

KEY WEST WEEKLY

October 9, 2025

COLLEGE RECEIVES \$16K FOR NEW NURSING SCHOLARSHIP



From left, Leslie and Miriam Ellison, College of the Florida Keys president Jonathan Gueverra, Deek Oglesbee and Abby Oglesbee mark the donation of \$16,000 to the college's nursing program for a scholarship named in honor of Nettie Lawson Oglesbee, who is shown in the photo being held by Abby. CONTRIBUTED

Nettie Lawson Oglesbee's family honors the late nurse

The College of the Florida Keys (CFK) Foundation received a \$16,000 donation to establish the Nettie Lawson Oglesbee nursing scholarship endowment fund. Abby and Deek Oglesbee, along with Miriam and Leslie Ellison, created the endowment to award a \$500 scholarship each fall and spring semester, beginning spring 2026.

The scholarship honors Nettie Lawson Oglesbee, who pursued her nursing degree after raising her children and went on to build a career devoted to patient care. Her daughter-in-law Abby, a CFK nursing alum, former CFK nursing clinical instructor and former president of the Lower Keys Women's Club – CFK's

longest-running nursing scholarship donor – was inspired by Nettie to support students following a similar path to nursing later in life.

"When I decided to pursue nursing in my 40s, I thought I was too old. Then my husband reminded me that his mother became a nurse at 60 and practiced for nearly a decade," said Abby Oglesbee. "Our hope as a family is that the Nettie Lawson Oglesbee scholarship encourages non-traditional students to follow their dreams in nursing, no matter their age. This profession isn't about age, it's about passion and heart."

More information is at cfk.edu/discover/cfk-foundation/scholarship-info/.

The initial deadline to apply for the spring 2026 opportunity is Nov. 2. More information on scholarships is available from Shania Duarte-Vera at 305-809-3153 or foundation@cfk.edu.

— Contributed

MARATHON WEEKLY

Oct. 9, 2025

BRIEFLY

Nature photographer to speak at Botanical Society meeting

The Big Pine Key Botanical Society will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 16 at the Big Pine United Methodist Church, 280 Key Deer Boulevard. The group's speaker, Mischa Perez, is a nature photographer and the administrator of the Florida Keys Birding and Butterflies Facebook group. She also has a YouTube channel where she spreads awareness about birds, wildlife, conservation and migration. Her presentation will focus on bird migration, documenting routes, and the variety of birds and other wildlife passing through the Keys at this time of year.

Refreshments and a 50/50 raffle will follow the meeting. All are welcome.

Free line dance classes at Big Pine Community Park

Monroe County Parks and Beaches will host free line dancing classes at Big Pine Key Community Park every Monday and Wednesday starting Oct. 20. Classes are open to all levels and led by volunteer instructor Maryse Hill. To dance, sign a quick waiver before joining the fun. Each session is broken into skill levels so everyone can learn at their own pace. Steps from 1 to 1:30 p.m., beginner from 1:30 to 2:15 p.m., improver from 2:15 to 3 p.m. and intermediate from 3 to 4:30 p.m. No registration is required; walk in and enjoy fun moves to a variety of music genres. For more information, call 305-453-8748 or email ParksandBeaches-Fun@MonroeCounty-FL.gov.

College of the Florida Keys hosts virtual academic showcase

The College of the Florida Keys (CFK) will host a virtual academic showcase for anyone interested in learning what programs can help them achieve their career goals and how to succeed in college. The event will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 5:30 p.m. The showcase is designed for anyone exploring their next educational step, whether they are graduating from high school, changing or advancing their career or returning to the workforce. Prospective students will learn how they can earn their bachelor's degree, associate degree, or a certificate and will have the opportunity to ask questions directly of faculty members. CFK's academic deans, faculty and students will share insights into a wide variety of programs. Participants will receive both guidance in selecting a program that aligns with their goals and support in navigating financial aid, scholarships, and flexible payment options that make education accessible. All participants will receive

a code to waive the \$30 application fee. Applications are due by Dec. 1 for spring semester classes that start on Jan. 6. Registration at cfk.edu/futurestudents is required. For more information or to schedule a personal information session, contact Marissa Owens, CFK Manager of Recruitment, at recruiter@cfk.edu or call 305-809-3207.

