



GREATER MARATHON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CONNECTION
The Official Monthly Publication of the Greater Marathon Chamber of Commerce



Chamber After Hours

April 10th - 5:30pm-7:30pm



Live music, great food & drink, raffles and more!

Membership Luncheon

April 16th - 12pm-1pm



\$16 Please RSVP to
erika@floridakeysmarathon.com or 305-743-5417

Please welcome our new members!

Keys Concierge
339 Sombrero Beach Rd.
Marathon, FL 33050
Contacts: Alison Clark & Karolina Oseckyle
609-312-9930
Keyconcierge@yahoo.com
www.mykeysconcierge.com

Seas the Day Multi Service LLC
1280 73rd St. Ocean
Marathon, FL 33050
305-647-9675
Contact: Yenis Rodriguez
Seastheday00@aol.com

Duval Street Media
1615 Laird St.
Key West, FL 33040
305-394-1108
Contact: Christopher Massicotte
chris@duvalstmedia.com

Southern Outdoor Lighting
104 Longbranch Rd
Winter Park, FL 32792
305-902-7340
Contact: Deborah Heard
Deb.heard@icloud.com
<https://southernoutdoorlightingfl.com/>

Conch Republic Marine Army
30335 Warbler Ln
Big Pine Key, FL 33043-5113
804-677-2001
Contact: Laura Talley
mommalaurat@gmail.com

Jass Tremblay with Ocean Sotheby's
112 Avenue K
Marathon, FL 33050
305-735-4095 Ext:213 or Ext: 610
jtremblay@oceansir.com
<https://oceansir.com/>

Chamber Member Recap

New Members This Month: 6

Total Members: 525

Visitor Center Recap

New Members: 4

Total Members: 77

Monthly Stats

February 2024

Total Visitors: 1586

Daily Average: 45

Top State: Florida

Top Countries: Canada

Without Reservations: 21%

Member Referral Program:

Anytime a current member of the Chamber successfully refers another business to join, they will receive \$25 in "Chamber Bucks!" Chamber Bucks can be used to attend monthly luncheon meetings or for advertising opportunities through our website or newsletter.

Events:

Please let us know about upcoming events or community news for our newsletter, social media pages and online calendar. Or submit your own events to our online calendar.

Visit www.floridakeysmarathon.com and Click to Submit Your Event or contact Erika@floridakeysmarathon.com

CHAMBER BUCKS!

Any current member of the Chamber that successfully refers another business to join, will receive \$25 in "Chamber Bucks!"

Chamber Bucks can be used to attend monthly luncheon meetings or for advertising opportunities through our website or newsletter.

New/Current Member Orientation:

We want to ensure you are able to take full advantage of your chamber membership. Please set up a Member Orientation with Erika to learn more about how you can maximize your membership with us and utilize member benefits that will help you and your business.

Contact Laura for more info:

membership@floridakeysmarathon.com

305-743-5417

Executive Membership Circle



Angelfish Level

First Horizon Bank

First State Bank

Isla Bella Beach Resort

Florida Keys Electric Co-Op

Faro Blanco Resort

Seafarer Realty

5 Star Air

Hawks Cay

MillionAir

Seahorse Level

Centennial Bank

Keys Federal Credit Union

D'Asign Source

Marlin Bay Resort & Marina

Fisherman's Community Hospital

Weekly Newspaper

Dolphin Connection

Wolfe/Stevens PLLC

Mt. Sinai Cardiology of the Keys

Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center

The Tackle Box

Florida Keys Cemetery

Additional opportunities to advertise to Chamber members and visitors include:

Monthly Travel Email Blast

Our Travel email blast goes out to a growing list of visitors (5,700+ including travel writers) The email blast will consist of up to 20 business listings (includes picture/logo, contact info and website link) upcoming events and featured business spotlight. This blast is a great way to get noticed by travel writers and potential visitors. The cost is only \$35/month to participate. Contact (305) 743-5417 or info@floridakeysmarathon.com

Newsletter Ad or Flyer

Take advantage of our advertising opportunities with a flyer or ad space! Contact Erika@floridakeysmarathon.com for pricing

