

UPCOMING EVENTS

Business Builder

When: Tuesday, Feb. 11;
8:30-9:45 a.m.
Where: Chamber Boardroom
Cost: Free

The Essentials of LinkedIn Seminar

When: Tuesday, Feb. 18;
8:30-10 a.m.
Where: Chamber Boardroom
Cost: \$20, members (\$15 in advance); \$30, nonmembers (\$25 in advance)

Baseball Bash

When: Wednesday, Feb. 19;
6-8 p.m.
Where: Roger Dean Chevrolet Stadium
Cost: Visit Chamber website at www.palmbeaches.org

Trustee Reception

When: Thursday, Feb. 20;
5:30-7:30 p.m.; Invitation Only
Contact: Kelly Fanelli at 561-257-0289 or kfanelli@palmbeaches.org for more information

Economic Development Update Breakfast

When: Tuesday, Feb. 25;
7:45-9 a.m.
Where: Palm Beach County Convention Center
Cost: \$50, members (\$45 in advance); \$60, nonmember (\$55 in advance)
Sponsor: The Palm Beach Post
Guest Speaker: Kelly Smallridge, President and CEO Business Development Board of Palm Beach County

Ford Harrison Seminar; "No Union, No Matter – How Board Decisions Impact You!"

When: Thursday, Feb. 27;
8:30-10:30 a.m.
Where: Chamber Boardroom
Cost: \$20, members (\$15 in advance); \$30, nonmembers (\$25 in advance)

Business After Hours

When: Thursday, Feb. 27;
5:30-7:30 p.m.
Where: The Ben West Palm
Cost: \$20, members (\$15 in advance); \$30, nonmembers

Business Builder

When: Friday, Feb. 28;
8:30-9:45 a.m.
Where: Chamber Boardroom
Cost: Free

Sales Leadership vs Sales Management; It's not the same! Seminar

When: Friday, March 20;
8:30-10:30 a.m.
Where: Chamber Boardroom
Cost: \$5, members; \$15, nonmembers
Guest Speaker: Greta Schulz

KELLY SMALLRIDGE, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BOARD, TO SPEAK AT FEBRUARY BREAKFAST

The Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches is pleased to announce another outstanding keynote speaker for our February Breakfast. The Business Development Board (BDB) of Palm Beach County President and CEO Kelly Smallridge will discuss Economic Development in Palm Beach County: An overview of companies that have relocated or expanded into the county over the past 12 months.

Arrive early and network with elected officials and other community leaders on Tuesday, Feb. 25 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center from 7:45-9 a.m. Individual tickets and tables of 10 are available on our website PalmBeaches.org.



The Palm Beach Post

Kelly Smallridge CAPEHART PHOTOGRAPHY



2020 CENSUS IS COMING IN MARCH

Please remember that you and your family have a special opportunity and obligation to respond to the 2020 census beginning in March. Your census response will guide who you can vote for (because of redistricting) and the availability of federal funds to our county over the next 10 years for schools, health care, roads, fire and emergencies and many other vital services.

For more information about the 2020 census, go to www.2020census.gov or email lwvpbccensus@gmail.com.

Leadership West Palm Beach Kicks Off 2020 Program



The 2020 Class of Leadership West Palm Beach kicked off this year's program with Rosemary Square Day on Jan. 21. The day began with the Mayor's State of the City Breakfast at the Palm Beach County Convention Center, followed by a panel discussion with City Commissioners and a walking tour of Rosemary Square. The afternoon's activities included a ride on Brightline.

Special thanks to our Class 2020 Sponsors: Reikens and Associates, Brightline, Fifth Third Bank, KPA Promotions & Awards, FPL, Cohen Brothers, BDO, and Baptist Health South Florida. For more information about Leadership West Palm Beach, please contact Sandy Pullens at spullens@palmbeaches.org.