Volunteers needed for Joy on the Rock festival

Marathon's annual Joy on the Rock Family Festival is back on Saturday, Nov. 8 from noon to 6 p.m. at Marathon Community Park. This free, family-friendly event features live Christian music, food vendors, local nonprofits and plenty of activities for all ages. Volunteers are needed to help with parking, merchandise tents and general event support. Email joyntherock@nikeys.church or scan the QR code here.



Habitat for Humanity opens homeownership application

Habitat for Humanity of the Middle Keys has opened the application process for their homeownership program. Until Oct. 15, pre-applications will be accepted for one 3-bedroom half-duplex home. The pre-application can be downloaded at www.habitat-middlekeys.org/homeownership. More information is available via email to fsm@habitatmiddlekeys.org or call 305-743-9828.

Submit your artwork for Anne McKee fine art auction

The Anne McKee Artists Fund of the Florida Keys Inc. announces a call to artists for the 2026 fine art auction. The vintage Key West-themed auction will be held on Friday, Feb. 27 at The Studios of Key West. The call to artists and submission for artwork close on Friday, Oct. 31 at 5 p.m. Applications and accompanying photo(s) can be submitted at www.mckeefund.org. Artists will be notified of acceptance no later than Dec. 1. The art dropoff is Jan. 31 with the auction preview hosted at The Studios of Key West from Feb. 5 through 26. Each participating artist receives 50 percent of the proceeds from the sale of their work, while the McKee Fund receives the remainder to award to other Keys artists. The annual art auction raises money for grants to Keys visual, literary and performing artists. Attendees can bid on original paintings, sculpture, photography, fiber art, ceramics, mixed media, jewelry and more. More information is at www.mckeefund.org.



Weekend Edition

October 11-12, 2025 • Vol. 149 No. 211 • 64 pages

\$3.00

Citizens' Voice

"Citizens'Voice" is a forum for readers to tell us what's on your mind, in 50 words or fewer. Email voice@keysnews.com. Your comments are subject to editing and are not guaranteed publication.

The opinions expressed in this column are those of our readers, not The Citizen or Adams MultiMedia.

"A Florida legislator has filed a bill that would require CFK to change the name of College Road to Charlie James Kirk Road or lose all of its funding? CFK doesn't have control over the name of College Road — it isn't on the CFK campus! Ridiculous."



The Palm Beach Post

Proposed legislation would require FAU, PBSC to rename campus roadways in honor of Kirk

Wayne Washington, Palm Beach Post

Wed, October 15, 2025 at 10:25 AM EDT

6 min read

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Florida Atlantic University, Palm Beach State College and all other state colleges and universities would be required to rename a campus roadway in honor of [the slain conservative activist Charlie Kirk](#) if legislation introduced in Tallahassee becomes law.

Kirk, who frequently debated politics and other hot topics with college students, was shot to death on a Utah university campus on Sept. 10. His death prompted an outpouring of grief among Republicans, who lauded the 31-year old activist for his willingness to debate students who often disagreed with him.

Meanwhile, many Democrats viewed Kirk as a callous provocateur who drew attention to and enriched himself by making racist, homophobic, sexist and xenophobic comments.

Republicans have threatened to go after people who make public comments they view as celebrating Kirk's death.

At least [three FAU professors have been placed on leave](#) following social media posts about Kirk. Palm Beach County School Board member Edwin Ferguson [got death threats](#) after calling Kirk a "racist bigot" during a Sept. 17 school board meeting.

Ferguson was responding to a reminder from state Education Commissioner Anastasios Kamoutsas that public comments viewed as celebrating Kirk's death could cost an educator their teaching certificate.

The bill to rename streets and its future

State Rep. Kevin Steele, R-Dade City, filed a bill ([HB 113](#)) in the Florida House on Oct. 7 to require state colleges and universities to rename a street in honor of Kirk or lose state funding.

Which streets would be renamed at FAU and PBSC?

Steele's legislation even lays out which streets the schools must rename.

FAU would have to rename University Drive as Charlie James Kirk Drive. Palm Beach State College could have to rename Ersey Street as Charlie James Kirk Street.

