebook

Bourbon St. Pub
724 Duval St.
• Just Jeff (Moss), Thursdays-Sunday, 8-10 p.m.
• Bria, Monday-Wednesday, 8-10 p.m.
• The Men of Bourbon - nightly
www.BourbonSt.pub.com

801 Bourbon Bar
801 Duval St.
• Drag Shows, Nightly, 9 and 11 p.m.
• Happy Hour Drag, 5 p.m. Saturday
• Drag Karaoke, 4 p.m. Sunday
• Messy Mondays with Mulysa, 1 a.m. Monday
• Fierce and Fabulous/Dragalicious, 1 a.m. Wednesday
www.801bourbon.com

Sidebar at Aqua
504 Angela St.
Kristen McNamara, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.
www.sidebarkeywest.com

La Te Da
1125 Duval St.
• Christopher Peterson, Nov. 22 and 24, 9 p.m.
• Randy Roberts, Nov. 23 and 27, 9 p.m.
• 3Sum, Nov. 22, 23, 24 and 25, 8:30 p.m.
• Ronnie Lively, Nov. 26, 8:30 p.m.
• The Fabulous Spectrelles, Nov. 27 and 28, 8:30 p.m.
• Tea Dance, Sundays 4 to 6:30 p.m.
www.Lateda.com



AROUND KEY WEST

Local Farm Stand
Wednesday, 5 to 7 p.m.
Mellow Café and Gastropub
1605 North Roosevelt Blvd.

Ghost Tours and Ghost Hunts
Nightly
301 Whitehead St. and 1102 Duval St.
305-395-1435
www.hauntedkeywest.com

Free Nutrition Sessions
Tuesdays through November, 5-6 p.m.
Monroe County Library- Key West
700 Fleming St. ■

#KW TOP PICKS

■ Meet and buy gifts from talented, Key West artists at **A Handmade Holiday Market**, Nov. 24, noon, Mallory Square, 400 Wall St.

11.24

■ Kick off the holiday season. Come out for the **City of Key West Tree Lighting Ceremony**, Nov. 26, 6 p.m., Bayview Park, 1320 Truman Ave.

11.26

■ **NFL Sunday**, Nov. 25, noon, Mary Ellen's Bar, 420 Appelrouth Lane

11.25

11.25

11.26

■ **Samantha Fish** is a talented blues singer and guitarist. Catch her performance Nov. 27, 8 p.m., The Key West Theater, 512 Eaton St.
— www.thekeywesttheater.com

11.27

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TURKEY

From page 1

(go, Cowboys!), all in homage to some apocryphally idyllic breaking of bread in the historical equivalent of the most uncomfortable family dinner of all time? Though there will be no crispness in the air and no leaves or snowflakes falling, we here in Key West will be giving thanks the only ways we know how: with good food, copious drink and an outdoor activity or two for good measure (after all, we're mostly thankful that we don't have to wear itchy turtlenecks and clunky boots to Thanksgiving dinner). And because Florida Weekly is also thankful for you, our loyal readers, we're going to let you in on our favorite turkey day activities... just promise us you'll still love us after you emerge from your delicious, delicious food coma.

If you've escaped to Key West for Thanksgiving to get away from an interminable family dinner during which your Nonna Rosa won't stop asking you for the millionth time when you're going to stop wearing tutus and finally settle down and have kids, you're in some serious gastronomic luck. Key West's infamous motto is "One Human Family" and we don't suspend that mentality during the holidays. No matter when you visit our island home, you're family while you're here (the Olive Garden was really onto something with that slogan). To ensure you feel as warm and fuzzy as you should during Thanksgiving, many restaurants around town will be serving dinner on Thursday night. Your dad's dry-as-sandpaper turkey and that awful canned cranberry sauce will be a distant memory after you've experienced the overwhelming number



A sampling of the feast available at Firefly.

COURTESY PHOTO

of options for a gourmet Thanksgiving meal. And you don't even have to do the dishes! Now that sounds like a holiday miracle to me.

