

Join the Upper Keys BPW at our monthly meetings, the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

BPW Connection | June 2018

Upper Keys Century Business & Professional Women



www.upperkeysbpw.org

Celebrating Women in Business

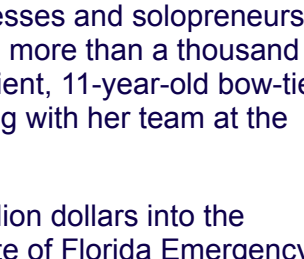
It's been a few months since we had lunch together, so we hope you'll come join us for the June luncheon! Our speaker, Kelly Penwell, was our scheduled speaker back in September 2017, but was canceled due to the hurricane. We are happy to welcome her once again!

The June Luncheon is being sponsored by Center State Bank.

In addition to Happy Dollars, be sure and bring some extra cash for the 50/50 Raffle! All money raised during the event goes to our Scholarship Program.

[Reserve your space in advance: CLICK HERE](#)

Kelly Penwell: Business Continuity & Small Business Disaster Preparedness



WEDNESDAY June 20th
Holiday Inn MM 100 OCEANSIDE 11:30 AM - 1PM
Holiday Inn Key Largo, African Queen Room

Sponsored by Center State Bank

CenterState



Speaker Kelly Penwell

Kelly Penwell is the Small Business Development Center Regional Director (SBDC) at Florida Keys Community College. She partners with existing businesses and solopreneurs throughout the Keys to grow their bottom line. She has worked with more than a thousand existing companies and startup organizations.

Post-Hurricane Irma, Kelly and her team brought more than 5.7 million dollars into the hands of small business owners in Monroe County through the State of Florida Emergency Bridge Loan Program.

We will have a **50/50 raffle!**

Lunch will be served.

Please make a reservation, as seating is limited.

Questions: info@upperkeysbpw.org

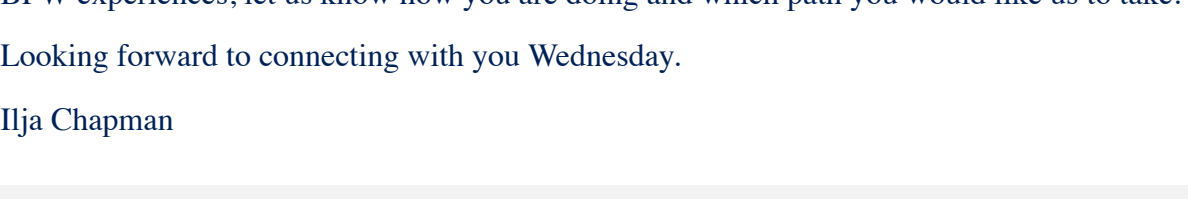
Member with online reservation \$20. Go to upperkeysbpw.org.

Non-members and everyone at the door \$25.

Kelly Penwell is the Small Business Development Center Regional Director (SBDC) at Florida Keys Community College. She partners with existing businesses and solopreneurs throughout the Keys to grow their bottom line. She has worked with more than a thousand existing companies and startup organizations. Her most notable client, 11-year-old bow-tie-mogul, Moziah Bridges, vaulted into the national scene after working with her team at the FedEx Institute of Technology at the University of Memphis.

Post-Hurricane Irma, Kelly and her team brought more than 5.7 million dollars into the hands of small business owners in Monroe County through the State of Florida Emergency Bridge Loan Program. Monroe County had the highest density of loans per capita in comparison to other counties throughout the state.

Kelly who originally hails from Long Island, NY holds a BS in Marketing, as well as a MBA and MSED. She is currently working on a graduate certificate in forensic accounting.



