



CHAMBER  
of  
COMMERCE  
OF THE PALM BEACHES

# BUSINESS watch

March 2018

401 N. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach | (561) 833-3711 | www.palmbeaches.org

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### How to Do Business with the Federal Government Seminar

**When:** Tuesday, March 6; 8:30-10:30 a.m.  
**Where:** Chamber Boardroom  
**Cost:** \$20, members; \$30, non-members  
**Speaker:** Gustavo Vergara, U.S. Small Business Administration

### Business Builder

**When:** Friday, March 9 and Thursday, March 22; 8:30-9:45 a.m.  
**Where:** Chamber Boardroom  
**Cost:** Free

### Power Networking @ Lunch

**When:** Tuesday, March 13; 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
**Where:** Holiday Inn-Palm Beach Airport  
**Cost:** \$35, members (in advance), \$40 after deadline; \$45 non-members (in advance), \$50 after deadline  
**Partner:** BNI South Florida  
**Sponsor:** SunFest

### Trustee Luncheon

**When:** Thursday, March 15, invitation only  
**Guest Speaker:** Derek Jeter  
**Contact:** Kelly Fanelli at 561-257-0289 or kfanelli@palmbeaches.org for more information

### Network Advance

**When:** Friday, March 16; 8:30-10:30 a.m.  
**Where:** Chamber Boardroom  
**Cost:** Free

### March Breakfast

**Topic:** Arts Impact: Cultural Organization Expansions Around Palm Beach County  
**When:** Tuesday, March 20; 7:45-9 a.m.  
**Where:** Palm Beach County Convention Center  
**Cost:** \$45, members (in advance), \$50 after deadline; \$55, future members (in advance), \$60 after deadline  
**Sponsor:** Cultural Council of Palm Beach County

### Tax Reform Bill: What You Need To Know Seminar

**When:** Wednesday, March 21; 8:30-10:30 a.m.  
**Where:** Chamber Boardroom  
**Cost:** \$15, members (in advance), \$25 after deadline; \$20, non-members (in advance), \$30 after deadline  
**Speakers:** Traci Kratish and Daniel Castro, BDO

### Business After Hours/YPOP Hotspot

**When:** Wednesday, March 28; 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
**Where:** BurgerFi (CityPlace)  
**Cost:** \$15, members (in advance), \$20 after deadline; \$30, non-members after deadline; YPOP Members, free; non-YPOP members, \$20  
**Sponsor:** SunFest



From left: Keith Spina, Chamber Chair; Dr. Wes Hawkins, Dean, FAU College for Design and Social Inquiry; John Carey, PBC Inspector General; Mark Bannon, Esq., Executive Director, Commission on Ethics of PBC; Kelly Smallridge, President and CEO, Business Development Board; Dr. Peter Cruise, Executive Director, FAU Public Ethics Academy. CAPEHART PHOTOGRAPHY

## BDB CEO REPORTS ON CORPORATE RELOCATIONS AND EXPANSION IN COUNTY

Kelly Smallridge, CEO and President of the Business Development Board provided an update on corporate relocations and expansions in Palm Beach County at the Chamber's February Breakfast. In her presentation, she announced that Rockwell Collins and Niagara Bottling are the most recent companies to relocate to Palm Beach County.

The BDB focuses on eight different industry clusters when prospecting for



businesses to relocate to Palm Beach County. A few of these categories include life science/health care, business and finance, logistics, and distribution. The BDB's hard work has contributed to the county's low unemployment

rate (currently 3.6 percent). Smallridge also noted that at just over \$51,000 per year, Palm Beach County has the highest average salary in the state.

In response to a question from the audience, Smallridge

stated that the BDB has been working with partners in Miami-Dade and Broward counties to bring large companies to the tri-county area. This strategy helped us get onto the short list for the Amazon HQ2 search.

With Palm Beach County housing 70 corporate headquarters, the biggest concern for future growth is the lack of prime office space.

The event was sponsored by FAU's Public Ethics Academy.



From left: Mike Bauer, Roger Dean Chevrolet Stadium; Michael Hill, Miami Marlins; Don Mattingly, Miami Marlins; Mike Matheny, St. Louis Cardinals; Bill Pruitt CAPEHART PHOTOGRAPHY



Derek Jeter, Miami Marlins Chief Executive Officer

### DEREK JETER TO SPEAK AT TRUSTEE LUNCHEON

Miami Marlins CEO Derek Jeter will address a luncheon of the Chamber Trustees on March 15. If you are interested in becoming a Trustee, please contact Kelly Fanelli at 561-257-0289.

## Baseball bash hits it out of the park

More than 200 people attended the Annual Baseball Bash event held at Roger Dean Chevrolet Stadium. Players from the Miami Marlins and St. Louis Cardinals autographed attendee's memorabilia. Miami Marlins President of Baseball Operations Michael Hill gave his 2018 forecast. A portion of the proceeds raised from this event will go toward the Marlins/Cardinals fund, which provides financial assistance to local nonprofit organizations that encourage the participation of young people in sports and other physical fitness activities.



The Palm Beach Post  
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## March Breakfast

Forty years ago, Palm Beach County was called a "cultural desert." Today, it is home to more than 200 arts and cultural organizations that offer more than 42,000 events annually, generate \$633 million in economic impact and employ more than 14,000 people. They are a cornerstone of tourism: attracting audiences, spurring business development, supporting jobs, and increasing government revenue.

As the county's population grows and more tourists visit every year, cultural organizations must keep up with the demands of increasing attendance so that local residents and visitors can continue to appreciate exhibitions, experience an event, or enjoy a performance.

To date, there are more than 25 cultural expansions – valued at more than \$500 million – planned

in The Palm Beaches over the next decade.