Member Email Blast

We will send your email/flyer to all of our Chamber members and their staff (1,400+ recipients) Cost is \$50/email and you chose the date and frequency of the blast. Contact Erika@floridakeysmarathon.com for an application

Events

Please let us know about upcoming events or community news for our newsletter, social media pages and online calendar. Or submit your own events to our online calendar. Visit www.floridakeysmarathon.com and Click to Submit Your Event or contact Erika@floridakeysmarathon.com

SPRING AHEAD



High season is almost over, and it's been another good season for us here. While we continue to revert back to whatever the new normal may be, many of our members were positive about this winter and beginning to spring so far. As I mentioned this time last year, be sure to implement effective budgeting and forecasting for your businesses, especially as we continue to revert back to a cyclical/seasonal destination. Be sure to set realistic and appropriate expectations my esteemed members, it will provide better perspective and guidance as you move through 2024.

After a successful Marathon Seafood Festival, we are again excited to be hosting our Business After Hours later this month on April 10th from 5:30-7:30PM at The Turtle Hospital. Free admission as always for our members (members only of course). The Turtle Hospital will have complimentary libations and appetizers, and of course there will be great networking opportunities for fellow members. Please also be sure to RSVP for our April 16th Luncheon where County Mayor Holly Merrill Raschein will be our keynote speaker to discuss the "state of the county." As you may know there are some huge issues our commissioners, city council, and all of us are facing (BPASS/build-out and taking cases, resiliency, insurance, housing, etc.).

On a giving note, our 2024 Continuing Education Grants/Scholarships are open to apply for you and your staff! Please contact Laura (membership@floridakeysmarathon.com) from our office to apply, it's a great opportunity to let your chamber help pay for any educational needs you and/or your staff are interested in. We also have our annual Business Beautification Grants open as well, again email Laura to get an application and apply. Deadlines for both of these grants are April 12th!

Lastly, I am sad to say that our very own Laura Hackney will be leaving the chamber soon later this month. Laura is moving north to be closer to family, and we will greatly miss her. Laura has done an amazing job for your chamber, and while it will be difficult to replace her; we are happy to see Laura begin a new chapter and wish her all the best in life, health, and happiness. We love you Laura, and again THANK YOU for all you have done to make our lives that much sweeter!

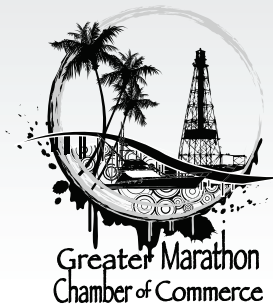
Have a great April everyone! Please remember (if you haven't already) to send in your membership renewal dues that were mailed out in December, online payment is now available for your convenience. Remember there is a late fee for payments received after April 30th. We greatly appreciate your membership with us and look forward to continuing to serve, support, promote, and advocate for your business. Please never hesitate to contact me to help you in any way. Hears to a safe and profitable April!

Most Respectfully,

CEO, Greater Marathon Chamber of Commerce
(305) 743-5417
ceo@floridakeysmarathon.com
www.FloridaKeysMarathon.com
www.RelocateToTheFloridaKeys.com
www.MarathonSeafoodFestival.com
www.KeysBrewBQ.com



COMMERCE CORNER



Ai Engine

IT and Technology from Key Largo to Key West

Ai Engine is your local Keys IT and Technology services specialist.

From Key Largo to Key West, companies that partner with Ai Engine successfully go from set up to open 3.4X faster. We have solutions for every phase of your business, from Internet, Network, Wifi POS, Computer and Security including support all powered by Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

Renaud Charrin

CEO & Founder

650-447-7015

Renaudcharrin@aienginegroup.com

GREATER MARATHON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

305.743.5417 • 1.800.262.7284

visitus@floridakeysmarathon.com

www.floridakeysmarathon.com

12222 Overseas Highway • Marathon, FL 33050



COMMERCE CORNER



**OVERSEAS
CANVAS**
— COMPANY —

Established in 2023, Overseas Canvas Company, Inc. specializes in crafting top-notch bimini tops, boat covers, enclosures, and helm covers. We bring quality and durability to every stitch. Proudly serving the Middle Keys from Islamorada to Cudjoe Key, we combine precision and passion to tailor solutions that stand up to the demands of the sea. Elevate your boating experience with our custom creations. At Overseas Canvas, we're not just crafting canvas; we're crafting comfort for your maritime adventures.