Though almost all Key West restaurants will be open and serving their typical menus, a substantial number of them are also preparing special Thanksgiving menus (some traditional, some less so): Little Pearl (632 Olivia St.), Dante's (955 Caroline St.), Azur (425 Grinnell St.),

Antonia's (615 Duval St.), Bagatelle (115 Duval St.), Boat House (700 Front St.), A&B Lobster House (700 Front St.), Hard Rock Café (313 Duval St.), Café Solé (1029 Southard St.), Commodore (700 Front St.), Duffy's (1007 Simonton St.), Grand Café (314 Duval St.), Hot Tin Roof (0 Duval St.), Bliss Key West (411 Petronia St.), Viva Saloon (903 Duval St.), The Saint Hotel (417 Eaton St.), La Trattoria (524 Duval St. and 3593 S. Roosevelt Blvd.), Martin's

(917 Duval St. — did somebody say turkey schnitzel?!), One Duval at the Pier House Resort (1 Duval St.), Prime Steakhouse (951 Caroline St.), Rooftop Café (308 Front St.), Café Marquesa (600 Fleming St.), Conch Republic Seafood Company (631 Greene St.), Croissants de France (816 Duval St.), First Flight Island Restaurant & Brewery (301 Whitehead St.), Shanna Key (1900 Flagler Ave.), La Te Da (1125 Duval St.), SHOR at the Hyatt Resort (601 Front St.), Spencer's by the Sea (1435 Simonton St.), Sun at the Casa Marina Resort (1500 Reynolds St.), Nine One Five (915 Duval St.), Terrace Roma (300 Front St.), Pepe's (806 Caroline St.), Bistro 245 at Margaritaville Resort (245 Front St.), Matt's Stock Island Kitchen & Bar at The Perry Hotel (7001 Shrimp Rd., Stock Island) and Tavern 'n Town at the Marriott Beachside (3841 N. Roosevelt Blvd.).

A full list of restaurants open on Thursday can be found at www.thekeywester.com/2018/11/key-west-thanksgiving-2018. These restaurants will get booked up fast, however, so make sure you call ahead and snag a reservation as soon as you make the difficult decision of where to eat (analysis paralysis is real, people — especially when it comes to a meal as crucial as Thanksgiving dinner). And honestly, you can't go wrong with a single one of the options above. From squab and Alaskan halibut at Little Pearl to hickory smoked turkey breast at Matt's Stock Island Kitchen & Bar, you're guaranteed to be well fed and waddling away from the dinner table.

On a budget but still want to chow down like it's your last meal on Earth? (To be fair, if you hit more than one of the above restaurant suggestions, you might be sleeping off the tryptophan for at least a week, but there's no such thing as a turkey-induced coma... right?) Chef Patrick Rooney (Paddy to his friends) at locals' favorite Mary Ellen's Bar (420 Appelrouth

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Ln.) has got your back. For the ridiculously low price of \$10, Mary Ellen's will be serving a perfectly cooked and carved turkey, brown gravy, sausage herb stuffing, mashed potatoes and roasted seasonal vegetables. As if the meal wasn't enough, Mary Ellen's bar is fully stocked (hello, Moscow mules on tap!) and the bar will be showing all of the Thanksgiving Day football games starting with the Bears v. Lions at 12:30 p.m. If this is a dream, please don't wake me — food, booze and sports all day?! I think I may have died and gone to my own little gluttonous version of the Great Beyond.

If the thought of leaving the house (or the hotel room, as the case may be) and braving the holiday crowds gives you hives, the fabulous folks over at Great Events Catering have exactly what you're looking for. Order ahead and you'll enjoy rotisserie-style carved turkey, gravy, green bean casserole, cornbread roasted apple sage stuffing and herb monkey bread, all from the comfort of whatever soft surface you care to rest your tush upon. And the best part? This gourmet turkey dinner feeds four and will only cost you \$120. Now that is something to be thankful for.

I'm sure there are some of you out there who are having a hard time reconciling the fact that you won't be preparing a ten-course meal this Thanksgiving. Bobby and Art at Bobby's Monkey Bar (900 Simonton St.) understand that, for many, cooking is an expression of love (for better or for worse — we all have that one family member who insists on bringing her flavorless green bean casserole year after bland, uneaten year) and so, every year, Bobby's plays host to an eclectic Thanksgiving potluck. Regulars sign up to bring dishes way in advance (as much to stake their claim to their favorites as to avoid redundancies) and the night always ends as every night ends at Bobby's — in a



COURTESY PHOTO

Mary Ellen's Pub will have a special Thanksgiving menu.

beautiful, drunken, karaoke lovefest.