The Florida schools and streets they'd have to rename:

Steele's legislation, which does not have a Senate companion, would have state colleges and universities rename local streets in this manner:

- The University of South Florida would redesignate USF Alumni Drive as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- The University of Central Florida would redesignate Gemini Boulevard South as Charlie James Kirk Boulevard.
- Florida State University would redesignate Chieftain Way as Charlie James Kirk Road.
- Florida A&M would redesignate West Osceola Street as Charlie James Kirk Street.
- Florida Gulf Coast University would redesignate FGCU Boulevard as Charlie James Kirk Boulevard.
- Florida International University would redesignate Southwest 17th Street as Charlie James Kirk Street.
- Florida Polytechnic University would redesignate Polytechnic Circle as Charlie James Kirk Circle.
- New College of Florida would redesignate College Drive as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- The University of Florida would redesignate Stadium Road as Charlie James Kirk Road.
- The University of North Florida would redesignate UNF Drive as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- The University of West Florida would redesignate Campus Drive as Charlie James Kirk Drive.

- Broward College would redesignate College Avenue as Charlie James Kirk Avenue.
- Chipola College would redesignate College Street as Charlie James Kirk Street.
- The College of Central Florida would redesignate Southwest 26th Street as Charlie James Kirk Street.
- Daytona State College would redesignate Pinecrest Avenue as Charlie James Kirk Avenue.
- Eastern Florida State College would redesignate Titan Boulevard as Charlie James Kirk Boulevard.
- Florida Gateway College would redesignate Southeast College Place as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- The College of the Florida Keys would redesignate College Road as Charlie James Kirk Road.
- Florida SouthWestern State College would redesignate FSW Parkway as Charlie James Kirk Parkway.
- Florida State College at Jacksonville would redesignate Broad Street as Charlie James Kirk Street.
- Gulf Coast State College would redesignate College Street as Charlie James Kirk Street.
- Hillsborough College would redesignate West Tampa Bay Boulevard from Air Cargo Road to North Dale Mabry as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- Indian River State College would redesignate Cross Campus Road as Charlie James Kirk Road.
- Lake-Sumter State College would redesignate College Drive as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- Miami Dade College would redesignate Northeast First Avenue as Charlie James Kirk Avenue.

- North Florida College would redesignate Mockingbird Trail as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- Northwest Florida State College would redesignate McCracken Way as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- Pasco-Hernando State College would redesignate Mrs. Prameela Musunuru Health And Wellness Trail as Charlie James Kirk Trail.
- Pensacola State College would redesignate College Boulevard as Charlie James Kirk Boulevard.
- Polk State College would redesignate PSC Access Road as Charlie James Kirk Road.
- St. Johns River State College would redesignate Peoria Cemetery Road as Charlie James Kirk Road.
- St. Petersburg College shall redesignate 5th Avenue North as Charlie James Kirk Avenue.
- Santa Fe College shall redesignate Northwest 83rd Street as Charlie James Kirk Street.
- Seminole State College of Florida would redesignate College Drive as Charlie James Kirk Street.
- South Florida State College would redesignate College Drive as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota would redesignate 57th Avenue West as Charlie James Kirk Avenue.
- Tallahassee State College would redesignate Progress Drive as Charlie James Kirk Drive.
- Valencia College would redesignate Valencia College Drive as Charlie James Kirk Drive.

"State funds shall be withheld from any state university or Florida College System institution whose board of trustees fails to redesignate the roadway or portion of a roadway listed above within 90 days after the effective date of this act," Steele's legislation says. "This act shall take effect upon becoming a law."



Florida Atlantic University students gathered for a Charlie Kirk candlelight vigil and prayers at the student union on the campus in Boca Raton, Fla., on September 11, 2025. Kirk, who founded Turnin...[More](#)

Republicans have a supermajority in both the state House and Senate, greatly limiting the power of Democrats to block legislation they oppose.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025 - VOLUME 39, NO. 42 - 24 PAGES

FREE

Chambers host college readiness workshops

MONROE COUNTY
— The College of the Florida Keys (CFK) is partnering with the Key Largo and Marathon chambers of commerce to help high school students navigate the college application process.

Free “Ready, Set, COLLEGE!” workshops will provide guidance on college applications, essay writing and financial aid for students, families, mentors and guidance counselors.