Harvey Cooper

305.901.2234

overseascanvascompany@gmail.com

GREATER MARATHON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

305.743.5417 • 1.800.262.7284

visitus@floridakeysmarathon.com

www.floridakeysmarathon.com

12222 Overseas Highway • Marathon, FL 33050



THE CONCH REPUBLIC MARINE ARMY

formed after hurricane Irma, The Conch Republic Marine Army (CRMA) is a 501(c)3 non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to cleaning, preserving, and protecting the shallow mangrove environments of the Florida Keys. With the help of more than 4,250 volunteers we've removed over 251 tons of trash from our fragile mangrove ecosystem, including 500+ miles of marine rope and 95 refrigerators

WANTS YOU



Join us in the fight against marine debris!

The CRMA is excited to announce our partnership with Isla Bella and the Marathon Chamber of Commerce to bring our efforts to Marathon! Join us from Isla Bella Wednesday or Saturday 9:30-12:00 or 12:30-3:00 both days to join in the fight against marine debris in the Marathon area.

Parking is available at the Isla Bella Marketplace



isla bella

BEACH RESORT



when you join us...

You will take off in our custom built Henriksen 33, "K3" for a truly unique memorable and rewarding Florida Keys experience. We collect trash for about an hour, then we head to a sandbar to clean off. After that we head back to the docks to unload and weigh our catch! Water shoes, gloves, bags, and catch hooks are provided. People of all physical abilities are able to join us in the fight against marine debris!



To Learn More

Check out our Website www.conchrepublicmarinearmy.org
Find us on Facebook - [Facebook.com/conchrepublicmarinearmy](https://www.facebook.com/conchrepublicmarinearmy)
For inquires about seat availability, to discuss donations, or to reserve a trip for your group contact
Captain Brian Vest
Brian@conchrepublicmarinearmy.com





Hello Neighbor!

**FREE FIRST
WELLNESS EXAM!***

Our vets want to meet your pets!

Book Appointment!
thrivepetcare.com



thrive PLUS

Care More. Save More.



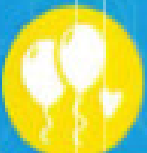
Unlimited
FREE Pet Exams



10% Off Services



\$5 Nail Trims



Exclusive Offers

ENROLL NOW & GET
**ONE MONTH
FREE!**

Code:



GREATER MARATHON
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



After Hours



APRIL 10 2024 5:30PM-SUNSET

**FOOD CATERED BY LAZY DAYS SOUTH
MUSIC BY JOHN BARTUS & ADRIENNE Z.
BEER, WINE AND REFRESHMENTS RAIN
OR SHINE, UNDER THE TURTLE TIKI**

JOIN US AT THE TURTLE HOSPITAL

**2396 OVERSEAS HWY, MARATHON
MM 48.5**



Shady Palm Art
Gallery

ART CLASSES



**Batik style painting with, ink,
paint & wax, on rice paper
with Janice Nagel**

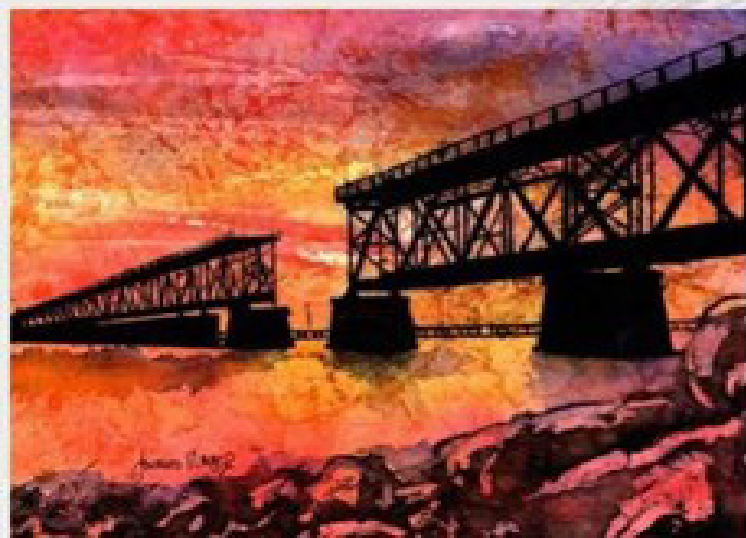
**MARCH 2ND, 16TH & 30TH 12-2PM
APRIL 13TH & 27TH 12-2PM**

Explore an ancient technique painting style with an updated twist.