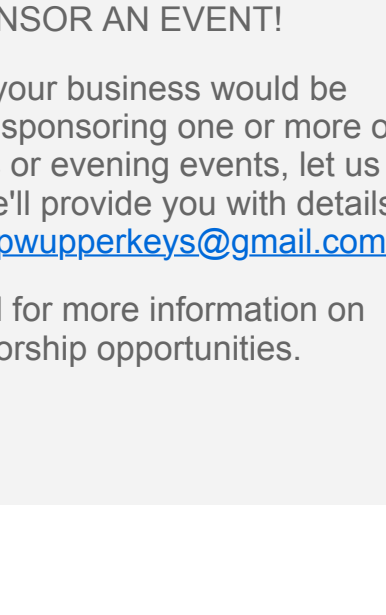
Thanks to CenterState Bank for sponsoring this month's luncheon!

Message from the President

Ilja Chapman, President

Paving the way!

Summer is here and we have almost completed six months of 2018. It scares me, as it also means I only have six more months to reach my goals I set at the beginning of the year. Well, it is not completely fair, because I didn't really have my goals for 2018 ready until the end of January, so technically I had only 5 months to work on them. Never the less July is a good month to stop, breath and evaluate. Are you still heading in the right direction, do you need to adjust some of your goals?



That is why we are happy to see Kelly Penwell from the Small Business Development Center speaking at our luncheon this month. She brings a ton of experience working with different businesses in the past; I find talking to her very inspirational and I hope she inspires you just the same.

I saw a paperweight on someone's desk with an inspiring inscription, "The road to success is always under construction." It is a nice reminder to keep going, even when life faces many challenges. It is a constant work in progress and there will be a fair share of bumps and detours along the way. What matters is how you overcome them.

The Upper Keys BPW board members are working hard to lay down the pavement for the year to come. We kicked the fiscal year off with a board retreat focusing on team building and strategic planning. Value and development seem to be the key words for this year and we are all 100% committed.

Please don't feel shy to speak to any of the Upper Keys BPW board members, share your BPW experiences, let us know how you are doing and which path you would like us to take.

Looking forward to connecting with you Wednesday.

Ilja Chapman

bpw | CALENDAR

June 20: Luncheon 11:30 am-1:00 pm. Holiday Inn-Key Largo, African Queen. Speaker is Kelly Penwell from SBDC. Sponsored by Center State Bank.

July 18: Evening Networking Event. Location TBA.

August 16: Luncheon. 11:30 am-1:00 pm. Location TBA.

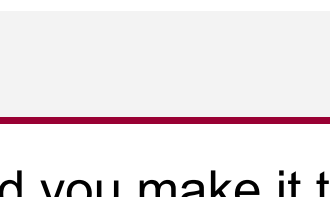
September 19: Political Forum, Evening Event. Location TBA.

EVENT SCHEDULE

SPONSOR AN EVENT!

If you or your business would be interested in sponsoring one or more of our lunches or evening events, let us know and we'll provide you with details and prices. bpwupperkeys@gmail.com.

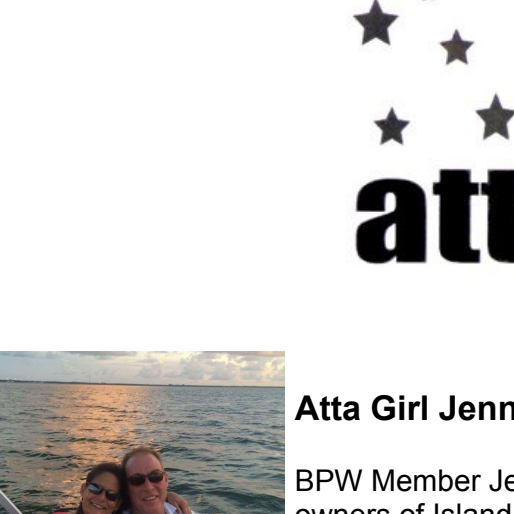
Stay tuned for more information on sponsorship opportunities.



In the Spotlight

bpw/member SPOTLIGHT

Meet Maria Acosta



My first visit to the Keys was camping at America Outdoors. I immediately fell in love with the people, the freedom, the camaraderie. I had no 2nd thoughts to purchase my house in Key Largo.

