



CHAMBER CHOWDER®

510 Greene Street ~ 1st Floor, Key West

www.keywestchamber.org

Monroe County's Strategic Planning



The Key West Chamber of Commerce welcomed guest Kimberly Matthews, Sr. Director of Strategic Planning last Wednesday, April 24 at the Doubletree to talk about the Monroe County BOCC Strategic Plan 2020.

In 2017, Monroe County began surveying residents seeking feedback about the community's current priorities to develop a five-year plan for the future of Monroe County. Two years later, the accumulated information has been analyzed, and Matthews has created a strategic vision for the county that has been recently approved by commissioners.

The process for gathering data was to survey as many residents as possible. From written to online surveys, Matthews gathered 1292 responses to public surveys, held 13 town hall meetings, gave 23 interactive presentations, initiated 94 one on one stakeholder meetings and garnered 1505 votes cast on social media polls.

"We got pretty clear information about what people are concerned about," said Matthews. The information compiled was before Hurricane Irma, but the overall sense of issues changed only slightly after the storm hit.

"Affordable workforce housing took on an entirely new level of importance after the storm and jumped to the forefront. Also, issues like building for resiliency became more important," said Matthews. Planning, building and code processes also ascended in importance. Looking at what people said before and after, the top concerns that came from all the surveys and information gathered was 1. 24% Affordable Housing, 2. 21% Growth control/Overdevelopment, 19% Traffic/US 1 Safety, and 4. 12% Water Quality.

"Geographically where I went, changed what was the more important issue after Irma. Key West, the Lower Keys, and Marathon workforce housing was the number one concern and in the Upper Keys was growth control was their number one concern. The co-nundrum became how to solve one without exacerbating the other?" said Matthews.

She then began to delve further into the individual issues. Did residents want more work-force or affordable housing, the response was workforce. Also, growth control, what precisely? Was it business or residential over-development? Residential was more the issue. So the question became how to create a balance and find

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Message from President Michael Morawski

As spring is upon us, our focus at the

Key West Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to those transitioning from high school towards their role as adults. Our Education Committee and Executive Vice-President; charged by three iconic families and members of the chamber to administer their generous donations; has spent the last few weeks and countless hours reviewing applications, along with face to face interviews of this year's Key West High School graduating class, seeking to find the student who exemplifies the characteristics set by the criteria within the donors gift.

One student will be the recipient of the Honor Roll of 100/ Charley P. and Orsolina Toppino Memorial Scholarship; this is a gift of \$27,500 to a senior who seeks a four year degree, has demonstrated a need for financial assistance, has excelled at their high school curriculum

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Spotlight Shines on ... Pam Kutchev of Kutchev's Flowers in Key West



Each month, the Key West Chamber of Commerce spotlights a business or professional person whose business card is drawn at the Business After Hours. This month's winner is Pam Kutchev of Kutchev's Flowers in Key West.

Everything is coming up roses quite literally for Pam Kutchev owner of Kutchev's Flowers in Key West at 1223 White Street.

Share You're Event Information

The Key West Chamber of Commerce strives for comprehensive coverage and promotion of Key West events that benefit our local organizations, businesses, citizens and visitors; however, we can only do this with your help!

We'd like to remind everyone that we do have an online calendar of events that we are happy to add your organization events to. In addition, your event would be listed in our weekly e-newsletter, *The Chamber Chatter*, and our monthly newsletter, *The Chamber Chowder*, for all fellow members to see. Best of all—your event listing is free! To submit an event, please contact the chamber at info@keywestchamber.org with your event details.

Originally from Michigan, her background is all floral. With family in landscaping, Kutchev owned and operated a flower shop for 15 years prior to Key West. Not one to let her clients down, like a mailman she delivered her bouquets through rain, sleet and snow, even the weather can't stop a birthday. Then Kutchev realized she could work this hard anywhere and moved to Key West.

Five years ago, Kutchev opened Kutchev's Flowers and developed a booming business. Voted Best Flower Shop 2018 during the Bubba Awards, the shop is dedicated to local business and thrives by being part of the community. Catering to weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, events, funerals (which Kutchev takes special care) and even a few "I'm Sorrys," her overall approach to business in Key West is one of working together.

When she arrived, the first thing Kutchev did was introduce herself to other flower shops. "We help each other out, and it works out well," said Kutchev. "The only difference between them and me is just style of design, the look, and feel of our arrangements." Kutchev credits her amazing team who help to add their creativity and ability to work with clients especially brides.

Seventy percent of my business is locals, and I appreciate that," said Kutchev. When nominated for the Bubbas, Kutchev chose not to launch a media campaign to win. "I wanted people to vote for us because they wanted us to win."

