



# KEYS CITIZEN

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## Many Islands One Voice

CORAL SHORES' VANESSA GABRIEL CLAIMS STATE TITLE IN WEIGHTLIFTING — B1 \$3.00

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### CAYO CONCH



Check out the Farmers Market from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday at Truman Waterfront Park.

### Lunar New Year: Year of the Horse

BEIJING (AP) — Traditional prayers, fireworks and fairs marked the Lunar New Year on Tuesday — alongside 21st-century humanoid robots.

The activities ushered in the Year of the Horse, one of 12 animals in the Chinese zodiac, succeeding the Year of the Snake.

Thousands of people in Beijing jammed into the former Temple of Earth to buy snacks, toys and trinkets from stalls. Sun Jing, who brought her parents to the capital for the holiday, said the atmosphere was as lively as in her childhood.

"I haven't felt such a strong sense of Lunar New Year festivity in a very, very long time," she said.

Crowds descended on popular temples to burn incense and pray for happiness and success in the coming year. The Lunar New Year is the most important annual holiday in China and some other East Asian nations and is celebrated outside the region, too.

Incense smoke wafted into the air at a temple in Hong Kong where people line up every year to make wishes for the new year at midnight.

Holding up a cluster of incense sticks, many bowed their heads several times before planting the sticks in containers placed in front of a temple hall.

In New York City, thousands gathered in Chinatown to celebrate.

### ON THE RADIO



Keys Fishing Guide Will Benson joins Joe as guest co-host.

Also, Rick Ramsay, Monroe County Sheriff

Ed Tierney, School Superintendent

Christine Hurley, Monroe County Administrator

Judd Wise, Key West High School

Lynny Thompson, Marathon Mayor

Peter Pittman, Local Author

Liz Young, Director, the Arts Council

Evening Edition, Mandy Miles, Keys Weekly

News: 7:30, 8:30 a.m., noon, 5 & 6 p.m.

Evening Edition 5-5:30 p.m.

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## 'Guardian of the Hemisphere'



MONROE COUNTY/CONTRIBUTED

Monroe County officials joined Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis Monday for the unveiling of a new statue honoring James Monroe, the fifth president of the United States. From left, Commissioner Craig Cates, Mayor Michelle Lincoln, DeSantis, Commissioner Holly Raschein and County Administrator Christine Hurley.

### DeSantis unveils new James Monroe statue in Keys as part of Florida's America 250 efforts

#### STAFF REPORT

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis was in the Keys on Monday (President's Day) to unveil a new statue of former U.S. President James Monroe.

Monroe County is named after the fifth U.S. president, who served from 1817 to 1825.

DeSantis and local officials unveiled the new statue at Bahia Honda State Park on Monday. Monroe is best known for the Monroe Doctrine which declared the Western Hemisphere was America's sphere of influence Vis-à-vis European colonial powers in the early 19th Century.

DeSantis said the Monroe Doctrine established the U.S. as the "guardian of the hemisphere."

Monroe also served in the Revolutionary War and served as U.S. secretary of state and secretary of war before becoming president.

When Monroe was president, he forged a treaty with Spain to transfer control of Florida to the U.S. in 1821.



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis unveiled a statue of former U.S. President James Monroe during an event Monday, Feb. 16, in Bahia Honda State Park in the Florida Keys.

Monroe County officials were also at the new statue unveiling with the governor Monday on Bahia Honda Key (near Big Pine Key).

Monroe County Mayor Michelle Lincoln, County Commissioners Holly Merrill Raschein and Craig Cates, and County Administrator Christine Hurley joined DeSantis

for the unveiling.

The Monroe monument was installed on the west end of the Bahia Honda Bridge as part of Florida's commemoration of America's 250th anniversary, the county said in an announcement.

More DESANTIS | A7

## Democrat David Jolly brings campaign for governor to Key West

#### ASHLEY RODRIGUEZ Keys Citizen

Democratic gubernatorial candidate and former congressman David Jolly came to Key West to address issues with local residents. Some of his main concerns: high costs of living, home rule and culture wars.

"The biggest opportunity in my lifetime for change in Florida is right now," said Jolly, who is seeking the Democratic nomination in this year's elections to succeed term-limited Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis.

Jolly is a fifth-generation

Floridian, originally born in Pinellas County, growing up in Miami-Dade County. He also lived in Pasco County and Pensacola before coming back to Pinellas with his family.

"I have some ties to Monroe County and Key West," Jolly said. "I represented the college in their federal work for, call it five years, give or take. So I certainly have a familiarity with the community and an understanding of the top level political issues."

While he is now running as "a proud Democrat" he hasn't always affiliated with the party, having been a registered Republican up

until 2018, before becoming an Independent. He represented Florida's 13th district from 2014 to 2017. His last election was in 2016 to retain the House seat. He was ultimately defeated by Charlie Crist.

Jolly has been a prominent critic of President Donald Trump, including when he served as a Republican.

Jolly provided his three values that he has led his campaign with, and he claims these values also allowed him to reflect on his alignment with the Democratic Party more recently.

More JOLLY | A6

## Daytime drama

Local men arrested for threatening businesses, indecent exposure at bar in afternoon episodes

#### STAFF REPORT

One local man was arrested for allegedly threatening people and local businesses, while another faces an indecent exposure charge for his alleged actions at a bar in recent, and separate, daytime incidents.

On Friday, a Marathon man — identified by police as 30-year-old Jajuan Antonio Josey — was arrested for allegedly threatening people and businesses.

"The Sheriff's Office was called to the 5800 block of the Overseas Highway at approximately 12 p.m. regarding a trespassing complaint," MCSO said in an announcement.

According to police, Jajuan Antonio Josey 30, "entered a business and began yelling, behaving erratically, and making threatening gestures

More ARRESTED | A7



USCG/FACEBOOK

The U.S. Coast Guard helped a sailboat (pictured) that was taking on water earlier this month

## Troubled waters

U.S. Coast Guard helps distressed sailboat off Key West

#### STAFF REPORT

The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) helped a sailboat that was taking on water near Fort Zachary Taylor Park in Key West earlier this month.

Coast Guard Station Key West responded to the distressed boat Feb. 5.

The USCG said there was one person aboard the boat. "The crew transferred the mariner to a commercial salvage vessel so (the) vessel could be towed back to its anchorage," the U.S. Coast Guard Southeast District said in an announcement.

In a separate action announced on Saturday, the U.S. Coast Guard said it interdicted with two boats and seized an estimated \$5.6 million worth of cocaine and other illegal drugs off the coast of Fort Lauderdale.

More SAILBOAT | A7