



January 30, 2012 - Florida Keys - L. E. Shaffer: Florida Keys Journal Week in Review.*

Marathon City Council gets a high five for paying attention to its first park Jesse Hobbs Park. Signage in the format of the Community Park sign is one of the priorities of the Rock Coalition. A family restroom would be much better than a stinky port-a-potty. 41st Street's drainage has improved by what machinations I don't know about, but hey, the city has done very well, indeed.

Marathon's success keeps costs down and ensures the safety and health of the residents. Yet the City Staff has not been given a raise in years. This discussion of increasing the City Manager's compensation is a slap in the face of city staff who are enduring a toxic work place.

Hernstadt's negotiations with the firefighters and paramedics fails to address safety, health, urgent care for all Marathon residents. Just remember that minimal staffing raises the risk of costing lives.

Found planets using the outer space "Kepler telescope" More earth-type planets are added to the database. Many other planets could have different life forms. How would we know?

It has happened before on earth. The big extinction scenario produced alternate life form – us – humans. If reptilian life forms survived such an event, sentient life today would be Velociraptors, most likely.

Sentient life will be an astounding mix of life forms, "life finds a way". Source material was the Sunday Parade and "Jurassic Park 1997".

The Monroe County Schools seem to be in the news everywhere. Audit here, jail time there is not funny. The only important budget item is dollars to teachers teaching not coaching or part of a bloated upper tier so-called administration. Money should be applied to teachers and the students. Nothing else is as important.

Key West City Manager Jim Scholl was not the subject of media, because successes are not quite sexy enough for the local media. There is a lesson there, if you were paying attention. We just got to know him and now he is retiring July 1st. Jim, please say it isn't do.

Step up, be a man, and admit that "revenue enhancements" really means a tax hike.

Elections 2012 web page is <http://marathonjournal.us/journal/elections/12election.htm>. If you are a candidate for any elective office within Monroe County including all municipalities, you qualify for the in-kind contribution of services and advertising worth \$500. Email Publisher@MarathonJournal.US.

We are lucky to have so many media outlets in the Middle Keys. I read them in no particular order [KeyNoter/Miami Herald](#), [Free Press/Citizen](#), [The Weekly Newspapers](#), [Coconut Telegraph](#), and [News-Barometer](#). I paraphrase most everything because the story is already covered. I just add a bit of sarcasm to the article. Anything that is a direct quote has to provide proper attribution.

[Florida Keys Journal Year in Review.](#)

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* **To be clear:** anyone may send in an article to ensure equal time and fairness. The Florida Keys Journal in-kind contribution of \$500 gives any Monroe County Florida Keys in Paradise candidate advertising on prime spaces. Candidates can provide profiles, photos, and text. Email us as soon as possible to get an ad 7-day contiguous. Email is Publisher@MarathonJournal.US. Of course, the candidate must file this as an in-kind contribution with the local election's office. The address for the Journal is Florida Keys Journal, POB 501833, Marathon FL 33050-1833.

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