Kutchev cannot begin to describe how many flowers they go through in a week, let alone months. With big holidays like Mother's Day on the horizon, the shop will be brimming with fresh flowers and her staff will be on call as turnover is high.

"Flowers are an emotional business, and people come to us for every reason. We respect their privacy, and I never read the cards," said Kutchev, which is a welcome attribute in a small town.

Kutchev's Flowers offer a couple of regular specials like Flower Happy Hour, on Mondays from 3:00 to 5:30 pm get 50% off fresh cut flowers. Also, recycle those old vases from previous arrangements. Bring Kutchev a used vase and get one free ice cream from Dairy Queen. Visit www.flowersinkeywest.com or call 305.292.8181 for more information.

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701 Whitehead St.

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The Chamber Chowder Heartily Thanks These Businesses for Their Generous Support of this Issue of the Newsletter

Ernest Hemingway House Museum
907 Whitehead Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-1136

La Concha Crowne Plaza
430 Duval Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-296-2991

Horan & Higgins, L.L.P.
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Key West, FL 33040
305-294-4585

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Key West, FL 33040
305-294-2542

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



“Strategic Planning” cont. from page 1 ▶

more workforce housing with-out too much residential growth? It will be a big challenge for the commission when it comes to trying to solve the problems.

Another issue is traffic. What is the source of traffic? A third of the responses feel it's residential not all tourist traffic. Moreover, asked why residents are worried about it? It wasn't congestion, but 64% said it was a safety issue. “That was an eye-opening piece of data for us. Residents are afraid of US 1, so we need to look at that,” said Matthews.

Another surprise for Matthews was water quality. Assuming residents were worried about canals, and canal clean up, no, it's the nearshore waters. Issues like pollution and red tide are on resident's minds.

“Now I had to take these thousands of responses and merge them into a pattern and make some sort of vision,” said Matthews, describing the result, the Strategic Plan 2020. “What I was hearing was all these are concerns are symptoms of a larger problem.”

The plan starts with a simple graph highlighting three areas of concern all with equal importance: Quality of Life, Environment and Economy. For example, quality of life issues would be community growth and development, housing, traffic, safety, and parks and recreation. The environment would address coral restoration, nearshore water quality, and hurricane recovery. Lastly, the economy will focus on workforce housing, transportation, tourism, and infrastructure. The vision is to create a resilient community and strengthen collaborative efforts between the county and municipal partners.

“We have now created a common vision, and the commission knows what it is they are striving for and what issues we need to address to be the community we need to be,” said Matthews. “We are beholden to find the sweet spot where our community is in balance. Where do we create that harmony?”

Matthews described the strategic plan as a living document that can be looked at and re-revised every year. “Before we can find solutions, we have to get the group of people at the helm to agree these are all problems. That is why this document is so important and pivotal.”

The plan outlines the community's problems and commits the commission to action. “Every year, we will make annual department tactical based decisions, specifically focused on addressing these priorities,” said Matthews. Now the plan has been outlined; the next step will be looking at budget and resources to go forward.

Matthew ended the presentation with the assurance, “What validates the data for me

especially, is what we heard before and after the storm, a cataclysmic event, the top four issues remained the top four issues.”

President's Message cont. from page 1 ▶

and provided community service. Another male and female student will each receive a \$1,000.00 award from the Appelrouth family. These two recipients will have demonstrated a passion for community service, maintained a mid-range grade point average, and show a need for financial assistance as they continue their educational growth. The third award; The Gerald “Moe” and Marina Mosher Vocational Scholarship sponsored by Ed Swift and Stewart Appelrouth will be presented a \$2,000.00 award to be used for technical training at a community college or vocational school, to enhance their skills within the service, trade, or public service sectors. We are honored that these three families and also the members of the chamber have chosen the Key West Chamber of Commerce to administer their Scholarship's and thank them for their investment in the next generations of business and community leaders.

In addition to awarding these scholarships; your chamber takes the lead to honor the men and women who have chosen the teaching profession as their career path. Three times a year at our general membership meetings, we honor a total of 22 individuals. Selected by their administrative staff, for outstanding classroom performance. We don't just acknowledge their accomplishments; we collectively, show our appreciation by providing them a plaque, apple pin and gift basket, filled with generous offerings, from you, the Key West business community. The emotional return, from this gesture, reverberates throughout the entire Monroe County School System. I thank everyone who makes this program such a chamber

success and invite all to participate.

Our most recent endeavor, with local students, The Financial Literacy Contest has concluded. I congratulate all those students who participated and say great job to the winners. The three member team of Kirsten Haughey, Wanrueni Khuantang, and Divya Navani took home first prize of \$15,000.00; the team of Elizabeth Rocklage,

Priscilla Castro-Sanchez, and Landon Stotts took second place with \$3,000.00 in winnings and third place was split between two teams Verity Pond, Finn Pond, and

Chase Floyd on one and, Emerson Fariss, John Mott and Melody Morales on the other; splitting \$1500. This contest wouldn't have been possible without the enormous contribution from AT&T. Thank you for investing in our community's youth.