And for something completely different than what you'd usually get at home, Bourbon St. Pub (724 Duval St.) will be hosting its Annual Turkey TurnAbout Show & Thanksgiving Buffet beginning at 5 p.m. During this one-of-a-kind event, you can nosh on turkey and all the fixins while your favorite bartenders and Bourbon St. Pub staff perform in drag. The show begins at 10 p.m. and all tips from the buffet and the performances go to the Sister Season Fund, a favorite local charity (you can't spell Thanksgiving without "giving," after all).

If you're reading this after Nov. 22nd and fear you've missed your opportunity to indulge in the traditional Thanksgiving cornucopia, don't fret. Pepe's (806 Caroline St.) serves Thanksgiving dinner every Thursday of the year. Turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, and (naturally) cocktails with fresh-squeezed juice. What goes better with turkey and stuffing than a Greyhound with grapefruit juice fresh from the press? Pepe's, we are so very thankful for you.

Chances are, if you're in Key West, the weather is beautiful and you may be looking

to explore our beautiful aquatic surroundings. If you want to work a little for all the calories you'll inevitably be consuming, Fury Watersports is offering its usual Ultimate Adventure Thanksgiving-style — a six-hour catamaran sail that includes snorkeling the only living coral reef in North America, parasailing, jet skiing, an inflatable water park, and Thanksgiving breakfast and lunch. The trip runs from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and costs a mere \$154.95 for adults and \$109.95 for children — a total bargain when you consider you're spending six hours cavorting in the middle of the ocean and enjoying an entire Thanksgiving meal at sea. When was the last time you ate turkey and sweet potato casserole on a catamaran? And you're not truly living until you can say you got to see Key West from above with a belly full of stuffing. Book online at www.furycat.com/key-west/thanksgiving.

Sunset Watersports appreciates that some of you want to get out on the water but don't have any inclination to be up or active that early in the morning (or active at all, really). From 5 to 7 p.m. on Nov. 22, it will be offering a Thanksgiving Sunset Dinner Cruise. For \$69 per person and \$39 for children, you get a traditional turkey buffet and unlimited mixed drinks, draft beer, wine and champagne plus live music and an unobstructed view of the breathtaking Key West sunset. To reserve, call Sunset Watersports at 305-296-2554 or visit www.sunsetwatersportskeywest.com/key-west-special-thanksgiving.html.

If (for some inhuman, unnatural reason) you have the energy and the desire to do anything over Thanksgiving week-

end after you've spent two days stuffing yourself fuller than you stuffed your poor turkey, Hog's Breath Saloon will have its 25th annual Hog Trot at 8 a.m. on Saturday morning. Starting at Hog's Breath, the course tours down Whitehead Street to Fort Zachary Taylor State Park, which means you pass the Green Parrot twice. The Parrot doesn't open until 10 a.m., but if you walk really slow, I bet you can stretch that 5K into a two-hour excursion that involves a pit stop for a root beer barrel at Key West's most famous watering hole. If you're running for the actual health benefits (for which we salute you), a 5K is the perfect excuse to spend your day face deep in mimosas, drunk eating the remainder of your Thanksgiving leftovers. And since the race ends at Hog's Breath, you can have your first beer of the day (for free!) the minute you cross the finish line. You know, the more I think about it, the better this race sounds... if you agree, you can register online at <https://www.hogsbreath.com/keywest/hog-trot/>.

To wax serious for a rare moment, we residents of the Florida Keys are a self-selecting bunch of people who, for the most part, moved down to the end of the road because we appreciate the simple things in life and recognize that it takes very little more than good food, good weather and good company to be happy. Choosing to spend your holidays with us is an indication that you value those same things and we are truly thankful that you are here supporting our local economy and contributing to the good vibes we strive to cultivate. Welcome to our One (Weird) Human Family. We promise not to get (too) drunk at Thanksgiving dinner or spend the meal asking you repeatedly when you're going to get a real job. Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours from Florida Weekly Key West. ■

