Key West
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Key West Fresh Fish
Key West, Florida

CHAMBER CHOWDER©

510 Greene Street ~ 1st Floor, Key West
www.keywestchamber.org

Candidates Running for the Office of Monroe County Commissioner

The candidates running for Monroe County Commissioner had the floor — and the full attention of the general membership — on September 26th at the DoubleTree Grand Key Resort.

A series of proposed questions was put forth by moderator Kim Works of Pirate Radio, and each of the candidates had one minute to answer.

The membership assembled at the monthly luncheon was all ears waiting for the answers to questions that included: How each candidate would ensure a smooth cleanup of neighborhoods, canals, and county owned property after a tropical occurrence, each candidate's position on accepting the state's offer of 300 workforce ROGO allocations for Monroe County, thoughts on the homeless situation and each candidate's top three goals and how they would work to accomplish them.

The Candidates:

District II

- ***Michelle Coldiron***, Mayor of Marathon has 30 years of experience in marketing and a wealth of community service experience. She feels she has a deep understanding of the needs of residents on each Key and wants to continue to contribute.

- ***Tommy Ryan*** jumped into the race because of the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, which he is still dealing with a year later at his home in Big Pine Key. His goal is to take his background as a New York City Firefighter and First Responder and use that unique skill set to help the county prepare for and handle the next big hurricane.

District IV

- ***Mayor David Rice*** (incumbent) is in his third, 4-year term on the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners. He has been a Monroe County resident for 35 years, and has an open door policy to welcome residents to discuss issues with him.

- ***Vicki Tashjian*** is a 26-year resident of Monroe County with 30 years of experience in tourism. She also has a strong background participating in community events and eight years as a volunteer fire/rescue personnel in Marathon. She is running for County Commissioner to address protecting the rights

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Message from President Suzanne Moore

A big thank you is in order for those of you that participated in last month's Annual "Showcase of Key West Businesses" Trade Show held at the Marriott Beachside. It was a great success and we had an excellent afternoon and evening filled with member to member networking, socializing and great giveaways. I personally really enjoyed this event as I got to visit each booth and meet the owners/managers and workers of each business. Of course, I knew many of the vendors there as thankfully they recognize the value of the show and they repeatedly register for the showcase. With just a few minutes at each booth I get to chat about upcoming programs businesses have started, and new products and services that businesses are offering. This year several new members and businesses registered for the event and I learned of their journey and how they ended up here in Key West and how they like being a business owner here. Their feedback was invaluable and many said it was a great way to be introduced to the community and to showcase their business to the community as well as to the chamber members. It was particularly refreshing to hear that many local businesses have recovered from last year's storm, businesses have rebounded and while currently it's

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Spotlight Shines on ... Heather Bennett, Keller William Key West Compass Realty

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 Heather Bennett, Keller William Key West Compass Realty.

Real Estate professional Heather Bennett, ABR, CRS, PMN, MRP, e-Pro, AHWD has a lot of letters after her name; each designation a testimony to her dedication to personal and professional development and continuing education. The more she knows, the more she can serve her real estate clients.

Although she is new to Keller William Key West Compass Realty as a Broker Associate, she is a seasoned real estate professional, passionate about the Florida Keys. Heather was first licensed in 1998 and moved up from sales associate to earning a broker license, to becoming a managing broker, opening her own franchise, and then changing to a small boutique real estate office.

Making the switch to Keller William was easy.

"I was intrigue by the core values of the company itself," she explained.

"The family atmosphere I felt and received was important," she said, "And three of the company values really jumped out at me: 'God, family and then business' that resonated with me."

Family is important to Heather. She is married to Brad Bennett who is also a long-time Keys resident and who owns Bennett Drywall & Metal Framing. They have five children and three grandchildren between them and value the time they spend together!

Like many people, Heather was a transplant to Key West. She moved here in 1988 from Englewood, Florida and now resides on Sugarloaf Key. A proud graduate of Key West High School, she and her husband raised their children here - the first four have already graduated and the youngest is a senior this year.

It's the laid-back lifestyle and the people here that she enjoys most about Key West.

"I truly love helping people with home ownership and real estate investments, and I enjoy helping them realize and know what a residual income is in real estate, which is one of the most secure investments I feel you can make," Heather said.

She credits her very diverse 20-year career with helping her serve her clients in many ways.

"I can truly listen and help clients with whatever needs they have for residential or commercial real estate, property management, or investments," she stated.

