

SCORE: YOUR GUIDE TO FLORIDA KEYS SPORTS — INSIDE

Weekend Edition

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\$3

Local chef featured on KW Cooking Show

Local culinary event returns July 3

ASHLEY RODRIGUEZ
Keys Citizen

The Key West Cooking Show invites foodies to an intimate dining experience for their one-of-a-kind Chef's Encore series, featuring dishes from Executive Chef Keith St. Peter.

The reservation-only event will occur the first Friday of each month, from

6 p.m. to 8 p.m. and is limited to 20 guests. The next event is on July 3, with the theme "An Evening in Nippon." The Key West Cooking Show is located inside the Clinton Square Market at 291 Front Street, Suite 207.

Chef Keith is at the center of the event, crafting the themed dishes in the kitchen, but also helping to walk



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEY WEST COOKING SHOW

Key West Cooking Show Executive Chef Keith St. Peter will host the exclusive Chef's Encore series on the first Friday of each month.

More **CHEF** | **A7**

Cutbacks, new fees among possible actions from property tax reform

County mulls options for potential revenue loss

STAFF REPORT

Everything from paid parking at parks and no staff raises next year to office consolidation and a new one-cent sales tax are on the table as Monroe County government prepares for Florida voters to potentially approve a sweeping property tax cut on the November ballot.

The Monroe County Commission directed staff Wednesday, June 10, to cast a wide net when strategizing for either service cutbacks or new funding sources in response to the Florida Legislature's June 2 decision to green-light a constitutional amendment that would scale up the existing \$50,000 homestead property tax exemption to \$150,000 in fiscal year 2027 and \$250,000 in 2028.



More **REFORM** | **A9**

Commander of Search and Rescue

Navy leader, Cmdr. Elizabeth Janca, assumes command of Naval Air Station Search and Rescue operations.

KATRINA NICHOLS
Keys Citizen

Excellence is the word. Commander Elizabeth "Frizz" Janca returns to again and again when discussing her new role as commander of Naval Air Station Search and Rescue Key West.

Whether talking about rescue missions, training exercises, or the character of those who work for her, Janca said the goal is simple: maintain the highest standards and always be ready when someone needs help.

"My priority is excellence in the SAR mission and in the character of the individuals under my command," she said. "The main focus is to maintain excellence and always be ready."



PHOTO BY MC3 ADAM MOJICA

Cmdr. Elizabeth Janca, center, is sworn in as the commanding officer of Search and Rescue Key West at a ceremony at Boca Chica Field on May 18, 2026.

Janca, 48, officially assumed command of Station SAR Key West in May during a change-of-command ceremony at Boca Chica Field, succeeding Cmdr. Tyler Olvey. She is the second commanding officer of the squadron.

For Janca, the assignment brings together two lifelong

passions: military service and search and rescue.

"The SAR mission has always had a special place in my heart," she said. "Not every aircraft is capable of doing SAR, and I think it is a very great mission."

She has earned an interesting call sign and

reveals her fun side while sharing it.

It is "Frizz" as much for how her hair looks after her helmet comes off as a nod to the children's TV show, The Magic School Bus, and the teacher, Mrs. Frizzle.

More **JANCA** | **A7**

Ramsingh disputes alleged property violations

Former city building officer calls for code enforcement hearing

KATRINA NICHOLS
Keys Citizen

Former Key West Chief Building Official Rajindhar "Raj" Ramsingh and his wife, Deborah, have filed a lawsuit seeking to force the City of Key West to schedule a code enforcement hearing involving their Harris Avenue property.

The petition, filed last month in Monroe County Circuit Court, asks a judge to issue a writ of mandamus directing the city's Code Enforcement Director Christopher Counsellor to refer the matter to the city's Special Magistrate for a hearing.

More **RAMSINGH** | **A9**

CAYO CONCH



"How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."
— Winnie the Pooh



INSIDE



Talking Property Taxes, A10



Making it at Margaritaville Key West, B5

Week in Photos, A12



ON THE RADIO



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

Bahama Bob Leonard joins Joe as guest co-host.

- Also:
- Jim Mooney, State Representative
 - Captain Josh Empen, Commander, Coast Guard Sector Key West
 - Julie Brown, Spokeswoman, FDOT
 - Danise DeeDee Henriquez, Key West Mayor
 - Captain Scat, Conch Republic Marine Army
 - Steve Williams, Marathon City Attorney and Interim City Manager
 - Captain Adam Garrison, FWC Evening Edition
 - Hannah Koch, Artificial Reefs
 - Katrina Nichols, The Keys Citizen

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