



Tuesday

The island is buzzing today. So many events tonight, it's hard to choose what to do. We're heading to the Sanibel Music Festival.

Wednesday

Concert was great. Ran into L&D, who always seem to share our musical tastes.

Friday

Went with the girls on a big pontoon boat adventure. Docking job at Cabbage Key was impressive. I passed on Cabbage Key Creepers, but it was tough. Saw thirteen dolphins!

Sunday

Tennis lesson with T, and then I hit the pool bar for a bite to eat. Met couples from Finland and Australia!

Tuesday

Early morning walk with S. We plotted a welcome back surprise for G&R when they arrive.

Wednesday

I've decided I need a new bike, new flip-flops, and new sunglasses. Island essentials.

Friday

S came home excited. He saw a giant manta ray jump out of the back bay today just a few feet from our boat. A lucky wildlife day.

Saturday

Amazing C.R.O.W. story posted on the local message board today. The things that people have to do to rescue an injured bird can be pretty heroic.

Monday

Broke down and had key lime pie after lunch. It was worth it!

Wednesday

Book signing on-island tonight. Then we'll pop over to Biddle's for wine and jazz. Note to self: Write a book!

Friday

Saw identical twins riding identical bikes on Middle Gulf Drive today.

Sunday

Ran into our island conchologist this morning. That word always cracks me up. I wonder if it ever cracks him up? Surely when he meets new people, and they say, "What do you do?"

Tuesday

Stopped by the day spa to see all the new changes and get some musical recommendations from the Brazilian receptionist.

Thursday

Making my very first coconut shrimp tonight—from scratch.

Friday

Dinner turned out pretty good, but it wasn't Gramma Dot's. I'm much better at stuffed poblanos, mole enchiladas, and chili. I've been in Florida seventeen years now; I need a seafood specialty. This is ridiculous!

Saturday

Got a knockout shellfish recipe from Rob Parks at Twilight Café. Maybe he can save me from my southwestern roots, at least when company's coming!

Sunday

S and I had a leisurely *New York Times* breakfast, then a long beach walk. Felt just like vacation. Where's the key to my condo? We should hit the beach for sunset, just for good measure.

Tuesday

Saw the bearded man riding his bike on the causeway again today. Who is that fellow?

Thursday

Avoided an influx of C.R.O.W. patients today; I stopped traffic so a little group of Muscovy ducks could cross the road. Don't think I've ever seen them out of the water.



ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC RIEMENSCHNEIDER