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Beach is open, serving up tasty Floribbean cuisine, and of course all your favorite frosty beverages. And what better way to enjoy it all, than with great live music and views of the Gulf. The songs of the gulf have now met a salty piece of land on the Emerald Coast. Margaritaville Panama City



WEEKLY DRAWING

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Jimmy Buffett Visits USS Harry S. Truman Story Number: NNS080204-04 Release Date: 2/4/2008 8:55:00 AM

By Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Heather Weaver, USS Harry S. Truman Public Affairs

USS HARRY S. TRUMAN, At Sea (NNS) -- Whether they were wasting away again in Margaritaville or enjoying a Cheeseburger in Paradise, Sailors aboard USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) had something to cheer about as Jimmy Buffett visited the crew aboard the ship and performed a concert, Jan. 28.

The event featured most of Buffett's big hits as well as a debut from the ship's Ripper's band.

Storekeeper Seaman Brett Blakely, who attended the concert, said knowing that someone as famous and busy as Jimmy Buffett cares about the crew and mission proves its importance. He said the performance was one he will never forget.

"It was amazing to see him up close and personal, I never thought I'd get a chance to do anything like this," Blakely said. "Having visitors such as Buffett helps keep people motivated because you get to see that people care about what we do." Lt. Cmdr. Will Williams, Truman's material maintenance control officer, said the event was exciting for people of all ages, genders and backgrounds and everyone is still buzzing, which proves the affect of Jimmy's impact on the crew. He said he was especially impressed with the amount of effort Buffett put forth to perform.

"I thought it was a good concert and enjoyed it thoroughly. I thought it was nice of him to come down here and spend time with us on his own time and his own dollar. People who've never even heard of him are now Jimmy fans," added Williams.

Cmdr. Ron Parker, the ship's intelligence officer, said although he wasn't very familiar with Buffett's music before his visit, it didn't matter because he put on such a great show.

"I'm a fan now," Parker said. "It was very nice of him to come out here for us. I was very impressed last night because he really seemed like he was enjoying himself up on stage and not like it was a chore for him. He came out here and did this for free. All around this was a great success story, for him and for us."

Machinist's Mate 3rd Class Jacob Murbach, said the concert was great, but hanging out with Jimmy Buffett was pretty amazing as well. He said his persona and attitude just amplified that of someone who cares about

U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Justin Losa

Sailors, his music and people in general. He said while Buffett was walking around the ship you wouldn't have known he was a visitor if it hadn't been for the excitement in the air.

"Of course the concert was awesome, but most of all I liked Jimmy himself," Murbach said. "He's a great entertainer and seems like a great guy. He was laid back and kind and seemed like he really wanted to be here. He was good with the Sailors. I don't know if he was in the Navy or not, but he seemed like he was with how comfortable he was with his surroundings."

Parker said beyond the benefit of seeing Buffett perform, Sailors were reminded of the support and importance of the mission at hand.

"I think it shows the Sailors that the people back home are supporting us and they think what we are doing out here is important," he said. "The fact that he would come out here and do that for us speaks volumes."

Jimmy and the band performed a USO concert for the Sailors of the Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) during a recent port visit in the Middle East. Truman an embarked Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 3 is underway on a scheduled deployment supporting Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and maritime security operations. "My boy saw you on the USS Truman. He was so excited. He is 22. His daddy had taken him and his brother to one of your concerts in Cincy when he was 12 so you were very familiar to him and brought back wonderful memories. His wife is expecting their first son this month so he has been pretty homesick lately because he can't be here for the birth.

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God Bless you Jimmy for looking after our boys and bringing them a little taste of home. My heart is so full of gratitude."

Leesa Jolly

MAY 15 SCHEDULED DATE FOR VANDENBERG SINKING

Key West, Florida Keys – Project organizers overseeing the conversion of a retired U.S. Air Force missile tracking ship into an artificial reef off Key West announced Friday that May 15 would be the scheduled scuttling date for the General Hoyt S. Vandenberg.

The sinking of the Vandenberg, a 522-foot ship that tracked manned space launches beginning with Mercury through early Space Shuttle missions, has been the obsession of members of the Artificial Reefs of the Keys for the last 10 years.

