



# CFK Academy Newsletter



## Sweetheart or Not Dance Party!



By: Kiley Rosado and Lillie Marlowe

We will be having a Sweetheart or Not Dance party on Thursday, February 13. It will start at 6 p.m. and last until 9 p.m. Dress to impress! There will be Valentine-themed beverages, a mac 'n cheese buffet, and a D.J. The dance will be held at the Marker Resort: 200 William Street.



Photos of the Marker Resort.

### Upcoming Dates:

**February 14: NO SCHOOL - Professional Day**

**February 17: NO SCHOOL - Presidents Day**



**February 20: Second Prospective Student Night**

**February 23: CFKA Golf Tournament (Volunteers needed)**



**March 7: Yearbook Picture Day & NHS Induction Ceremony**

**March 13: End of Q3**

**March 14: NO SCHOOL - PD Day**

**March 17-21: Spring Break**



**March 27: Report Cards**

**April 18: Roaring 20s Fundraiser**

## Report on Prospective Student Night

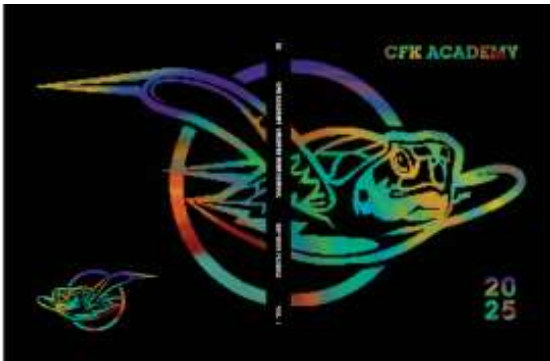
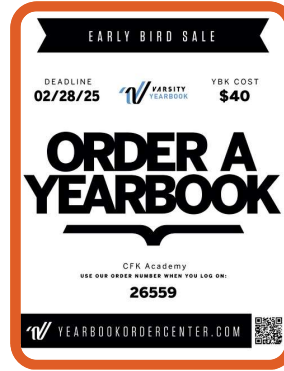
By: Keirra Austin

Our first Prospective Student Night was held on February 5, and students showed off classes, electives, and clubs. We will have another Prospective Student Night on February 20.

# Order A Yearbook!

By: Macey Carey

Journalism Class is beginning to sell 2025 yearbooks. Each yearbook costs \$40 dollars until February 28. After that, the price will be \$50, so buy early! Parents will have a variety of sizes for ad dedications. Check out the flyer to order and emails about how to purchase an ad.



(CFKA Yearbook Cover)



## Sports

By: Malique Gordon and Lillie Marlowe

What is lacrosse? Lacrosse is a contact team sport played with a stick and a ball. Players must use their lacrosse sticks to carry the ball, pass it out and shoot the ball. We have two students that are on the Key West High School varsity lacrosse team: Reif Wallen and Hayden Matusicky. They lost their first game on February 7 but won on February 11. The next two games are happening on February 15 & 21.



THE CFK ACADEMY  
STUDENT  
NEWSLETTER

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FREELANCE REPORTER  
NINA WARD

CREATED  
IN  
JOURNALISM  
CLASS

## Student Parking

By: Aydin Alexander

Students, when parking at CFKA please leave the first five parking stalls for staff, visitors and parents. You may park anywhere else in front of our building.



# Lottery up and Running

By: Jonathan Downing

The CFKA 2025-26 lottery is now open! The lottery started on January 15 and will end on February 25. Any 9-12 grade student can enroll. CFKA does a lottery because we have a limited amount of space for enrollment. Acceptance letters will be sent out on February 27. A response is necessary for enrollment.



# Student Outreach

By: Hadden Miller

From January 30-31, students went to nearby schools to spread awareness about CFKA to 8th graders.