Also, Randy and Suzanne Moore were extremely generous with their time and expertise in crafting the testing material. In addition to Randy and Suzanne, Jennifer Barrios, with the Monroe County School System, Dr. Brittany Snyder, with Florida Keys Community College and Virginia Panico, with the Key West Chamber of Commerce, spent a few evenings of their personal time, facilitating this contest. Thank you to all.

These are just a few programs where your chamber interacts with our future leaders. Others programs: mentoring, adopting teacher classrooms, and contribute financial resources, towards additional teacher career developmental programs; are staple chamber programs. Incredible work is being done by our Education committee members; thank you.



A TIGER IN THE WOODS

GOLF TOURNAMENT



SUNDAY, APRIL 28 2019
KEY WEST GOLF CLUB

305-294-2587 | KeyWestChamber.org



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A special "Thank You" to everyone who made the 14th Annual "Tiger in the Woods Golf Tournament," held Sunday, April 28th, a Huge Success!

CLUBHOUSE SPONSORS

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- The Perry Hotel
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PUTTING CONTEST:

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Thank you to all of our members and businesses who donated beverages, gift certificates, prizes, hole sponsors, countless volunteers and everyone that played in our event and supported the Key West Chamber.



Key West Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament Co-Chairs Greg Sullivan and Bill Lay.



Platinum Sponsor Bella Construction's players took a break with the beverage cart volunteers from a Catered Affairs.

Key West Chamber of Commerce Honors Extraordinary Educators



The spring Teacher Recognition Awards were handed out at the chamber luncheon on Wednesday, April 24th. Pictured left to right Dr. Brittany Snyder, Chair Billy Spottswood, Margret Jones, Richard Horan, Aimee Varela, Natalie Sweeting, Co-Chair Suzanne Moore, Lynly Hill, Jim Hill, Angela Hankins and Jessica Connell.

The Key West Chamber of Commerce takes pride in honoring the invaluable teachers serving our community. The recipients are nominated by their principals for contributing more than just their time but their energy and heart to their profession. These teachers help shape a positive and lasting educational experience for their schools, their community, and mostly, their students.

Each honoree is invited to lunch to receive a commemorative plaque, an apple lapel pin, and a gift bag of appreciation from chamber members who show their support through gift certificates, merchandise or cash donations.

The Key West Chamber of Commerce recognizes the following teachers at the April luncheon for outstanding achievement and unsung dedication to their students and schools.

▶ **Margaret Jones, ELL teacher, Gerald Adams Elementary School**

A teacher of 18 years, Miss Jones is certified in elementary education, an Educational Media Specialist with a BA in Elementary Education and Anthropology from Grinnell College. “Miss Jones works tirelessly to provide creative lessons for students with varying degrees of language development,” said Principal Frannie Herron. Families know they can count on her for support and is a connection for community resources. Her kindness and professionalism make her the ultimate ambassador for the school district.

▶ **Jessica Connell, Science Teacher, Horace O’Bryant School**

Jessica Connell has a BS in Marine Science and has been teaching for two years. “Jessica has the student’s best interest at heart. She dedicates many hours to the Ecology Club and gives the kids experiences they otherwise might not be exposed to,” said Principal Christina McPherson. Ms Connell and her club are always cleaning up the school and making big changes in the cafeteria creating a positive impact on the students.

▶ **Lynly Hill, Kindergarten teacher, Poinciana Elementary School**

Jessica Connell has a BS in Marine Science and has been teaching for two years. “Jessica has the student’s best interest at heart. She dedicates

many hours to the Ecology Club and gives the kids experiences they otherwise might not be exposed to,” said Principal Christina McPherson. Ms Connell and her club are always cleaning up the school and making big changes in the cafeteria creating a positive impact on the students.

▶ **Natalie Sweeting, Exceptional Student Educational Guide, May Sands Montessori**

With four years teaching experience, Ms. Sweeting has a talent for supporting student’s academic, social and emotional development. “Ms. Sweeting is a keen observer and applies her educational background and helps parents develop goals for struggling students,” said Principal Lynn Barras. She also is integral to helping the school with special events and a valued member of the Montessori family. She has a Masters in Counseling, is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, and a Florida Certified Teacher of Exceptional Student Education K-12.