Using layers of wax to resist watercolor paint on rice paper to create a one of a kind stunning finished painting suitable for framing.

All materials supplied for a 8x10 Batik painting to bring home with you.

There are several images to choose from. This is a fun and easy class with no prior painting experience necessary.



Register at
Shadypalmartgallery.com
+1 (305) 998-4165



Greater Marathon
Chamber of Commerce

isla bella
BEACH RESORT

Membership
Luncheon

Tuesday

April 16th

Noon-1pm

\$16

RSVP Required

Limited Seating

Speaker: Monroe County,
Mayor Holly Merrill Raschein



*Topic: State of the
County presentation*

RSVP to Erika@floridakeysmarathon.com or call 305-743-5417



MARATHON STEEL



Steel Drum Festival

CONCERT FOR A CAUSE

APRIL 18TH

FESTIVAL - 4:30PM

CONCERT - 6:30PM



FLORIDA KEYS HEALTH FAIRS

Saturday, April 20th, 2024
8 AM - 2 PM

FREE SERVICES & SCREENINGS

- Dermatology
 - Glucose
 - Cholesterol
 - HIV
 - Hepatitis C
 - Bone Density
- Vision
 - Hearing
 - Fall Risk Assessment
 - Blood Pressure
 - Mental Health
 - Dental Screening
- Children's Health Education
 - Physical Therapy
 - Women's Health (Pap Smear* & Breast Exam)
 - Men's Health
 - Local Health Service Info

***For Pap Smears:** please arrive PRIOR TO 12 PM.

All stations are tentative and subject to change
 Please bring all your medications to the fair.

Please do not attend if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or recent exposure.

PRE-REGISTRATION ENCOURAGED:

Register at the following link or scan the QR code:
tinyurl.com/floridakeys-hf



MARATHON

Marathon Middle High School
 350 Sombbrero Beach Rd,
 Marathon, FL 33050

BIG PINE KEY

Methodist Church
 280 Key Deer Boulevard
 Big Pine Key, FL 33043

KEY WEST

Key West High School
 2100 Flagler Avenue
 Key West, FL 33040

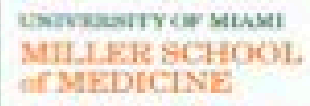
Questions?

Text us: 682-222-9246
Email us: Fkhfprteame@gmail.com
facebook.com/FLKeysHealthFairs

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Regardless of insurance or immigration status.
 All information is confidential.

Thanks to Our Sponsors



a concert for kids

WITH CLASSICAL GUITARIST MATEO

This Family-Friendly Concert is a child's introduction to multiple forms of music played on classical guitar including:
Classical • Spanish • Folk • Flamenco • Blues • Latin • Traditional

Mateo is an international acclaimed guitarist and soloist. He is a longtime Florida Keys resident who previously performed a series of children's concerts as a State of Florida Artist in Residence.

Recently relocating from Key West to the Middle Keys, Mateo is now offering Guitar Lessons for All Ages - Beginners Welcome!
If interested Call: 305-304-1437

MUSICAL SELECTIONS TO BE PLAYED:

MALAGUENA - CUBA

ROMANCE - SPAIN

GREENSLEEVES - ENGLAND

PACHELBEL CANON - GERMANY

BLUES - UNITED STATES

JAMAICA FAREWELL - JAMAICA

BARCELONA - FLAMENCO

WHISPER - BALLAD

BIRDS - JAZZ

FESTIVAL - ORIGINAL SONG

AMAZING GRACE - SPIRITUAL

MOUNTAIN - BLUEGRASS

The MARATHON COMMUNITY THEATRE
proudly presents

a concert for kids

WITH CLASSICAL GUITARIST MATEO

4pm Sunday
April 21, 2024

This Family-Friendly Concert is a child's introduction to multiple forms of music played on classical guitar including:

Classical • Spanish • Folk
Flamenco • Blues • Latin • Traditional

\$15/Adult (before fees)
Kids-FREE



MARATHON COMMUNITY THEATRE
5101 OVERSEAS HIGHWAY
MILE MARKER 49.5 OCEAN SIDE
MARATHON, FLORIDA 33050
BOX OFFICE 305 743 0994
WWW.MARATHONTHEATRE.ORG



Keeping Drama On Stage Since 1946!