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\$5 well drinks, \$3.75 domestic beers
www.aquakeywest.com
- Bagatelle**
115 Duval St.
4-6 p.m.
Half-price drinks
\$5 appetizers
www.Bagatellekeywest.com
- Blackfin**
918 Duval St.
4:30-6:30 p.m.
\$7 menu
www.blackfinbistro.com
- Blue Macaw Island Eats and Bar**
804 Whitehead St.
Every day with live music
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\$3 well drinks, domestic beers and house wines
www.Bluemacawkeywest.com
- Boathouse Bar and Grill**
400 Greene St., #408
4-6 p.m.
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www.Boathousebarandgrill.com
- Bobby's Monkey Bar**
Noon-8 p.m.
\$3 well drinks
\$2.50 domestic beers
\$3 imports
\$2 Pringles and \$2 Slim Jims
- BottleCap Lounge**
1128 Simonton St.
4-7 p.m.
Discounted beers, wines & well drinks
- Conch Republic Seafood**
631 Greene St.
4-7 p.m.
2-for-1 drink specials
www.Conchrepublicseafood.com
- Dante's**
951 Caroline St.
Monday-Friday, 4-8 p.m.
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\$3.50 Jagermeister and Fireball
\$4 Jameson
www.Danteskeywest.com
- Geiger Key Marina**
5 Geiger Road
4-6 p.m.
Drink specials and special happy hour menu
www.Geigerkeymarina.com
- Green Parrot Bar**
601 Whitehead St.
4-7 p.m. Monday-Thursday
4-5:30 p.m. Friday
Discounts on selected drinks and beers
www.Greenparrot.com

- The Grand**
314 Duval St.
5-6 p.m.
Half-price wine, cocktails and beer
Half-price appetizers
www.grandcafekeywest.com
- Half Shell Raw Bar**
231 Margaret St.
4:30-6:30 p.m.
2-for-1 drink specials
Special happy hour food menu
www.Halfshellrawbar.com
- Hard Rock Café**
313 Duval St.
5-7 p.m. and 10 p.m. to closing
Half-price appetizers and drinks
www.hardrockcafe/keywest
- Hogfish Bar and Grill**
6810 Front Street
4-6 p.m.
Drink specials and special happy hour menu
www.Hogfishbar.com
- Island Dogs Bar**
505 Front St.
4-6:30 p.m. Monday-Friday
Half-price well drinks, bottled beer and wine by the glass
Half-price oysters, special \$5.95 menu
www.Islanddogsbar.com
- Lucy's Retired Surfer Bar and Restaurant**
221 Duval St.
4-7 p.m.
Half-off appetizers, \$3 well drinks, draft beer and house wine
www.Keywest.lucysretiredsurfers.com
- Martin's**
917 Duval St.
4-6 p.m.
Half-price drinks and tapas
www.Martinskeywest.com
- Mary Ellen's Bar**
420 Appelrouth Lane
3-6 p.m.
2-for-1 wells and drafts, \$5 Jameson, \$5 Titos
www.maryellensbar.com
- Mellow Ventures Café and Gastropub**
1605 North Roosevelt Blvd.
5-7 p.m.
Half-off starters
2-for-1 draft beer, wine, sangria and mimosas
www.mellowventureskeywest.com
- Old Town Mexican Café**
609 Duval St.
4-7 p.m.
Half-price appetizers
Half-price beer, wine and well drinks
- Pepe's**
806 Caroline St.
4-6 p.m.
Half-price raw and baked oysters
\$6 fresh-squeezed Margaritas
Discounted well drinks, beer and wine
www.Pepeskeywest.com

- The Perry Hotel**
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Matt's Stock Island Kitchen & Bar
6-8 p.m. daily
\$3 drafts, \$6 cocktails and wine,
\$2 oysters, \$5 appetizers and crudo
www.perrykeywest.com
- Pinchers Crab Shack**
712 Duval St.
3-6 p.m.
Oysters, clams, shrimp, wings
99 cents each
www.Pinchersusa.com
- The Roost**
508 Fleming St.
3-6 p.m.
\$10 Stoli Elite Martinis
- Roostica Pizzeria**
5620 MacDonald Ave.
4-6 p.m.
Drink specials and special happy hour menu
www.Roostica.com
- Sand Bar Sports Grill**
511 Greene St.
Check the website for daily specials
Sandbarkeywest.com
www.SandBarSportsGrillKeyWestonFacebook
- Santiago's Bodega**
207 Petronia St.
3-6 p.m.
Half-price drinks
\$5 tapas
www.Santiagosbodega.com
- Sidebar at Aqua**
504 Angela St.
4-8 p.m.
\$5 well drinks, \$3.75 domestic beers
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www.sidebarkeywest.com
- Smokin' Tuna Saloon**
4 Charles St.
4-6 p.m.
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www.smokintunasaloon.com
- Southernmost Beach Café**
1405 Duval St.
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\$5 small bites bar men, \$5 draft beer, house wine, well drinks and house margaritas. www.Southernmostbeachcafe.com
- Square Grouper Bar and Grill and My New Joint Upstairs.**
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www.Squaregrouperbarandgrill.com
www.Mynewjoint420lounge.com

