

# CHAMBER of Of COMMERCE OF THE PALM BEACHES BUSINESS Watch December 2019

## Mayor Bernard delivers State of the County address at November Chamber Breakfast



From left: Wanda Whigham, Wanda Whigham Legal; Danny Elfenbein, Baptist Health South Florida; Chamber Chair Rick Reikenis; Mayor Mack Bernard; Michelle McGovern, Baptist Health South Florida; and Greg Leach, Trustbridge Hospice Foundation CAPEHART PHOTOGRAPHY

Palm Beach County Mayor Mack Bernard delivered the State of the County address to more than 250 business and community leaders at the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches' monthly

Mayor Bernard highlighted several key initiatives of the county, including economic development, tourism, addressing homelessness, public health, infrastructure, public transportation, workforce housing, the census and parks and recreation. The resounding conclusion from the Mayor: "the state of our county is good."

Unemployment is 3.2%, lower than the state and national average. There have been almost 30,000 job openings in the county last year. The "Beyond Tourism Initiative" has helped attract more than 34 companies, creating 2,725 jobs. Meanwhile, tourism continues to be a driving force, projecting to hit a record 8.1 million visitors in 2019, which translates to \$7.5 billion in economic activity.

Mayor Bernard's call to action for those in attendance was focused on continuing to partner with the county on ways to improve local communities and focus on the issues that impact residents, businesses and neighborhoods. "The opportunities are limitless when we work together as partners towards our shared goal of making Palm Beach County the premier county to live, work and play," said Bernard.

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## Tony Robbins' top strategist speaks at YPOP 411 event

Tony Robbins' top strategist, Karissa Kouchis, the only woman – and at 24 the youngest person to be on his strategy team, spoke to more than 30 YPOP members on Nov. 5 at the Chamber. Kouchis' led activities that gave each person a voice and encouraged them to make to take serious actions to make immediate and lasting shifts in their personal and professional lives by:

■ Learning the three actions you absolutely must take to be successful in any business.



#### **TONY ROBBINS**

- Destroying the two obstacles that are dramatically limiting your people.
- Discovering the fastest method to doubling sales without spending a penny.
- Mastering a proven method for tripling your referrals in any interaction.
  - Developing an

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The Bear Trap. Experience the most exciting finishing

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Two \$150 Classic Value Packs for the price of one.

unshakable mindset that will give you the competitive advantage in your industry.

"She is proof that everyone makes excuses to not live their best life. I'm thinking about what I can change, immediately, to go from being a five to a TEN and how I can apply what she's saying to improve my rela tionships with clients and friends," said YPOP Leadership Team member Connor

For more information on YPOP, please contact Michele Sacher at msacher@ palmbeaches.org.

## Mayor's State of the City Breakfast



Mayor Keith James

Join us as Mayor Keith James reflects on West Palm Beach's recent accomplishments and announces updates on key city priorities in the 2020 State of the City Address, presented by Good Samaritan Medical Center. Arrive early and network with elected officials and other community leaders on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2020 at the Palm Beach County Convention Center from 7:30-9:15 a.m. Individual tickets and tables of 10 are available on our website. To register, visit www.PalmBeaches.org.





### **FITTEAM Palm Beaches** Marathon is this weekend

FITTEAM Palm Beaches Marathon weekend will return Dec. 6-8 with a course spotlighting picturesque Flagler Drive and a revised Friday night schedule that will feature the Bill Bone 5K and 10K glow runs on a tree-lighted course along the water. The Marathon, Half Marathon and Relay will be held Sunday, Dec. 8 at 6 a.m. The Friday events begin downtown at 6:30 p.m. by the Meyer Amphitheater. Visit fitteampalmbeachesmarathon.com for all registration and event information.

#### **New Chamber Board Members**

The Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches welcomes the following seven members to its Board of Directors:



Sarah Alsofrom







First Republic Bank





St. Mary's Medical Center and Palm Beach Children's Hospital





**Brian Cheguis** iPlan & Design





Veronica Cooper Cooper Construction Management & Consulting





Michelle McGovern Baptist Health South Florida





Ava Parker Palm Beach State College



### **NEW MEMBERS**

#### A. Marie Events & Design LLC. Anita Craine Creative Director - Principal Planner P.O. Box 227

Bella Blake Marketing Franchesca Johnston, CEO 15612 Jonquil Place Wellington, FL 33414 bellablake.net 561-440-8240

