

UPCOMING EVENTS

Women for Women 5K Run – Rescheduled to Saturday, May 8, 2021

When: Saturday, May 8, 2021; 7-9 a.m.

Where: Currie Park

Cost: Early registration before April 18, 2021; ages 18 and younger, \$25; ages 19 and older, \$35; Club Members, \$30
Women in Business Committee Presents

Women in Business Committee Presents 2020 ATHENA Leadership Award

Recipients — “Advice to My Younger Self” — a panel discussion moderated by two-time ATHENA award recipient, Sarah Alsofrom, GL Homes

When: Thursday, Oct. 8; noon-1 p.m.

Where: Virtual meeting

Cost: Free

Panelists: ATHENA Leadership Award Recipient Kalinthia Dillard, Esq., General Counsel/Deputy Inspector General to the Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General; ATHENA Organizational Award Recipient Claudia Kirk Barto, president, Junior Achievement of the Palm Beaches & Treasure Coast, Inc.; ATHENA Young Professional Leadership Award Recipient Alison “Ali” Soule, chief of staff, Brightline
Sponsor: DLG Accounting (Debra Neier, principal)

Observance of Columbus Day – Chamber Office Closed

When: Monday, Oct. 12; 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Tourism Task Force

When: Wednesday, Oct. 14; 10 a.m.-11 a.m.

Where: Webinar

Cost: Free; invitation only

Contact: Kirby Davis @ kdavis@palmbeaches.org for more information

Virtual Business Card Exchange — “Rainmaking During an Unforeseen Drought”

When: Thursday, Oct. 15; noon-1 p.m.

Where: Virtual Meeting

Cost: Members, \$5; nonmembers, \$15

Sponsor: iThink Financial

Health & Human Services Committee

Presents “MORE Animals, More Laughter, More Joy, Less STRESS. How rescuing an animal can help lives — yours and theirs”!

When: Tuesday, Oct. 20; noon-1 p.m.

Where: Webinar

Cost: Free

Guest Speaker: Rich Anderson, executive director/CEO, Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League

Business After Hours Virtual Networking – “Volunteering & Volunteer Needs of Local Organizations”

When: Tuesday, Oct. 20; 5:30-6:45 p.m.

Where: Virtual

Cost: Members, \$5; nonmembers, \$10; nonprofit Chamber members, free

Nonprofits: Free to first 10

“Chamber members”; contact Michele Sacher at msacher@palmbeaches.org

Annual 2020 Firefighter Awards (Virtual Program)

When: Thursday, Oct. 22; 8 a.m.-8:55 a.m.

Where: Virtual Meeting

Cost: Members, \$5; nonmembers, \$15

Sponsor: St. Mary’s Medical Center & The Palm Beach Children’s Hospital

Tourism Task Force — “Changes to PR strategies since major in-person events are now gone and who knows when they’ll be back — what to do now!”

When: Wednesday, Oct. 28; 10-11 a.m.

Where: Webinar

Cost: Free; invitation only

Contact: Kirby Davis @ kdavis@palmbeaches.org for more information

Guest Speaker: Carey O’Donnell, president and creative director, The O’Donnell Agency

VIRTUAL Business Builder

When: Thursday, Oct. 29; noon-1 p.m.

Where: Virtual Meeting

Cost: Free

Sponsor: iThink Financial

Young Professionals of the Palm Beaches (YPOP) MEETING — “Halloween Spooktacular; Scary Leadership Stories from our YPOP Leadership Board — Surviving and Thriving in a Crisis!”

When: Friday, Oct. 30; noon-1 p.m.

Where: Virtual Meeting

Cost: YPOP Members, free; nonmembers, \$10

Guest Speakers: YPOP Board members



From left: Claudia Kirk Barto, Junior Achievement of the Palm Beaches & Treasure Coast, Inc.; Rick Reikenis, Board Chair; Kalinthia Dillard, Esq., Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General; Gopal Rajegowda, Related Companies; and Alison “Ali” Soule, Brightline.

