



WEATHER

Sarina Huerta, fourth grade, Plantation Key School
See forecast on Page 2A

FLORIDA

Florida teens in stolen vehicle die in violent crash

Florida authorities said three teenagers — one 14-year-old and two 16-year-olds — stole a sport utility vehicle, sped away from officers and died in a fiery, violent crash early Sunday morning. The 4:30 a.m. crash happened in Pinellas County, in west-central Florida. Sheriff Bob Gaultier said in a news conference Sunday morning that a fourth teen in the SUV, who is 14, survived and is hospitalized. **Page 3A**

WORLD

Cuban accounting cooperative ordered closed

Cuban authorities have ordered the closure of one of the island's fastest-growing cooperatives, days after announcing that they would stop issuing new permits for some private enterprise. Scenitas, which provides accounting and business consulting services, will have until Dec. 31 to completely liquidate, the cooperative's founder and director Luis Duenas told The Associated Press on Saturday. Duenas said the Ministry of Finances and Prices told him the decision to close Scenitas was "based on an analysis of our social purpose, or of the activities that we have approved." **Page 3A**

ON THE RADIO



Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuge Manager Dan Clark talks about upcoming prescribed burns.

Also on today's show:
• Katie Collier — Health Department
• Mike Davila — Key West Police Department
• Paulette Summers — FDOC
• Capt. Jeff Janssen — USCG

County aims for deal with Airbnb

BY TIMOTHY O'HARA
Key West Citizen

Monroe County officials are working on a draft of a contract with the online transient rental booking site Airbnb to resolve taxes and transient rental law issues.

Monroe County Tax Collector Danise Henriquez still wants information on who is renting in the Keys and where they are renting, which would allow her and other county officials to determine if they are doing it legally.

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"We have had numerous conversations, but we are still not getting all of the information we need. They are not bigger than the law and have to comply to the law. ..."

Danise Henriquez
Monroe County tax collector

all of the information we need," Henriquez said. "They are not bigger than the law and have to comply to the law. They are operating in this state and must follow the state and county rules. It's not just about collecting taxes, but about protecting neighborhoods."

Henriquez and Monroe County

Attorney Bob Shillinger are currently working on a draft of an agreement with Airbnb. For more than a year, Airbnb has been working with various Florida counties to secure agreements to resolve tax and enforcement issues.

Henriquez plans to travel to Tallahassee on Aug. 22 to talk with

state Department of Revenue staff about the Airbnb agreement and other issues tied to transient rental licensing, she said.

Monroe County's offers so far. Transient rental of homes has had a big impact on the affordable and worker housing stock in the Keys and Keys leaders have called for stepped-up enforcement of illegal transient rentals.

As of April, the company has agreements dealing with taxes with 38 of the 63 counties in Florida

See AIRBNB, Page 6A

'MADE IN HAVANA/MADE IN AMERICA'



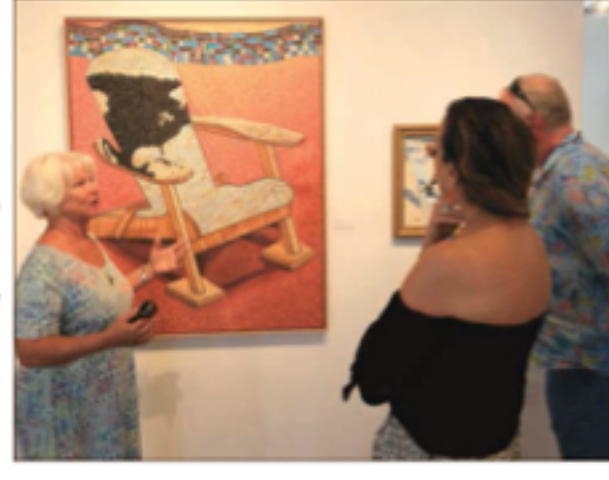
ABOVE: Gallery on Greene owner Nance Frank, center, talks to Rob and Maria Sharpe, left, and Sonny and Julie Conzoneri, of New York, right, about the Carole Feuerman sculpture titled 'The Diver' on Friday afternoon at the Studios of Key West. The exhibit 'Made in Havana/Made in America' featuring Key West artists and Cuban artists is on display through Sept. 23. BELOW: Frank talks to the Sharpes about Cuban artist Abel Barroso's multi-medium painting called 'Empuje' on Friday afternoon.

Art exhibit connects Key West and Cuba

BY MANDY MILES
Key West Citizen

"What must they think of us?" Cuban and American artists have been asking — and answering — that question for more than five decades of diplomatic division, restored relations and ambiguous uncertainty.

Seventy-five answers to the question, "What must they think of us?" are now on exhibit at The Studios of Key West, where an exhibit entitled, "Made in Havana/Made in America" opened last week and will remain on display through Sept. 23.



See ARTWORK, Page 6A

School board to discuss legislative decisions

BY MANDY MILES
Key West Citizen

School officials in Monroe County will hear the specifics about educa-

p.m. workshop in the Coral Shores Media Center.

Prior to that, board members will conduct site visits at

assessment and tains several contentious accountability, and controversial reforms about the standardized testing it gives charter schools an schedules for this unfair advantage over traditional public schools



FROM PAGE 1



Visitors to the Studios of Key West look at some of the artwork on the third floor from the 'Made in Havana/Made in America' exhibit.

Artwork

Continued from Page 1A

The 75 paintings, sculptures, photographs, drawings, wood-carvings, watercolors and textiles by 40 artists (20 Cubans and 20 Americans) fill the first- and third-floor galleries at The Studios of Key West.

"Here in this position, we're in a particularly well-suited position to feature the work and artists of Cuba," said led Dodds, executive director of The Studios. "Cuba has sort of become an overarching theme here, and, at this point, most of the Cuban artists that are on display in this new exhibit have already exhibited their work here; they're resident art-

ists here, so it's a natural fit."

