

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women for Women 5k Run

When: Original date of Saturday, May 9 has been rescheduled to Saturday, Oct. 10; 7-9 a.m.

Where: Currie Park
Cost: Early registration before Sept. 18; \$25, ages 18 and younger; \$35, ages 19 and older; \$30, club members

Virtual Business Card Exchange; "Rainmaking During an Unforeseen Drought"

When: Wednesday, May 13; 12 p.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Virtual meeting
Cost: \$10, members; \$20, nonmembers
Sponsor: iThink Financial

Women in Business Committee Presents

"Proactively Managing your Career as a Self-Assured Woman"

When: Thursday, May 14; 12 p.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Virtual meeting
Cost: Free, members only
Guest Speaker: Sheila Skolnick

VIRTUAL Business Builder

When: Friday, May 15; 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Where: Virtual meeting
Cost: Free for members, and nonmembers
Sponsor: iThink Financial

Pandemic Legal Impacts: What Employers Need to Know; "FFCRA" & "CARES" Acts Updates

When: Wednesday, May 20; 11 a.m.-noon.

Where: Webinar
Cost: Free for members and nonmembers
Guest Speakers: David Gobeo, Esq. & Christine Hanley, Esq. of Ford Harrison, LLP.

Young Professionals of the Palm Beaches (YPOP) MEETING – "Reinventing Yourself;

Growing stronger with Creative Marketing, LinkedIn Networking, & Business Strategies"

When: Thursday, May 21; 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Where: Virtual meeting
Cost: Free, YPOP Members; \$10, nonmembers
Guest Speaker: Rick Reikenis, President, Reikenis & Ass., and CCPB Board Chairman

Virtual Network for A Cause; Virtually meet our nonprofit members

When: Wednesday, May 27; 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Where: Virtual meeting
Cost: Free, nonprofit members; \$10, members; \$20, nonmembers
Sponsor: Baquero Translations, Inc.

New to Virtual Sales? How You Can Transform Your Sales Team to Sell Remotely!

When: Thursday, May 28; 12 p.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Webinar
Cost: \$10, members; \$20 nonmembers
Guest Speakers: Patty Templeton-Jones, CEO, Wright Flood; Janet Altman, Principle, Marketing Director of Kaufman Rossin; Christine Barney, CEO, rbb Communications

VIRTUAL Business Builder

When: Friday, May 29; 12 p.m.-1 p.m.

Where: Virtual meeting
Cost: Free for members and nonmembers
Sponsor: iThink Financial



2019 Winning Golf Team; Law Office of Paul A. Krasker, P.A. Foursome with Chamber CEO Dennis Grady

CHAMBER'S ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT IS FRIDAY, JUNE 26 – REGISTER TODAY

The Chamber's Annual Golf Tournament is one of the most popular events on our calendar, attracting a wide range of decision makers and community leaders. The day starts with a continental breakfast at 7 a.m., and a four person Scramble Shotgun Start at 8:15 a.m.

Various competitions along the course will include:

- Longest drive (men's and women's)
- Closest to the pin
- Hole-in-one

Lunch and awards ceremony will follow the tournament. Be sure to stop by the raffle table

Southwest

THE BREAKERS
REES JONES® COURSE

to see if you won Southwest Airline tickets or one of our other amazing prizes.

Foursomes will be competing for the honor of the Chamber Cup that is proudly displayed in the Chamber lobby. A photo of the winning team will be featured in the Business Watch section of the Palm Beach Post. Space is limited, register online at www.PalmBeaches.org



Chamber Trustees receive economic update from Florida Chamber during April meeting



Dr. Jerry Parrish

Dr. Jerry Parrish, Chief Economist for the Florida Chamber of Commerce Foundation, addressed the Chamber Trustees at their April meeting. Dr. Parrish shared his most recent economic data on the State of Florida and Palm Beach County with the group.

Parrish, who had just completed a presentation to

Governor DeSantis' COVID-19 Recovery Task Force, also provided a very insightful look at projections for our local and state economies for the next 60 days. He will address the group again in early June. Dr. Parrish maintains The Florida Scorecard™, which provides Florida's leaders and local stakeholders with the metrics needed to measure

progress within their own communities. We urge you to visit thefloridascorecard.org.