The workshops are scheduled from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 21, at the CFK Upper Keys Center Auditorium, 106040 Overseas Highway; and from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 22, at the CFK Middle Keys Center, room 5204, 350

Sombrero Beach Road.

CFK faculty will share strategies for crafting college admission and scholarship essays. Parents, mentors and guidance counselors will learn how to evaluate student writing and provide constructive feedback.

The second half of each workshop will demystify college financing through federal grants, loans, scholarships and payment plans. CFK financial aid staff will provide assistance with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the critical first step for accessing federal and institutional financial aid.

Both events are free and open to all high school students and their supporters. For additional information, call [305-296-9081](tel:305-296-9081).

KEY WEST WEEKLY

October 16, 2025

Ready, Set, COLLEGE!

CFK PARTNERS WITH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE FOR WORKSHOPS

Program helps students
navigate application process

The College of the Florida Keys (CFK) is partnering with the Key Largo and Marathon chambers of commerce to help high school students navigate the college application process. The free "Ready, Set, College!" workshops will provide guidance on college applications, essay writing and financial aid for students, families, mentors and guidance counselors.

Key Largo

"Ready, Set, College!" workshop presented by the Key Largo Chamber of Commerce takes place Tuesday, Oct. 21 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the CFK Upper Keys Center auditorium, 106040 Overseas Hwy., Key Largo

Marathon

"Ready, Set, College!" workshop presented by the Marathon Chamber of Commerce takes place Wednesday, Oct. 22 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the CFK Middle Keys Center, Room 5204, 350 Sombbrero Beach Road, Marathon

College faculty will share strategies for crafting admission and scholarship essays.

Parents, mentors and guidance counselors will learn how to evaluate student writing and provide constructive feedback.

The second half of each workshop will cover college financing through federal grants, loans, scholarships and payment plans. CFK financial aid staff will provide hands-on assistance with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the critical first step for accessing federal and institutional financial aid.

"These workshops represent our continuing commitment to assure that higher education is accessible to every student in the Florida Keys," said Jonathan Gueverra, CFK president. "Our local chambers of commerce are one of many partners who help us to bring college preparation resources directly to families."

Both events are free and open to all high school students and their supporters. More information is at 305-296-9081.

— Contributed

UPPER KEYS WEEKLY
October 16, 2025

FIU Arts, Sciences & Education

Ready, Set, COLLEGE!

CFK PARTNERS WITH CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE FOR WORKSHOPS

Program helps students navigate application process

The College of the Florida Keys (CFK) is partnering with the Key Largo and Marathon chambers of commerce to help high school students navigate the college application process. The free "Ready, Set, College!" workshops will provide guidance on college applications, essay writing and financial aid for students, families, mentors and guidance counselors.

Key Largo

"Ready, Set, College!" workshop presented by the Key Largo Chamber of Commerce takes place Tuesday, Oct. 21 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the CFK Upper Keys Center auditorium, 106040 Overseas Hwy., Key Largo

Marathon

"Ready, Set, College!" workshop presented by the Marathon Chamber of Commerce takes place Wednesday, Oct. 22 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the CFK Middle Keys Center, Room 5204, 350 Sombbrero Beach Road, Marathon

College faculty will share strategies for crafting admission and scholarship essays.

Parents, mentors and guidance counselors will learn how to evaluate student writing and provide constructive feedback.

The second half of each workshop will cover college financing through federal grants, loans, scholarships and payment plans. CFK financial aid staff will provide hands-on assistance with completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the critical first step for accessing federal and institutional financial aid.

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Both events are free and open to all high school students and their supporters. More information is at 305-296-9081.

— Contributed



Bill would rename state school roads for Kirk

By News Service of Florida, 20 days ago

TALLAHASSEE — A Florida House Republican on Tuesday, Oct. 7, filed a proposal that would redesignate a road at each Florida state university and college to honor conservative leader Charlie Kirk, who was murdered last month in Utah.

State Rep. Kevin Steele, R-Dade City, filed the bill (HB 113) for consideration during the legislative session that will start in January.

The bill would specify a road at each of the state's 12 universities and 28 colleges to be named after Kirk.

For example, Chieftain Way at Florida State University and Stadium Road at the University of Florida would each be redesignated as Charlie James Kirk Road, while FGCU Boulevard at Florida Gulf Coast University would be redesignated as Charlie James Kirk Boulevard.