▶ **Aimee Varela, Science Teacher, The Basilica School**

As a first year teacher, Ms. Varela has surpassed all expectations. Engaging and fun, she instills a renewed curiosity for learning. “Integrating technology, she is on mission to prepare 21st century learners and has a superb rapport with parents and students,” said Principal Robert Wright. Miss Varela has a BS in Sociology and Education from the University of Florida.

▶ **Rob Hill, US History Teacher, Key West High School**

Mr. Hill has a BA in History from Niagra University, Magna Cum laude and Master of Science in Secondary Education, Magna Cum Laude and has eleven years teaching experience. “Mr. Hill has worked diligently to create curriculum units that he has shared with other history teachers across the district, infused with technology and differentiated methods to keep the students motivated in their learning,” said Principal Amber Acevedo. Also, Mr Hill developed a Financial Literacy class and refurbishes donated bikes for students who could use them. “He is a great asset to the Conch family,” said Acevedo.

▶ **Richard Horan, English Teacher, Key West Collegiate Academy**

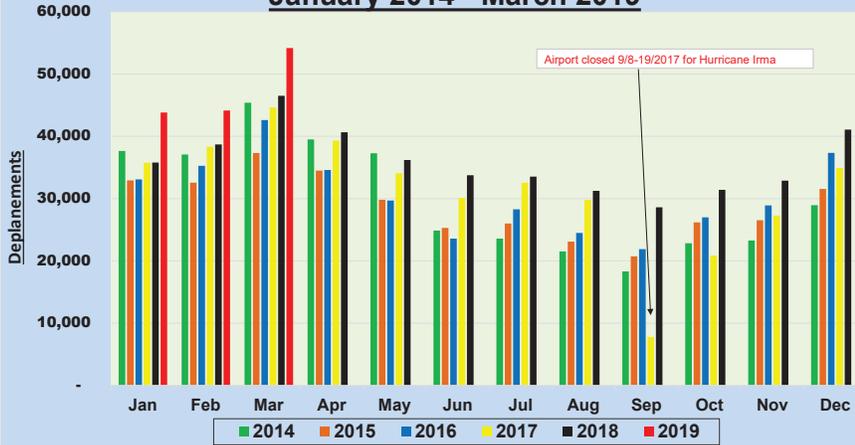
With an outstanding 33 years teaching, Mr. Horan teaches multiple high school classes in English, Creative Writing and Reading. Mr. Horan had his students write a graphic novel and sent it to several publishers. “This was an authentic and meaningful learning experience for his students,” said Principal Thomas Rompella. Mr. Horan is a published author, has a BA in English from Boston University and a M.A.T. in English from University of Pittsburgh.

▶ **Angela Hankins, Fifth Grade English Language Arts Teacher and Literacy Coach, Sigsbee Charter School**

“Ms. Hankins is the teacher all families wish for,” said Principal Eli Jannes. She inspires children of all ages and backgrounds, establishing routines that foster an exciting learning environment. Every child in her care feels loved and respected. With 13 years of teaching experience, Ms. Hankins is a mentor to her colleagues and supportive Literacy Coach for all elementary grades helping students learn the best way possible. Ms. Hankins hold a BS from University of Tampa and has ESOL certification, Reading Endorsed, SCS Induction Program Coordinator, Professional Development Coordinator and a K-5 literacy Coach.



Key West International Airport Arrivals January 2014 - March 2019



Source: Key West International Airport

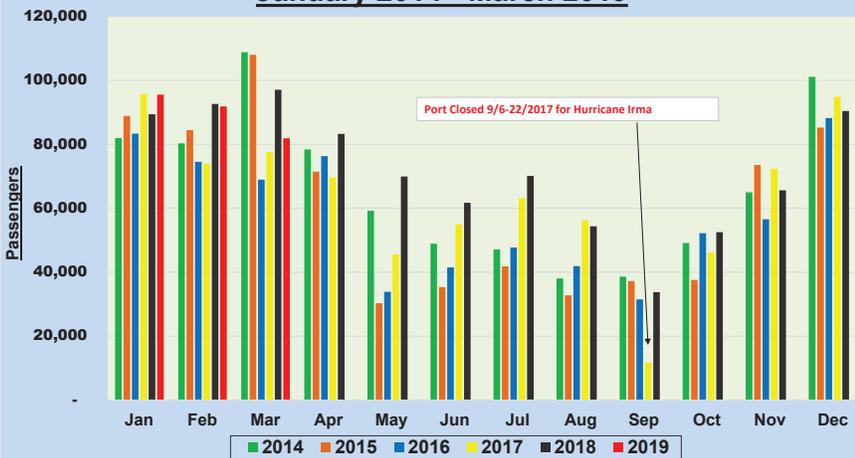
Passenger arrivals to the Key West International Airport in March, 2019 totaled 55,170. This is an increase of 16.5% when compared to the March of 2018 number of 46,504.