When she isn't helping her clients with their real estate needs, she loves to spend time with her friends and family.

"Boating is one of our passions," she said. She loves being on the water and exploring the surrounding Keys.

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.
608 Whitehead Street
Key West, FL 33040
(305)294-4585

Porter Allen Insurance Company
513 Southard Street
Key West, FL 33040
305-294-2542

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

"Candidates" continued from page 1

of homeowners, the needs of citizens for housing and home ownership, and to advocate for the environment.

On the question of accepting the Rate Of Growth Ordinance (ROGO) units, Michelle Coldiron said she would accept them and bank them, which Vicki Tashjian and David Rice agreed with, but Tommy Ryan spoke out against that idea. He said communities are not ready for the ROGO units because hurricane evacuations are not enforced.

Regarding community clean-up following a tropical disaster, the candidates disagreed with one another only slightly.

Vicki Tashjian said, "We need to have contingencies in place for all the Keys," and use local companies for the clean-up of the canals and other areas in the aftermath.

David Rice said he feels the county planned as well as it could for Irma but that "nature can undo a lot of plans!"

He also said he thinks the Keys have learned from what did not work.

Tommy Ryan, who mentioned that Big Pine Key is still in the recovery stages of Hurricane Irma, disagreed with Rice and said he thought more could have been done to prepare and to handle the aftermath. He would also like to see special land areas designated to hold the debris.

Micheel Coldiron said that since every hurricane hits the Keys in a different way it is hard to know exactly how to plan ahead. It makes sense every season to evaluate where land can be set aside to hold the debris that is cleaned-up.

The homeless situation throughout Monroe County is a complex issue and each candidate agreed something needs to be done. Tommy Ryan said the communities and the county should work together to find solutions, Michelle Coldiron said there should be a way to discover what the homeless population needs and provide it to them.

Vicki Tashjian recognizes that some people choose to be homeless but for those who want help there should be a way to assist them to help themselves.

David Rice suggested there be a way to link mental health and substance abuse assistance together with the work of the Keys Overnight Temporary Shelter (KOTS) to help as many homeless people as possible

On the matter of the 6% ad valorem tax increase this year, all the candidates agreed that Hurricane Irma and the lack of FEMA funds depleted financial resources county wide and the tax increase is unavoidable to refill the coffers.

Regardless of the issue, each candidate closed their remarks for the day by reinforcing their passion for serving the citizens of Monroe County and their desire to make a difference in the community at large.

President's Message cont. from page 1

the quiet time of the year many are looking towards a great season.

While we have several busy committees within the chamber our Education Committee is seeking some donations for our well deserving teachers that work so hard. Each year some of our chamber members generously donate a gift with a minimum value of $25.00 for all of our well deserving 22 teachers. We honor these teachers with a presentation of gifts, a plaque an apple pin and a lunch at our General Membership meetings. We do this at three different meetings throughout the year. Our first presentation will be at the October meeting and therefore I am asking if any of you can donate a gift certificates, merchandise or cash, we will be very grateful and more importantly the teachers of your children will have broad smiles on their faces.

As our local elections for the City of Key West Mayoral and Monroe County Commission race is fast approaching, the chamber is educating our members by inviting the candidates to our General Membership meetings. You can meet the candidates and have your questions answered that you have submitted for the forum. We just had the county commission candidates at our September meeting and will be looking forward to presenting the Mayoral candidates in October. If you have questions that you want to submit, email the chamber at committees@keywestchamber.org and Dorothy will compile the list for the meeting. Everyone seems to have an opinion, but so many people don't vote. So come on members, this year, get educated, find out who the candidates are and what they stand for. Come to the October General Membership Meeting and meet your next Mayor! Hope to see to there.

The Key West Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the

4TH ANNUAL FANTASY FEST AWARDS

First Prize Best Overall Local Float $7,500
Runner Up Local Float **$2,500**
Additional Category for **Walking Groups $1,000**

For more information about participating in the chamber's contest please contact the Key West Chamber of Commerce office at 305-294-2587.

Prizes awarded for local float entries into the annual parade for events at the end of October. Local entries must be Monroe County residents.