CONGRATULATIONS ATHENA LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

More than 425 guests watched the 29th Annual ATHENA Leadership Awards Virtual Event on Sept. 25 broadcast live via YouTube, with Related Companies as the PREMIERE SPONSOR.

This year’s theme was the ATHENA Tenet to challenge people to “Advocate Fiercely for Social Justice,” timely and relevant to our current global situation. The Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches recognized 11 finalists, as individuals and organizations, that have demonstrated extraordinary levels of leadership within their respective professions, hold leadership positions on local nonprofit boards, and have a passion for mentoring and promoting women to



A T H E N A
I N T E R N A T I O N A L

highly visible and critical leadership positions. The ATHENA Organizational Leadership Award was presented to Junior Achievement of the Palm Beaches & Treasure Coast, Inc. and received by Claudia Kirk Barto, president. The award was sponsored by FPL and presented on their behalf by Pam Rauch, vice president of external affairs

and economic development.

The ATHENA Young Professional Leadership Award was presented to Alison “Ali” Soule, Brightline chief of staff. The award was sponsored by Florida Crystals Corporation and presented on their behalf by Caroline Villanueva, senior Florida external affairs manager.

The ATHENA Leadership

Award was presented to Kalinthia Dillard, Esq., general counsel/deputy inspector general to the Palm Beach County Office of Inspector General. Sponsored by Related Companies, the award was presented on their behalf by Gopal Rajegowda, senior vice president.

More than 7,200 ATHENA leadership awards have been presented to recipients globally, over the past 38 years. Congratulations to each of the ATHENA finalists and award winners, who share their unique talents in creative ways, to ensure the ongoing advancement of the Palm Beach County Professional Community!

Special thanks to our sponsors



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FLORIDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE JOINS LOCAL BUSINESS GROUPS IN OFFERING NON-PARTISAN CAMPAIGN SCHOOL



Florida Institute
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An initiative by **FLORIDA CHAMBER**
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“TOMORROW’S LEADERS START HERE”

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OPEN TO EVERYONE. FREE TO ATTEND. NON-PARTISAN.
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TUES OCT. 27 5:00pm - 7:30pm Preparing to run	&	WED OCT. 28 5:00pm - 7:30pm Organizing your campaign	&	THURS OCT. 29 5:00pm - 7:30pm Running your campaign
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PRESENTATIONS BY STATE AND LOCAL POLITICAL EXPERTS, UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND COMMUNITY LEADERS.

Highly recommended for candidates and anyone interested in running for local or state office, serving their community, or managing campaigns.

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FIPL and its sponsors do not support or oppose, directly or indirectly, any candidates for public office, financially or otherwise. It will provide campaign schools and training in a non-partisan manner for those interested in running for public office.

Many local chambers of commerce, Economic Council of Palm Beach County, Leadership Palm Beach County and the Associated General Contractors have joined with the Florida Chamber of Commerce to bring a unique and timely program to our community. This **non-partisan free virtual program** will take place during the last week of October. It is designed for anyone interested in seeking local or state elective office or appointment to a local board or commission.

Presentations will cover topics such as preparing to run for office, organizing your campaign and running your campaign. State and local political experts will join university professors, elected officials and community leaders in conducting the presentations. This program is ideally suited for men and women of all ages. If you want to become more knowledgeable about how the political process works, visit FIPL.org/PalmBeach and register for this **FREE** campaign school.

This program is being sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches; Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce; Leadership Palm Beach County; Palm Beach North Chamber of Commerce; Boca Raton Chamber of Commerce; Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce; Economic Council of Palm Beach County and the Associated General Contractors Florida East Coast.