Locally, the proposal would rename the College of the Florida Keys' College Road to Charlie James Kirk Road.

If the bill passes, institutions that do not comply could lose state funding within 90 days.

Kirk helped found and lead the organization Turning Point USA in 2012. The non-profit organization's mission is to identify, educate, train and organize students to promote the principles of fiscal responsibility, free markets, and limited government.

Kirk, 31, was shot and killed Sept. 10 during an appearance at Utah Valley University. Since his death the applications for new Turning Point chapters at colleges nation-wide has topped 37,000 requests.



Weekend Edition

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\$3.00

CFK faculty advance wind energy technology

Two faculty members from The College of the Florida Keys (CFK) have co-authored research that could transform how cities harness wind energy.

Muhammad I. Hussain from the Department of Engineering Technology and Patrick Rice from the Office of Science and Research recently published the findings in the journal *Energy Conversion and Management: X*.

Hussain and Rice were among a team of scientists who studied a special type of wind turbine that does not have spinning blades like conventional wind turbines. Instead, it uses two curved airfoils that sit across from each other. When wind blows over these pieces, it creates a vacuum and a suction that pulls air through the middle and spins a generator to make electricity. The findings showed promise for quieter, safer wind turbines ideal for installation on rooftops in urban areas.

“This technology addresses a major challenge in urban wind energy,” Hussain said. “Traditional wind turbines are too large and noisy for city use, but our research shows these motionless systems have the potential to be a game-changer.”



PHOTO PROVIDED

Muhammad I. Hussain, right, faculty from CFK’s Department of Engineering Technology, and Patrick Rice, chief science and research officer, discuss renewable energy research.

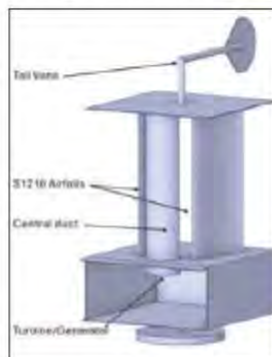


IMAGE PROVIDED

A rendering of a wind turbine prototype with airfoils.

The research team discovered that while these turbines are promising, they

lose up to 81% of their power when wind doesn’t blow directly at them. To resolve this problem, they tested five different tail shapes and found one helped keep the turbine aligned with changing wind directions better than the others. The airplane wing-shaped tails performed 15% better than other designs, enabling the turbines to capture maximum wind energy even in variable wind conditions.

These wind systems can generate power 24/7 and continue working in snow and rain, potentially producing more annual energy than equivalent solar installations.



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Members of the pickleball Unified Doubles teams show off their hardware.



Members of the Key West State Swim Team.

Barriers/from C20

total weight), Tony Barrera lifted his way to first place in Male Combination 2 (295 total weight), Luis "Alex" Chavala took first place in Male Combination 2 (265 total weight), Angel Pierce earned second-place in Male Combo 2 (195 total weight), and Billy Roberts earned second place in Male Combo 2 (200 total weight).

Monroe County athletes also excelled in pickleball, a fast-growing sport in the region, as Christopher Gregory from Key West High and Alicia Di Giuseppe from Horace O'Bryant School teamed up to claim first place in Unified Doubles, Monae

Hylor and Reyna Bogins from College of the Florida Keys secured second place in Unified Doubles. Laila Jones and Lauren Anderson from The College of the Florida Keys took third place in Unified Doubles. Ray Moreno, from the MARC program, shone in Individual Skills, finishing second place with 178 points, and Kenny Ayers, also from the MARC program, brought home sixth place in Individual Skills with 133 points. Youth athletes also stood out, with Abraham Nava-Magdalena and Evan Dickens from Horace O'Bryant School earning third place in Unified Doubles.

More BARRIERS | C21

Sunshine Sentinel

FOIA Request Sent To The College Of The Florida Keys Regarding University Board Member Information On October 22, 2025

NEWS



Jonathan Gueverra, Ed. D. President - Florida Keys Community College



Oct 22, 2025 > By D. B. McMahon > 0 Comments

FOIA Request to The College of the Florida Keys regarding University Board Member Information on October 22, 2025.