KEY WEST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Candidates Forum

We are hosting a Candidates Forum for the Mayoral Race at our General Membership Meeting …

Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at Noon.
Key West Marriott Beachside

Our Mayoral Candidates:
Teri Johnston
Margaret Romero

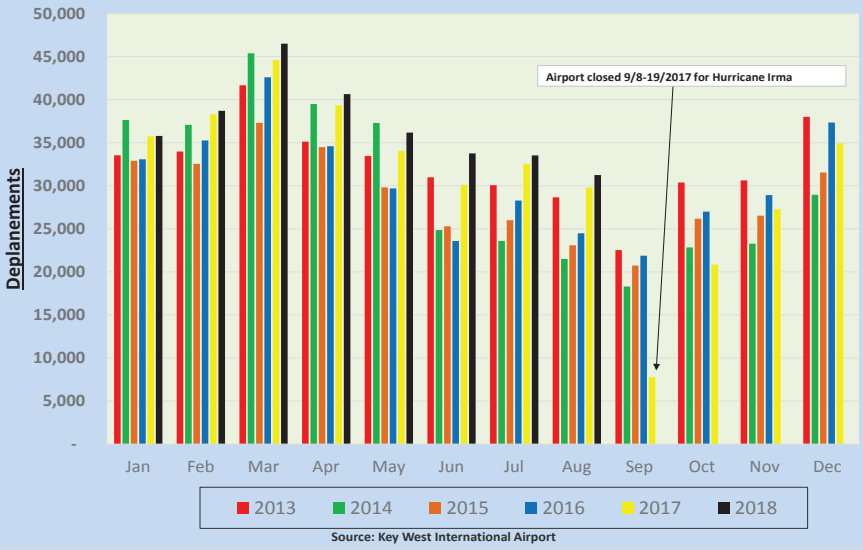
We are requesting your questions for the candidates. Please submit questions to:
committees@keywestchamber.org
Deadline to submit questions is:
Thursday, October 18th at NOON.

Hope to see you there!

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

Tom Sawyer
Five Star Program
1 Student Scholarship
Honor Roll 100/Charley P & Orsolina Toppino Memorial Award
$100 Contribution
2 Educational Enrichment
Teacher Continuing Education
$100 Contribution
3 Teacher Recognition
22 Gifts valued @ $25 or more each
$550 Contribution
4 Classroom Sponsorship
2 Classrooms @ $500 or 4 @ $250
$1,000 Contribution
5 Student Mentoring
Take Stock in Children Mentoring by Business Rep or Spouse - 1 hour/week
Be a Star for Local Education
KEY WEST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Want to become a Five-Star Member?
Ask us for more details.

Key West International Airport Arrivals
January 2013 - August 2018



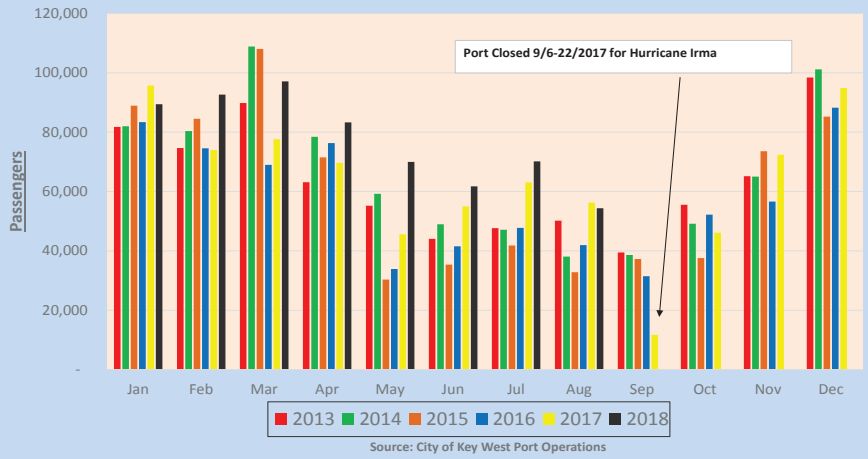
Source: Key West International Airport

Passenger arrivals to Key West International Airport in August, 2018 totaled 31,237. This is an increase of 4.8%
when compared to August 2017.

Total passenger arrivals for the eight months of 2018 was 296,319. **That is a 4.1% increase over the same period in 2017**.
August 2018 deplanements marked the 8th straight increase month over month compared to 2017. It is a streak that dates back to December 2017 where there was
a 6.8% decrease compared to December 2016.

August 2018 is the first August ever that more than 30,000 passengers arrived at the Key West Airport.