Thank you to the following participants:

|             |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| May Sands:  | H.O.B:      | Sigsbee:    |
| Dominika W. | Roger M.    | Caylee M.   |
| Roger M.    | Dominika W. | Jonathan O. |
| Emily N.    | Jonathan O. | Dominik G.  |
| Tristan W.  | Summer B.   | Dahlia G.   |
| Carson C.   |             |             |

*Thank you!*

# Project-Based Learning: Environmental Kayaking Trip and Aviation Parachutes

By: Aydin Alexander

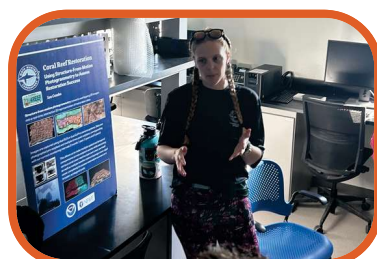
On January 29, twelve students taking Environmental Science embarked on a short trip to the MOTE Marine Labs. They learned about different corals and how they are propagated. They later kayaked and explored the surrounding environment in pairs. The students made plankton tow nets and attempted to catch plankton and other small creatures to later examine under microscopes. One student even found microscopic crab larvae in their specimen.



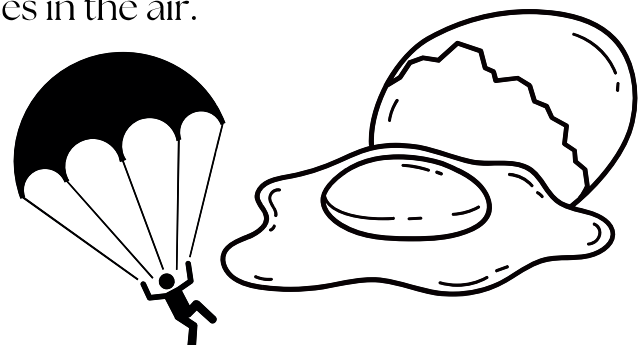
On February 6, the aviation students constructed parachutes to learn about drag in the air. The students learned about the different types of invisible forces in the air, whether it be drag, thrust, lift, and gravity. Students had to protect eggs placed at the bottom of the parachutes so that they didn't crack. The end result was only one cracked egg, the project was a success in teaching the students about the forces in the air.



Students collected water off Summerland Key to later inspect under a microscope.



Ms. Abby teaching the class about mangrove tree propagation.



# Dual Enrollment Spotlight

By: Jarrett Miller

**Student:** Tessa Hughes (Junior)

**Reason:** Joined to improve GPA and hopefully be able to become valedictorian

**Signing Up:** Signing up was pretty easy, I spoke to the counselor and the vice principal.

**Effect on High School:** It doesn't affect my time here because it is online, which leaves me more time to hang out with friends.

**Advice:** Don't get behind.

**Class:** English Composition.



# Senior Spotlight

By: Nina Ward



**Name:** Sophia Knowles

**Future Plans:** Go to FGCU and study psychology

**Hobbies:** Tanning and reading

**How Long Have You Been in the Keys?:**  
Two years

# Student Drop-Off Time

By: Aydin Alexander

Student drop-off time is 7:15am. If students ride the city bus or arrive at school before this time, they may hang out near the café on the benches until the doors are unlocked at 7:15. Thank you for your cooperation.

# Counselor's Corner

By: Brenda Huebscher

Hi students and parents,

There is a Dual Enrollment Preparing for Student Success course beginning March 5th. If you are interested in taking this course, please see me as soon as possible for PERT study guides and the practice test.

PERT tests are scheduled on Fridays at 9:30am.

Space is limited for the course, so don't delay!





YOU ARE INVITED TO

# Valentine's Day

## SWEETHEART OR NOT DANCE PARTY!

FEBRUARY

The  
**MARKER**  
KEY WEST HARBOR RESORT

THURSDAY

13

6-9 PM

DRESS TO IMPRESS

CFK STUDENTS AND PRE-APPROVED GUESTS\*

MONROE COUNTY SCHOOL STUDENTS

IN GRADES 9-12 ONLY

COST: \$30 PER TICKET

BUY TICKETS @ [KEYSTIX.COM](http://KEYSTIX.COM)

DJ, DANCING, MAC & CHEESE SPREAD,

VALENTINE-THEMED BEVERAGES



**CFK**  
**ACADEMY**

\*GUEST PERMISSION FORMS NEED TO BE FILLED OUT BY 2/10

# CFK Academy Guest Waiver: Sweetheart or Not Dance Party

CFK Academy High School Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

The above student is in good standing at CFK Academy and agrees to follow the rules/regulations and shall be responsible for his/her attending guest.