Network for a Cause

FITTEAM Ballpark of the Palm Beaches and General Manager Matt Slatus welcomed more than 110 professionals and 12 nonprofits for our quarterly "Network for a Cause" event, which gives nonprofit chamber members an opportunity to showcase their teams and services offered to our community. Guests participated in an "Around-the-world" competition by visiting each of the 12 nonprofit tables to be entered into a raffle to win four baseball tickets and the opportunity to throw out a "First Pitch" during an upcoming game. Chamber Trustee Matt Slatus invited the entire group to come back to enjoy the new "Open Air Balcony Suites" and

the 1st and 3rd base open-air "All you can Eat Menu" on the party decks for families and groups of all sizes.

Participating nonprofits were:

- Awesome Greyhound Adoptions, Inc. & Hounds and Heroes
- CareerSource Palm Beach County
- Gift of Life Marrow Registry
- Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County
- Madison's Miracles
- MorseLife
- Project Bahama Strong Corporation
- Quantum House
- Seagull Services
- Trustbridge Hospice Foundation
- Urban League of Palm Beach County
- YMCA of the Palm Beaches

Chamber welcomes new Board members: Cotner, Travers



Cotner

Ian Cotner is AT&T's Regional Director of External and Legislative Affairs. He is responsible for coordinating AT&T's political, legislative and community affairs in Palm Beach County and the Treasure Coast, as well as Glades and Okeechobee counties. Before joining AT&T, Cotner served as the Director of

Legislative Affairs for the Florida Department of Children and Families and in the legislative offices of former Majority Leader Adam Hasner and a former Speaker Pro Tempore of the Florida House of Representatives John Legg. He also worked for some of Florida's premier governmental consulting firms.



Travers

Stephen Travers is the District Manager of Rosemary Square with Related Companies. He oversees day-to-day business operations, including parking, food and beverage operations, front of house guest services, maintenance and security at Rosemary Square in West Palm Beach. Travers began his

career in Ireland with Unilever and transferred to the United States in 1994. He became the Advertising Director for the Irish Voice Newspaper in New York, and was VP of Hospitality at the New York Racing Association for the past 11 years. Travers graduated from Benildus College in Dublin, Ireland.



LIMITED TICKETS LEFT FOR BASEBALL BASH

Last call to purchase your Baseball Bash tickets! Select players and managers from the St. Louis Cardinals and Miami Marlins will sign autographs from 6-7 p.m. from the field level. There is a maximum of one autograph from each

player, per person, so that all attendees will have the opportunity to meet the players. The participating players will not be announced prior to the event. Each attendee receives barbecue and two soft drinks and/or

beer. President of Baseball Operations for the Miami Marlins Baseball Club Michael Hill will give his 2021 forecast at 7:15 p.m. Visit PalmBeaches.org for more information.



The Palm Beach Post



Mayor Keith James delivers his inaugural State of the City address

City of West Palm Beach Mayor Keith James delivered his inaugural State of the City Address to more than 800 members and guests of the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches at the Palm Beach County Convention Center, on Tuesday, Jan. 21. Mayor James said "I hereby declare that West Palm Beach is strong, and its future promising. Our challenges are outweighed by our opportunities" and that he stands on his campaign platform "Community of Opportunity for All."