Key West Cruise Ship Passengers
January 2013 - August 2018



Source: City of Key West Port Operations

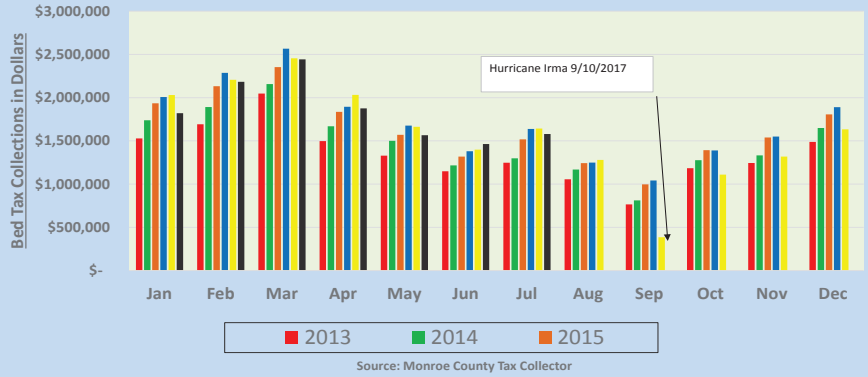
A total of 54,383 cruise ship passengers disembarked in Key West from 21 ships during August 2018. This is 3.4% lower than August 2017 which saw 56,316 passengers.

For the eight months of 2018, cruise ship arrivals saw 618,809 passengers disembark from 266 port calls. So far port calls are up 16.2% for the year and passenger counts are up 15.2% over the same period in 2017.

The cruise ship schedule for September to November compared to the same three months in 2017 is shown below.

Number of Ships	2017	2018
October	21	25
November	37	30
December	49	49

Key West Bed Tax Collections
January 2013 - July 2018



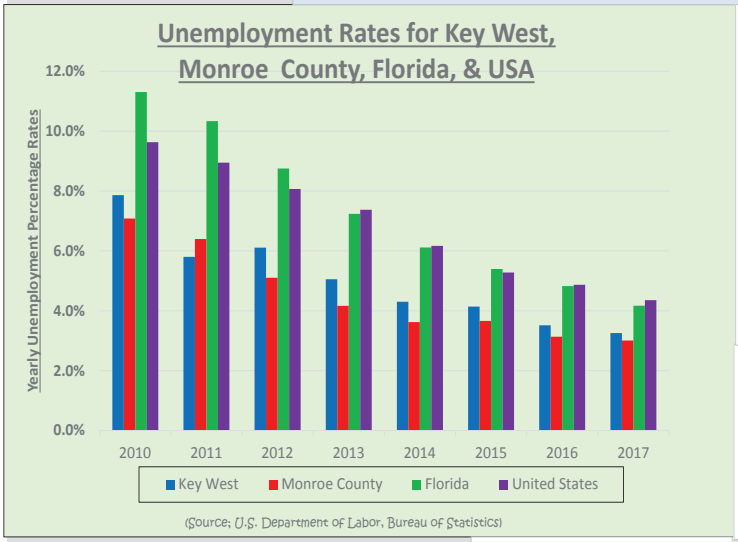
Source: Monroe County Tax Collector

Reported Bed Tax Collections for Key West were $1,578,520 for July, 2018, 3.9% lower than in 2017.
According to Smith Travel, July 2018 occupancy was 90.2%, a 0.9% decrease from the July occupancy rate of 91.1%.

The Average Daily Rate (ADR) was reported at $247.03 for July 2018. A very slight decrease from the ADR of $247.41 posted in August 2017.

Since Hurricane Irma passed on September 10, 2017 and caused damage to some hotels, the number of rooms available has declined in Key West.
The estimated number of rooms off-line coming into October, 2017 was 27% in Key West. The number of rooms still off-line in September, 2018 is estimated at 3% in Key West.

HISTORICAL KEY WEST LABOR AT A GLANCE



Key West unemployment rates in 2017 continued to hover around the 3% mark for a third year in a row. Employment has remained remarkably consistent for the past twenty-five years. In recent years the population has floated slightly north and south of 25,000. In 2005 the population was slightly below 24,000, and it hit 25,755 in 2015. Despite Hurricane Irma the city population was estimated at 25,208 people at the end of 2017. An area of critical concern is that both the workforce and the population is capped in Key West. A perceived aging demographic shift is also a concern for a market in need of a steady supply of labor.

Census Bereau has not updated population data from July 2018 as of yet.

The total estimated population of Monroe County, Florida in 2017 was 74,319.