"This is a major event for us, a great opportunity for the health of the reef as well as an economic shot in the arm for the Keys," said Chris Norwood, ARK president. "Tens of thousands of people have been waiting to hear this date."

Currently, the ship is in a Virginia shipyard with workers ridding the vessel of all environmental hazards, prior to its scuttling in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Officials with Reefmakers, the project's facilitator, are planning to coordinate towing of the Vandenberg to Key West sometime in March for final preparations.

The Vandenberg reef project will provide additional marine habitat and relieve recreational pressure off America's only contiguous coral barrier reef. It should also provide a unique attraction for visitors as well as a venue for environmental educators and students.

"Not only do artificial reefs divert recreational user pressure from natural reefs, they also create a valuable habitat and new breeding grounds for the marine environment", said Joe Weatherby of Reefmakers. "The Vandenberg will provide tools and resources to create sustained educational, social and cultural programs while also generating substantial revenues for the community."

The Vandenberg was originally commissioned in 1944 as Gen. Harry Taylor to serve as a World War II Army troop transport ship. In 1963 the ship was re-commissioned under its current name and served in the Atlantic Missile Range becoming one of the most technologically advanced platforms in the world during that era.

You can see the project in detail at WWW.BIGSHIPWRECKS.ORG

Photo: David Sullen

Putumayo Presents THE CARIBBEAN

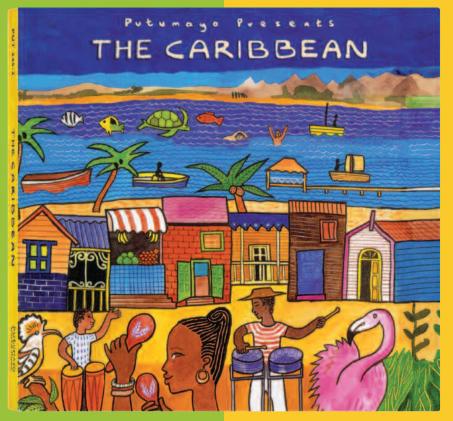
Putumayo World Music was established in 1993 to introduce people to the music of the world's cultures and is known for its upbeat and melodic compilations of great international music characterized by the company's motto: "guaranteed to make you feel good!" Putumayo's CD covers feature the distinctive art of Nicola Heindl, whose colorful, folkloric style represents one of Putumayo's goals: to connect the traditional to the contemporary. By combining appealing music and visuals with creative retail marketing, Putumayo has developed a unique brand identity - a rarity in today's artist-based music industry.

Since it began in 1993, Putumayo World Music has contributed to many non-profits doing good Work in Regions where the music originates. With its beautiful beaches, lush flora and fascinating local cultures, it's no wonder the Caribbean is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world. But beyond the luxury and glamour of hotels and resorts, there's an array of local cultures whose remarkable music, language, art and traditions reflect the region's tumultuous history and diverse heritage.

The interaction between European and African cultures in the Caribbean led to the emergence of new expressions in music, art, dance and literature. Religions like Rastafarianism, Voodoo and Santeria reflect the mingling of African and European theologies. Works by Caribbean painters are featured in museums worldwide, and Caribbean cuisine incorporates a diverse and exotic bounty of fizuit, seafood and spices.

It is with music and dance, however, that the Caribbean has made its greatest cultural contribution to the World. Jamaica's Reggae, mento and ska, soca and calypso from Trinidad and Barbados, Haiti's compas, biguine and zouk from the French Caribbean, Cuban son, Puerto Rican salsa, merengue from the Dominican Republic and the unique multicultural fusions of the Dutch Caribbean are just a few of the dozens of local music styles that have added vibrant colors to the World's musical palette.

Many of these styles are featured on this collection. We hope you enjoy this musical journey to one of the most color-ful regions of the world, and that the songs inspire you to further explore the exhilarating music the Caribbean has to offer.



