

CHAMBER CHOWDER©

510 Greene Street ~ 1st Floor, Key West

www.keywestchamber.org

Chamber Members Hear from County Property Appraiser



Key West Chamber of Commerce President Nicki Will thanks Monroe County Property Appraiser Scott Russell for his discussion of property values during the November luncheon.

he county property appraiser confirmed recently what most Key West Chamber of Commerce members residents already knew: The Florida Keys real estate market is officially on the mend and in "recovery mode."

Monroe County Property Appraiser Scott Russell detailed that recovery mode and explained its effects on local property values during a presentation at the Chamber's Nov. 18th membership luncheon at the Casa Marina Resort.

Russell first introduced himself to the lunchtime audience and described his appraisal experience in the Florida Keys.

"I've spent the past 24 years analyzing and researching sales in Monroe County," said Russell, who worked as a private-practice property appraiser from 1991 until 2007, when he was hired as Monroe County Property Appraiser.

"In private practice, I appraised individual homes and properties. Now I appraise entire neighborhoods and islands," he said before taking a look at the countywide and Key West-specific property values.

Although Monroe County has the fewest number of taxable parcels in Florida, the county ranks 16th in terms of the highest taxable property value in the state.

"In brief, things are improving. We've seen steady improvement over the past three years," he said. "Property values hit their lowest point in 2011. We've seen incremental increases each year since then."

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Message from President Nicki L. Will



would like to wish everyone happy holidays. I cannot believe it is December already. The year has flew by in seemingly a blink of an eye. I would like to reflect on many of the chamber activities this year and most of all I would like to thank all members, committee members, board members

and staff of the chamber for a great 2015. The various chamber committees and board members had been quite busy this year working on some new initiatives that are very exciting for the chamber, our business community and our community in general.

The chamber's "A Tiger in the Woods" golf tournament was held on April 26th and was a sellout event again. The event is co-chaired by Greg Sullivan and John Anderson and assisted by many hard working committee members and chamber staffer, Kerry Baker, who does an outstanding job of coordinating the Golf Tournament Committee. The golf tournament is the major fundraiser for the chamber.

The Membership Committee continued to attract new and diverse members to the chamber. The committee led by Kim Works and Joyce Benavides worked diligently to recruit new member and retain existing members. Chamber staff member Kerry Baker also visits members and potential members on a regular basis.

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Spotlight Shines on ... Brittany Snyder, Florida Keys Community College



Each month, the Chamber of Commerce spotlights a business or professional person whose business card is drawn at the Business After Hours. This month's winner is Brittany Snyder, Florida Keys Community College.

rittany Snyder, the Provost at Florida Keys Community College, was just a college student herself when she discovered and fell in love with Key West.

"I was one of those spring breakers who came down to Key West in my sophomore year and never wanted to leave," said Snyder, who grew up near Baltimore, Maryland.

After graduating from Towson University with a business degree, Snyder and her husband started taking regular vacations to Key West.

"We were coming down two and three times a year and finally asked ourselves why we weren't living here," she said.

The pair made the move in December 2002, when Snyder accepted a job in the business office of Florida Keys Community College, where she began moving up the ranks.

"It was my first job in higher education, and it prompted me to get my master's degree in accounting and finance," she said, adding that she then became an adjunct professor, and later a full-time accounting professor. "That was a blissful two years, when I was teaching."

Snyder was then promoted to Dean of Arts & Sciences, and was tapped for the Provost position nearly five years ago.

"It's an amazing job," she said. "I get to work with all the academic programs, the administration, faculty and the students."

She also helped the college develop two new degree programs that will be offered in January: A culinary management program and a two-year degree in hospitality and tourism management.

"The outreach from the community has been tremendous and the involvement and input from local employers is amazing," Snyder said. "It took a while to put the programs together, but they'll be a perfect fit for our students and the Key West community, as so many students are already working in the hospitality and tourism industries."

Most FKCC students attend college parttime while working full-time, so to spread the word about the new degree programs, college officials hung up posters in local hotels, where current employees would see it, Snyder said.