I left the corporate world in New York City in the 90's to start my own businesses. I had restaurants and a boutique until one day, I joined an amazing International Livestock Air Transportation Company, mainly horses but exotic animals as well. This suit me very well as I adore and have a strong passion for animals.

Presently, I have also joined the top Wellness Company in North America. Love what I do to help others with health as well as to create their own business opportunity from home.

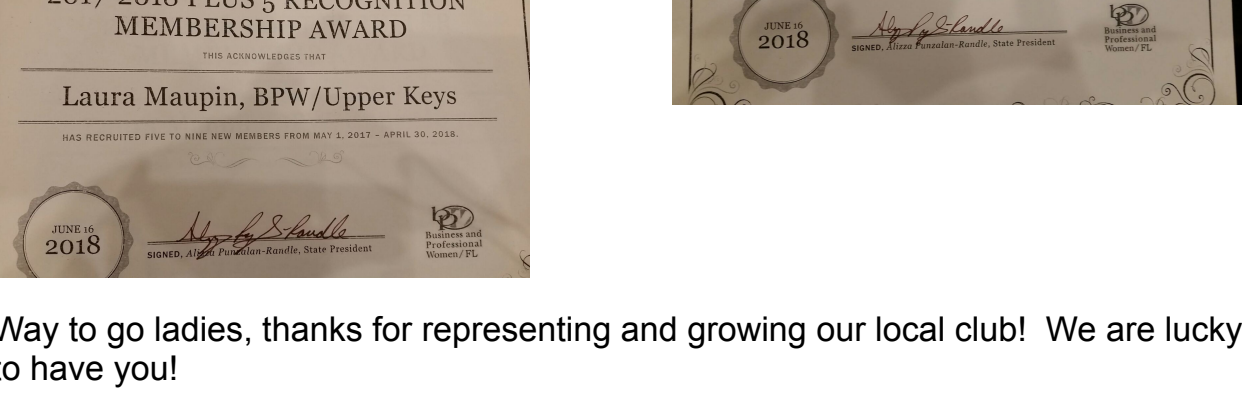
As a business owner for so many years, I know the importance of having freedom and being your own boss.

BPW has been an amazing adventure, being able to meet and share with other business women. It's Priceless!!!!

I am looking forward to helping the community.

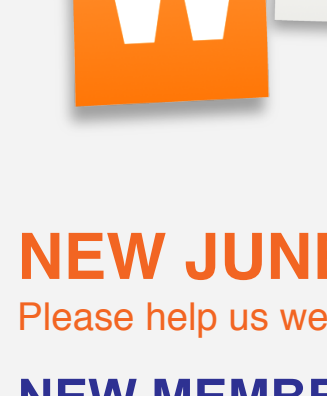
Did you make it to last month's Board Installation?

Meet your new 2018 - 2019 Board of Directors



Left to right: Theresa Sutter, Suzi Youngberg, Miriam Lazcos, Jackie Harder, Wendy Coffman, Shawna Simic, Pam Martin, Ilja Chapman, Laura Maupin