The 142,122 deplanements for the year 2019 thus far is 17.5% more than the 120,989 passengers that arrived to Key West in the first three months of 2018.

Currently, American Airlines is providing seasonal direct non-stop service to Charlotte, Chicago, Dallas and Philadelphia. Delta is offering seasonal service to LaGuardia, and United Airlines is offering seasonal non-stop service to Newark and Chicago O'Hare.

March, 2019 saw 897 planes land at Key West International Airport which is .02% less than the same period in 2018. The year to date total number of landings is 2,400 and is 2.2% less than the 2,453 planes that landed during the same period last year.

Key West Cruise Ship Passengers January 2014 - March 2019



Source: City of Key West Port Operations

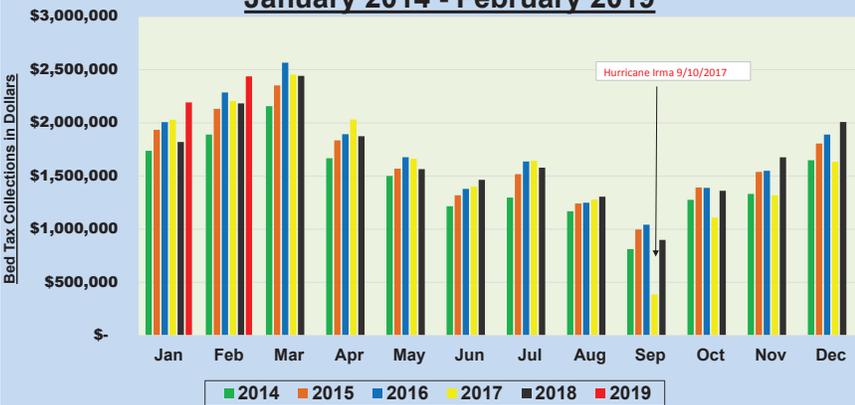
A total of 81,945 cruise ship passengers disembarked in Key West from 35 ships during March, 2019. This is 15.6% less than March, 2018 which saw 97,130 passengers visit Key West. The 269,418 passengers in the first three months of 2019 is 3.5% less than 2018 year to date. The 117 total port of calls is 11.4% less than the 2018 year to date number of 132 ships.

For the year 2018, Key West greeted 861,192 passengers from 379 port calls. Port calls were up 11.1% for the year and passenger counts were up 13% over the same period in 2017. The 861,192 was the most passenger visits since 2006, and the 379 port calls were the most since 2007.

The cruise ship schedule for May thru July compared to the same three months in 2018 is shown below.

	Number of Ships	
	2018	2019
May	28	27
June	25	26
July	25	27

Key West Bed Tax Collections January 2014 - February 2019



Source: Monroe County Tax Collector

The reported Bed Tax Collections for Key West for February, 2019 were \$2,438,319, 11.7% higher than the same period in 2018.

The February 2019 "occupancy rate" for Key West was 95.4% according to the Smith Travel Report. That is a 3% increase over the 92.6% reported in February, 2018.

The Average Daily Rate (ADR) was reported at \$377.08 for February of 2019. That is a 4.5% increase from the ADR of \$360.83 posted in February, 2018.

For the year 2018, Key West had an increase in both occupancy rates and revenue per available room (RevPAR), but a slight decline (0.4%) in ADR.

Since Hurricane Irma passed on September 10, 2017 and caused damage to some hotels, the number of rooms available had declined. Key West saw 145 more rooms open up in recent months, but witnessed another hotel close 48 rooms for long-term renovations.



2018 Tourism in Review

The Tourist Development Council of Monroe County Recently released its 2018 Annual Visitor Profile Study. This study provides valuable insight, not just on how many people are visiting Key West, but on who they are, how did they get here, why did they come, and how long did they stay.



The 2018 survey revealed interesting demographic information about the people who visited Key West in the past year.

* The gender ratio of visitors in 2018 was 65% male and 35% female.

* Seniors (61+) increased from 13% in 2017 to 19% in 2018.

* In 2018 more people came with friends of the same gender (18%) compared to 13% in 2017. People who came with friends of a different gender dropped to 15% in 2018 from 23% in 2017.

* More visitors have been reporting traveling with children in recent years. It was 7% in 2016, 24% in 2017 and was most recently 28%.

* The average number of people in a group visiting Key West has dropped from 5.37 in 2017 to 4.39 in 2018.

* The average number of nights each group stayed in Key West also dropped from 7.05 in 2017 to a mere 5.94 nights in 2018.

* In both 2017 and 2018 roughly 55% of all visitors visited another destination in Florida during the same trip.

* For the second year in a row over 11% of visitors reported owning a second home in Florida, up from 7% in 2016.