"So we're getting interest from people already employed in the industry who perhaps want to enter the management side of things, as well as from current high school seniors who learned about the culinary and hospitality programs during our Open House events."

A third new program that's sparking excitement on campus is a pending baccalaureate program that would culminate with a bachelor of applied science in supervision and management, Snyder said.

We wanted something that would be relevant to several different industries, from health care to hospitality," Snyder said, adding that the Key West Chamber of Commerce helped the college lay the groundwork for the baccalaureate program, which is awaiting approval from the state board of education. "The chamber facilitated for us a survey of local employers to help us define what this program needed to look like in order to be of the most use for local employers."

Snyder has helped assemble these new academic programs while also working on her doctorate in management.

"I've been working on it for four years, and am now finishing my dissertation, so there really hasn't been much free time, but whenever possible my husband and I will jump at any chance to get out on the water in any way," she said.

Her sophomore year spring break was a long time ago, but Snyder remembers it fondly each year in March, when today's college students are falling in love with the Southernmost City.



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201 Front Street, Suite 301 Key West, FL 33040 305-294-3225



"County Property Appraiser" continued from page 1

Russell's presentation examined the rise and fall of Florida Keys property values in the decade from 2005 to 2015.

"A decade ago, in 2005, market values for properties in the Keys totaled \$32.2 billion," he said showing a graph that tracked the declines that occurred from 2007 to 2012, when the total market value of properties in Monroe County had dropped to \$26.3 billion. "This year, we're back up to \$31.6 billion market value. We're in recovery mode, and despite the ebb and flow over the past 10 years, we're now back to where we were a decade ago," Russell said, explaining that market value helps determine a home's purchase price, but taxable value is the figure used in calculating the tax, or millage, rate in a city or county.

"In 2005, Monroe County's total taxable value was \$21.6 billion and this year we're back up to the exact same figure," he said, adding that an estimated 65,000 individual parcels of property contribute to that taxable value figure.

Monroe County contains 90,000 total parcels of property, but only about 65,000 of them contribute to the county's total property value, Russell said.

"But approximately 20 to 25 percent of those 90,000 parcels are underwater," Russell said. "They're on submerged land that at one point was labelled 'to be developed,'"

He explained that when the Key Haven housing development was initially planned, it was slated to stretch an additional 10 blocks, but those added streets were never built from the fill material dredged from the surrounding waters.

Russell's next slide pertained to new construction in Monroe County, showing that 2008 and 2009 were the recent peak years for new construction.

"New construction' describes structures built where nothing had previously stood," he said, adding that 10 years ago, in 2005, the Keys saw 450 new homes built, while last year saw only 125.

"But the bulk, or 73 percent, of the property value in Monroe County comes from single family homes and commercial real estate," he said.

"One interesting fact is that until this year, Monroe County was the only county in Florida with no agricultural parcels in its boundaries," Russell said. "But as of this year, we now have six agricultural lands being used for bees and honey production."

Russell also described the various impacts that the statewide passage of Amendment 1 had on countywide property values. The changes ushered in by Amendment 1, just seven years ago, already rival the financial impacts brought on by the Save Our Homes amendment that was passed more than 20 years ago to provide homeowners with a \$25,000 Homestead Exemption.

Russell also revealed to the Chamber audience the top 10 taxpayers in the county. Florida Keys Electric Co-Op was number 1, followed by the Southernmost Collection Resorts, Hawk's Cay Resort, Ocean Reef Club, Casa Marina Resort, Galleon Resort and Marina, Ocean Walk Apartments, Cheeca Lodge, the Westin Key West Resort and Marina and the Hyatt Windward Pointe timeshare community.

He closed his presentation by emphasizing his office's work on identifying and stopping fraudulent homestead exemptions, while assuring Key West Chamber of Commerce members that his office is working diligently to combat fraud while keeping a close eye on the City of Key West's current negotiations over the Peary Court housing compound.

