

City of

Key West

December-January 2012

Wounded Warriors' Soldier Ride



Key Westers showed a great turnout, welcoming the 2012 Wounded Warriors Soldier Ride on in January. The Key West Police Department joined the Monroe County Sheriff's office and the Naval Air Station Key West, escorting the riders into town. For some of these young men, this was their first time out of the hospital, having served in Iraq and Afghanistan.



Little League season is around the corner, so Key West Public Works staffer Luis Gonzales was out painting the bases and fresh new lines at the ballfield at Bayview Park.



CITY OF KEY WEST

Mayor

Craig Cates

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Commissioners

District 1: Jimmy Weekley

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District 2: Mark Rossi

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District 3: Billy Wardlow

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District 4: Tony Yaniz

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District 5: Teri Johnston

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District 6: Clayton Lopez

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City Manager

Jim Scholl

jscholl@keywestcity.com

Questions? Comments?

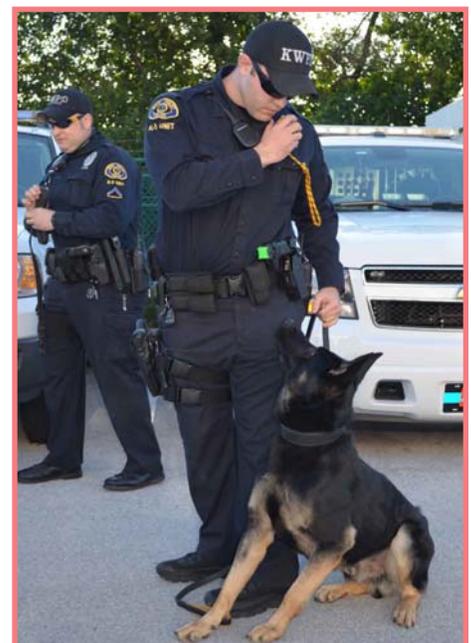
If you have information for the next City newsletter or would like to see something added to the publication, please contact Communications Manager Alyson Crean at acrean@keywestcity.com. This newsletter is a publication of the City of Key West.

Special Police Units Give Exciting Demonstrations



The current Leadership Monroe Class had the opportunity to see a real dog and pony show this month when K9 Officer Thomas Anglin and Ferro gave a demonstration of how a dog can subdue a dangerous criminal. Captain Scott Smith volunteered to wear the bite sleeve. Smith is a former K9 officer himself, and is a member of the current Leadership class. In addition, Officers Christopher Delsante and Alberto DeVelasco of the Mounted Unit demonstrated the importance of their equine helpers.

The following week, the current Ambassador Academy got to experience a similar demonstration. In the photos below, Officer Develasco shows Class 18 members how a horse can control a crowd, and Officer Curtiss Richardson introduces the class to the Key West Police Department's newest canine trainee, Cyrus.



Employee Service Awards

The City of Key West has a hard-working and dedicated group of people whose service ensures city residents and visitors a clean, safe community. The following City staff hit some important milestones in the months of December and January:



Alberto Fernandez
Fireman
Key West Fire Dept
1/14/87
25 years



Gregory Gerez
Driver/Engineer
Key West Fire Dept
1/15/97
15 years



Rachel Black
Telecommunicator
Key West Police Dept
12/10/01
10 years



Gregory Barroso
Driver/Engineer
Key West Fire Dept
1/7/02
10 years



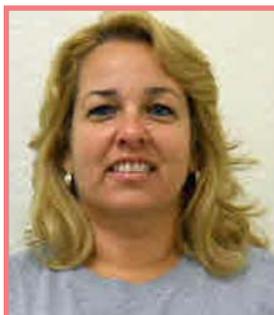
Gregory Bringle
Fireman
Key West Fire Dept
1/7/02
10 years



Diane Nichlaus
Public Fac/ ADA
Coordinator
Engineering
12/18/06
5 years



Dixon Dahlgren
Maintenance Tech II
Port Operations
12/27/06
5 years



Mabel Sanchez
Janitor I
Community Services
12/27/06
5 years



Shawn Smith
City Attorney
City Attorney's Office
12/22/06
5 years



Jason Castillo
Officer
Key West Police Dept
1/15/07
5 years



Jason Klothakis
Fireman
Key West Fire Dept
1/16/07
5 years



Pavel Theinert
Parking Meter Tech
Parking
1/22/07
5 years



Brandon Druckemiller
Facilities Maintenance
Community Services
1/29/07
5 years



Jacek Witczak
Facilities Maintenance
Community Services
1/29/07
5 years

Decked out Duval

The Upper Duval Street merchants gave a gift to the city, donating holiday wreaths to dress up Duval. Key West public works crews were out hanging the festive decorations donated to the city by the Key West Butterfly and Nature Conservatory, the Southernmost Hotel Collection and the Southernmost Point Guest House.