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2-for-1 margaritas or well drinks
www.Galleonresort.com
- Tattoos and Scars**
512 Greene St.
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www.Tattoosandscarssaloon.com
- Tiki House**
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www.tikihousekw.com
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www.Twofriendskw.com
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Sundays
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www.Vinosonduval.com
- Viva Saloon**
903 Duval St.
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www.Vivakeywest.com
- The Waterfront Brewery**
201 William St.
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www.thewaterfrontbrewery.com
- Willie T's Restaurant and Bar**
525 Duval St.
4-7 p.m.
Daily drink specials
www.Williets.com
- Wine-O at La Concha Hotel**
430 Duval St.
Daily
Buy one, get one free on selected glasses of wine
www.Laconchakeywest.com
- Yellowfin Bar and Grill**
Oceans Edge Resort and Marina
5950 Peninsular Ave.
4:30-6:30 p.m.
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www.oceansedgekeywest.com/hotel/yellowfin-bar-and-grill ■



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MARKET

From page 1

to bring a little Midwest farmers market to Key West, so we decided that a small vendor fair would be a way to showcase local artists and be a great end cap to that event," Sean recounts. "The artisans loved it and wanted more, so we decided to try to host a market every month that season and only accept participants that live and create arts, crafts and culinary items in the Keys."

Five years later, the Artisan Market is a well-respected and heavily attended celebration of what the Keys have to offer and its philosophy reflects the inclusive ethos of our diverse community. "The Key West Artisan Market is a vibrant venue organized to facilitate the exchange of unique merchandise and creativity by concentrating on what's local and fresh," Sean says. "The Market has exceeded what we set out to accomplish: it's a fun, family-friendly event for locals."

The growing size and scope of the Artisan Market are an unambiguous seal of public approval for Sean and Jill. And this year, the Artisan Market is bigger and better than ever. After four years in the parking lot of the Restaurant Store, forced to turn away vendors hungry for the very limited space, it was clear that the Market was due for an upgrade. So earlier this month, the Artisan Market made its debut at Higgs Beach (100 Atlantic Blvd.), between the dog park and the playground (dogs and kids allowed!). And due to the overwhelming demand for more markets, the Artisan Market will now take place every other Sunday (rather than the third Sunday of each month).

"The biggest perk of our new space is all the free parking," Jill says. "There are

over 400 spaces in and around the park. At the first Market of the season, several people told me they had stopped coming because parking was such a hassle and now they plan to attend every remaining show. Secondly, we have more room for vendors and performers. At The Restaurant Store we were limited to about 60 vendor spaces, we had a tiny stage area for musicians and we were only able to set up a few tables and chairs for guests to hang out. At Higgs Beach, we have room for more than 100 vendors which means instead of having 40 or 50 artists on the waitlist each show, we'll be able to find a spot for everyone who wants to be involved. We also have room for bands and an area for folks to sit and enjoy the music. We encourage folks to bring a lawn chair to enjoy the shows. Thirdly, the green space creates a very inviting vibe. Finally, it's more dog and kid friendly with the dog park adjacent to the vendor area on one side and the children's playground on the other!"

Sean and Jill's playfulness and whimsy permeate the spirit of the Artisan Market and the local community has embraced their mission wholeheartedly. "We are truly humbled by the overwhelming support the community has shown in embracing the event," Sean says. "The Market continues to evolve each year to respond to the needs and opinions of the public. The community is what makes the market special. It's a venue for local artists and craftspeople to sell their creative inspirations and a great meeting place for residents and winter locals to see friends and hang out. We're allowing more not-for-profit organizations to have space. We also team up with the city to promote the 'Preserve Island Life' initiative and the 'Green and Sustainability' movement and we encourage our guests to BYOB (bring your own bags)."