President's Message continued from page 1 🕨

The "Showcase of Key West Businesses" Trade Show was held Wednesday, September 16th at the Key West Marriott Beachside. The venue provided for a great location for the Trade Show and was well attended with great exhibits and interesting offerings for members.

The mission of the Key West Chamber's Economic Affairs Committee has been to work with chamber staff to obtain and analyze data to understand current and future economic conditions and trends, which may affect the general business climate in Key West. Under the chairmanship of Robin Lockwood, the committee continued to be active in assessing local government budgets, examining real estate trends, workforce housing issues, Marine Sanctuary education and discussion of the Monroe County School District's strategic plan and financial health. To reflect more appropriately the mission of the committee, the name has recently changed to Economic Affairs Committee.

In 2015, the Chamber lost one of its long time board members, past president and longtime supporter, Sharon Moore. Through Sharon's leadership, the Education Committee worked closely with school officials to continue scholarships, teacher fellowships, internships, and so forth. The Tom Sawyer Five Star program recognizes teachers and students with the Honor Roll of 100/Charley P. and Orsolina Toppino Memorial Award, Teacher Enrichment, Teacher Recognition, Mentoring, and sponsoring classrooms. Mike Morawski and Billy Spottswood have stepped in to co-chair the committee and through their leadership and the generosity of the chamber members, the chamber continues to provide support to the teachers and students in our community.

The Image Committee, chaired by Lynne Tejeda, along with their other responsibilities took on the task of conducting an assessment of the chamber's functions, activities and image in conjunction with a consultant. Results and action plans will be forthcoming in 2016.

The Tourism Committee, chaired by Melissa Kendrick, continued to review and trend tourism data. The committee will also take on the function of the changes expected with the change in the US and Cuba relationship.

A group of board members at the direction of the board, headed by Claude Gardner developed and announced the award program and prizes for local float entries into the Fantasy Fest parade. The new program rewarded the best overall local float participant of the parade \$7,500, with the runner up local float awarded \$2,500.

This is the final message of 2015; I would like to thank the board for support and hard work this year. I would like to recognize the Executive Committee members and Virginia Panico, the Executive Vice President of the Chamber and her staff who make it all happen.

Thank you for your continued support of the Chamber. Please let me know how we may better serve you.







The Key West Chamber of Commerce Presents a seminar on:

Exceptional Customer Service

Thursday, December 17, 2015 DoubleTree Grand Key Resort 8:30a.m. to 11:30a.m.

Elisa Levy is an internationally known speaker and author who specializes in conflict resolution, team building, leadership and customer service. For the last 15 years, she has been working with organizations and individuals to improve their businesses and working relationships. Her clients run the gamut, from the United Nations, to Fortune 500 companies, hotel chains, restaurants and non-profit organizations. Elisa travels the world teaching, and has authored two books and countless articles on conflict resolution.

Learn easy-to-use tools to:

- "Wow" every customer that walks through the door.
- Communicate effectively with people from other cultures.
- Understand what your customers want and need from you.
 - Turn an unhappy customer around in seconds.
 - Handle even the most difficult customers.
 - Have a great attitude every day.

Customer service is imperative because a dissatisfied customer will tell between 9-15 people about their experience. Around 13% of dissatisfied customers tell more than 20 people.

*65% of business comes from repeat customers, and 72% of the reason people stay loyal to a business is due to customer service

Enrollment forms and payment must be received at the Chamber by Noon, Monday, December 14, 2015 to guarantee seating.

Email to: committees@keywestchamber.org

Both chamber members and non-members are urged to attend.

Complete and email your enrollment form today!

Cost: Members—\$68.00 per person, Non-Members—\$89.00 per person (*Price includes continental breakfast)

Name:	Company:	
Email:	Phone:	

Please contact the Key West Chamber of Commerce with credit card information or mail registration and payment to the Chamber office. *SPACE IS LIMITED*, no refunds will be offered after Noon on Monday, December 14, 2015. Include the names & email of additional attendees on a separate piece of paper.

Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce—510 Greene Street—Key West, FL 33040—305-294-2587



Welcome New Members!



The Key West Chamber of Commerce welcomed five new members to its ranks at the November membership luncheon. Pictured left to right: Key West Chamber of Commerce Membership Co-chair Joyce Benavides; John Emery of Keys Medical Group; Danny DeFabio of Rodriguez, Cigars and Membership Co-chair Kim Works. (Additional new members, not pictured: Burke Construction Group, Cosmes MARINE and FlashBanc, LLC).

Burke Construction Group, Inc.

3210 Flagler Avenue
Key West, FL 33040
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dmartinez@bcgconstruction.net
www.burkeconstructiongroup.com
Contact: David Martinez
Construction Company

Cosmeś Marine

5670 Laurel Avenue
Stock Island, FL 33040
305-296-5400
cosmesoutboardservice@gmail.com
www.cosmesmarine.com
Contact: Juan Cosme
Boat Repair & Dealer/
Suzuki & Yamaha Outboard Dealer

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Boca Raton, FL 33431
305-797-5292 or 800-808-1622
dcabot@flashbanc.com
www.flashbanc.com
Contact: Daniel Cabot
Merchant Services

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John.emery@hma.com
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Contact: John Emery
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Contact: Danny DiFabio
Retail Cigar Store/ Cigar Tours



1937 - 2016

You are cordially invited to join us at the Installation of the Officers and Directors of the Board at the Annual Awards Dinner of the Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce on Saturday, January 23, 2016 at the Marriott Beachside Resort

\$85 per person
Black Tie Invited
Complimentary Cocktail Hour 6:00 p.m.
Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Please RSVP by Friday, January 15th

Special Appreciation to our Cocktail Hour Sponsors:

Appelrouth & Farr Family

Appelrouth, Farah & Co. P.A.

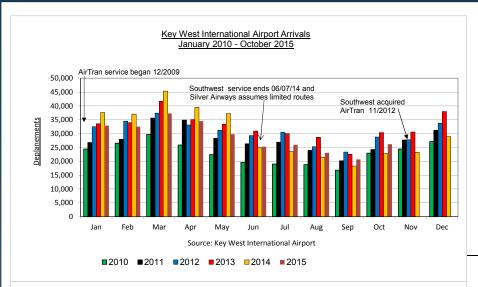
Following dinner, please join us

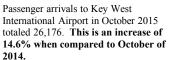
for music and dancing.

Key West



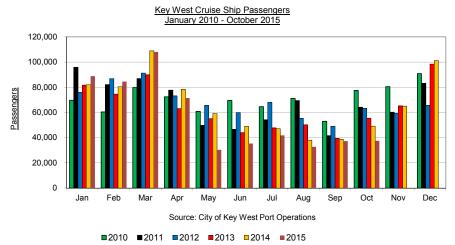
Key West, Florida





Total passenger arrivals for the first ten months of 2015 were 288,336. That is a 6.4% decrease over the same period in 2014. However, this is similar to the arrivals seen before Southwest, as our monthly arrivals closely mirrored 2012 for January thru May. Southwest flew from November 2012 through June 2014.

Losses from Air Tran & Cape Air have largely been picked up by American & Silver, with Delta & US Air contributing.

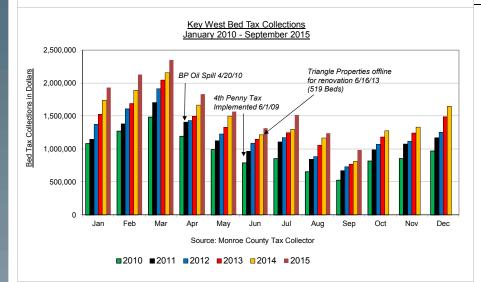


A total of 37,570 cruise ship passengers disembarked in Key West during October 2015. **This was 23.6% lower than October 2014**, which saw 49,153 passengers disembark.