The Florida Keys
& Key West
2006 to the present
www.floridakeysandkeywest.com

Taller por SBDC at FIU

Como iniciar su negocio

24 de abril del 2024

6PM -7PM

Marathon Chamber of
Commerce

12222 Overseas Hwy, Marathon, FL 33050

En este taller, exploraremos paso a paso el emocionante viaje de convertir una idea en un emprendimiento exitoso. Descubriremos estrategias prácticas, consejos claves y recursos valiosos para ayudarle a construir los cimientos sólidos necesarios para su nuevo negocio.



Ana Cisneros

Consultora

CLASS XXXI

LEADERSHIP SPRING GRADFEST

Community Festival

Saturday, April 27

11am - 8pm

Marathon Community Park

LEADERSHIP
MONROE COUNTY

Bridging the Florida Keys Since 1992

\$10

Children 12
and under
FREE

LIVE MUSIC
FOOD TRUCKS
KIDS GAMES
BOUNCE HOUSE
WATER SLIDE

FACE PAINTING
AXE THROWING



Booths and Vendors

Aquarium Encounter
Children's Shelter
Keys Weekly
Monroe County Library
Marine Lab
Monroe County Parks and Beaches
Mosquito Control
NOAA
Ocean Dream Healing
SeaCamp
United States Coast Guard
and more!



A special visit from
the KWPD Mounted Unit



Climbing Wall



Delicious food and refreshments



Bill Becker & his bubbles!

Contact LMC: 305-394-3804
info@leadershipmonroecounty.org

Program Sponsor
FIRST HORIZON
FOUNDATION

Let's

ROCK the DOCK

Angler
AND
Ale

Friday April 5th
7pm to 10pm

featuring the return of:

CORY YOUNG

with special four-legged guest appearances from:

Payton's Promise Sanctuary

this month's raffle proceeds beneficiary



Great Music, Freshest Food, Coldest Drinks & Charity Raffle Prizes
Come Have a Doggone Good Time!!

ANGLER & ALE
MM 61 IN DUCK KEY, FL

FEATURING:



Fast  Flag

SOLE WATERSPORTS

SPECIAL THANKS TO:



HAWKS CAY RESORT

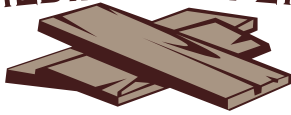
Florida Keys
Contractors Association
Golf Tournament

April 6, 2024



Presented by

MARATHON LUMBER
& BUILDING SUPPLY INC.



(305) 743-3688

Scramble Format \$100 Entry
8am Registration/Breakfast
9am Shotgun Start
After Golf - BBQ by FJ Nugent

Proceeds Benefit Scholarships & Community Activities
For Sponsorship Information Call Armand Messina @ 305-393-0971
To Sign Up To Play In The Tournament Call Stan @ 305-434-2433

Sponsorships

Hole-in-One.....\$1000

Includes a large 8' banner, name on all literature and an appreciation advertisement in the Weekly.

Eagle.....\$750

Includes a large 6' banner, name on all literature and an appreciation advertisement in the Weekly.

Birdie.....\$500

Includes a 5' banner, name on all literature and an appreciation advertisement in the Weekly.

Par.....\$250

Includes a 4' banner, name on all literature and an appreciation advertisement in the Weekly.

Greenside.....\$100

Includes a sign placed on the course visible to all participants, name on all literature and an appreciation advertisement in the Weekly.

Email logos and information for banners & signs to
Stan@US1graphics.com 305-434-2433

Donation of gift certificates and items to be raffled are greatly appreciated.