MARKETING CONSULTANTS Clarity Lab Solutions, LLC Tina Fairchild, Regional Sale 1060 Holland Drive, Suite A ales Manager

Boca Raton, FL 33487 claritylabsolutions.com 561-345-4610 LABORATORIES - MEDICAL CTS3 - Consulting Technology Solutions Chris Peddicord, President/Owner

West Palm Beach, FL 33404 561-910-0405 COPIERS & PRINTERS - SALES, SERVICE & SUPPLIES P.O. BOX 221 Palm Beach, FL 33480 amarieevents.us 321-205-8326 EVENTS PLANNING **Foreign Auto Specialists** Sara Baxter, Vice President 8446 Belvedere Road

FEB 24 – MAR 1 The Honda Classic.com

> West Palm Beach, FL 33411 fasautos.com 561-290-6300 AUTO REPAIR - FOREIGN CARS **Gonzalez and Associates** Insurance Group, LLC Paul Gonzalez,

7655 Enterprise Drive, Suite A1

Health Insurance Advisor Health insurance Advisor 2222 Lake Worth Road, Suite 307 Lake Worth, FL 33461 561-876-7285 INSURANCE - HEALTH

**Helix Urgent Care** Melanie Escobar 3555 Northlake Blvd. Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33403

**New Uniforms** New Uniforms
Dave Thomas, Operations
3570 Consumer St., Suite 5
West Palm Beach, FL 33404
newuniforms.com
561-842-1400
UNIFORMS & UNIFORM SERVICES

**EXECUTIVE COACHING** 

Palm Beach County Film & **Television Commission** Michelle Hillery 2195 Southern Blvd., Suite 520

West Palm Beach, FL 33406

helixcares.com/urgent-care/palm-

Leadership Development

Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

ldiserve.com 919-902-0651 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT -

beach-garden: 561-626-4878 URGENT CARE

International

James Davis, CEO 1063 Vintner Blvd

HONDA Fedex

pbfilm.com 561-233-1000 TOURISM

**Promise Fund of Florida** Ellen Andel, Executive Director 340 Royal Poinciana Way, Suite 328 P.O. Box 933 Palm Beach, FL 33480 promisefundofflorida.org 561-846-0808 NOT-FOR-PROFIT

rbb Communications Christine Barney, CEO 355 Alhambra Circle, #800 Miami, FL 33134 rbbcommunications.com 305-448-7456 MARKETING CONSULTANTS

Restoring Hope of the Palm Beaches Mona Nasser Licensed Mental Health Counselor 2465 Mercer Ave., Suite 204 West Palm Beach, FL 33401

restoringhopeofthepalmbeaches.com

561-309-3188 HEALTH CARE - MENTAL HEALTH

Success Strategies Group Division of Sheila Skolnick Worldwide Sheila Skolnick, Owner/Founder 3847 Cape Point Circle Jupiter, FL 33477

sheilatalks.com 631-875-1555 SPEAKER - COACH - CONSULTANT T.D. Custom Services

West Palm Beach, FL 33422 tdcustomservices.com 561-233-1646 REAL ESTATE

The Franchise Consulting Company Cliff Fostoff, President 2500 Quantum Lakes Drive, Suite 203 Boynton Beach, FL 33426

thefranchiseconsultingcompany.com

561-853-2200 FRANCHISE ADVISORS The Malted Barley Donald Kehl 14121 U.S. Highway 1

Juno Beach, FL 33408 themaltedbarley.com 561-264-6258 RESTAURANTS The MS Factor

Colleen Hawkins
Social Media & Account Manager
1804 N. Dixie Highway, Suite B
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
themsfactor.com
561-588-6336
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

The Restaurant at the Norton/ Constellation Culinary Group Tia Azzara, Director of Catering 1450 S. Dixie Highway West Palm Beach, FL 33401 norton.org 786-774-9421

RESTAURANTS



# CHAMBER of Of COMMERCE OF THE PALM BEACHES BUSINESS Watch December 2019

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

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Business After Hours Holiday Party When:** Wednesday, Dec. 11: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Where: Hilton Garden Inn West Palm Beach at the

Cost: \$20, members; \$30, non-members

YPOP Holiday Party When: Thursday, Dec. 12;

5:30-7:30 p.m. Where: South Florida Science Center and Aquarium Cost: Free for YPOP members, \$20 for non-YPOP

One-on-One 101 — **Turn Chamber Contacts into Productive Appointments!** When: Friday, Dec. 13;

8:30-9:45 a.m. Where: Chamber Boardroom

**Business Builder** When: Tuesday, Dec. 17; 8:30-9:45 a.m. Where: Chamber Boardroom

## TRUSTEE

Cost: Free



#### Kathleen Breland

Kathleen Breland joined the Palm Beach Zoo in 2009 as the chief financial officer following a 20-year career with national homebuilder/ developer Centex Homes where she held positions as controller, vice president of finance, division president and vice president of operations. During her time at the zoo, Breland took on the additional role of COO for several years and served as the zoo's interim CEO. She is a Professional Fellow with the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, a registered licensed CPA in the state of Illinois and holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Houston.