For the ten months of 2015, cruise ship arrivals saw 568,098 passengers disembark from 237 port calls. While port calls are down 7.4% so far for 2015, passenger counts are down 9.9% over the same period in 2014.

The cruise ship schedule for December to February 2016 compared to the same three months last year is shown below:

	Number	of Ships
	2014/15	2015/16
December	51	40
January	43	50
February	39	36



Reported Bed Tax Collections for Key West were \$985,316 for September 2015, an increase of 21.4% compared to September 2014.

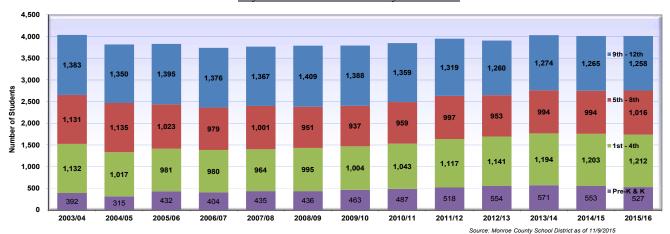
According to Smith Travel, September 2015 occupancy was 68.9%, a 2.2 percentage point decrease from the September 2014 occupancy rate of 71.1%.

The Average Daily Rate (ADR) was reported at \$219.17 for September 2015, an increase of 10.8% from the ADR of \$197.79 posted for September 2014. This ADR of \$219.17 is the highest recorded for the month of September. This continues the record of 68 months where the ADR has been higher than the previous year. In fact, the last 54 months are all-time records for each month.

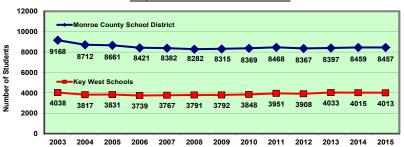


Local Schools in Review

Key West Schools Enrollment by Grade Level



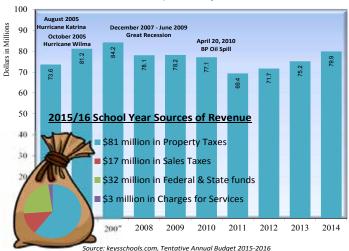
Key West Schools versus District





Monroe County School District Property Tax





*Internal transfers, fund balances and non-revenue sources disregarded

This data includes enrollment from Pre-Kindergarten through 12th grade for all Monroe County public schools as well as other schools such as the charter schools that are not under the direct purview of the school district.

From its zenith in 2003 enrollment has declined from 9,169 students in the county to 8,457 for 2015. This decline amounts to a net 9% over the 12 year period, with a low of 8,282 in 2008. However, Key West did not see as large of a loss as the county, with only a 7.5% loss at the lowest. From a high point of 4,038 students in 2003, Key West enrollment was 4,013 for 2015. Population statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau would tell us that both the county and the city lost substantial portions of their populations between the 2000 and 2011 censuses (7% County; 2% City).

For 2015 enrollment, the county's largest schools are Key West High School with 1,183 students, and Horace O'Bryant with 1,089 students. The largest Ethnicity groups in the county are White, Hispanic, and Black comprising 47.7%, 37.4%, and 10.5%, respectively. The largest gender group in the county is Male with 52.1% and Female follows up with 47.9%, however Sigsbee has a 47% to 53% male/female ratio this year.

For Key West, the comparison between the peak year in 2003/04 and 2015/16 shows increases for the city among the Pre-K & K grouping (34%) and 1st through 4th grade grouping (7%), but shows declines among the 5th through 8th grade grouping (10%). The situation for 9th through 12th grade is somewhat the same with enrollment numbers having a net decline of 9% from 2003/04 to 2015/16, even though it did see an increase in 2008. The largest enrollment county wide for 2015/16 was in third grade by a margin of 8.2% or 54 students more than the next highest, which was second grade with 661 students.

Sigsbee added grades as a charter, with 6th, 7th, and 8th grades added in 2011, 2012, and 2013, respectively. This may have contributed to the stabilization of middle school enrollment.