## To purchase a ticket and/or a guest ticket students:

- Must be enrolled at CFK Academy.
- Must be clear of obligations, have satisfactory attendance and a satisfactory GPA of at least 2.0.
- May only invite guest(s) that reside in Monroe County (grades 9-12). (No Middle School students).
- Guest(s) (non-CFK students) must have a photo ID to be admitted to the event.
- All agree to conform to all codes of conduct and dress standards of CFK Academy (low-cut, revealing, extremely short or sheer types of dresses will not be allowed).
- All must be admitted by 7pm on February 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Deadline:** This form must be completed and returned to CFK Academy School Principal, Dr. Ja-Ronika Veldheer, **no later than Monday, February 10, 2025**, if you are bringing a guest. You will be notified of any issue with your eligibility or your guest's eligibility to attend.

Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guest Parent Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

## CFK Parent approval of guest:

The above-named person is responsible and recommended for attendance at a CFK Academy event.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CFK Academy Parent Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
CFK Academy Parent Signature

## Complete Section A and B as appropriate:

A. Grade of CFK Academy Student (Circle One) 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>

B. High School student guest: (Not a CFK Academy Student)

Guest is in the (Circle) 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade at

\_\_\_\_\_ Guest's high school name)\*



**Please have guest administrator fill this out:**

This high school student is in good standing and recommended for attendance at the CFK Academy event.

Name of guest administrator: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of administrator: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

CFK Academy Administration Approval: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*CFK Academy and the organizers reserve the right to not admit any individual



# CFK ACADEMY

TUITION-FREE PUBLIC CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL AT THE COLLEGE OF THE FLORIDA KEYS



## Apply now!

Now accepting applications for grades 9-12 for the 2025-2026 school year!  
Applications due Feb. 25. Lottery will be held Feb. 27.

## CFK Academy Prospective Student event

Thursday, Feb. 20, 5:30 PM, CFK Key West Campus



Meet the principal, teachers, and students. Tour the school, preview curriculum, and learn about academic acceleration opportunities.

[cfkacademy@cfk.edu](mailto:cfkacademy@cfk.edu) | 305.292.2400 | [cfk.edu/cfkacademy](http://cfk.edu/cfkacademy)



nto



# FIELD DAY 2025!

## February 22 at Bernstein Park

10 am - 1 pm

***FREE fun for kids of all ages!***

*especially ages 4-12*

Enjoy **FREE** family friendly fun including:

- Kickball
- Fire Truck Tours
- Marine Science Tank
- Free snacks
- Soccer Drills
- Live DJ
- Face Painting
- Snowcones
- Bounce House
- Community Partners

**& MORE!**

Sandwiches, courtesy of Jersey Mikes, healthy snacks, and water will be provided.  
For more information visit [www.sosfoundation.org/fieldday](http://www.sosfoundation.org/fieldday)