The Caribbean #40743 \$15.98

Key West In Black And White Black & White Images From the 1970's, 80's & 90's



Key West in Black and White is your window into the Cayo Hueso of Captains Jimmy Buffett, Tom McGuane, Hunter S. Thompson...even John Hersey and Phil Caputo. Plus the brilliant, lost souls of the saltwater 1960s, psychedelic 1970s, the run-amok 1980s and later.

Welcome to the Key West of Big Fleet days, square grouper, corrupt politicians, the Mariel Boatlift, signs on garbage trucks that said "We Cater Weddings"

Welcome to Tom Corcoran's Key West - the real Key West.

- Randy Wayne White

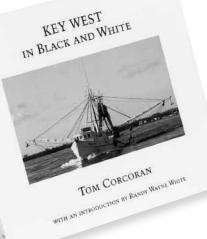
In collecting images to include here, I started to believe that I had documented every electrical wire on the island. Our sea level location discourages burying. The overhead maze of power, television and telephone conduit is fundamental to our visual personality. That Cayo Hueso uniqueness has fascinated me for four decades. It speaks of lifestyles and architecture dictated by commerce, hunger, tradition, recreation, survival and the ocean. It is what I have tried to capture on film.

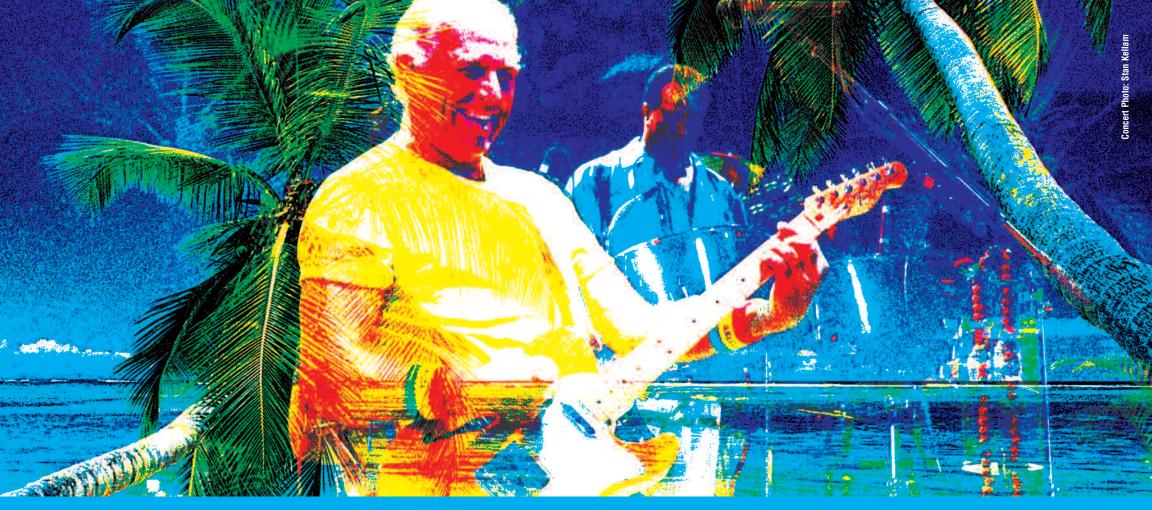
I intend nothing artistic or academic with this volume. I never aspired to be an historian. This array of images is the result of my wandering on foot or bicycle and pressing the shutter button. In this book and novels - with the help of my protagonist-photographer Alex Rutledege - I mean only to pass along proof of my enchantment.

- Tom Corcoran

Oversized paperback signed by author.

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PLAYING WITH JIMMY BUFFETT ON NEW YEARS EVE

By Evan Goodrow

I heard that Jimmy lived on St. Barths, and that he sometimes frequented the club that we were playing (the Bazbar). And, if he liked the band, he would occasionally sit in. This past New Years Eve, that's exactly what happened. Sometime between 1 and 2am in the morning, the club was absolutely packed and the band was rocking a 20 minute version of C minor groove for the dancers, when I spotted the club owner flagging me for my attention. Next to him: Jimmy Buffett with telecaster in hand.