MC School District Financial Statistics





Quarterly Economic Environment & Outlook

The Key West Chamber of Commerce continuously monitors, compiles, and analyzes economic data; generating local economic data through surveys of its over 500 members.

Key West Business Environment vs. Florida & the U.S.

Responses from KWCC BEO conducted Sept 24-Oct 16, 2015; NABE BCS conducted Sept 21-Oct 6, 2015; UF-BEBR CSI conducted Oct 1-25, 2015*

The threat of Erika proved a distraction for August, depressing the third quarter for Key West even though we began the summer months with a strong Fourth of July celebration. Port calls remained about one every three days on average; leaving the third quarter cruise ship passengers 9.6% lower than last year and our year-to-date volume 8.8% lower.* Occupancy rates have eased down an average of 3% compared to last year, while Average Daily Rates continue to rise.* And while the strong dollar and continued weak Canadian economy has had many talking in the off-season about the potential for a thinner flock of snowbirds this winter, early indications are favorable for a good migration.

Independence Day Sales

America's pastime of barbeque and beer with friends and family didn't seem to include the Restaurants & Bars this year. But good weather and a stellar firework show this year made for family experiences that included attractions both on and off the water.





Key West Business Outlook

Key West expectations strengthen, as uncertainty dissipates.



- Twelve month Expectation balance
- National survey sees average growth to be 2.5% for 2015, and 2.7% for 2016
- Floridian's confidence in the U.S. economy rose 1.7 pts in Q3 to 83.2
- With 58% of Key West businesses reporting increased revenues during the third quarter 2015, this was better than national survey results of 51%
- Floridian's Consumer Sentiment declined to 88 in October, down 5.3 points from January's reading

Compensation & Wages





to +24%

24 pts Third Quarter Wages balance The Federal Reserve left short-term rates unchanged, despite the long awaited increase having been expected in September. World economies and China's stock market correction raised doubts early in the third quarter. Yet with the U.S. economy still holding its course throughout a bumpy 2015, economists still expect a rate hike before the end of the year.

- With 27% of Key West businesses reporting increasing wages during the third quarter 2015, this is lower than national survey results of 33% (National results are down from 42% in July, while Key West results are down from 48% in July)
- U.S. Personal disposable income adjusted for taxes and inflation rose 3.5% compared with 1.2% in the second quarter
- U.S. Personal savings as a percentage of disposable personal income was 4.7% compared with 4.6% in the second quarter
- U.S. Consumer spending increased 1.2% compared with 2.2% in the second quarter
- U.S. Prices of goods and services increased 1.3% in the third quarter, after increasing 1.5% in the second quarter (Excluding energy and food, prices increased 1.3% in the third quarter and 1.9% in the second quarter)

Macro-Economic Impacts



Two-thirds nationally say the economic slowdown in China has had no material impact on their businesses.

48% nationally say that the lower oil prices have not had a material impact on their businesses, while the remainder are split, with more leaning towards a negative impact.

57% nationally say that the strong Dollar has not had a material impact on their businesses, while 37% indicated a negative effect.

World Economy

The Global Economic Conditions Survey Report: Q3, 2015 provides regional analysis from 950 businesses in 180 countries* Confidence worldwide fell sharply in the third quarter, to its lowest point in almost four years. Across the world, 46% of businesses were less confident than three months ago, outnumbering those who had become more confident by more than two to one. Most of the world is still struggling, as fears rose over a 'hard landing' for China. Lower commodity prices have been followed by foreign exchange movements, increasing the number of firms across the globe being negatively impacted and decreasing investment intentions.