2020 Virtual Firefighter Awards, Thursday, Oct. 22



Fire Chief Diana Matty, City of West Palm Beach Fire Rescue; Mayor Keith James; and Jamie Walker, City of West Palm Beach Fire Rescue, at the 2019 awards breakfast. CAPEHART

The Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches will host its annual Firefighter Awards as a Virtual Program on Thursday, Oct. 22 from 8-8:55 a.m. via Zoom. This program, sponsored by St. Mary's Medical Center and The Palm Beach Children's Hospital, will honor West Palm Beach Fire Rescue and Palm Beach County Fire Rescue's bravest individuals. To purchase tickets, visit palmbeaches.org. For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Michele Sacher at msacher@palmbeaches.org.



\$23 million available to restart businesses in Palm Beach County

The Palm Beach County CARES Restart Business Grants Program resumed Friday, Sept. 25, at 8 a.m.

The Restart Business Program guidelines, including eligibility criteria, will be posted on the County's website. The Board gave approval for individual grants up to \$25,000 to help "restart" Palm Beach County businesses forced to close by state or county executive order.

The application process will be completed entirely online through the County's portal, and requires general information about the applicant business; applicant certifications, affirmations and acknowledgments; and applicant-uploaded documents – including tax returns, payroll reports, and an active Palm Beach County Business Receipt or valid exemption from the Palm Beach County Tax Collector. Sole Proprietors and General Partnerships not required to register with the FL Department of State Division



of Corporations will be exempt from the Sunbiz requirement (<https://dos.myflorida.com/sunbiz>). Businesses that previously received funding

through this program are not eligible to apply.

Interested businesses are encouraged to prepare for the Restart Business Grant

Program Application as they will be processed on a first come, first eligible basis. The online application will be accessible through the Palm



Palm Beach County Commissioner Melissa McKinlay



Beach County website for a two-week period, closing on Friday, Oct. 9 at 11:59 p.m. For more information visit discover.pbcgov.org/HES/Pages/PBC-Cares-Business.aspx

Chamber welcomes new trustee

Alissa Dhawan is a senior manager in the West Palm Beach office at HBK CPAs & Consultants. She recently transferred from the Mid-Atlantic region, where she assisted in growing and expanding the depth of the New Jersey audit and assurance practice. Returning to her home state of Florida, Dhawan has been with HBK since 2018 and has more than 13 years of experience, working primarily for a member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited. She works with clients in a variety of industries and enjoys teaching internal continuing professional education courses.



Alissa Dhawan



Dhawan has extensive experience in applying GAAP accounting to clients ranging from small and medium sized private entities to not-for-profit organizations and employee benefit plans.

Additionally, Dhawan has experience in providing forensic, merger and acquisition, transactional due diligence, and other financial consulting services. Most recently, she has consulted on the new revenue recognition guidance (Topic 606).

Dhawan received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration with a focus in Accounting from McDaniel College (formerly Western Maryland College), and a MBA with a concentration in Business Analytics from West Chester University of Pennsylvania.

Dhawan is a licensed CPA in multiple states and is a member of the AICPA.

REGISTER NOW FOR THE MAYOR'S STATE OF THE COUNTY VIRTUAL PROGRAM

Join Commissioner Dave Kerner, Mayor of the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, as he addresses the State of the County on Thursday, Nov. 5, from 8-8:55 a.m. County Mayor Dave Kerner was elected to the Board of County Commissioners in November 2016. He is a Palm Beach County, District 3 native. Prior to his election to the Board of County Commissioners, he served two terms in Florida House of Representatives as the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee.

County Mayor Dave Kerner attended the University of Florida College of Law (Juris Doctor, Constitutional Law & Local Government, 2010). At the age of 19 he also attended the Police Academy at Santa Fe Community College, and became certified and sworn as a police officer. At the age of 20, he was honored as the Police Officer of the Year for the City of Alachua. He has emerged as a leader on issues related to law enforcement, the judiciary, criminal justice, and civil law. Since 2010, he has served as a civil trial attorney with a local firm in addition to



Palm Beach County Commissioner Mayor Dave Kerner

his public service.

Visit PalmBeaches.org to register for this event. For more information on this and other events, please contact Michele Sacher, Director of Sponsorships & Special Events, at msacher@palmbeaches.org



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