There truly is something for everyone at the Artisan Market, whether you're looking for art or jewelry, dog treats or lunch. In addition to featuring local merchants, each Artisan Market has a distinctive theme that highlights something special about the culture and products of the Florida Keys. Upcoming themes include this weekend's beer-centric Let's Get Hoppy and the Art of the Art edition, which will feature art cars from the Keys. There will also be a Holiday Shop Local market on Dec. 16 (a blessing for those of us who are extremely last-minute holiday shoppers). Jill anticipates the holiday market to be a huge hit. "Our amazing vendors offer a little bit of everything and guests are sure to find the perfect gifts for everyone on their list. Come enjoy the market, the vendors, the music, great food, fun drinks and hey, being right across from Higgs Beach, the view's pretty spectacular, too."

The Artisan Market is held every other week on Sundays from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. This season, the dates are Nov. 18, Dec. 2, Dec. 16, Dec. 30, Jan. 13, Jan. 27, Feb. 10, Feb. 24, March 10, March 24 and April 7. Guests are encouraged to go green and ride bikes, take the bus or hop on the trolley which conveniently stops at the Casa Marina. But if you need to drive (to haul away all your artisanal goodies), parking is ample. And please BYOB (bring your own bags). If you're a local artisan and want to apply for a booth on a future date, the easiest way to apply is online <https://dpevents.wufoo.com/forms/qtrd9t80dyg7l6/>. And for those of you reading this bleary-eyed and fuzzy-headed on Sunday morning, put on some pants and take a leisurely bike ride to the beach (and pick me up an order of those addictive Chickatoes™ while you're at it — I'll owe you one). ■

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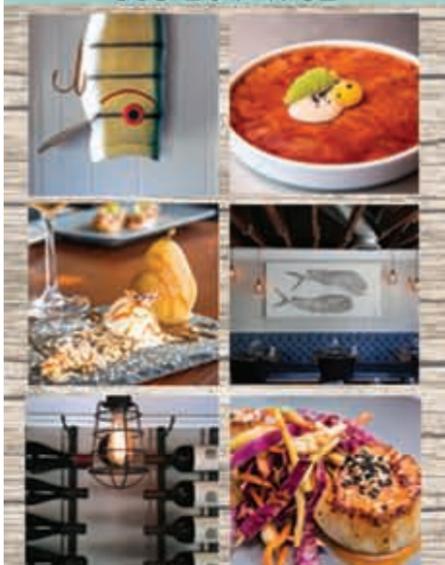


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The Conch Train

Rambling along the streets and through the history of Key West since 1958

On a blustery, partly cloudy Sunday afternoon The Conch Tour Train, Key West's old-time sightseeing tour, pulled out of the station on Front Street and rambled and jangled along the sometimes bumpy roads of Key West's historic district.

A ticket for the train, actually a car outfitted like a train with passenger cars in tow, is about \$30 (plus tip); not cheap, but the most thorough look at the second oldest city in Florida. Key West was incorporated in 1829. The tour goes on for a generous 90 minutes, the time it takes to watch a movie, including a 10-minute stop for a bathroom break. The movie in this case is the history and landmarks of Key West as told in gently rambling vignettes in the wry and quietly compelling voice of our driver and tour guide, Dallas. Each train driver follows a script, and each puts his or her own spin on the stories, fleshing out their favorites. Dallas' real name is Larry Clearman, and he is in fact from Dallas, a 66-year-old retired firefighter with an appreciation for history.

"To see where you're going, look where you've been," he said. "It's a guidebook to the future."

We looked to the left, and to the right, as Dallas peeled back layers of Key West past. It's a pleasingly kitschy and low-key trip, a great way to let lunch settle and take a break from the bustle of Duval Street. Later you might be inspired to point out quirky morsels of local history wherever you go with your friends, something they may or may not find amusing.

Did you know that there are no squirrels in Key West? Or that it's so far from mainstream America? One-hundred and thirty-four miles to the nearest Wal-Mart.

You see the town in a new multitude of colors that reach beyond the rainbow flags of prominent gay culture into origin stories about the scorned wife of a cigar baron who now haunts the town, cockfighting (where Key West's roughly 3,000 free-wandering chickens came from), and the rather gruesome details about the town's original name, meaning "Bone Island." You'll get a look at



attractions both well-known, such as Ernest Hemingway's house, and more obscure, such as the Trev-Mor Hotel on 314 Simonton where he lived when he first came to town.

A small placard on the side of the Trev-Mor reads mysteriously: "On this spot in 1897 nothing happened."