> Balance figures represent the percentage reporting increases minus the percentage reporting decreases d - reflects contraction, and change is from prior quarter)

Sources: NABE, Business Conditions Survey; UF BEBR, Consumer Sentiment Index; City of Key West; MC TDC; IMA/ACCA, Global Economic Conditions Survey Report; Bureau of Economic Analysis



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH, 2015

Sponsored by: Wine-O, Crowne Plaza La Concha 430 Duval Street





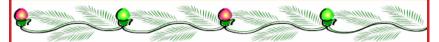
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Membership List:

Want to reach our members by mail?
Our Membership List can be obtained in hard copy, labels, or an electronic file.
Contact us directly for rates at 305-294-2587 or email: info@keywestchamber.org



Blast Emails:

Want to reach our members quickly and directly? We can send out an E-mail blast to our members for \$65.00. (Flyers in PDF or JPEG cannot exceed 600kb)



Chamber Chatter ©:

Our weekly newsletter is a perfect way to get your message out. We have space available (50 words or less – no images) for you to advertise to our members about what's happening in your business!

One Time: \$15.00 Two Times: \$25.00 Four Times: \$40.00

Emails received by over 860 individuals!

CHAMBER PRESENTS "ISLAND OF LIGHTSTM" DECORATING CONTEST



It's time to pull out your decorations for our annual holiday decorating contest!

The holiday decorating contest offers businesses the perfect opportunity to demonstrate their holiday cheer and enhance our island with Greetings of the Season for the citizens and visitors of Key West.

Awards will be presented for first, second, and third place in two categories:

- SMALL BUSINESS OUTDOOR
 OR SINGLE WINDOW DISPLAY
- LARGE BUSINESS OUTDOOR
- MULTIPLE WINDOW DISPLAY

THERE IS NO ENTRY FEE.

The deadline for entering is 5PM Friday, December 11th

To enter contact Emily at the Chamber office at: 294-2587 or email: info@keywestchamber.org.



Cruise Ship Schedule

December 2015

	December 2015				
12/1	Ecstasy	7:30am-1:30pm			
12/1	Vision	11:00am-5:00pm			
12/2	AIDAVita	7:30am-4:00pm			
12/3	Majesty of the Seas	9:30am-6:00pm			
12/4	Carnival Victory	7:00am-2:00pm			
12/5	N. Amsterdam	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/5	Silver Spirit	8:00am-4:00pm			
12/6	Disney Wonder	11:00am-5:00pm			
12/6	Brilliance	11:30am-5:30pm			
12/7	Carnival Conquest	8:00am-4:00pm			
12/8	Regatta	7:30am-4:30pm			
12/9	NO SHIPS				
12/10	Disney Magic	7:15am-1:15pm			
12/10	Majesty of the Seas	9:30am-6:00pm			
12/11	Constellation	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/11	Vision	11:00am-5:00pm			
12/12	NO SHIPS				
12/13	Constellation	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/13	Riviera	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/14	NO SHIPS				
12/15	Ecstasy	7:30am-1:30pm			
12/16	Disney Wonder	8:00am-2:15pm			
12/17	NO SHIPS				
12/18	Carnival Victory	7:00am-2:00pm			
12/18	Constellation	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/19	N. Amsterdam	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/20	Disney Wonder	10:45am-5:00pm			
12/20	Brilliance	11:30am-5:30pm			
12/21 12/21	Silver Wind C. Serenity	8:00am-4:00pm			
12/21	Serenade	10:00am-4:00pm 7:00am-6:00pm			
12/22	Ecstasy	7:30am-1:30pm			
12/23	Silver Wind	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/24	Disney Magic	7:15am-6:00pm			
12/24	Grandeur	9:30am-5:00pm			
12/25	Constellation	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/26	Eurodam	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/26	SS Navigator	11:00am-7:00pm			
12/27	Constellation	8:00am-5:00pm			
12/27	Majesty	9:30am-6:00pm			
12/28	NO SHIPS				
12/29	Ecstasy	7:30am-1:30pm			
12/29	Carnival Magic	10:00am-7:00pm			
12/30	Disney Magic	11:00am-6:00pm			
12/30	Disney Wonder	11:00am-5:00pm			