FLORIDA CHAMBER
Foundation

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT

Richard Gieseler



M&T Bank

Richard Gieseler is group vice president for M&T Bank Corporation and the regional president for M&T Bank's Florida region.

He graduated from West Point with a bachelor's degree in Economics and went on to serve his country as an Army officer and aviator. In 1999, he joined MBNA America Bank where he led multiple departments as a consumer and small business risk manager.

Gieseler joined M&T Bank in 2007 as a commercial real estate relationship manager after earning his MBA from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business. In 2016, Gieseler was promoted to lead the Bank's newest commercial region in Florida.

He has promoted M&T's engagement and support for Palm Beach County's Business Development Board and the PGA Corridor Association. He is particularly excited to join the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches as a Trustee and looks forward to actively supporting the organization and its membership.



Virtual Business Card Exchange/Speed Networking Event: 'Rainmaking During an Unforeseen Drought'

Grab your lunch and join us virtually from your home office or workspace for some online business card exchanges and sharing of inspirational stories. Each person will get 60 seconds to

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introduce themselves and their organization to share with the group their most successful "Rainmaker" idea. A prize will be given

to the person with the best story shared! Expand your network in one hour, virtually, over lunch! This Zoom event will be held on Wednesday, May 13, from noon-1 p.m. Register online at PalmBeaches.org

2020 Business Awards Breakfast



The 2020 Business Awards Breakfast acknowledges the accomplishments of organizations and individuals in our community.

Please join us as we recognize this year's finalists.

Non-Profit of the Year Award

- Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League
- Historical Society of Palm Beach County
- YWCA Palm Beach County

Health and Human Services Organization of the Year Award

- Dress for Success Palm Beaches
- Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County
- Meals on Wheels of the Palm Beaches, Inc.

Diversity Organization of the Year Award

- Baptist Health South Florida
- Mittleman Eye Institute
- Palm Beach State College

Leader of the Year Award

- Sponsored by Larmoyeux & Bone
- William M. B. Fleming Jr., Palm Beach Atlantic University

Young Professional of the Year Award

- Sponsored by Ideabar
- Jennifer Ferriol, City of West Palm Beach
 - Christine Shaw, Florida Atlantic University
 - Justin Tyler Testa, BOLAY

Small Business Person of the Year Award

- Sponsored by Blue Ocean Capital
- Robert Banting, Anderson & Carr, Inc.
 - Carrie Bradburn, Capehart Photography
 - Harris Levitt, Palm Beach Yacht Club & Marina
 - Rita Craig, Top Tier Leadership

Business of the Year Award

- Sponsored by Palm Beach Post
- GL Homes
 - KAST Construction
 - Palm Beach Outlets
 - Verdex Construction



The Palm Beach County Convention Center will not be available in June. This event will take place later this year.

Chamber Board votes to protect Lake Okeechobee water supply



Like the rest of the world, Palm Beach County businesses are laser-focused on COVID-19 and its impact on our future. It's true that the virus has created significant uncertainty, and with more information we hope to minimize risk to our businesses. While COVID-19 represents the greatest threat to our economy, another risk factor is water. Current low water conditions in Lake Okeechobee pose an additional threat to our region's economy. These conditions exist because the Corps intentionally dropped the lake stage last year, jeopardizing supplies this year. We cannot risk consistent low stages.

Lake Okeechobee is Palm Beach County's primary source for replenishing our

drinking water. Without water in the lake, history has shown we will not have water for drinking, caring for our elderly, or ensuring our businesses have a critical element customers expect. In 2011, Palm Beach County residents were days away from running out of water when Lake Okeechobee came dangerously close to 10 feet.

For this reason, Palm Beach's business community has joined forces with other water users south of Lake Okeechobee including utilities, farmers, Native American tribes, conservationists, local governments and anglers to ensure Congress will continue to protect water users' existing rights to obtain water needed from Lake Okeechobee. The

Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches voted recently to support the "savings clause" – an essential protection needed in the upcoming Water Resources and Development Act (WRDA) of 2020 to hopefully bridle lake operations and ensure South Floridians can have access to drinking water in the future.