The train rolls on through the streets, making a wide loop around town. There's a story behind everything: the cemetery with its funny epitaphs ("At least I know where he's sleeping tonight," chiseled onto one philanderer's gravestone by order of his wife); homes made by shipbuilders; the sponge industry; a banyan tree "so big it has its own mailbox"; the Naval yard; how Key West once seceded from the rest of the United States and then demanded foreign aid; one of its most famous nude bars; and an escaped slave who founded a church here. And a lot more.

"That's right, folks," Dallas said over the intercom as we rambled along. "It's a true story. Everything I tell you is true."

Before stopping for a break, Dallas advised us to watch our step getting out of the passenger cars.

"If you fall off the train I'm required by my boss to take a picture of you and put it on Facebook."

And he advised us not to harm the chickens while we're here.

"If you harm the chickens, you run afoul of the law," Dallas said.

More information: www.conchtour-train.com. (888) 916-TOUR. ■

CAUGHT IN KEY WEST THIS WEEK



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305-296-8494
www.gulfstreamkeywest.com



■ **Key West Florida Fishing:**
Still some nice dolphin out there.

— Capt. Mike Weinoffer
1801 N. Roosevelt Blvd., Key West
305-395-3474
www.keywestfloridafishing.com



■ **Capt. Eric Ryan:**
I guess it's winter time fishing?

— Hurricane Hole Marina, 5130 US Hwy 1
(2.48 mi)
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Flatsfishingthekeys.com



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KEY WEST GALLERY GUIDE

SALT Gallery showcases photography, sculptures by Martha Hubbard and Karen Luknis

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY

For the month of November, SALT Gallery presents "A-MUSED," a new collection of stunning photography and unique mixed media sculptures by local artists Martha Hubbard and Karen Luknis.

While celebrated for her culinary expertise and service to fine dining establishments that include 915, Louie's Backyard and now her chef-led cooking instruction at Isle Cook Key West, Martha turned to photography a handful of years ago after experiencing a major life change — forgoing alcohol — which left her with "a ton of free time," she says. Her work has since been exhibited with much fanfare in prominent galleries throughout the island, including Harrison Gallery, The Studios of Key West, SALT and SoDu.

Martha's photographs clearly capture the color, light, texture and details that make Key West's land and skylines so memorable. From the sweeping lines of the White Street Pier to the edgy clouds of a foreboding storm to the graceful arc of palm fronds and the playful shadows they cast on the sand below, her photography's design elements not only capture the island's authenticity but also create a graphic hallelujah that's a feast for the eyes and the perfect postcard to send home.

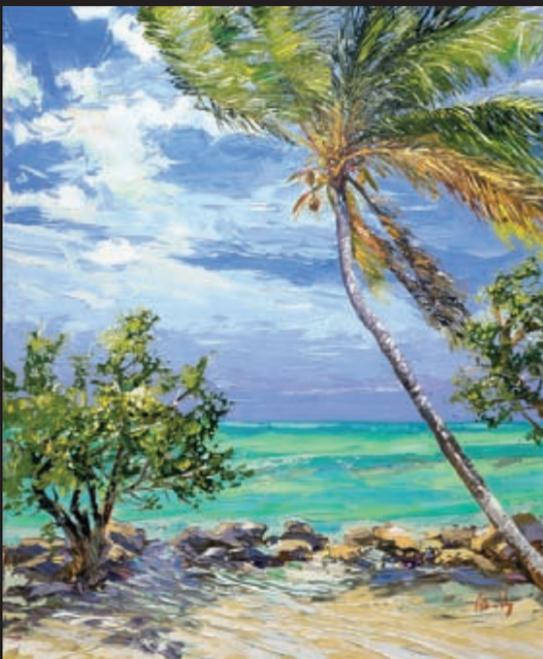
As beautiful as her photographs may be, Martha also endeavors to present her work in an artisanal fashion. "With all the photographers in this world I find it necessary to present my images uniquely," she explains. "My focus is on enjoying the technology available to present my images like paintings — or the feel of a painting. I enjoy the pursuit of exploring fun techniques and technology to create something more than an image. The apps available I have found help convey more depth to my images and some are just purely fun! I say why not?"