Community Calendar

December 2015

12/3	4th Annual POSH – Paws Often Steal Hearts at
	Audubon House 6:30pm; 305-304-1232
12/3-5	Key West Triathlon TRIKW; 305-797-8361
12/3-6	Hot Pink Holidays; 305-296-4603
12/4	FKCC Keys Chorale presents "Holiday
	Harmonies" at 7:00pm; 305-809-3128
12/5	Key West Christmas Parade at 7:00pm; 305-809-3881
12/5	Red Barn Theatre presents: FOOLS by
	Neil Simon 8:00pm; 305-296-9911
12/5	Waterfront Playhouse presents: Noises
	Off 8:00pm; 305-294-5015
12/9	Keys Federal Credit Union ReMARCable Table Top Tree
	Auction At the Westin Resort Ballroom; 305-294-9526 ext. 25
12/9	Lighted Bike Parade for Wesley House Toy
	Drive 5pm Bayview Park; 305-809-5000
12/12	2nd Annual Parade of Paws & Holiday Bazaar
	Higgs Dog Park 10am-2pm; 305-294-4857
12/12	Key West Annual Lighted Boat Parade 8:00pm; 305-292-3302
12/15-1/9	Read Barn Theatre presents: FOOLS by
	Neil Simon 8:00pm; 305-296-9911
12/31	Key West New Year's Eve Celebrations
	Conch Shell Drop at Sloppy Joes; 305-296-2388
	Red High Heel with Drag Queen
	Drop at Bourbon St.; 305-293-9800
	Pirate Wench Drop at Historic Seaport; 305-292-3302
	Key Lime Wedge in Margarita Glass at the
	Ocean Key Resort; 305-296-7701

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12/31





CHAMBER CHOWDER©

510 Greene Street ~ 1st Floor, Key West

www.keywestchamber.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Greg Sullivan, Vice President Waste Management/434-9140

Randy Moore, Treasurer First State Bank/296-6231

Sam Holland/Secretary The Conch House/293-0020

Robin Lockwood MD, Past President Robin Lockwood, MD/296-2212

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Virginia A. Panico, Executive Vice President Key West Chamber of Commercel 294-2587

CHAMBER STAFF

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Steven Weed Director of Research

Claudia Wilson *Bookkeeper*

Nancy Caruthers Administrative Assistant

Kerry Baker Membership Director/Special Events Coordinator

Gladys Clarks
Tourist Information Receptionist

Emily Brogdon
Office Assistant/Tourist Information Operator

Virginia A. Panico Newsletter Editor

Cindy Jefferson Art Director

Key West Chamber Calendar of Events

December 2015

Our Holiday Business After Hours

Date: Wednesday, December 9th

Please note change of date due to possible weather
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Sponsored by:
Rick's/Durty Harry's Bar
Location: 202 Duval Street
Members Only Networking Event

General Membership Meeting

Date: Wednesday, December 16th Noon

(Please Note Change of Date)
Annual Awards Luncheon
Location: Waldorf Astoria
Casa Marina Resort
Please RSVP to the Chamber
at 305-294-2587 or
Email: info@keywestchamber.org

The Key West Chamber of Commerce presents a seminar on: Exceptional Customer Service

Speaker: Elisa Levy
Date: Wednesday, December 17th
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Location: Double Tree Grand Key Resort
Please RSVP to the Chamber
at 305-294-2587 or
Email: info@keywestchamber.org

January 2016

Business After Hours

Date: Tuesday, January 12th Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Sponsored By: Doubletree Grand Key Resort Location: 3990 S. Roosevelt Blvd. Members Only Networking Event

Key West Chamber of Commerce Installation & Awards Dinner

Date: Saturday, January 23, 2016
Cocktails 6:00 p.m., Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Cocktail Hour Sponsored by
Appelrouth & Farr Family
Appelrouth, Farah & Co. P.A.
Location: Key West Marriott
Beachside Resort
Please RSVP to the Chamber
at 305-294-2587 or
Email: info@keywestchamber.org

General Membership Meeting

Date: Wednesday, January 27, 2016
Noon
Speaker: TBA
Topic: TBA
Location: Waldorf Astoria
Casa Marina Resort
Please RSVP to the Chamber
at 305-294-2587 or
Email: info@keywestchamber.org