Without this necessary language adopted by Congress, we can expect future water shortages, which endanger all of us as well as South Florida's vast natural ecosystem. South Floridians want and deserve access to water and Palm Beach County businesses are working to ensure there's enough water for everybody.

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK PRESIDENT ADDRESSES CHAMBER LEADERS

Dr. Raphael Bostic, President and CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, spoke to 165 businessmen and women in South Florida yesterday. Dr. Bostic began his remarks by pointing out the unique economic challenge

created by the COVID-19 crisis. The resulting economic challenges we are facing were not created by a business slowdown but a "health crisis," in his opinion. The resulting stay-at-home orders and social distancing have negatively impacted businesses small and large.

He shared that, in his opinion, our economy was working well over the past 11 years and we were experiencing solid growth and prosperity during pre-COVID-19. The Federal Reserve has responded with support of PPP

and Main Street lending programs as proposed by the government. Bostic emphasized that in his opinion the Congress has responded well to the current crisis.

Dr. Bostic reminded the listeners that there are no economic models or history in how to deal with this challenge. However, he hoped that we would regain consumer confidence sooner rather than later. Finally, he asked that the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, Greater Ft. Lauderdale Chamber and Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce continue to work with the staff in Atlanta in providing information on the state of our local economies.

This conversation was made possible by the **South Florida Business Council**.



Mayor Keith James addresses business leaders regarding the COVID-19 Crisis

West Palm Beach Mayor Keith James held an hourlong conversation with local business leaders regarding the COVID-19 crisis. James summarized in detail the steps the city has taken to assist in the testing of residents at many locations in the city. He shared his strategy behind taking mobile testing into neighborhoods where it was more challenging for residents to drive to permanent sites.

Mayor James also updated the business leaders on the call on the status of economic activity in the city. He stressed the many construction projects that have remained open and the efforts by the city to ensure inspections continue during this crisis. He also spoke about the transportation road improvement projects that the city staff have accelerated to take advantage of reduced automobile traffic over the past weeks.

Finally, the mayor explained in detail the West Palm Beach Economic Recovery programs underway in the City to assist small businesses during the pandemic. He also thanked the Downtown Development Authority for their financial and staff assistance in supporting these programs. He concluded his remarks by stating his commitment to balancing citizen's safety while striving to open businesses as soon as possible.

More than 50 businessmen and women took part in the conversation.



Mayor Keith James (left) and Chamber Chair Rick Reikenis at the 2020 State of the City Breakfast CAPEHART

MEMBER RENEWALS

Aioli - S, Dixie Hwy
Aioli - S, Olive Ave
Alex Brown
ARCpoint Labs of West Palm Beach
Banyan Printing & Direct Mail
Baron Sign Manufacturing
Blue Heron Fleet
City Oyster & Sushi Bar
Code Red Restoration, LLC
Compass Self Storage
Dunamis Capital Consulting, LLC
Elder Law, P.A.
EZ Access Medicare / Insurance, LLC

Families First of Palm Beach County
Forgotten Soldiers Outreach, Inc.
Gast Construction Group
Grease Burger Beer and Whiskey Bar
Habilitation Center for the Handicapped, Inc.
HG Commercial Cleaning
Honda Classic, The
Informa Exhibitions
Intech
Kowork Executive Suites
Landmark Insurance of the Palm Beaches
LegalShield / ID Shield
Lincoln Digital Group

Mavericks High of Palm Springs
McDonald's/ 'B' ing The Best, Inc.
McNicholas & Associates
O'Hara Pest Control Inc.
Palm Beach International Airport
Palm Beach Outlets
Primerica Financial Services
Provident Jewelry
Quality Inn - West Palm Beach Airport
Quest Workspaces
Red Roof Plus - West Palm Beach
Rise Dispensaries
Riviera Beach Marina Village Event Center

Seminole Casino Coconut Creek
Society of the Four Arts, The
Special District Services, Inc.
St. Mark's Episcopal School
Staples - Lake Park
Symptico Real Estate Inc.
Tower Commercial Real Estate
Town of Mangonia Park
Trauma Solutions of South Florida, LLC
West Palm Beach Downtown Development Authority
West Palm Beach Library Foundation
WPEC-TV CBS 12 News