# GOLF TOURNAMENT

## Get Volunteer Hours!

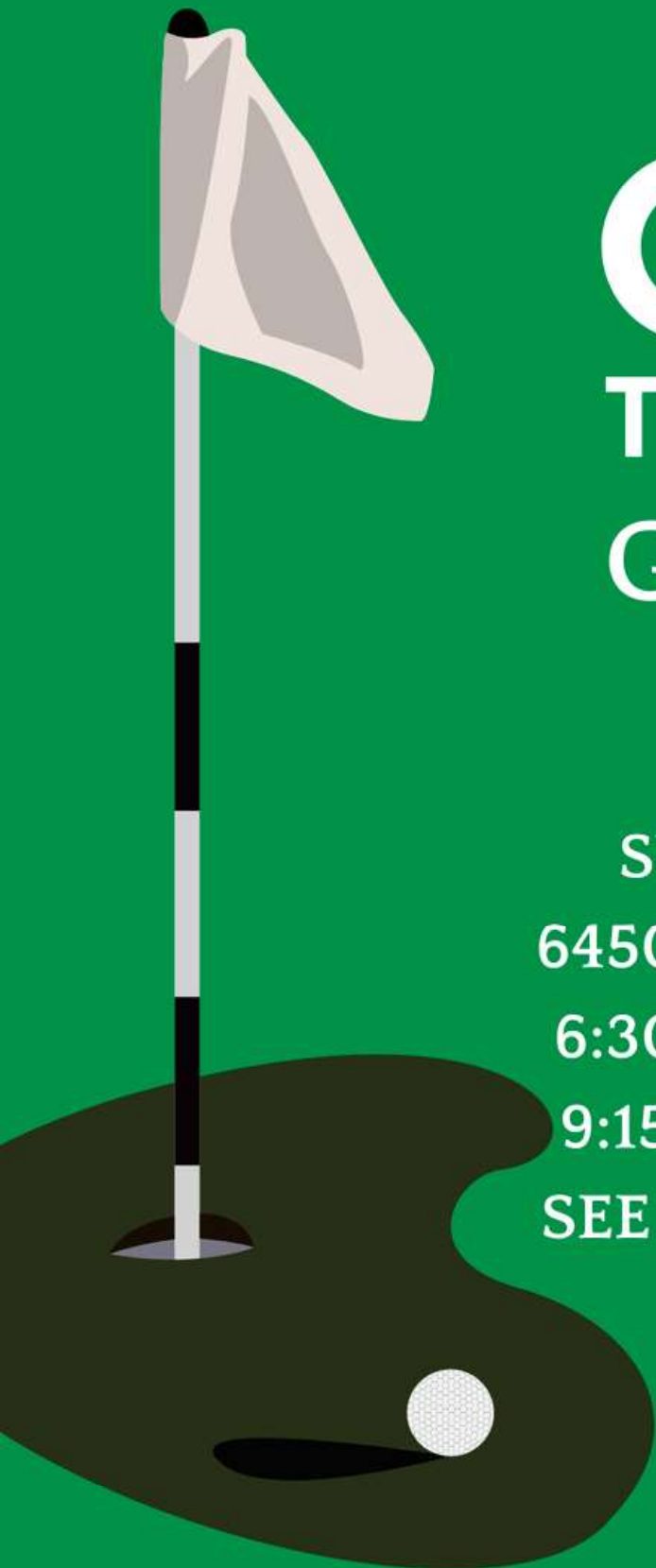
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

6450 COLLEGE RD, KEY WEST

6:30 A.M.-9:30 A.M.- SET-UP

9:15 A.M.- 1 P.M. - CLEAN UP

SEE MS. BRENDA TO SIGN UP



***Friends of the  
Key West  
Library***

**VOLUNTEER  
OPPORTUNITIES**

**3/1**

**8:30–9:30 A.M. + 1–2 P.M.**

**(SETUP + CLEANUP)**

***Sale is from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.***

***Books are \$1–\$2***

***See Dr. Drewel for questions***

# NAVIGATING YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE

FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

February - March  
2025

## Understanding Financial Aid or Money for your Education

### About Financial Aid

The first mistake many students and families make is assuming they can't afford a postsecondary education. Don't be discouraged by the sticker price for your education until you know how much financial aid may be available to you.

Financial aid can significantly reduce the cost of any education, but it can be tricky to estimate future student aid. Two factors generally determine who gets student aid and the amount, merit and need.

- "Merit-based" aid is given to students who do something exceptionally well (like music, athletics, or academics) or to students who plan to have a career in an area that will benefit the community or the country (like teaching, science, math, and engineering).
- "Need-based" aid is given to students who demonstrate a lack of financial resources to pay for college.