Karen is a self-taught artist who has lived in Key West since 1990. In 2014, she was the first place winner in mixed media at "From a Woman's Hand," a juried showing at the Frangipani Gallery in Key West. Karen was also the recipient of an artist grant from The Ann McKee Artist Foundation in 2015. After the success of her Ann McKee show at The Studios of Key West, the



Customs House Museum in Key West added one of Karen's pieces to its permanent collection — a great honor for an

artist living and working in Key West. Karen's mixed media sculptures are made with vintage tin games, industrial



Ballast Memories", 60 x 48, Oil on Canvas

Peter Vey
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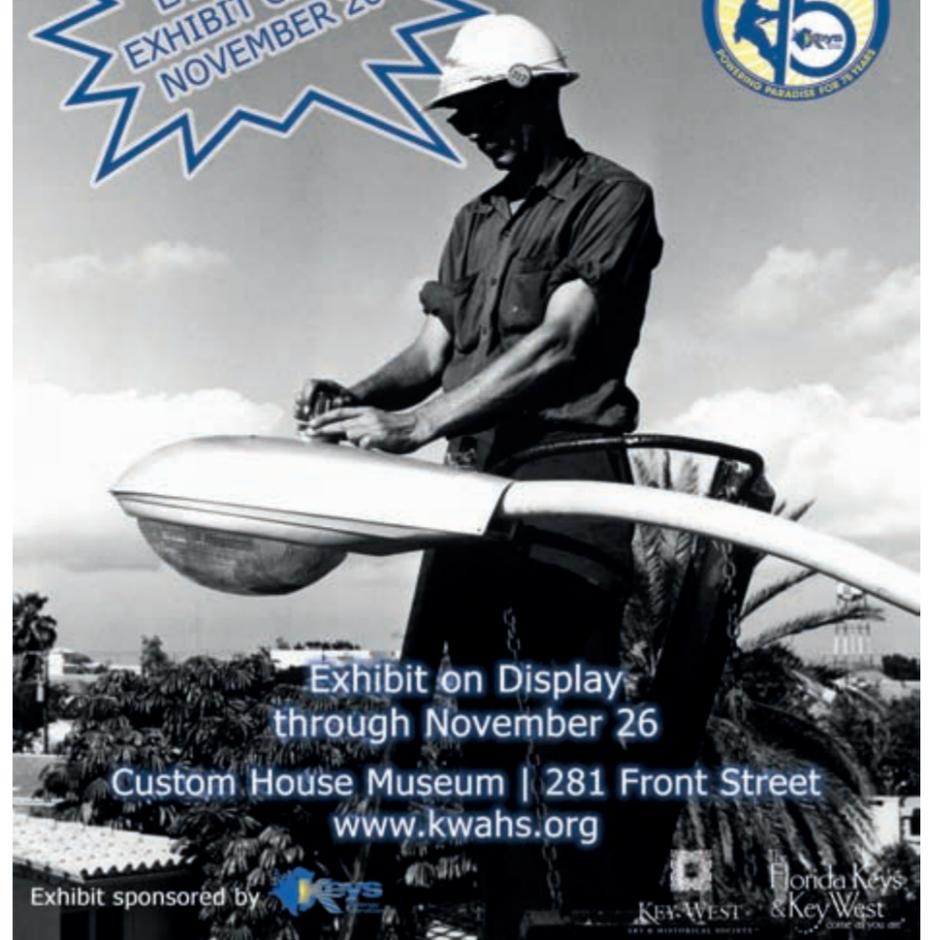


Exhibit on Display
 through November 26

Custom House Museum | 281 Front Street
 www.kwahs.org

Exhibit sponsored by



KEY WEST GALLERY GUIDE



wooden molds, doll heads and parts from the '30s and '40s, wooden cheese boxes, mirrors, and various metal and wood objects. "I like the look and feel of vintage objects," she describes. "They are rugged and show wear and tear from being in existence for so long. Their imperfections reveal an inner beauty that cannot be contrived or duplicated — the look only comes from being real. They have, like myself, stood the test of time."

"The series I've worked on this year reflects my reactions to school shootings, environmental issues and sexual politics," Karen continues. "I've found some humor as well and incorporated mythology and psychedelics into the mix. I'm often surprised by the ideas that come to me when I approach my objects and materials with an open mind and just have fun arranging things until I see where it's going."

SALT Gallery features an eclectic collection of local art, local sea salts, jewelry, pottery, wine and Florida Keys



honey. Gallery owners Maria Sharpe and Laura Richardson feature a new artist each month at SALT. Martha's and Karen's work will remain on display until Nov. 30. ■

Martha Hubbard and Karen Luknis
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COURTESY PHOTOS



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