* Reported household income of visitors was lower than in 2017.

* Foreign visitors from UK, Germany, Italy, and China decreased in 2018. The most international visitors came from Canada, France, and Brazil.



In 2018 Key West greeted 861,192 passengers by cruise ship, a 13% increase over the year 2017. The most cruise ship passengers to visit in a single year since 2006.



In 2018 The Key West International Airport welcomed 430,266 passengers, a 14.7% increase compared to 2017. The most deplanements ever in a single year.



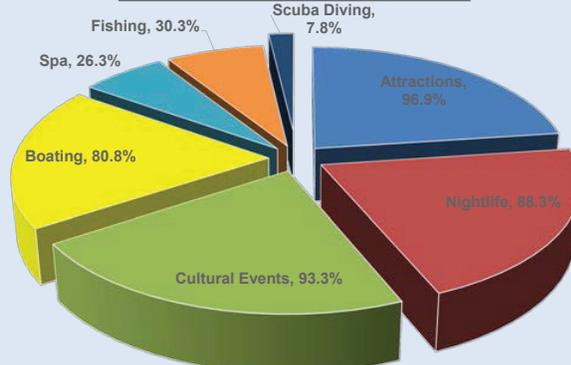
The Ferry terminal greeted 90,431 people in the year 2018. That was 3.6% more people that came to Key West by ferry than in 2017, and very close to record highs.



Lots of evidence points to an ever increasing number of people visiting Key West by car, and the TDC survey confirmed this speculation where 35% of the people polled stated they had come by vehicle. This number is up 28 points from the 2015 number of seven percent.



Activities while in Key West





Marketing Your Business

Did you know...

Advertising opportunities through the Key West Chamber are plentiful and affordable.

Sponsor a General Membership Meeting.

By sponsoring the meeting your company will be given an opportunity to speak to the membership for three minutes, your company name will appear at the top of the meeting agenda and you will be given the opportunity to place your business literature on the meeting tables. The chamber will also supply a six foot draped table inside the room where you may display your products and also have a representative on hand to discuss your business with fellow chamber members.

The Chamber Chatter is our weekly e-newsletter sent out electronically and ads are 50 words or less without pictures or graphics.

- One-time ad: \$15.00
- Two consecutive ads: \$25.00
- Four consecutive ads: \$40.00

Blast Emails can be sent to our membership for \$65.00 and can include graphics, logos and pictures. All blast emails also include sharing your information on our social media outlets.

The Chamber Chowder is our online monthly newsletter and is viewed by visitors and locals alike. It requires advertising commitments quarterly at the following rates:

- Full Page: Size 8" x 9.5" \$330 per issue or \$990.00 quarterly.
- Half Page: 8" x 4.5" \$165.00 per issue or \$495.00 quarterly.
- Ad Size: 5.25" x 3" \$198.00 quarterly
- Ad Size: 2.625" x 4.5" \$148.50 quarterly
- Ad Size: 2.625" x 3" \$115.50 quarterly
- Ad Size: 2.625" x 2" \$66 quarterly

Everyone gets more... with the Chamber's "Shell Out Less" coupon program

The Key West Chamber of Commerce is excited to once again offer its members – and their customers – a FREE online coupon program to benefit everyone.

Local businesses get more exposure when their customers "Shell Out Less" for a variety of products and services.

"Shell Out Less" enables all chamber members to add a FREE online coupon or promotion to their existing, FREE online business link on the Chamber's website at www.keywestchamber.org.

The "Shell Out Less" webpage includes a categorized listing of all participating businesses along with an online coupon promoting a special offer or discount.

- ½ price Happy Hour?
- 15 % off all books by local authors?
- Free framing with the purchase of artwork?
- YOU choose the offer, and let your customers click, print and save.

As always, members can track the effectiveness of the chamber's online marketing opportunities – at no cost to them.

For more information on any of these advertising opportunities, call the Key West Chamber of Commerce at 305-294-2587 or visit the "Shell Out Less" page at www.keywestchamber.org for sample coupons and promotional offers.

Do you use Social Media to market your business?

The Key West Chamber of Commerce would like to help you promote your business and we need your help. As a member of the Key West Chamber of Commerce you receive a complimentary listing and link on our website www.keywestchamber.org. With your listing you can also have links for your various social media outlets so visitors and potential customers can go directly to your page.

Please email membership@keywestchamber.org with the full URLs for your public pages so we can add to your listing. Currently we can list links for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Pinterest, Instagram, YouTube, Flickr, Yelp, Open Table, Google+, Tripsmarter, Houzz, Four Square and Angie's List.



























For more information please contact the chamber offices at 305-294-2587 or email this from to membership@keywestchamber.org.