The Sunshine Sentinel has submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to The College of the Florida Keys. The request seeks access to specific records related to the University's governing board or board of trustees. The requested information includes a current list of board members, detailing each member's full name, title or position, and term of service. Additionally, the request asks for any official headshots, portraits, or photographs maintained by the University for use in official publications, directories, or on its website. Furthermore, any official biographies or biographical summaries prepared or maintained by the University are also sought as part of this request.

The Sunshine Sentinel emphasizes its role in gathering and reporting news to the public and underscores the importance of access to public records in fulfilling its professional responsibilities. As a media organization committed to transparency and accountability in governmental affairs, it requests that these records be provided preferably in electronic format. Additionally, given their role as media professionals, they have requested a fee waiver for accessing these documents.

The requester is affiliated with The Coalition Opposing Governmental Secrecy, a non-profit organization that assists media companies and advocacy groups in investigating governmental agencies through Freedom of Information and Sunshine Laws. More information about this coalition can be found on their website [here](#).

Our team will continue to keep you updated as we gather and report news related to this request and other matters of public interest. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need further clarification regarding this matter.

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2025 - VOLUME 39, NO. 43 - 28 PAGES

FREE

CFK spring scholarship application period open

MONROE COUNTY — The College of the Florida Keys (CFK) is accepting applications for spring semester scholarships from both new and returning students.

Students must be admitted to the college and registered for spring 2026 semester classes to qualify for scholarships. The deadline to apply is Sunday, Nov. 2.

Thousands of dollars in scholarships are available across a wide range of academic programs and backgrounds. Students may apply for all scholarships for which they qualify. Scholarship

descriptions and eligibility requirements can be viewed on the College's website at cfk.edu/discover/cfk-foundation/scholarship-info.

CFK's spring semester begins Jan. 10.

In addition to scholarships, resources to help students pay for college, such as federal financial aid and tuition payment plans, can be found on CFK's website at cfk.edu/paying-for-college.

For more information, contact Shania Duarte-Vera at foundation@cfk.edu or [305-809-3153](tel:305-809-3153).



CFK spring scholarship applications are open

The College of the Florida Keys (CFK) is accepting applications for spring semester scholarships for both new and returning students. Students must be admitted to the college and registered for spring 2026 semester classes to qualify. The deadline to apply is Sunday, Nov. 2. Thousands of dollars in scholarships are available across a wide range of academic programs and backgrounds. Scholarship descriptions and eligibility requirements can be viewed on the College's website at cfk.edu/discover/cfk-foundation/scholarship-info/. CFK's spring semester begins Jan. 10. For more scholarship information and guidance, contact Shania Duarte-Vera, CFK Coordinator of Scholarships and Donor Relations, at foundation@cfk.edu or 305-809-3153.

In addition to scholarships, further resources to help students pay for college, such as financial aid and tuition payment plans, can be found on CFK's website at cfk.edu/paying-for-college/.



MIAMI COACH BACKS TUA DESPITE QB'S RECENT STRUGGLES — B1 \$3.00

Friday

October 24, 2025 • Vol. 149 No. 220 • 14 pages

THE KEYS

ound the Keys, e-mail the who,
room@keysnews.com.

youth volunteers from
ages 10-15 to learn about
animal care, create crafts
for the animals' enrichment
and a chance to interact
with animals waiting for
the furever homes. For the
required application, visit
fkspca.volunteerportal.org/.
For information, visit fkspca.org/volunteer/kids-club/ or
email Volunteer Coordinator
Crystal@fkspca.org.
FKSPCA is located at 5711
College Road.

Tuga Clinic

The Florida Department
of Health in Monroe County,
in collaboration with The
College of the Florida Keys
and Rural Health Network,

has opened the Tuga Clinic
on the CFK Key West
campus, 5901 College Road.
The clinic will be open
on Tuesdays, from 9 a.m.
to 4 p.m., with a nurse on
site, and Wednesdays and
Thursdays, from 9 a.m.
to 4 p.m., with a nurse
practitioner provider on site.
To schedule an appointment,
call [305-293-7500](tel:305-293-7500).

Plant Sale and Art Market

The Key West Garden
Club will hold its annual Fall
Plant Sale and Art Market
from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday
and Saturday, Nov. 21-22.
Vendors will be selling exotic
plants, bromeliads, orchids
and herbs and a variety of
artists will be offering holiday
shopping opportunities.
Admission and parking are
free at Fort West Martello

FOR ONE AND ALL



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CFK

The College of the Florida Keys will hold its 11th annual Community Day on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on the Key West campus on College Road.