As of July, 2017 the City of Key West population was 25,208, a 2.1% increase from the 2010 population of 24,670.

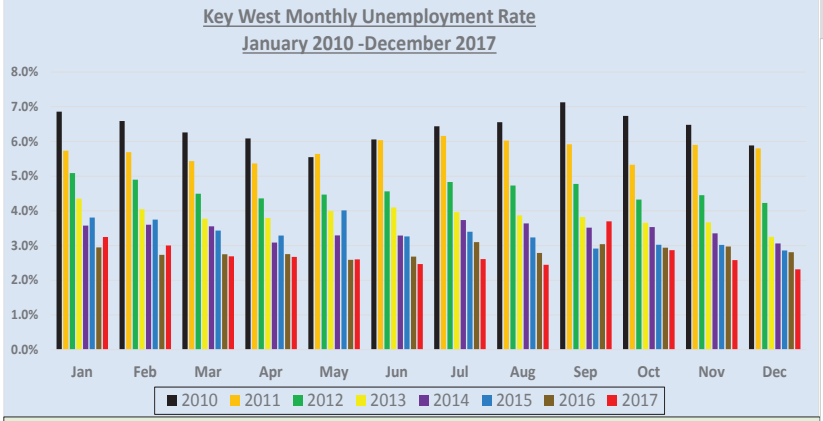
"every 85 visitors to our state adds another job for our families" - Rick Scott

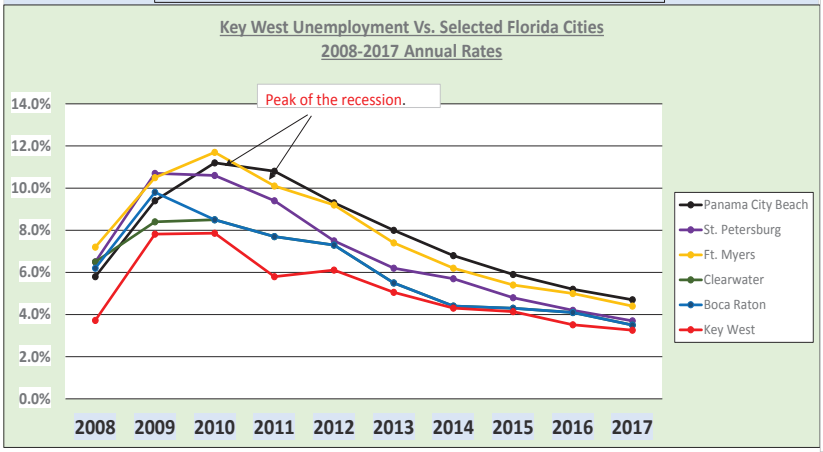
For the year 2017 Key West averaged 16,019 employed persons. Down from the 2014 high of 16,866 employed people.

63% WORK PARTICIPATION RATE!

That's 16,019 of it's 25,208 residents were employed.

+supporting almost 3.5 million visitors
+with almost 6,000 transient rooms
+ and a seasonal resident swell that comes close to doubling the population





While Key West consistently reflects a seasonal unemployment trend seen in monthly rates, the city continues to see rates favorable to those of other Florida destinations as can be seen when compared with selective Florida cities in the lower chart. Key West's unemployment rate has historically been lower than these other destinations, and Key West did not experience the steep increase in unemployment the other places did in 2009.

A growing issue on the local, state, and national level is the numbers of people not participating in the labor force at all. They aren't amongst the employed and they are not counted amongst the unemployed. A June, 2018 Tampa Bay Times article reported that the number of "prime age" men not participating in the Florida labor force has grown from 9% in 2003 to 11.3% last year according to the CPS from the Census Bureau. That's a total of 430,000 men aged 25-54 who spent last year on the economic sidelines. As unemployment rates plummet, and the need for employees grow there seems to be a growing need to reunite these people with the labor market.

Welcome New Members!

The Key West Chamber welcomed eight new members at the September membership luncheon. Pictured left to right front row are: Membership Committee Chairperson Kim Works, new members Donna Daniels (DSV & Associates), Ginnie Donaldson (S.S. Ginnie) and back row Membership Committee member Joe Caso, Mark Vose (The Laureate Key West), Luis Requejo (Ralons America Corporation) and Mike Laurent (Florida Keys Community Land Trust). Not pictured Wyland Galleries of the Florida Keys and Southernmost Ghosts.