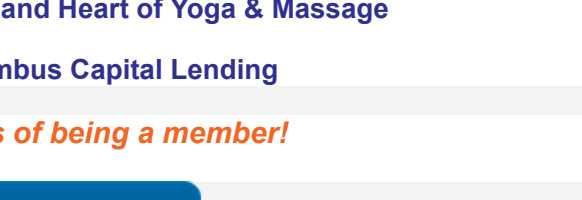
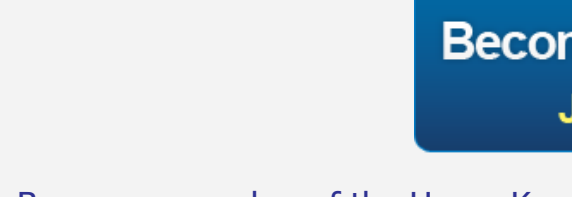
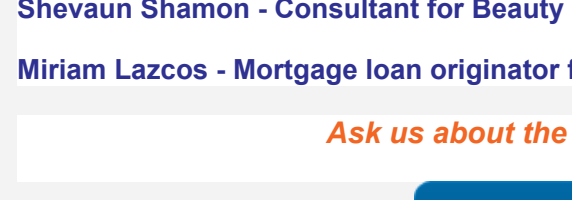
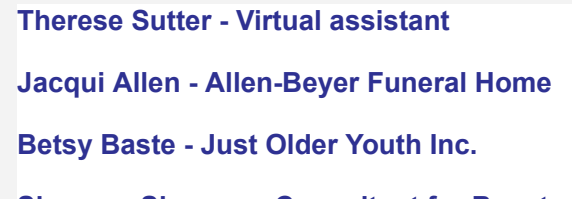
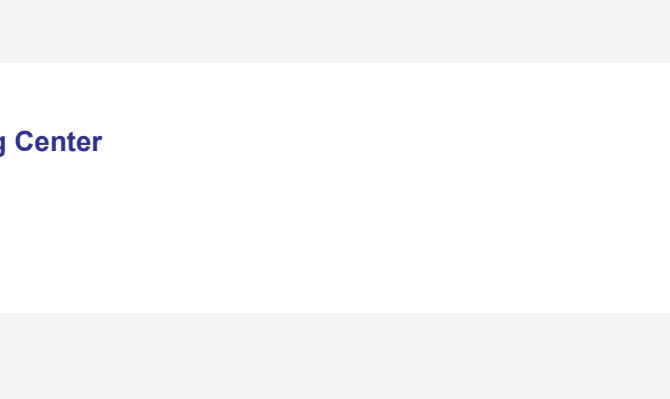
attagirl



Atta Girl Jennifer Cappadona!

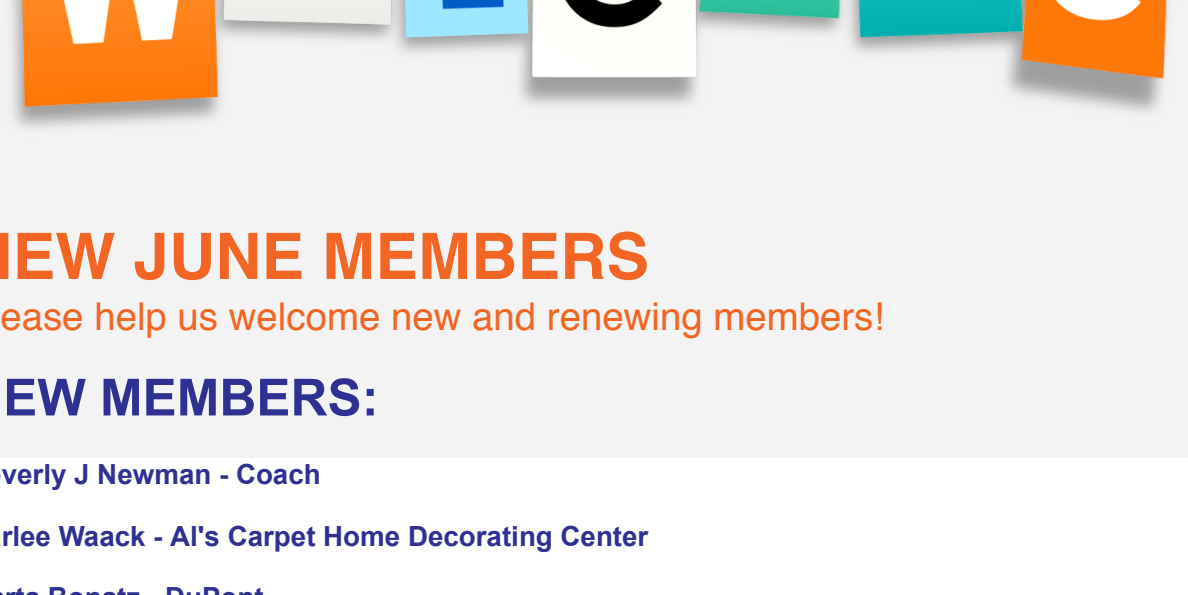
BPW Member Jenn Cappadona and her husband are the proud new owners of Island Time Trolley! www.islandtimetrolley.com
Congrats Jenn!