I kicked the band out of the groove and into Ray Charles' "What I say" (some of you may remember this as the first song they used for the movie "Ray" during the opening credits). While the audience shifted dance moves I greeted Jimmy, helped him get plugged in and away we went, trading "What I say" verses as the crowd awoke to the fact that there was another singer on stage, and indeed that that singer was Jimmy Buffett.

Cameras came out and flashed away while anyone and everyone passing by on the dock or sitting outside crowded in for a glance of Buffett.

We played through song after song, "Margaritaville," 'You Can't Always Get What You Want," and even "Brown Eyed Girl," until well after 4am. I have a small knowledge of Buffett and his Parot Heads, and I had always wondered "what the big deal was." Now I know.

Playing with this guy, I couldn't help but smile. His mood, his tone, and his joy, are simply infectious. He's got something special (and no, I'm not talking about his multi-million dollar "Margaritaville" restaurant chain, although I'm sure that adds to the smile). The cat has soul.

He connects with people on a much deeper level than one might think by his song titles ("Cheeseburgers in Paradise" and "It's Five O'clock Somewhere"). To be able to experience this, upfront and personal, for this I am deeply grateful to him.

And, I learned something. There are times for me, onstage, when the music doesn't always fall into place, or things don't sound right. Or maybe, I'm just plain in a funk.

The answer? I'm going to be a little more like Jimmy (and no, that doesn't mean I'm going to wear tropical shirts). It means, that I'm going to pay a little more attention to what it is, that makes me connect to all of you. I'm going to remember to change focus, and pay more attention to "soul."

If you ever wonder why people would spend a ridiculous amount of money to be in the same stadium as this guy, I'm telling you, "soul" is the reason. The music was great. The memory is sweet. The experience was incredible.

JIMMY BUFFETT & THE CORAL REEFER BAND 2008 TOUR THE YEAR OF STILL HERE

APRIL 21	CYNTHIA WOODS MITCHELL PAVILION	HOUSTON, TX
APRIL 24	VERIZON WIRELESS AMPHITHEATRE	ST LOUIS, MO
APRIL 26	PIZZA HUT PARK	
APRIL 29	VERIZON WIRELESS AMPHITHEATRE	
MAY 3	JAZZ FEST	NEW ORLEANS, LA
JUNE 5	LAKEWOOD AMPHITHEATRE	
JUNE 7	TIME WARNER CABLE MUSIC PAVILION	
JUNE 10	DTE ENERGY MUSIC THEATRE	CLARKSTON, MI
JUNE 12	MADISON SQUARE GARDEN	NEW YORK, NY
JUNE 14	CITIZENS BANK PARK	
JULY 17	RIVERBEND MUSIC CENTER	CINCINNATI, OH
JULY 19	ALPINE VALLEY MUSIC THEATER	EAST TROY, WI
JULY 22	POST-GAZETTE PAVILION	BURGETTSTOWN, PA
JULY 24	TOYOTA PARK	BRIDGEVIEW, IL
JULY 26	TOYOTA PARK	BRIDGEVIEW, IL
JULY 29	VERIZON WIRELESS MUSIC CENTER	
AUGUST 24		ATLANTIC CITY, NJ
AUGUST 30	NISSAN PAVILION	BRISTOW, VA
SEPTEMBER 1		BRISTOW, VA
SEPTEMBER 4	TWEETER CENTER	MANSFIELD, MA
SEPTEMBER 6	TWEETER CENTER	MANSFIELD, MA
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SINGING FOR CHANGE FOUNDATION

Singing for Change enters its 13th year of grant making with the blessing of its famous founder, his band, and their loyal friends, fans and Parrot Heads. Without each of these important ingredients the magic wouldn't work. Money isn't everything but it sure helps, especially the young, small, grassroots organizations that SFC supports. Since 1995, Singing for Change has enabled hundreds of nonprofits to make significant strides toward self-sufficiency. In every city on Jimmy's tour and many small towns in between, Parrot Heads and "regular" folks alike are touched by SFC and its mission of goodwill. They've learned to look forward to not only a great show, but to Jimmy's support of their favorite, unheralded charitable causes. Thank you.



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