AAG Live, Inc.
2011 Flagler Ave, Ste 40 | Key West, FL 33040
305-925-9767 | www.aag-live.com
Contact: Jason Atwell
Production Company

DSV & Associates LLC
P.O. Box 5770 | Key West, FL 33045
305-563-3815 | www.dsvkw.com
Contact: Donna Daniels
Accounting, Payroll & Income Tax Services

Florida Keys Community Land Trust
P.O. Box 420385 | Summerland Key, FL 33042
678-778-5420 | www.affordablekeys.org
Contact: Mike Laurent
Non-Profit Organization

Ralons America Corporation
10900 NW 25th St, Ste 100 | Doral, FL 33172
786-615-5522 | www.ralonsamerica.com
Contact: Luis J. Requejo
Facility Services/Security Guard Services

S.S. Ginnie
27356 Tobago Ln | Ramrod Key, FL 33042
615-336-7817
Contact: Ginnie Donaldson
Recording Artist/Songwriter

Southernmost Ghosts
P.O. Box 5757 | Williamsburg, VA 23188
305-768-9349 | www.southernmostghosts.com
Contact: Jacob Black
Tour Operator

The Laureate Key West
3444 North Roosevelt Blvd. | Key West, FL 33040
305-296-7593 | www.thelaureatekeywest.com
Contact: Mark Vose
Resort/Hotel
Sponsored by: Diane Schmidt, Margaritaville Key West Resort & Marina

Wyland Galleries of the Fl Keys
623 Duval Street | Key West, FL 33040
305-797-6455
Contact: Amber Shaffer
Art Gallery

Cruise Ship Schedule

OCTOBER 2018

10/1	No Ship	
10/2	Majesty	8:00am-7:00pm
10/3	No Ship	
10/4	No Ship	
10/5	Carnival Sensation	7:30am-1:30pm
10/6	No Ship	
10/7	Majesty	1:00pm-7:00pm
10/8	No Ship	
10/9	Carnival Victory	7:30am-1:30pm
10/10	No Ship	
10/11	Majesty	1:00pm-7:00pm
10/12	Empress	8:00am-5:00pm
10/13	No Ship	
10/14	Equinox	8:00am-5:00pm
10/15	No Ship	
10/16	Brilliance	11:00am-5:30pm
10/17	Majesty	8:00am-5:00pm
10/18	No Ship	
10/19	Carnival Sensation	7:30am-1:30pm
10/19	Empress	8:00am-5:00pm
10/20	No Ship	
10/21	Fram	10:00am-6:00pm
10/21	Majesty	1:00pm-7:00pm
10/22	Carnival Freedom	11:00am-7:00pm
10/23	Carnival Victory	7:30am-1:30pm
10/24	Celebrity Equinox	7:00am-4:00pm
10/24	Carnival Paradise	8:00am-5:00pm
10/25	Infinity	7:00am-5:00pm
10/25	Majesty	11:00am-7:00pm
10/26	Rotterdam	8:00am-5:00pm
10/27	No Ship	
10/28	C. Paradise	11:00am-8:00pm
10/29	Celebrity Infinity	7:00am-5:00pm
10/29	Rotterdam	11:00am-6:00pm
10/30	Carnival Victory	7:30am-1:30pm
10/30	Brilliance	11:00am-6:00pm
10/31	No Ship	

Community Calendar

October 2018

10/5-7	SOMO Marathon & Half Marathon, lizlovekw@gmail.com
10/7	Locals Day at Key West Botanical Gardens, 305-296-1504
10/7	Historic Tours of America Locals Day
10/12-14	7th Annual Stand Up Paddle Invitational, 305-923-0288
10/14	Rams Head Presents Who's Bad: The Ultimate Michael Jackson Experience, 8pm
10/19-20	Goombay Festival, 786-342-3340
10/19-28	Annual Fantasy Fest www.fantasyfest.com, 305-296-1817
10/19-26	Key West Burlesque presents: Madame DuJour's Magical Game Show Experience, Waterfront Playhouse
10/20	Key West Botanical Speaker Series & Native Plant Sale 1:30pm, 305-296-1504
10/21	Zombie Bike Ride
10/22	Rams Head Productions presents: Michael Franti & Spearhead, 6pm
10/24	Pet Masquerade – Truman Amphitheater
10/25	36th Annual Headdress Ball, Truman Amphitheater
10/26	Local's Masquerade March
10/27	Fantasy Fest Parade
10/28	Children's Day, Bayview Park, Noon to 5, 305-292-8912

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH, 2018

30th Annual Showcase of Key West Businesses Tradeshow & Business After Hours

Sponsored by: Key West Marriott Beachside, 3841 North Roosevelt Blvd.