Our president, Ilja Chapman, recently represented the Upper Keys at the BPW State Conference, and accepted awards for the Upper Keys BPW. We are so pleased and proud to have received the following awards from the state BPW:



"BPW Upper Keys has the highest percentage of continuing membership for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2018."
"Laura Maupin BPW/Upper Keys Plus 5 Recognition Award."
"Laura Maupin BPW/Upper Keys Top Recruiter Membership Award."

Way to go ladies, thanks for representing and growing our local club! We are lucky to have you!



NEW JUNE MEMBERS

Please help us welcome new and renewing members!

NEW MEMBERS:

Beverly J Newman - Coach

Carlee Waack - Al's Carpet Home Decorating Center

Marta Bonatz - DuPont

RENEWING MEMBERS:

Therese Sutter - Virtual assistant

Jacqui Allen - Allen-Beyer Funeral Home

Betsy Baste - Just Older Youth Inc.

Shevaun Shamson - Consultant for Beauty Counter and Heart of Yoga & Massage

Miriam Lazcos - Mortgage loan originator for Columbus Capital Lending

[Ask us about the benefits of being a member!](#)

Become a Member

JOIN TODAY!

Become a member of the Upper Keys Business & Professional Women (BPW). Click the button, or go to upperkeysbpw.org for registration and information. You can also join us at one of our luncheons or evening events, held on the third Wednesday of every month.

APPLY FOR AN UPPER KEYS BPW ADULT SCHOLARSHIP



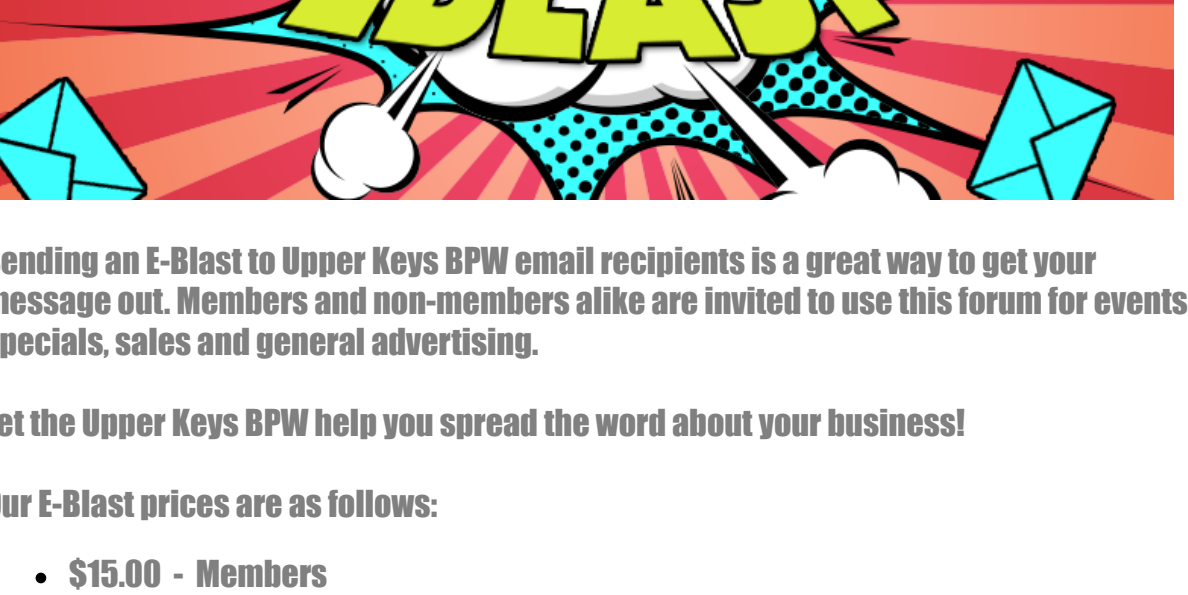
The Upper Keys's BPW Adult Scholarship program is about women helping women! Apply for the Upper Keys BPW Adult Scholarship and the new UKBPW-Holly Given Memorial Scholarship. The specifications and applications can be found on our website.