Sunday Concert

Series 6pm

potluck begins at 5pm



MATEO

SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH

**FEATURING
SPANISH GUITAR MUSIC
& SPECIAL GUEST**

**R.B. TOLAR
ON JAZZ GUITAR**



**St. Columba
Episcopal Church**

451 W 52nd Street
305-743-6412

www.stcolumbamarathon.org

Champions for Change

BBQ Dinner

for students facing special circumstances



Sunday, April 7th ~ 4:30-9pm

Food served until 8pm

Featuring Pit Master - Matt Pitcher

Pork, sides, roll & dessert - \$20 adults/\$15 children (12 & under)

Tickets available on www.eventbrite.com or at the door (while supplies last)

Cash Bar ~ 50/50 Raffle ~ Silent Auction

Take Out Available

Live music beginning at 5pm with Brian Roberts & the 79th Street Band



Marathon Elks Lodge ~ BPOE #2139
8329 Overseas Highway, Marathon

Call 305-731-0771 for more information

**Proceeds to support MHS students
& families facing special circumstances**



FREE MONTHLY FISHING SEMINAR
MONDAY, APRIL 8TH
DOORS OPEN @ 5:30PM
SEMINAR BEGINS @ 6:00PM
DINNER SERVED @ 6:30PM Tickets 10\$
DOOR PRIZES! • 50/50 RAFFLE!

The
Tackle
BOX

MARATHON • FL KEYS
www.thetacklebox.com
305-289-0540



*Capt.
Chris
Still*

TARPON



NEW LOCATION

Marathon ELKS Lodge
8239 Overseas Hwy
Marathon, FL. 33050

**DONT
FORGET
DINNER
SERVICE**



KEYS
SOUTHERN
OUTDOOR LIGHTING
305-902-7340
Call Today

**Outdoor Lighting Can Be
Dark Sky Friendly**

Light what you need
When you need it
No brighter than necessary

Proud Members of

Greater Marathon
Chamber of Commerce



Surprise Them in *Paradise*

HOLIDAY GIFT CARDS

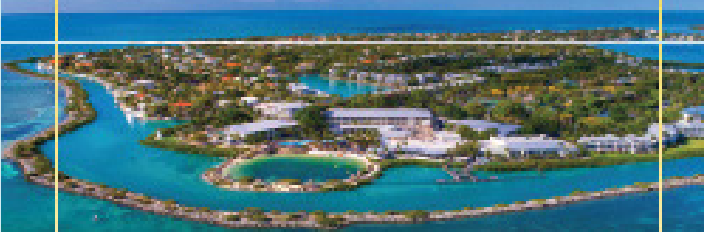
Create lasting memories this holiday season by gifting a Hawks Cay experience. Treat your friends and family to seaside dining, soothing spa sessions, thrilling offshore fishing, and more.

Stop by the Island Time Gift Shop, or call 305.743.7000 to purchase a gift card today!



Local Love

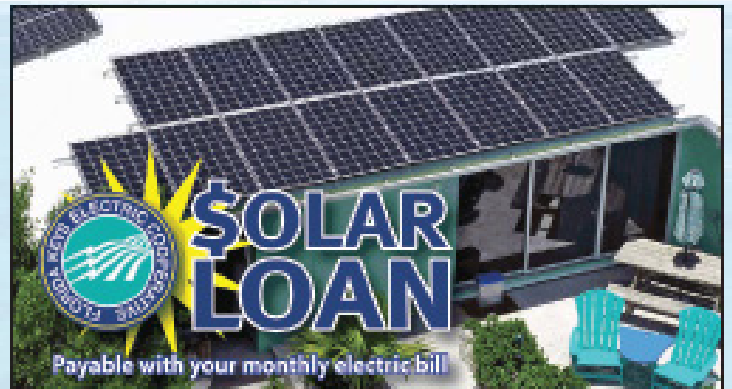
Save 10% on Food, Drinks & Spa Services



Indulge in poolside cocktails, a savory meal or blissful spa treatments, and we'll take 10% off the top. Enjoy signature dishes fresh off the hook from Angler & Ale. Enjoy a night out at Sixty-One Prime. And don't forget to unwind island-style at Calm Waters Spa. Show us your valid Monroe County ID and we'll show you a little local love at Hawks Cay Resort.