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS | TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2019

Sponsored by: *Key West Golf Club and Waste Management, Inc., 6450 College Road*



Welcome New Members!



Membership committee Chairman Britt Myers and Vice President Billy Spottswood welcome to the chamber Brianna Birtles, of A&B Lobster House, Alonzo's Oyster Bar and White Tarpon Bar, Amanda Velazquez, P.A. and John Smotryski of Wicked Licks Liquid Nitrogen Crafted Ice Cream along with committee member Joe Caso.

A&B Lobster House

700 Front Street, Key West, FL 33040
305-294-5880
www.aandblobsterhouse.com
Contact: Brianna Birtles
Restaurant

Alonzo's Oyster Bar

700 Front Street, Key West, FL 33040
305-294-5880
www.alonzosoysterbar.com
Contact: Brianna Birtles
Restaurant

Amanda Velazquez, P.A.

Immigration Counsel
422 Fleming Street, Key West, FL 33040
305-766-2676
www.amandavelazquez.com
Contact: Amanda Velazquez
Attorney

Southernmost Beach Café

1319 Duval Street, Key West, FL 33040
305-295-6550
www.southernmostbeachcafe.com
Contact: Megan Coccitto
Restaurant

The Rooster Tale

217 Duval Street
Key West, FL 33040
248-910-0247
Contact: Maureen Hopkins
Restaurant/Bar

White Tarpon Bar & Market

700 Front Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-295-5222
www.whietarponkeywest.com
Contact: Tonya Colston
Restaurant

Wicked Lick Liquid Nitrogen

Crafted Ice Cream
335c Duval Street
Key West, FL 33040
954-605-5100
www.wickedlick.com
Contact: John Smotryski
Ice Crea

SAVE THE DATE

Sales and Use Tax

There is information about a new law that concerns the Sales and Use Tax on commercial leases. This new law allows the 5.7% state tax to be sent to a nonprofit scholarship funding organization (SFO) instead of to the state's general fund. The scholarship funding organization (SFO), which you choose, takes the 5.7% Sales and Use Tax to send scholarships to K - 12 students who are mentally or physically handicapped or low income.

Step Up for Students is coming to Key West and will present their FREE program at City Hall in the 2nd floor conference room from 4:00 to 5:00pm on Tuesday, May 21, 2019. We encourage you to attend this presentation. This is a no cost opportunity to help those who are most disadvantaged to receive a life-changing education. We look forward to seeing you there.

Florida Department of Labor

The Payroll Audit Independent Determination (PAID) program expedites resolution of inadvertent overtime and minimum wage violations under the Fair Labor Standards Act, and provides a framework for employers, to proactively resolve; those violations without litigation.

Employers that self-report may work in good faith with the Wage and Hour Division to correct mistakes and provide due compensation to their employees. Wednesday, May 29, 2019 at NOON (luncheon) at the Key West Marriott Beachside. Cost is \$29.00. This event is open to everyone, business owners, General Managers, Assistant General Managers and those in payroll are strongly encouraged to attend.

Guerilla Marketing

RSVP for your seat at a no-cost dynamic workshop that will demonstrate how you can:

- Learn low-cost, creative marketing tactics
- Compete with larger competitors with deeper pockets
- Capture the attention of new and repeat customers
- Build and maintain profitable relationships

Creativity and new ideas are in no short supply in Key West. Now, all that you need to succeed are the right tools to get your business noticed.

Thursday, June 20, 2019, 8:30am to 11:30am
at the Doubletree Grand Key Resort

Community Calendar

May 2019

- 5/2 Martin Barre: 50 Years of Jethro Tull Key West Theater 8:00
- 5/3 37th Annual Radio Day Side Bar on Angela 5:30-8:00
- 5/3 Off the Record with Britt Myers feature Terri White, Bill Muehlhouser and QMitch Jones 8:00 Key West Theater
- 5/3-5 Papio Kinetic Sculpture, Art Bike Parade and Concert at Truman Waterfront
- 5/4 5th Annual Rotary Casino Night to celebrate Cinco De Mayo Beachside Marriott 7:00 p.m-11:00 p.m.
- 5/4 Lazy Dog: Key West Paddle Classics sue@lazydog.com 305-304-4259
- 5/5 Songwriter Speakeasy at Key West Theater 7:00
- 5/8-12 Annual Key West Songwriters Festival www.keywestsongwritersfestival.com 305-304-0814
- 5/12 Local Spotlight: Joal Rush Key West Theater 1:00 p.m.
- 5/13 Queen Mother Pageant: Duval Street in front of La Te Da 305-296-9741 7:00-10:00 p.m.
- 5/14-6/1 Red Speedo Waterfront Playhouse 8:00
- 5/17 Tim Marshall Curtis Key West Theater 8:00
- 5/19 Songwriters Speakeasy Series: On The Big Stage Key West Theater 8:00
- 5/22 World Class Guitarist: Mateo Jampol in the Back Stage Listening Room Key West Theater 7:30
- 5/22-26 Prime Time (Tues. & Sat.) Studios of Key West 8:00
- 5/24 David Crosby and the Skytrails Band Key West Theater 8:00
- 5/25 Key West Blues Festival Key West Theater 8:00
- 5/28&6/1 Prime Time, Studios of Key West 8:00