Applications are accepted all year round, and are reviewed on March 15th and August 15th annually. Scholarships may be used for certifications, training classes, or classes and required materials for higher educational degrees.

For more information, or to download the application, click the button below.

[APPLY NOW](#)



Sending an E-Blast to Upper Keys BPW email recipients is a great way to get your message out. Members and non-members alike are invited to use this forum for events, specials, sales and general advertising.

Let the Upper Keys BPW help you spread the word about your business!

Our E-Blast prices are as follows:

- \$15.00 - Members
- \$30.00 - Non-Members

Proceeds from E-Blasts go toward our Adult Scholarship Fund.

Simply send us your message, along with your name, business name and billing information to: BPWupperkeys@gmail.com

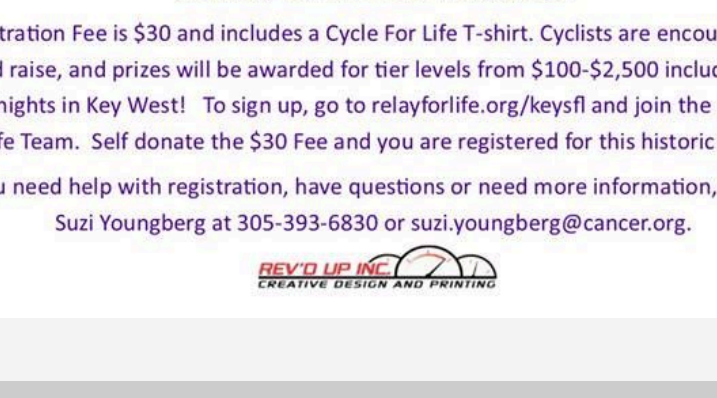
Connecting our Upper Keys Chapter to BPW Florida



BPW/FL Florida Federation of Business & Professional Women's Club, Inc.

Congratulations BPW/FL on their new E-Newsletter, [BPWInsider](#). There is a lot of good information and it also gives a shout out to the Upper Keys BPW as their Highlighted Local Organization! We thank them for their recognition and leadership!

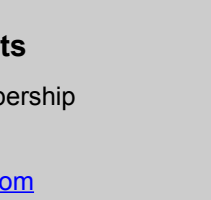
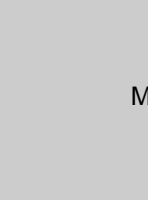
To read the article [CLICK HERE](#).



Cycle For Life of the Florida Keys

Saturday, July 21, 2018

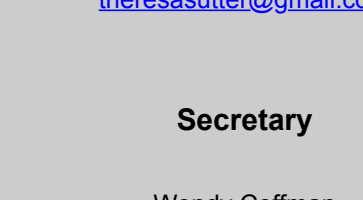
Presented by



Cycle 100 miles through the Keys to raise money for the American Cancer Society and Relay For Life of the Florida Keys!

Registration Fee is \$30 and includes a Cycle For Life T-shirt. Cyclists are encouraged to fund raise, and prizes will be awarded for tier levels from \$100-\$2,500 including a 2 FREE nights in Key West! To sign up, go to relayforlife.org/keysfl and join the Cycle For Life Team. Self donate the \$30 Fee and you are registered for this historic ride!

If you need help with registration, have questions or need more information, contact Suzi Youngberg at [305-393-6830](tel:305-393-6830) or suzi.youngberg@caner.org.



Board of Directors 2018-2019

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Ilja Chapman
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