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For Immediate Release

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Local Author Releases Debut Novel Set in the Florida Keys

Marathon, FL... An injured DEA agent, a marine mammal research scientist, a feisty senior citizen and a gang of dolphins in the Florida Keys spark the fun in *All Keyed Up*, the debut contemporary romance novel by Marathon resident Mary Stella. Released this month by Medallion Press, *All Keyed Up* received five stars from Internet romance reviewer Harriet Klausner. *A Romance Review.com* called Stella, “a strong, original voice, laced with humor” and said the book is “sure to please.” To celebrate the book’s release, Stella will meet readers and sign copies of her book on Saturday, July 24th from 7 to 9 pm at Cover to Cover Books, 91272 Overseas Highway, Tavernier.

A native of New Jersey, Stella has lived in Marathon full time for two and a half years, but her love for the Florida Keys began in childhood. “My parents first brought us here on a fishing vacation in the early 1960s and then purchased a small home in the 1970s, so Marathon has been a second home for most of my life,” she explains. “I think the Keys and the people here are beautiful, fun and a little quirky. Given that I’ve also had a lifelong interest in dolphins, it was a natural choice to bring everything together in my first book.” Her connection to romance novels goes back almost as long. “A good love story is the basis for just about everything in our popular culture, not just in books, but also music, movies, television and so on,” she says. “To me, there’s no better way to relax than to get lost in a great story. To think that my book might bring that kind of pleasure to other readers is a dream come true.”

During the day, Stella works at what she calls ‘another dream job’ as Media Relations Coordinator for Dolphin Research Center, Grassy Key. She is an active member of Romance Writers of America, an 8400 member organization, and also belongs to two of its affiliate chapters, Florida Romance Writers and New Jersey Romance Writers. Readers are invited to visit her website at www.mary-stella.com and contact her via email at mary@mary-stella.com.