Cruise Ship Schedule

MAY 2019

5/1	NO SHIP	
5/2	NO SHIP	
5/3	Majesty	7:00- 5:00
5/3	Carnival Sensation	7:30- 1:30
5/4	Disney Magic	6:45- 3:45
5/4	Norwegian Dawn	9:00- 6:00
5/5	Empress	7:00- 6:00
5/5	Majesty	9:00- 7:00
5/6	Norwegian Dawn	8:00- 4:00
5/6	Carnival Freedom	11:00 7:00
5/7	Carnival Victory	7:30- 1:30
5/7	Norwegian Sun	1:00- 8:00
5/8	NO SHIP	
5/9	Disney Magic	6:45- 3:45
5/10	NO SHIP	
5/11	NO SHIP	
5/12	NO SHIP	
5/13	Carnival Glory	9:00- 5:00
5/14	Carnival Victory	7:30- 1:30
5/14	Norwegian Sun	1:00- 8:00
5/15	Majesty	7:00- 8:00
5/16	NO SHIP	
5/17	Empress	7:00- 3:00
5/17	Carnival Sensation	7:30- 1:30
5/18	NO SHIP	
5/19	Majesty	9:00- 7:00
5/20	NO SHIP	
5/21	Carnival Victory	7:30- 1:30
5/21	Norwegian Sun	1:00- 8:00
5/22	NO SHIP	
5/23	NO SHIP	
5/24	NO SHIP	
5/25	NO SHIP	
5/26	Paradise	12:00- 6:00
5/27	Carnival Freedom	11:00- 7:00
5/28	Empress	7:00- 6:00
5/28	Carnival Victory	7:30- 1:30
5/28	Norwegian Sun	1:00- 8:00
5/29	Majesty	8:00- 7:00
5/30	NO SHIP	
5/31	Carnival Sensation	7:30- 1:30



The Key West Chamber of Commerce and AT&T sponsored Financial Literacy for all High School students. First Place winners received \$15,000. Left to Right, Education Committee member Dr. Brittany Snyder, Chair Billy Spottswood, Key West Champions Kirsten Haughey, Wanrueni Khuantang, Divya Navani, Co-Chair Suzanne Moore, and committee member Jennifer Barrios.



CHAMBER CHOWDER®

510 Greene Street ~ 1st Floor, Key West

www.keywestchamber.org

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Executive Assistant/Bookkeeper

Kerry Baker
Membership Director/Special Events Coordinator

Dorothy Schmda
Administrative Assistant

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Tourist Information Receptionist

Virginia A. Panico
Newsletter Editor

Cindy Jefferson
Art Director

Hays Blinckman
Newsletter Writer

Karrie Bond
Social Media Director

Key West Chamber Calendar of Events

May 2019

Business After Hours
Date: Tuesday, May 21st
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Sponsored by: The Rooster Tail
Location: 217 Duval Street
Members Networking Event!

General Membership Meeting
Date: Wednesday, May 22nd
Time: Noon
Location: Margaritaville Key West
Resort & Marina
245 Front Street
Speaker: The Honorable Holly Raschein,
State Representative District 120
Topic: Legislative Session Update

June 2019

Business After Hours
Date: TBA
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Sponsored by: Lucy's Retired Surfers Bar
Location: 221 Duval Street
Members Networking Event!

General Membership Meeting
Date: Wednesday, June 26th
Time: Noon
Location: Key West Marriott Beachside
3841 North Roosevelt Blvd.
Speaker: Ms. Tara Sullivan, Regional Manager
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
Topic: "Safe Talk"

SAVE THE DATE

31st Annual Key West Chamber of Commerce
"Showcase of Key West Businesses"
Community and Business Expo

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Location: Key West Marriott Beachside
3841 North Roosevelt Blvd.

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. - Open to the Public

Business After Hours sponsored by the Key West Marriott Beachside

5:30p.m. – 7:30p.m. - Chamber Members Only

For sponsorship opportunities and to reserve your
booth space, please contact Kerry Baker at

305-294-2587

or email membership@keywestchamber.org

Click to connect with the Chamber on
Facebook, Twitter,
Pinterest, or Instagram