Join us March 20 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center from 7:45-9 a.m. as a panel of cultural executives share information about their expansion projects and learn ways the business community can get involved.

Moderator: Irvin Lippman, Executive Director of the Boca Raton Museum of Art

Panelists: Lew Crampton, CEO of the South Florida Science Center & Aquarium; Bridget Barrata, Chief Development Officer of Palm Beach Zoo; Hope Alswang, CEO of the Norton Museum of Art.



## TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT

### Lew Crampton



Lew Crampton has served as President and CEO of the South Florida

Science Center and Aquarium since August of 2010. He was appointed Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Community Affairs and served in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as Director of the Office of Management Systems and as EPA's Associate Administrator. Crampton coached an AAU national championship basketball team. He received his BA cum laude from Princeton and his MA in east Asian studies from Harvard.

### Justin Hoysradt



Justin Hoysradt is the CEO and majority shareholder of Vinyasun Corporation a rooftop

solar developer, with headquarters in West Palm Beach. In addition to overseeing operations and fund development, Hoysradt oversees the state and local policy initiatives for Vinyasun. He serves on the board of directors of the Florida Solar Industries Association. Hoysradt previously led a successful campaign to amend Florida's constitution to reduce the property taxes of Florida business and commercial property owners who choose to make investments in solar energy. He is a graduate of the University of Central Florida.

# SunFest

MAY 3 - 6, 2018

WEST PALM BEACH



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## 2018 ENTERTAINMENT

**LOGIC • BILLY IDOL • GIRL TALK** **THURSDAY**

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**DREAMERS • OLIVIA O'BRIEN**

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For more information, go to [sunfest.com](http://sunfest.com)  
or contact Sharon Hoffman  
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# SunFest

MAY 3 - 6, 2018 / WEST PALM BEACH  
4 DAYS • 3 STAGES • 50 BANDS



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- Two company banners displayed at your booth provided by SunFest
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# BUSINESS *watch*

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## Kravis Center renovation endorsed by Chamber Board of Directors

Beginning this summer, The Kravis Center for the Performing Arts, Palm Beach County's premier center for the arts, will undergo a \$40 million redesign with the goal of elevating the customer experience for their more-than-half-million guests each year. The redesign will add more space and improve traffic flow in, out and around the theater. The renovation will include expansion of the facade's glass-curtain wall, increasing the lobby by more than 5,000



KRAVIS  
CENTER  
FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

square feet, providing a more open and spacious area for patrons before performances and during intermission. The center's front area will become a pedestrian-friendly plaza, making it easier for people walking over from area hotels and the Palm Beach County Convention Center. Valet service will be moved to the east side

of the building with a new covered valet entrance, all for better traffic flow and easier, faster access. There will be new technology enhancements throughout the center and the parking garage will gain a new entrance ramp, providing easier access to upper floors and reducing traffic congestion.



Class members on the putting green at Quantum House.

## Leadership West Palm Beach Focuses on Health & Human Services

The 2018 Class of Leadership West Palm Beach enjoyed Health & Human Services Day on February 7 with a variety of guest speakers and tours. The day began with presentations at the Senator Philip D. Lewis Center, followed by Gulfstream Goodwill Industries and the Lighthouse for the Blind.



The afternoon's itinerary included visits to The Lord's Place/Café Joshua, St. Mary's

Medical Center and Palm Beach Children's Hospital, and Quantum House.

Thank you to our Health & Human Services Day chairs, Todd McLeod and Robin Galanti. Special thanks to our Class 2018 sponsors: Reikenis & Associates, LLC; Brightline; and GliddenSpina + Partners.



REIKENIS & ASSOCIATES, LLC



## YPOP Hotspot at Kapow! Noodle Bar

More than 50 young professionals met at Kapow! Noodle Bar on Clematis Street for the February YPOP Hotspot. The Young Professionals of the Palm Beaches (YPOP) meet one or two times each month at different locations for a networking event.

Our next YPOP Hotspot is scheduled for March 28 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at BurgerFi in CityPlace. This event will precede the annual SunFest Battle of the Bands

competition. Visit [www.palmbeaches.org](http://www.palmbeaches.org) to register. YPOP is a separate membership from the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches. If you are interested in learning more about YPOP, please contact Marissa Kosiec at [mkosiec@palmbeaches.org](mailto:mkosiec@palmbeaches.org).



From left: Gregory Daniel, Mercantil Bank; Dr. Antonio Villamil; Keith Spina, Chamber Chair



Keith Spina, Chamber Chair and John Bowers, TD Bank host students from Oxbridge Academy

## Dr. Antonio Villamil addresses the 2018 Economic Outlook

Nationally recognized economist, Dr. J. Antonio Villamil, founder and principal of the Washington Economics Group, Inc., addressed attendees at the Chamber's Economic Outlook Luncheon at the West Palm Beach Marriott. In his presentation, Dr. Villamil highlighted the

following positives:

■ 10 million jobs had been added to the national economy between January 2014 and January 2018

■ Bank lending had been steadily increasing since 2010

■ We were effectively experiencing full employment with the current

unemployment rate at 4.1 percent

For 2018, Dr. Villamil expects the unemployment rate to continue trending downward nationally. The improving economy should result in increased sales tax revenues for Florida, and we should expect employment

growth in some key sectors – construction, wholesale trade, transportation, warehousing, health services, and education.

Overall, Dr. Villamil expects the U.S. economy to continue to grow, with South Florida growing at a faster rate than the rest of the nation. He also anticipates moderate

increases in global economic activity, which will have a positive impact on the national economy.

The Economic Outlook Luncheon was sponsored by Mercantil Bank.



### NEW MEMBERS

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