CFK to hold 11th annual Community Day

CITIZEN STAFF

The College of the Florida Keys invites the public to its 11th annual Community Day on Saturday, Nov. 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., on the Key West campus.

The free, family-friendly event will feature a variety of attractions for every member of the community.

CFK's connections to the Keys will be on full display with academic showcases and interactive exhibits from partner organizations and government agencies. Visitors will enjoy live performances, children's activities and free food and T-shirts.

This year, in honor of the college's 60th anniversary, CFK will unveil a special historical exhibit featuring historical facts, rare photos and treasured memorabilia that tell the college's story of six decades of community impact.



Community Day, a free, family-friendly event at CFK's Key West campus, will feature a variety of attractions — including Shel, the Tugas' mascot.

FROM PAGE 1A



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CFK

The College of the Florida Keys has created an exhibit on campus looking at the school during the past 60 years, with focuses on academics, campus evolution, college presidents, student life.

CFK/ from A1

Also, Monroe County Mayor Jim Scholl will read the proclamation issued by the Monroe County Board of Commissioners on Oct. 15 declaring November as "The College of the Florida Keys Month." As always, CFK President and CEO Dr. Jonathan Gueverra will lead the traditional salute to veterans and military service members.

The college will also be collecting non-perishable food items at the event for the Tuga

Shelves food pantry for students experiencing food insecurity.

Pets are not permitted on the CFK campus; visitors are asked to leave their pets at home.

CFK's Community Day is supported by sponsors Essential Net Solutions, First Horizon Bank, Florida Keys Media, The Keys Citizen, the Key West Weekly, The Lisa Ferringo Group, Party 105.7 FM, David and Annette Curry, and James Rifkin and Jane Packard.

For information about Community Day, call CFK at 305-809-3198.



A color guard performance is one of the variety of activities and events occurring at Community Day at The College of the Florida Keys.



KeysNews.com

KEYS CITIZEN

Islands One Voice

**YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO FLORIDA
KEYS SPORTS — INSIDE AND ONLINE**

Weekend Edition

November 1-2, 2025 • Vol. 149 No. 226 • 64 pages

\$3.00

KEY WEST

Police Department welcomes 9 new officers

The College of the Florida Keys' Basic Law Enforcement Academy recently graduated a class of new officers at the Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Center.

Among those in Class No. 93 were nine recruits sponsored by the Key West Police Department: Jhavon Williams, Bradley "Chase" Fox, Mike Jakubowski, Tanika Storey, Aaron Dixon, Danielle Fasulo, Chris Cahill, Matthew Herrington and Steve Anderson.

"I want to congratulate each of you for the hard and sometimes grueling effort to get to this point tonight," said Key West Police Chief Sean Brandenburg in his address to the new officers.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KWPD

Key West Police Chief Sean Brandenburg, left, and Captains Jason Castillo and Bradley Lariz, right, recently welcomed new officers, from left, Jhavon Williams, Bradley 'Chase' Fox, Mike Jakubowski, Tanika Storey, Aaron Dixon, Danielle Fasulo, Chris Cahill, Matthew Herrington and Steve Anderson.

"This is the beginning of a challenging and rewarding career. Your role is to protect and serve, and one of our

most important duties as law enforcement officers is to earn and maintain the public's trust and confidence."



PHOTO PROVIDED

From left, Leslie and Miriam Ellison, CFK President Jonathan Gueverra, and Deek and Abby Oglesbee, who is holding a photo of Nettie Lawson Oglesbee, the namesake of the newest nursing scholarship for CFK students.

CFK receives endowment for nursing scholarship

The College of the Florida Keys Foundation has received a \$16,000 donation to establish the Nettie Lawson Oglesbee Nursing Scholarship Endowment Fund.

Abby and Deek Oglesbee, together with Miriam and Leslie Ellison, created the endowment to award a \$500 scholarship each fall and spring semester, beginning spring 2026.