The Key West Chamber of Commerce and Waste Management

Presented the

30th Annual "Showcase of Key West Businesses"

Trade Show at the Key West Marriott Beachside Hotel

Gabel McKechnie from T.E.M. Environmental & Mechanical Services was the lucky winner of a Yeti tumbler given by First State Bank of the Florida Keys. Pictured with Gabel are FSB Branch Manager Leslie Concepcion and Chamber President Suzanne Moore.

Chamber members Claire Murray, Local Enterprises; Jessica Long, Margaritaville Key West Resort & Marina; Patty Neyra, Check Construction; Diane Eliopoulos, Hard Rock Café and Ani Madruga from First State Bank stopped by to take a picture to celebrate the Chambers 30th Annual "Showcase of Key West Businesses.

First timers and familiar faces filled the Key West Marriott Beachside on Sept. 19th for the 30th Annual Key West Chamber of Commerce "Showcase of Key West Businesses."

More than 40 businesses, utilities, nonprofit organizations and educational institutions filled the Key West Marriott Beachside ballroom, offering demonstrations and information about products and services available throughout the Florida Keys.

More than 300 attendees perused the booths while enjoying promotional giveaways and raffle prizes.

Waste Management sponsored and presented the annual trade show along with OMI/Jacobs as a co-sponsor. The show which was open to the public from 3:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. and at 5:30 p.m., the event changed gears and was transformed into the chamber's members-only Business After Hours networking event, featuring food and drinks hosted by the Key West Marriott Beachside.

The Key West Chamber of Commerce's thanks all of its members that participated in the show this year:

AAG Live, American Leak Detection, Amiga Travel, AT&T Small Business Solutions, Barrett Printing, Broadwave, Blue Native of the Florida Keys, Centennial Bank, Crown Merchants, Debonair Mechanical, Fairvilla Sexy Things, First State Bank of the Florida Keys, Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority, Florida Keys Community College, Florida Keys Mosquito Control, Florida Salt Scrub, Gary's Plumbing & Fire, Inc., Gourmet Nibbles & Flowers, Haagen-Dazs, Hemingway Rum Co. Distillery, Key West Insurance, Key West Printing, Keys Auto Center, Keys Federal Credit Union, Keys Imaging, Keys Medical Group, Keys Radio Group, Keys Weekly, KWCC Education Committee sponsored by OMI/Jacobs, Little Switzerland, Lower Keys Medical Center, Mount Sinai Cardiology of the Florida Keys,NAS Key West Morale Welfare Recreation, National Marine Sanctuary Foundation, Ocean ATM, Old Island Restoration Foundation, Our Keys, Robert E. Clark LLC a Certified Public Accountant, Sunset Marina Apartments, Take Stock In Children/Fla.Keys Education Foundation, Vacasa Key West Vacation Rentals, Waste Management, Inc. and Zonta Club of Key West.

Co-sponsored by: **OMI/Jacobs**

After Hours Host:
Marriott Key West Beachside Hotel

ATHENA™ Award Recognizes an Outstanding Professional Woman

Sponsored by:

NILES sales & service of the keys
www.NilesAuto.com

The Key West Chamber of Commerce is accepting applications to honor a woman who exemplifies leadership in her profession and industry by presenting her with the much-coveted ATHENA™ award, sponsored by Niles, Sales and Service.

The ATHENA™ award is a high honor given to a professional woman who demonstrates excellence in business or profession and provides valuable service to the community. The recipient will have exhibited initiative and creativity enhancing the efficacy of her business or profession and the stability and improvement of the community. Lastly, the recipient will have demonstrated support of the goals of professional women and have provided unselfish assistance on their behalf.

In 1980, the ATHENA™ awards program originated in Lansing, Michigan when Martha Mayhood Mertz, owner of her own real estate company, was asked to join the Lansing Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Mertz realized she was the only woman on the board and that the Lansing Chamber had recognized only one woman it its 75 years. This realization was the driving force in establishing the ATHENA™ foundation. Thus the first ATHENA™ award was given in 1982 to recognize an outstanding businesswoman and celebrate her achievements in community service and profession. Since its inception, the ATHENA™ award has grown into a national and international tradition with thousands of recipients in cities all over the country as well as in Moscow, Russia, and Canada, China and The United Aram Emirates, and the United Kingdom.