David Shelpman, Jr.

David Shelpman, Jr. is the president of the West Palm Beach Campus of HCI College. He has more than a decade of experience in higher education. Shelpman has worked in private nonprofit and private for-profit colleges and universities over the course of his career. He has worked with accreditations ranging from national, regional, programmatic and state licensure. Shelpman has an associate degree in Business Administration from Daymar College, a bachelor's degree in Technical Management with an emphasis in Human Resources Management from DeVry University and a Master of Human Resources Management from Keller Graduate School of



Management.



Christopher Hopkins, McDonald Hopkins LLC; Evelyn Hopkins, Past Chair; Lorna James; Mayor Keith James; Carolyn Reikenis; and Chamber Chair Rick Reikenis, PHOTOS BY CAPEHART

## RICK REIKENIS TO LEAD **CHAMBER BOARD IN 2020**

The official 2020 Board Chair Installation took place on Friday, Nov. 8 in the Korman Room at the Norton Museum of Art and showcased the personal art collection of Rick Reikenis from his travels around the world. This "Unexpected Artists" themed Chairman's Circle Reception allowed us to thank 2019 Chair Evelyn Hopkins of Florida Crystals Corporation for starting the first Executive Mentorship Program that will continue in 2020. We also welcomed Rick Reikenis of Reikenis & Associates as our 2020 Chair, who was sworn in by Mayor Keith James.









For more than 35 years Rick Reikenis has been passionate about leading and serving in West Palm Beach and wants to see the city continue to grow and expand its cultural offerings across theater, art and music. He is a former Mayor of the City of West Palm Beach and a founder of SunFest. Reikenis

is responsible for business development and infrastructure program management on behalf of Reikenis and Associates' clients in Florida and project development in Central/Eastern Europe, the Near East, Central America, the Caribbean and Africa. His team is focused on providing the best combination of technically superior and financially responsible solutions to meet client needs. Reikenis has a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Science (Environmental Engineering) from Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and silent auction donors.



From left: Jon Schmidt, Schmidt Nichols; Jennifer Schmidt; Jodi Gast; Allen Gast, Gast Construction.





## **PRE-PAY AND SAVE ON OUR 2020 CHAMBER BREAKFAST SERIES**

Chamber members can now pre-pay for the 2020 themed breakfast series. The Corporate Breakfast Series pass includes admission to nine breakfasts – including our largest event, the State of the City on Jan. 21. The price also includes prime seating, table signage and recognition in each event's PowerPoint. "GL Homes has participated in the Corporate Breakfast Series for several years," said Sarah Alsofrom, director of community relations for GL Homes. "Each monthly breakfast features a timely topic, engaging speaker and great networking for our guests with key business leaders from around the county. It's a can'tmiss business breakfast." Visit our website at www. palmbeaches.org to see the full breakfast lineup and to purchase your series pass. Subscriptions available for purchase through Jan. 17, 2020.



## **Duffy's Sports Grill in West Palm Beach hosts Business After Hours**

**Duffy's Sports Grill on Clematis** Street hosted more than 45 professionals who came out for a night of networking and to see the expanded café-style sidewalks to enjoy dining under the stars. The restaurant generously showcased their top appetizers, including prime-rib egg rolls, cheeseburger sliders, turkey meatballs and a wide selection of craft and local beers. Duffy's manager Ariel Klein invited the group to come back to watch NFL games highlighting happy hour specials and their many big-screen TVs. Chamber members, Ambassadors and their guests enjoyed the opportunity to meet for a fun evening in a relaxed

and casual atmosphere. Guests commented on how nice it was to have Clematis Street's sidewalks expanded and construction completed, to enjoy being both inside and outside the Sports Grill.

Bernard Neto, general manager of The Ben West Palm, won the gift card generously presented by the Duffy's staff. A Business After Hours is planned at The Ben early 2020. Watch for the announcements and RSVP early. This members-only event will sell out.