The scholarship honors Nettie Lawson Oglesbee, who pursued her nursing degree later in life, after raising her children, and

went on to build a fulfilling career devoted to patient care. Her daughter-in-law Abby, a CFK nursing alumna, former CFK nursing clinical instructor and former president of the Lower Keys Women's Club, was inspired by Nettie to support students following a similar path to nursing later in life.

"When I decided to pursue nursing in my 40s, I thought I was too old, then my husband reminded me that his mother became a nurse at 60 and practiced for nearly a decade," said

Abby Oglesbee, B.S.N., R.N. "Our hope as a family is that the Nettie Lawson Oglesbee Scholarship encourages non-traditional students to follow their dreams in nursing, no matter their age. This profession isn't about age, it's about passion and heart."

Details, criteria and the application for the Nettie Lawson Oglesbee Nursing Scholarship can be found on the college's website at <https://www.cfk.edu/discover/cfk-foundation/scholarship-info>.

CFK Graduates Crossover to Law Enforcement Academy #37

November 03, 2025

SPECIAL TO FLORIDA WEEKLY



Crossover 37. -COURTESY PHOTO

The College of the Florida Keys' (CFK) Institute for Public Safety (IPS) graduated the Crossover Corrections to Basic Law Enforcement (BLE) Academy #37 on October 17 at the CFK Upper Keys Center. Ten certified Corrections Officers successfully completed the 518-hour Crossover to BLE training program, and upon passing the State Officer Certification Exam, each will be eligible to become a Florida Law Enforcement Officer.

The award for academic achievement went to Sean A. Gonzalez and the leadership award went to Dalon T. McDonald. The Pride, Integrity, Guts (PIG) award went to Tremari D. Harris.

CFK's crossover corrections to basic law enforcement program satisfies the training requirements of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission. CFK is currently accepting applications for two upcoming training academies:

- Basic Law Enforcement Academy #96, at the Upper Keys Center starting in January 2026 and ending in November 2026 – applications are due by December 12, 2025
- Basic Law Enforcement Academy #97, at the Key West Campus starting in May 2026 and ending in November 2026 – applications are due by April 16, 2026

For more information about CFK's Institute for Public Safety, visit the College's website at www.cfk.edu/academics/academic-departments/institute-for-public-safety/.

Ali Wheatley



KEYS CITIZEN

Many Islands  One Voice

KeysNews.com

WHEATLEY PLACES FIRST AT JUNIOR ORANGE BOWL CLASSIC — B1 \$3.00

Tuesday

November 4, 2025 • Vol. 149 No. 227 • 14 pages

Whistleblower vote tops city commission agenda

KATRINA NICHOLS
Keys Citizen

The Key West City Commission will meet Wednesday, Nov. 5, at City Hall, with one of the most closely watched items being the second reading of the city's new whistleblower ordinance.

The legislation stems from the May 2025 grand jury investigation into alleged misconduct at City Hall, which resulted in multiple indictments and a public grand jury report.

Grand jurors said they chose to sign their names to the report, explaining they wished to stand in solidarity with the whistleblowers

who brought concerns forward and made the investigation possible.

At a special meeting on June 25, city commissioners reviewed the findings of the report and began outlining steps to restore public trust. The grand jury report ultimately included 27 recommendations addressing alleged corruption, favoritism and a longstanding "boy's club" culture in city government. In response, a banner was added to the city website as a progress report. It shows, in real time, how each of the recommendations is being handled.

To fulfill one of those recommendations, the commission is set

to finalize a whistleblower policy that mirrors state law while adding local protections. The ordinance establishes a clear process for employees to confidentially report suspected fraud, abuse, illegal activity or gross mismanagement without fear of retaliation.

Under the proposal, complaints will go to the city manager or, when appropriate, the inspector general. They must be acknowledged within 30 days and reviewed by an independent, three-member panel consisting of a city resident, a department head and a city employee.

The policy prohibits retaliation and allows for reinstatement,

back pay and other remedies if an employee is punished for coming forward. False or malicious complaints are not protected. Once adopted, the policy takes effect immediately and applies to ongoing whistleblower cases.

In other business, the meeting consent agenda, which passes multiple, pre-approved items with one vote, includes a resolution from City Manager Brian L. Barroso approving a community aesthetic feature agreement with the Florida Department of Transportation for new "Welcome to Key West" and "Thank You

More **VOTE** | A7