### DID YOU KNOW?

You may also research these websites for scholarship opportunities:

- <http://www.finaid.org>
- <http://www.Fastweb.com>
- <http://www.gmsp.org>

### Who Provides Financial Aid?

#### The U.S. Government

Learn about the [types of federal student assistance available](#), how the process works, eligibility rules, and more. The FAFSA is the application form for these programs. (FAFSA.GOV)

#### The State of Florida

Learn about the [financial aid programs available in your state](#). The FAFSA may be the only form you need; however, some programs require students to complete the Florida Financial Aid Application (FFAA). Also, be aware of state deadlines!

#### Your College, University, or Vocational School

Your [college or university financial aid office](#) will use the information from your FAFSA to determine your eligibility for some federal and state programs. Most schools have their own financial aid programs,

which may be based on your FAFSA results. Ask your financial aid office about the aid they offer and if you need to complete any forms in addition to the FAFSA.

#### Private Sources

Some independent scholarship programs accept the FAFSA, but most require other applications. Many of these scholarships are not based on financial need. This is the kind of financial aid that you usually need to seek. A free scholarship search engine, like [Fastweb](#), can help you find and submit applications to scholarship programs that may be right for you.

#### Navigating Your Financial Future (NyFF)

See [Financial Aid Resources](#) for scholarship opportunities.

EARLY BIRD SALE

DEADLINE  
**02/28/25**



YBK COST  
**\$40**

# ORDER A YEARBOOK



CFK Academy

USE OUR ORDER NUMBER WHEN YOU LOG ON:

**26559**



YEARBOOKORDERCENTER.COM



If Your Household Income Was Less Than  
\$67,000 In 2024, You Can

# Prepare & File Your Taxes For FREE!

## Key West

Harvey Government Center  
(Board of County  
Commissioners Meeting Room)  
1200 Truman Ave  
Tuesdays: Feb 4, 11, 18, 25;  
Mar 4, 11, 18, 25; Apr 1, 8, 15  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**No Appointment  
Necessary!**

## Islamorada

Islamorada Library  
81830 Overseas Hwy  
Thursday, Feb 13  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## Big Pine Key

Community Center  
(Winn-Dixie Plaza)  
179 Key Deer Blvd  
Thursday, Mar 6  
2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

## Key Largo

Key Largo Library  
101485 Overseas Hwy  
Thursdays: Feb 27; Mar 13  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## Marathon

Marathon Library  
3490 Overseas Hwy  
Wednesdays: Feb 5, 12, 19, 26;  
Mar 5, 12, 19, 26; Apr 2, 9  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**FREE Tax Preparation Services Provided By IRS-Certified Volunteer Tax Preparers.**

## What To Bring:

- For married filing joint, both spouses must be present
- Photo identification for you and your spouse (if married)
- Social Security cards or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number documents for you, your spouse, and dependents
- Birth dates for you, your spouse, and dependents
- A blank check for deposit of refund
- A copy of last year's tax return All
- Forms W-2, 1098, and 1099 Forms
- 1095-A, B or C (ACA Statements)
- Information for other income
- Information for all deductions/credits

### For Additional Assistance

Visit: [www.uwcollierkeys.org/vita](http://www.uwcollierkeys.org/vita)  
Call: 305-563-1470  
Email: [VITA@uwcollierkeys.org](mailto:VITA@uwcollierkeys.org)



**UNITED WAY**  
Collier and the Keys

Si Los Ingresos De Su Hogar Fueron Menos  
De \$67,000 En El 2024, Usted Puede

# ¡Preparar Y Declarar Sus Impuestos GRATIS!

## Key West

### Centro de Gobierno Harvey

(Sala de reuniones de la Junta de  
Comisionados del Condado)

Avenida Truman 1200

Los siguientes Martes

Febrero 4, 11, 18, y 25;

Marzo 4, 11, 18, y 25;

Abril 1, 8 y 15

**10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**¡No Es Necesario  
Hacer Cita!**

## Islamorada

### Biblioteca de Islamorada

81830 Overseas Hwy

Jueves 13 de Febrero

**10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

## Big Pine Key

### Centro Comunitario (Winn-Dixie Plaza)

Bulevar Key Deer 179

Jueves 6 de Marzo

**2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

## Key Largo

### Biblioteca de Key Largo

101485 Overseas Hwy

Jueves: 27 de Febrero;