“We feel the business community needs to be proactive and get involved,” said Sam Trophia, president of the Butterfly and Nature Conservatory. “The cleanliness and beauty of Duval will keep our tourist guests happy and coming back.”

The donation is especially generous in these lean times when taxpayers are asking for fewer government frills.

The Butterfly Conservatory got the ball rolling, but when Matt Babich, general manager of the Southernmost Hotel group, and Mona Santiago, who owns the guest house, saw the beautiful wreaths, they pitched in to defray the costs. Each wreath is five feet in diameter, double sided to be seen from both directions, lighted and topped off with a two-foot wide red bow.

The city is hoping to work with merchants up and down the street for next year. By starting early in the New Year, they are hoping that next year the décor will stretch from one end of Duval to the other.

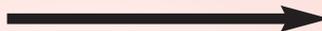
“We’re just proud of where we live,” said Trophia. “It’s important to be proactive for the good of the entire community.”



Holiday Parade Winners Announced



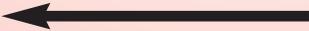
Key West City Manager Jim Scholl presents Darlene Olden a plaque for winning the best non-profit entry in the 2011 Holiday Parade for the Mary Immaculate Star of the Sea School entry.



Joyce Stahl accepted the plaque for the best youth group entry. Stahl is the founder of Paradise Ballet Theatre and producer of Nutcracker Key West, which was the theme of the float.



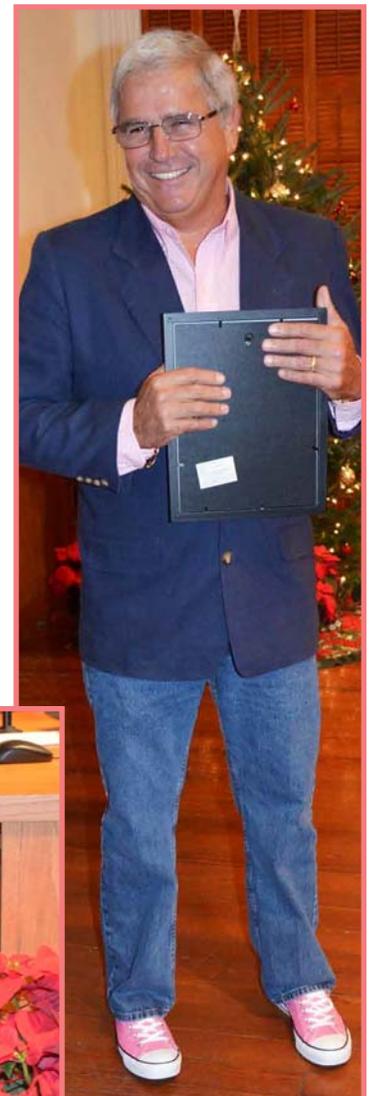
One Call Construction, Inc. earned a plaque for winning the best commercial entry in the 2011 Holiday Parade. Receiving the plaque are: David Pouliot, president of One Call, Oksana Davyd, vice president, and Ted Carrick, who designed the winning float.



Community Services Director Greg Veliz accepted a plaque for honorable mention for the Community Services' entry in the parade. This is the second year running that his department has placed in the popular parade.



Pretty in Pink



Ibis Bay Resort was spreading breast cancer awareness and pink Conies all over Key West in December after Mayor Craig Cates proclaimed Real Men Wear Pink Sneakers Week.

The event was kicked off -- literally -- at the City Commission meeting when all of the commissioners were presented with a pair of pink shoes. It wasn't long before the pink fever spread, and a few days later Key West Police Chief Donie Lee, Capt. Scott Smith, Lt. J.R. Torres and Lt. Jim Benkoczy were performing a near-perfect pink cancan!

According to the proclamation, breast cancer, detected early, has a 98% 5-year survival rate. This was an opportunity for the men of Key West to encourage the women over 40 in thier lives to get annual mammograms.

