

## CORAL SHORES, MARATHON WIN IN WEIGHTLIFTING — C1

Thursday

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\$3.00

### CAYO CONCH



"But all the magic I have known, I've had to make myself."  
— Shel Silverstein



Your guide to Florida Keys entertainment — Inside and online



Stream Scene — Inside and online

### WeBeFit

Daniel Reynen explains how small steps can deliver real results. **Page B1**



Obituaries Page A3

### ON THE RADIO



Kermit Carpenter, The Key Lime Pie Guy, joins Joe as guest co-host.

- Also:
- Carlos Gimenez, Congressman
  - Michelle Lincoln, Monroe County Mayor
  - Sean Brandenburg, Key West Police Chief
  - Ana Maria Rodriguez, State Senator
  - Julio Torrado, Keys Energy
  - Lance Martin, Athletic Director, Marathon High School
- Evening Edition:
- Rick Ramsay, Monroe County Sheriff
  - Ed Tierney, School Superintendent
- News: 7:30, 8:30 a.m., noon, 5 & 6 p.m.  
Evening Edition 5-5:30 p.m.

keysnews.com



# FAA investigating seaplane crash

## Pilot unharmed after seaplane flips near Dry Tortugas

**KATRINA NICHOLS**  
Keys Citizen

A pilot escaped injury after a seaplane flipped into the water Saturday near Dry Tortugas National Park, and was later evaluated and released from a local hospital, officials said Tuesday.

The pilot, who was the sole occupant of the aircraft,

was transported to Lower Keys Medical Center as a precautionary measure following the incident. He was treated and released shortly afterward, according to an update from Key West Seaplane Adventures.

Recovery efforts are underway, and the aircraft was expected to be transported back to Key West by barge late Tuesday, weather and sea conditions permitting, according to **Peter Green**, General Manager of Key West Seaplane Adventures.



COURTESY  
A seaplane goes partially underwater last weekend in an accident involving a solo pilot.

More PILOT | A4

# CAROUSEL OF PROGRESS



PHOTOS BY ROB O'NEAL/KEYS CITIZEN

Baggage carousel A is located on the former site of the ground-level departure area.

## New baggage carousel debuts at Key West airport amid record growth

**KATRINA NICHOLS**  
Keys Citizen

A new baggage claim carousel opened Tuesday at Key West International Airport, marking another milestone in the airport's ongoing expansion.

Baggage Carousel A, located on the east end of the terminal at the site of the former ground-level departures area, began



The former baggage claim area is now closed. A second carousel, part of Phase 2 in the Concourse A program, is slated for completion later this year.

More AIRPORT | A6



PHOTO: DARA VIDAL

Attendees at the Key West Chamber meeting in March include, from left, **Juan Llera**, candidate for City Commission District IV, **Kerry Baker**, executive director of the Key West Chamber of Commerce, and City of Key West Mayor **Danise Henriquez**.

# Keys Chamber to recognize 12 educators

CITIZEN STAFF

The Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce will hold its monthly luncheon on Wednesday, April 22, at 12 p.m. at the DoubleTree Grand Key Resort.

The Chamber will honor 12 outstanding educators through its Teacher Recognition Program. Teachers to be recognized are:

- Patricia Rech, Key West High School
- Gary Hernandez, Key West High School
- Jane Anderson, Sigsbee Charter School
- Lisa Alderman, Sigsbee Charter School
- Dana Balmaceda, The Basilica School
- John Kinnaird, The Basilica School
- Sacha Glynn, Horace O'Bryant School
- Rosemary Cardoza, Horace O'Bryant School
- Dawn Anderson, Montessori Children's School

More CHAMBER | A4

# Judge denies pretrial motions in multi-defendant case

## Orders address attorney-client privilege and grand jury secrecy

**KATRINA NICHOLS**  
Keys Citizen

A Monroe County judge on Tuesday denied key motions from both prosecutors and defense attorneys in a criminal case involving three former Key West city officials, clearing the way for the case to proceed toward trial.

According to court documents, in one ruling, the court denied a

motion from the State Attorney's Office that sought to limit the use of an "advice-of-counsel" defense unless the defendants waived attorney-client privilege at least 10 days before trial.

Prosecutors argued the requirement was necessary to allow time for discovery and to avoid delays during trial. The court agreed the request was made in good faith and aimed at ensuring fairness and efficiency.

However, the judge ultimately rejected the motion, citing a lack of supporting state law and noting that federal precedent generally

opposes such limitations.

"The attorney-client privilege is deemed sacrosanct and will not give way to concerns of convenience and potential delay," the order states.

The court added that if the defense raises the argument at trial, it will attempt to make reasonable accommodations to allow the state to conduct necessary discovery at that time.

In a separate order, the court also denied a defense motion filed by Ronald Ramsingh and adopted by co-defendants Rajindhar "Raj" Ramsingh and Jim Young seeking

access to portions of grand jury testimony from an FBI agent.

The case involves former City Attorney Ron Ramsingh, former Chief Building Official Rajindhar "Raj" Ramsingh and former Code Enforcement Director Jim Young, who were indicted last year on charges including tampering with physical evidence related to the alleged deletion or alteration of subpoenaed text messages during a grand jury investigation.

All defendants have pleaded not guilty and are considered innocent

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