The ATHENA™ Foundation is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to providing leadership opportunities for women and recognizing those individuals who have given outstanding service to their profession and community. The foundation has been underwritten nationally by Oldsmobile Division of General Motors since 1985. National City Bank and Pontiac GMC, GM, and Buick are underwriters as well.

Each year, the ATHENA™ recipient receives a beautiful statue designed by sculptor Linda Ackley of Tampa, Florida. The statue represents Athena, the wise daughter of Zeus, in bronze. The head of the statue is a multi-faceted crystal ball and each statue has a protective acrylic coating and walnut base. Ackley has uniquely made each and every one of the ATHENA™ awards since 1982.

The 2017 Key West Chamber ATHENA™ award recipient was Cara Higgins. Past recipients include Joan Leggett (2016), Piper Smith (2015), Rita Irwin (2014), Diane Schmidt (2013), Joy Smatt (2012), Sandra Higgs (2011), Diane Gibson (2007), the late Merili McCoy (2005), Melissa Kendrick (2004), Elmira Leto (2003), Phyllis Allen (2002), the late Sharon Moore (2001), Amy Culver-Aversa (2000), the late Connie Rice (1999), Kim Works (1997), Sandra Taylor (1995), CeCe Roycraft (1992), the late Wilhelmina Harvey (1991), Linda O'Brien (1990), Dee Von Quirolo (1989), the late Terry Horton (1988), Sue Barroso (1987), and Virginia Panico (1986).

The community is highly encouraged to nominate local individuals for the ATHENA™ award or to receive a nomination form, contact Kerry Baker at the Key West Chamber at 294-2587 or via email to membership@keywestchamber.org. The Deadline to submit an application is Friday, October 12, 2018.

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, 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

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Key West CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Key West Fresh Fish
Key West, Florida
CHAMBER CHOWDER©
510 Greene Street ~ 1st Floor, Key West
www.keywestchamber.org

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Truman and Company Real Estate
305-292-2244

Billy Spottswood, First Vice President
Spottswood, Spottswood, Spottswood, & Sterling/305-294-9556

Cara Higgins, Second Vice President
Horan & Higgins, LLP/294-4585

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Monroe Concrete/305- 296-5606

Greg Sullivan, Past President
Waste Management/305-434-9140

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Lynne Tejeda, Appointee
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Virginia A. Panico, CCE,
Executive Vice President
Key West Chamber of Commerce/294-2587

CHAMBER STAFF

Virginia A. Panico, CCE
Executive Vice President

Edward Dawicki, III
Director of Research

Suzanne Pearce
Executive Assistant/Bookkeeper

Kerry Baker
Membership Director/Special Events Coordinator

Dorothy Schmida
Administrative Assistant

Shay Penke
Office Assistant/Tourist Information Operator

Gladys Clarks
Tourist Information Receptionist

Virginia A. Panico
Newsletter Editor

Cindy Jefferson
Art Director

Katrina Nichols
Newsletter Writer

Karrie Bond
Social Media Director

Key West Chamber Calendar of Events

October 2018

Business After Hours
Date: Wednesday, October 17, 2018
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Sponsored by: **Little Switzerland**
Location: 271 Front Street
Members Networking Event!

General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, October 24, 2018
Noon
Location: **Key West Marriott Beachside Hotel**
3841 N Roosevelt Blvd.
Topic:
Candidates Forum
Mayoral Candidates

November 2018

Business After Hours
Date: Wednesday, November 1, 2018
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Sponsored by: **Croissants de France**
Location: 816 Duval Street
Members Networking Event!

General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, November 28, 2018
Noon
Location: **Doubletree Grand Key Resort**
3841 N Roosevelt Blvd.
Speaker:
Honorable Danise Henriquez, Monroe County Tax Collector
Topic:
Update on Illegal vacation rentals in Monroe County

SAVE THE DATE

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 19, 2019 at the Marriott Beachside Resort
Black Tie Invited
Complimentary Cocktail Hour 6:00 p.m. ~ Dinner 7:00 p.m.
Please RSVP by Friday, January 11, 2018
Following dinner, please join us for music and dancing.
For more information or to make reservations contact the chamber at 305-294-2587 or email: membership@keywestchamber.org
Special Appreciation to our Cocktail Hour Sponsors:
Appelrouth & Farr Family
Appelrouth, Farah & Co. P.A.