13 de Marzo

**10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

## Maratón

### Biblioteca de Maratón

3490 Overseas Hwy

Miércoles: 5, 12, 19, 26 de Febrero;

5, 12, 19, 26 de Marzo; 2 y 9 de Abril

**10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**Servicios GRATUITOS De Preparación De Impuestos Proporcionados  
Por Preparadores De Impuestos Voluntarios Certificados Por El IRS.**

## Que Traer

- Para casados que presentan una declaración conjunta, ambos cónyuges deben estar presentes
- Identificación con fotografía para usted y su cónyuge (si está casado)
- Tarjetas de Seguro Social o documentos de Número de Identificación Personal del Contribuyente (ITIN) para usted, su cónyuge y sus dependientes
- Fechas de nacimiento para usted, su cónyuge y sus dependientes
- Un cheque en blanco para depósito directo de reembolso
- Una copia de la declaración de impuestos del año pasado
- Todos los formularios W-2, 1098 y 1099
- Formularios 1095-A, B o C (Declaraciones ACA)
- Información para otros ingresos
- Información para todas las deducciones/créditos

### Para Asistencia Adicional



**Visita:** [www.uwcollierkeys.org/vita](http://www.uwcollierkeys.org/vita)

**Llame al:** 305-563-1470

**Correo electrónico:** [VITA@uwcollierkeys.org](mailto:VITA@uwcollierkeys.org)



**UNITED WAY**  
Collier and the Keys

Si Revni Kay Ou A Te Mwens Pase \$67,000 An 2024, Ou Kapab

# Prepare Ak Ranpli Taks Ou Pou GRATIS!

## Key West

Harvey Government Center

(Sal reyinyon Konsèy  
Komisyonè Konte yo)

1200 Truman Ave

Madi: 4, 11, 18, 25 Fevriye;

4, 11, 18, 25 Mas; 1ye, 8, 15 Avril

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Pa Gen Randevou  
Ki Nesèsè!**

## Islamorada

Bibliyotèk Islamorada

81830 Overseas Hwy

Jedi 13 Fevriye

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## Big Pine Key

Sant Kominotè

(Winn-Dixie Plaza)

179 Key Deer Blvd

Jedi, 6 Mas

2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

## Key Largo

Bibliyotèk Key Largo

101485 Overseas Hwy

Jedi: 27 Fevriye; 13 Mas

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## Marathon

Bibliyotèk Marathon

3490 Overseas Hwy

Mèkredi: 5, 12, 19, 26 Fevriye;

5, 12, 19, 26 mas; 2 Avril, 9

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Sèvis Preparasyon Taks GRATIS IRS Ki Sètifye Volontè Preparatè Taks Yo Ofri.

## Kisa Pou W Pote:

- Pou depoze ansanm marye, tou de mari oswa madanm yo dwe prezan
- Foto idantifikasyon pou ou menm ak mari oswa madanm ou (si marye)
- Kat Sekirite Sosyal oswa dokiman Nimewo Idantifikasyon Endividyèl Taxpayer pou oumenm, mari oswa madanm ou, ak moun ki depandan yo
- Dat nesans pou ou, mari oswa madanm ou, ak depandan yo
- Yon chèk vid pou depo ranbousman
- Yon kopi deklarasyon taks ane pase a
- Tout Fòm W-2, 1098, ak 1099
- Fòm 1095-A, B oswa C (Deklarasyon ACA)
- Enfòmasyon pou lòt revni
- Enfòmasyon pou tout dediksyon/kredi

**Pou Asistans Adisyonèl**

**Vizite:** [www.uwcollierkeys.org/vita](http://www.uwcollierkeys.org/vita)

**Rele:** 305-563-1470

**Imèl:** [VITA@uwcollierkeys.org](mailto:VITA@uwcollierkeys.org)



**UNITED WAY**

Collier and the Keys