



## Commission Recognizes Green Kids!



*The City Commissioner chambers clamored with the excited voices of children during the May 15th meeting as the Green Team from Mary Immaculate Star of the Sea School came to accept a proclamation recognizing their hard work at recycling.*

*Commissioner Billy Wardlow said, after the children and received their recognition from Mayor Craig Cates, that he'd "recently had the privilege to visit Mary Immaculate, where they recycle and compost.*

*"In four years they've recycled and composted 20 tons or 40,000 pounds," he said, adding that he was particularly impressed when he visited the Green Team's garden where they use the compost they make to grow their own vegetables and eventually eat the salads grown there.*

*Wardlow said the students "would like to see that [recycling] barometer in Bayview Park move up" and that they're encouraging their families to recycle.*

## View from the Top

It has been five years since I was selected to be your City Manager. I could not be more pleased with the outstanding accomplishments achieved by the hard work of all members of the city staff over these five years. None of this would have been possible without the team effort of entire city staff working together, supported by the commissioners and the citizens. Thank you all for the service to our community!



Now is the time to prepare for the transition to the new City Manager. On Monday, June 4th, the City Commission selected Mr. Bob Vitas to be my successor. The selection was made after several months of an exhaustive search effort supported by a panel of citizens supported by members of the city staff. This is a normal process in the natural succession of leadership in businesses and in government. With my contract ending the first week of July, I will work with Mr. Vitas to plan a transition that will preserve the continuity of leadership and make sure the transition is a smooth one.

The city has many projects currently in work and many planned for the next few years. Please keep up the efforts to stay on track to continue the progress in maintaining and improving Key West. Take pride in the fact that you work for a great community that truly is like no other. Our neighbors outside the city and visitors from all over the world all wish they could live and work in Paradise. Thank you all again!

# CITY OF KEY WEST

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## Commissioners

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### *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.

## *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 May:*



**Dorothy Austin**  
Code Compliance Officer  
Code Compliance  
5/4/92  
20 years



**Brenda Sellers**  
Officer  
Key West Police Department  
5/14/97  
15 years



**David Hall**  
Officer  
Key West Police Department  
5/21/07  
5 years



**Michael Lummis**  
Quartermaster  
Key West Police Department  
5/21/07  
5 years



**Perry Bullock**  
Shuttle Driver  
Key West DOT  
5/31/07  
5 years

# Law Enforcement Memorial



*People all over this country sleep a little easier at night knowing that law enforcement officers are out there keeping us safe. They dedicate their lives worrying about the bad things, the threats, so that our lives can be peaceful and safe. And every year some of them pay the ultimate sacrifice for the ease and the security the rest of us enjoy.*

*On May 18th the community paid tribute to those brave men and women who have fallen in the line of duty. The annual Law Enforcement Day Memorial Service was held at St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church.*

*Hosted by the Key West Police Department and the Monroe County Sheriff's Office, the ceremony included a traditional laying of the wreath, a 21-gun salute, Honor Guard, and the Police Pipe and Drum Corp of Florida.*

*Nationally, 166 officers were killed in the line of duty in 2011. In Florida, 12 officers were killed.*

*Monroe County did not lose an officer in 2011.*



*The names of Keys officers who have died in the line of duty were read as a special remembrance during the ceremony:*

*MCSO Deputy Frank Adams, shot in 1901 while attempting to arrest a disorderly man.*

*KWPD Officer Clarence Till, killed in 1904 with his own gun while handling a disturbance call.*

*MCSO Deputy Guy Bradley, a Game Warden shot in 1905 by a poacher.*

*KWPD Officer Norman Drew, killed in 1975 in a motorcycle accident.*

*MCSO Deputy David Cormier, killed in 1989 in an automobile accident.*

*MCSO Deputy Michael Alexander, killed in 1998 in an automobile accident.*

*KWPD Detective John Piskator, died in 2006 as a result of a heart attack.*

*MCSO Deputy Robin Tanner, killed in 2007 in an automobile accident.*

*MCSO Deputy Nick Pham, killed in 2008 in an automobile accident.*

*MCSO Deputy Melissa Powers, killed in 2010 in an automobile accident.*



# City Celebrates National Historic Preservation Month



*Kennedy Brester, Natalie Castaldo, Kelly Rosch, Tabitha Cervantes and Shelbi Swanson are presented plaques by Key West Mayor Craig*

In honor of National Historic Preservation Month, the Historic Architectural Review Commission, HARC, hosted a free comprehensive 2-day seminar on May 10th and May 11th.

During the first May City Commission meeting, Key West Mayor Craig Cates proclaimed May as National Historic Preservation Month. HARC Board Chairman Rudy Molinet accepted the proclamation, noting that it's been several years since the city acknowledged the national designation.

"It's been a long time, decades, since we've observed this National Historic Preservation month and I think it's fitting that we do it in this historic city hall," he said. He then encouraged the community to take advantage of the seminar, which featured two visiting experts in the field:

Professor Pratt Cassity teaches graduate preservation planning studio on new design in historic districts at the University of Georgia. Professor Cassity has lead national discussions on the topic of infill and additions at several conferences such as Traditional Building Conference,

Conference of New Urbanism, the National Commission Forum and the annual National Preservation Conference.

Ms. Carolyn Brackett's involvement in the tourism industry began in 1988 when she joined the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development as Assistant Director of Information. From 1990-1992, Brackett served as the tourism department's State Coordinator for the National Trust for Historic Preservation's Heritage Tourism Initiative. She worked with four multi-county areas to develop collaborative tourism programs. The demonstration program was the basis for creating the National Trust's four steps and five principles for heritage tourism development which are used by communities across the country today.

The Key West Historic Preservation Forum was financed in part with a historic preservation grant assistance provided by the National Park Service, US Department of Interior, administered through the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources. Florida Department of State, assisted by the Florida Historical Commission.



## Local Poet Honored

Key West honored one of its human treasures this month when Mayor Craig Cates proclaimed May 15th Kirby Congdon Day.

This prolific poet, whose work is included in many anthologies, attended Columbia University where he published his first collection. Through the years his eclectic subjects have ranged from rural New England life to a collection of rejection notices entitled Crank Letters. He and his partner, the late Ralph Simmons, ran their own publishing house for 43 years. Congdon is well known in the Key West poets' community for his generous gift of time and advice to budding poets and writers.