

[Kayaks & Bikes](#) is a versatile, multiple business provider of services and products. I especially like the owner and his perspective of life and politics. Don't get him started. You cannot go wrong stopping by and see for yourself.

December 11, 2011 - Florida Keys - L. E. Shaffer: Florida Keys Journal Week in Review 12.12.

Attorneys Richard Warner and Frank Greenman are both somehow involved musically in the upcoming Salvation Army benefit. What? The world has come to an end.

Marathon's Marlin Bay Yacht Club is rising from the ashes that personified this failed project. Still, there is some good news for us, especially 8 workforce-housing units, and boosting our local economy. I feel good about our local economy coming out of the doldrums. Holiday Inn Express, Walgreens, and Marlin Bay are just a few lifting up our city's economy.

The most important factor in this new start up is to respect the loss of 80 Gulfstream Trailer Park residents. Eight workforce-housing units should come first. Workforce housing crisis has not gotten better, but the overall economy is still in first place atop top ten problems. Can you list more under the first place consideration?

The council got the FKAA to run our wastewater/stormwater billing. Hello, these are the same people offering a contract three times more than ours. We see how the FKAA was not the right choice for building our sewer/stormwater systems. The city should be operating the city-billing system. That would create jobs putting money into our economy and ensuring higher quality services. I hate to say that I was right, but I just said that.

Keys Disease by John Bartus is one of the few columnists in the Florida Keys. In that elite group, John Bartus stands above all. The *Journal* is working John over to be "syndicated" writing his column for both the *Weekly Newspapers* and *Florida Keys Journal*. I wouldn't mind if you suggest this to John as you are shopping locally. Our schedules don't match well, and I have limited dates to meet anyone due to my ongoing medical condition.

Marathon 2011 birthday party went well.

Marathon's 2012 birthday party needs volunteers, sponsors, and among other things funding, especially the city's part currently set as \$10,000. That should a line item in the city's future budgets. The gains far outweigh the small list of objections.

There were no vendors this year. Both the event organizers and some past vendors did not think that was appropriate for the 2011 Marathon birthday party.

There is only 11 months left before the event's 12th birthday comes around. I would like to see the family atmosphere retained and bring back the vendors. Seafood Festival and Fantasy Fest all started small, but kept at it every year. Looks like a model for success.

Boater's World old, failed business building will have new tenants - Marathon Veterinary Hospital. This is good for Marathon, even though I support Keys Animal Hospital. And, yes, Keys Animal Hospital is an advertiser. Send your "Dear Editor" emails to the *Journal*. Good or bad.

Someone wants to erect a 150 foot cell tower on 63rd street marathon – is the guy on glue? The sacred holder of thy-shalt-not-build anything more than 37 feet will rise up in protest. The Middle Keys residents crushed the request. 37 foot rule lives to strike another day.

Sheriff Bob Peryam calls it quits after a four-year term. Three candidates sprout their wings. Ramsay, Peteck, and Grove. Who? I only recognize one name that being Ramsay the appointed heir apparent. We need a sheriff that has zero tolerance for deputy's misconduct.



O, yeah, the latest digest is <http://marathonjournal.us/journal/2011/110111.htm>.

Prop Tech: Very unique and down-to-earth business on 20th Street. Shop and office are in the same space. Lots of welding going on along with props everywhere.