Five of the artists with pieces in the current exhibit (four Cubans and one American) were also selected to show their work in the prestigious Venice Biennial, "the Olympics of the art world," as gallery owner Nance Frank calls it.

"Four years ago the Studios of Key West and Project One Race produced the very first museum-to-museum exchange with Cuba in 56 years," said Frank, who owns Gallery of Greene and helped curate the current exhibit with works from her gallery and other local galleries.

"That exchange featured Mario Sanchez's one-man exhibit at the National Gallery of Cuba, while the works of 12 Cuban artists were displayed here in Key West in five different loca-

tions: The Gato Building, Mel Fisher Museum, Oldest House Museum, Hemingway House and The Studios. This 'Made in Havana/Made in Key West' exhibit is also a first of its kind.

"Art is the reflection of a person, a culture and a nation," Frank said. "In this exhibit, it's fascinating to see what we think of them and what they think of us and how we all relate. Each piece of art tells the story of an artist with an attraction and a love for Cuba or Key West or both."

The Studios of Key West is located at 533 Eaton St. The galleries are free to peruse and are open to visitors from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. For information, visit <http://www.thstudios.com>.

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Sharing

Continued from Page 1A

of the island's approximately 300 taxi drivers out of business, Olanoff said.

"There won't be any cab companies next year," he told the board.

"Please go down (to Old Town) and have a look at the circus it's become," Mott told the board. "Many people have never seen traffic like this in Key West on the roads, it's bad."

Uber Public Affairs official Javi Correo disputed the claims, saying his company has received largely positive feedback since the July 1 launch.

"I really can't respond to specific absurd accusations that the cab industry makes," Correo said. "We haven't received those complaints, it's been the total opposite. We've had a lot of riders and drivers that are very excited that we're operating in the Florida Keys."

The "vast majority" of Key West drivers are Monroe County residents but state law stipulates drivers can operate anywhere in Florida, Correo said.

"State law allows driver partners to drive in any part of the state they choose. These driver partners are independent

contractors and not Uber employees," he said. "So while the vast majority of partners who have driven in the market are from the Keys, it is quite possible that there are a few partners from other parts of the state who may have driven on the platform in Key West."

When it comes to breaking traffic laws and sleeping in cars, Uber encourages strict enforcement, he said.

"If there are individuals who are loitering and breaking local laws, then the Monroe County Sheriff's Office and the local authorities have every right to cite them," Correo said.

The Key West Police Department has not received any calls or issued any citations to anyone sleeping in their cars, according to Public Information Officer Alyson Crean.

The police need to do a better job investigating the allegations, Mott said.

"I don't know why but it seems like the police are kind of just ignoring what's going on," he said. "I don't know if that's purposefully or not, I'm not going to insinuate anything."

If community members encounter sleeping in cars, they are encouraged to call the police non-emergency line at 305-809-1000, according to City Manager Jim Scholl.

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Schools

Continued from Page 1A

St. Lucie County has since joined the lawsuit, and other counties, including Manatee and Palm Beach, are considering becoming plaintiffs as well.

A regular board meeting will begin at 5 p.m. and will include a budget hearing about the school district's proposed budget and tax increase for the coming year.

The district's Finance Director, Jim Drake, will present an overview

of the proposed budget, which will include an additional \$4 to \$5 million over last year's budget. The additional spending will go to the hiring of an additional 20 teachers this year, along with increases in health insurance costs and employee raises that remain to be negotiated with employee unions. Those raises will likely range from 1.5 to 4 percent.

Drake also will present a historical perspective of statewide education funding now, compared to 10 years ago.

For a complete board agenda, go to keywestschools.com.

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Shooting

Continued from Page 1A

court in Monroe County to

stay, or stop in non-legal parlance, David's case, meaning all other court motions and his trial is put on hold until other state judges figure out

how to implement the new defense law, according to court records.

At issue is a June revision to the law that was signed by Gov. Rick Scott that places the burden of whether defendants are immune from prosecution on the State Attorney's Office or prosecutors.

That burden had formerly fallen on defendants to prove why they shouldn't be prosecuted — a procedural shift in how the law is applied.

That change created myriad legal questions from lawyers and judges alike statewide, as legislators provided little instruction as questions over whether the revision can legally be applied retroactively — that is, cases such as David's in which the incident occurred prior to the revision.

Many lawyers The Citizen spoke with — including Monroe County State Attorney Dennis Ward — believe the issue is likely to be headed to the Florida Supreme Court as several mainland judges have made rulings on this issue in opposition to each other.

If different appellate courts disagree on such issues, then the matter is most likely headed to the state's top judges to decipher.

Florida's original Stand Your Ground law was passed in 2005. It broadens one's right to use deadly force and "meet force with force" anywhere one "reasonably believes" he or she is going to be seriously hurt or killed. The law effectively removed the requirement that a person at least try to escape before using deadly force

carry 380 handgun from his pocket and shot Brandon Boudreau, 34, and two other men in an effort to protect his wife from attack off Duval Street last year.

The state contends that David and his wife were trying to separate the two or help his wife when David unnecessarily began shooting.

Ryan Reid Ogden, 27, and Scott P. McElride, 54, who were walking down Duval Street and not involved in the incident, were also struck by bullets that David fired.

Boudreau and Ogden were airlifted to Ryder Trauma Center in Miami. McElride was treated and released at Lower Keys Medical Center on Stock Island.

No one was killed in the incident.

NOTICE OF COMMUNITY MEETING

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR A MAJOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

August 24, 2017

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on **Thursday, August 24, 2017** the applicant of the below mentioned application will hold a **Community Meeting at Tolley & Hill (Conference Room)**