

ROGO demand wanes in wake of hou

Deflates incentive for affordables

BY BECKY IANNOTTA
Citizen Staff

In 2005, Les Boatwright made an agreement with the city of Key West and state of Florida to maintain affordable rents on his apartment and four others. In exchange, the city agreed to grant

him the right to build five new houses that could be sold at market-rate without restrictions.

The building allocations themselves can be sold, and back in 2005 were worth about \$250,000 each.

But two years later, stalled by a housing market downturn, the five Seminary

Street apartments remain without affordable deed restrictions and Boatwright still holds five market-rate housing allocations, called ROGOs for the Rate of Growth Ordinance system under which the allocations are issued.

Boatwright and his partner, Patrick Hayes, were among three landlords with a total of 45 apartments who agreed to the deed restrictions on their rentals as part of a pilot project. The city initiated

INSIDE
• Outlook for landlords is grim.
Page 5A

the project to stave off the conversion of rental apartments to condominium and to offer financial incentives to landlords to maintain rental apartment the work force.

“What we did way back then, .

TIME TO REMEMBER



A crowd gathered at the AIDS Memorial at the White Street Pier on Saturday evening with candles lit to remember loved ones who succumbed to the complications of AIDS. A list of each person lost was read aloud. Key West was particularly hard-hit with the virus, losing many people in the '80s. Saturday was World AIDS Day, recognized with ceremonies all over the world.

MIKE HENTZ/The Citizen

TAV
D
e)

BY S
Gize

G
becr
ty is
habi
ing r
a pi
hav
“\n
that
havi
over
Mac
“\n
that
valu
add
leav
Tl
Tav
last
ance
app
inell
“\n
a fe
year
Flor
has