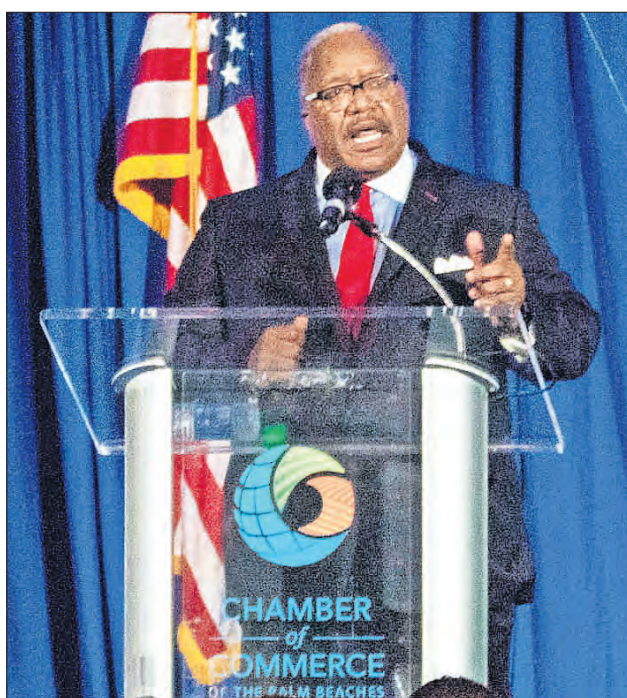
"A very special thanks to the 1,700 employees of the City of West Palm Beach, including the men and women in our police and fire departments whose 'first response' to danger moves so many others out of harm's way," Mayor James said, reflecting on his first year in office.

The Mayor reminded the audience that in 2019 he ran on what came to be known as the KEITH 5-Point Plan: 1. Keep crime low. 2. Environment and economy. 3. Integrity. 4. Transit, traffic and taxes. 5. Homelessness.

Reporting on the economy, Mayor James said: "Last year's record \$12.2 million in building permits and \$3.6 billion in projects in the pipeline speak to the major economic transformation sweeping across our city."

Mayor James ended by challenging everyone to take personal responsibility to address homelessness, supporting the city in their targeted efforts. "In December, we implemented on-street mental health resources to meet the homeless who are mentally ill where they are and to connect them with the help that they need. Thank you, Commissioner Lambert, for introducing us to Mental Health America of Palm Beach County. We have also hired a dedicated Homeless Services Coordinator to manage this initiative."

To read Mayor Keith James' speech in its entirety please visit www.wpb.org.



Mayor Keith James, Tara McCoy (Good Samaritan Medical Center); and Chamber Chair Rick Reikenis (Reikenis & Associates, LLC) PHOTOS BY CAPEHEART

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David Ecija



David Ecija is the General Manager of Hilton West Palm Beach. With 20 years of global hospitality experience, 15 of which have been with Hilton in Europe, Asia, Latin American and now the United States, Ecija has worked six countries and three continents. An inspiring leader, Ecija mentored nine talented professionals to become GMs with Hilton across Europe, Middle East, South East Asia and the Caribbean. Previously, he was cluster general manager of Hilton Sukhumvit and DoubleTree by Hilton Sukhumvit. Prior to successfully managing these two hotels in a dynamic economic environment, he served in a number of general manager and operations management positions with Hilton throughout Europe, including general manager roles at Hilton Vilamoura Golf & Spa Resort and Hilton Madrid Airport, among others.

Ecija holds a Hotel Management Degree from Polytechnic University in Madrid, Spain.

Debra Vasilopoulos



Debra Vasilopoulos is the Market President of IBERIABANK. She is a recognized leader with over 30 years of experience in Private Wealth management. Prior to joining IBERIABANK, she was the Regional President of Sabadell Bank & Trust. Prior to that, she was a founding member of Lydian Bank & Trust. Debra also served as the Regional Lending Director and Senior Vice President of OffitBank. She attended Lowell University, College of Financial Planning. Currently, Debra serves as an officer on the Board of Trustees for the Town of Palm Beach United Way.

Now Accepting Business Awards Nominations

The Chamber is now accepting nominations for the 2020 Business Awards to be presented at the annual Business Awards Breakfast scheduled for Tuesday, April 14 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center from 7:45-9 a.m.

This year, awards will be presented for: Business of the Year; Small Business Person of the Year; Non-Profit (Arts & Culture) of the

Year; Leader of the Year; Health and Human Services Organization of the Year; Young Professional of the Year; Diversity Organization of the Year

Visit palmbeaches.org to nominate a Business or Person for the 2020 Business Awards. Contact Michele Sacher at msacher@palmbeaches.org for sponsorship and ticketing information.

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