**FIND WHAT
lures you**

HAWKSCAY.COM | (888) 395-3539



Interested in Solar? Finance with FKEC!

Florida Keys Electric Cooperative is committed to making access to solar power generation possible for interested members. Obtain an FKEC solar loan and make payments through your monthly electric bill — it's that easy.

How do I qualify? Qualifying is based solely on your credit history with FKEC. Residential members must have a minimum 12-month clean billing history with FKEC and commercial members must have 24 months.

How do I apply? Start by calling FKEC Member Service at 305-852-2431 to see if you are eligible, and to learn more about the terms of the loan. You can also find the terms and steps to obtaining a solar loan at www.FKEC.com.

305.852.2431 • www.FKEC.com






Keys Federal
 CREDIT UNION
 Membership is **REWARDING**

Discover the Keys FCU difference!
 Stop by any location, with branches
 in Key West, Stock Island, Big Pine,
 Marathon and Tavernier!

 305-294-6622
  KeysFCU.org



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 RESORT & YACHT CLUB



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 Remodels • Landscapes • Interior Design
 Furniture & Accessories



Wolfe | Stevens
 Attorneys at Law



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 COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CENTER
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Marathon Veterinary Hospital

DOGS - CATS - BIRDS- ALL EXOTICS

5001 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL 33050
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www.marathonvet.com

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- Close to you with two convenient locations in the Keys
- The best cardiac surgery survival rate in Florida**

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Mount Sinai Cardiology
of the Florida Keys

305.294.8334
msmc.com

*Physician and location subject to availability. **Best cardiac surgery survival rate in Florida. Based on hospital performing more than 500 cases/yr (AACVQ V. 643 2016)



Fishermen's Community Hospital

BAPTIST HEALTH SOUTH FLORIDA



SWIM with
DOLPHINS



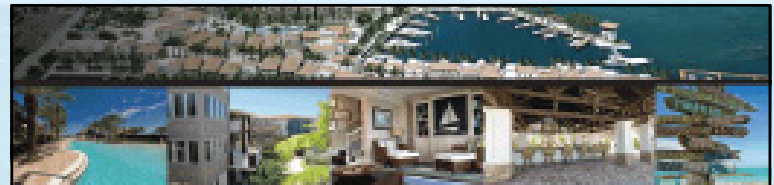
RESERVATIONS:
305-289-9975



DolphinConnection.com



Keyswide / 305-500-5555 / Danielle@5starair.com
www.5starair.com



Coming soon... A new collection of 84 luxury single family residences (Phase 1A Now Complete) and 99 deepwater boat slips on the bayside in Marathon. Top Quality construction, Dutch Colonial architecture and private clubhouse with beach-entry pool and other amenities.

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www.marlinbay.com

3800 Overseas Highway
Marathon, FL 33050

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YACHT CLUB

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WEEKLY
WWW.KEYSWEEKLY.COM

FIRST HORIZON.
Unstoppable
 starts here in the Keys

Delight L. Hill, Florida Keys Market President
 Trick Worthington, Florida Keys Group Branch Manager
 *Member FDIC

Florida Keys Media

**SOUTHERN KEYS
 CEMETERY**

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*Commercial Real Estate Loans
 Commercial Lines of Credit
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**FIRST
 STATE
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- APRONS



- TRAP HINGES
- TRAP LATCHES
- LATH BUNDLES
- FUNNELS
- TRAP ROPE

NEW INVENTORY
ARRIVING
PRODUCTS
ARE CHANGING
COME
CHECK IT OUT!

**All Your
Needs Right
Here!
If You Don't
See It We Can
Order It!!**



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DECKING • RAILING • MATCHING SCREWS

DECKING COMES IN 12 FT, 16 FT AND 20 FT



Makita

- DRILL BITS
- HAMMER BITS
- TAPE MEASURES
- BATTERY PACKS



"IF WE DON'T HAVE THE MAKITA ITEM YOU ARE LOOKING FOR WE CAN ORDER IT"



LIQUID NAILS

PROJECTS
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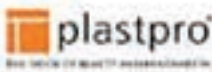


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