



FEBRUARY 2024 • VOL XXXV

KCBCA Update

Hi Folks,

Lots going on in our little town. Concerts in the Park kicking off tomorrow with Lady A and a Ribbon Cutting for our new Tiki Hut at Sunset Park at 4PM. Following this, our board and volunteers are hard at work preparing for our **2024 KCB DAY on March 3rd**. Several local businesses have already stepped up to be MAJOR SPONSORS including:

- ◆ [Coldwell Banker Schmitt Real Estate Co.](#) - TITLE Sponsor
- ◆ [Royal Furniture](#) – Event Sponsor
- ◆ [Karen Raspe](#) and [Tracy Chacksfield](#), Realtors – Event Sponsor
- ◆ [3rd Generation Plumbing](#) – Beach Sponsor

Along with these generous donors, you'll see the logos for some of your other favorite businesses, services, and local attractions on the back of the really cool T-shirt [US 1 Graphics](#) is designing for us this year.

Additionally, we're bringing back Breakfast at KC Inn, the KCB Day Parade and the Silent Auction. As a new feature, [Island Trolley Tours](#) will be running a shuttle around town to take folks to and from the event grounds – personal lawn chairs are ok on the trolley!

We're expecting to see over 3,000 visitors pass through the park that day, with over 40 vendors, food trucks, continuous music, games of chance including several raffles and of course, the WORLD FAMOUS Barracuda Races.

On this day, we all show our community spirit – one of the best ways to do that in addition to visiting the event is to volunteer. Click [here](#) to see how.

Ted Fischer, President, KCBCA

KC Bee Line

Concerts Have Begun!

Join the Key Colony Beach Community Association for our free Sunday concerts! We believe that music is a powerful tool that brings people together and creates memories that last a lifetime. Our events are family-friendly and perfect for music lovers of all ages and backgrounds. Come and enjoy an afternoon of great music, free hotdogs, and fun with your community! From classic rock to country to the blues, we ensure there is something for everyone. Mark your calendar and come join us!



- | | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| January 28 | Lady A Band |
| February 3 | Abstract Radio |
| February 18 | Brian Roberts |
| February 25 | Rick Lieder Band |
| March 10 | Bob & Crystal Carew |
| March 24 | John Bartus |

All concerts Sunday, Sunset Park, 4-6pm



SUNDAY, MARCH 3

9AM to 4PM

KCB 7th Street Park

MM 53.5

Title Sponsor



**COLDWELL BANKER
SCHMITT REAL ESTATE CO.**

Free Admission - Free Parking - Old-Fashioned Fun!

- ◆ **7:30-10:30 KC Inn Breakfast Buffet**
- ◆ **9-4 Live Music All Day!**
- ◆ **9:30 Pooch Promenade**
- ◆ **11:00 Street Parade**

ALSO:

- ◆ **World Famous Barracuda Races**
- ◆ **Silent Auction**
- ◆ **50/50, Multiple Drawings**
- ◆ **Numerous Vendors**
- ◆ **Food Trucks**
- ◆ **Beer & Wine**

**BRING A LAWN CHAIR AND ENJOY
THE ALL DAY ENTERTAINMENT!**

Presented By
Key Colony Beach
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



**TROLLEY PICK UP
TO AND FROM
EVENT AROUND
KCB AFTER
PARADE UNTIL 4**



The Fun We've Had...



The Coconut crawl was a huge success with 189 people participating. A huge thank you to everyone that helped in any way; including our sponsors, our volunteers, and especially the Chairs of this fun event, Sue & Brad Thompson.

KBCA members can see lots more pictures from this event and others by visiting www.kbcba.org/members or by

clicking the link below for a video of this years fun!

Many thanks to Cliff Rydell of MarathonFlorida.com TV88 for putting this video recap together!

If you have pictures from this event that you would like to share with us, please email them to kbcamembership@gmail.com.



Congratulations to Susan Flynn, winner of the coconut crawl's best poker hand. This was also Susan's first ever crawl. Welcome to the community association!

Congratulations to Erin Defoe and Kara Fabry for winning Best Individual Costume at the 2024 Coconut Crawl.



Click here for Video of the Crawl courtesy of TV88



Pickleball



The newly formed KCB PICKLEBALL CLUB, which has grown to 235 members since it was established in November, is hosting an upcoming weekend of fun & fundraisers for the tennis and pickleball court expansion project. The club has raised an impressive \$135,000 to date, mostly in individual donations, and the city has applied for a \$50,000 grant to help reach the funding goal.

The events will be Saturday and Sunday, February 10th & 11th. The weekend will kick off with a Round Robin that will be held at the courts from 8-12 PM, during club play hours. Saturday afternoon, a donor concert featuring Rick and Dayna will be held at Sunset Park from 4-6 PM.

Each donor who provides a donation of \$1,000 or more will have their name on new park signage at the current 8th street facility and the new tennis complex on 7th Street when completed. They are also giving away a chance to win an ebike and an invitation to the donor concert with your donation of \$100 or more. See the attached donor form, their website at:

kcbpickleball.com/donate or email them at kcbpickleballclub@gmail.com for more information.

Diane Amato-Slusher, amatodla@yahoo.com
330-646-1889

2023/24 Season Event Dates

Saturday Nov. 18	Welcome Back Party KC Inn
Sunday, Dec. 10	Boat Parade KCBF&BC
Monday, Dec. 24	Santa Comes to Town
Saturday, Jan. 20	Coconut Crawl
Sunday, Jan 28	Concert, Lady A Band
Sunday, Feb 3	Concert, Abstract Radio
Sunday, Feb 18	Concert, Brian Roberts
Sunday, Feb 25	Concert, Rick Lieder Band
Sunday, Mar 3	67th Annual KCB Day
Sunday, Mar 10	Concert, Bob & Crystal Carew
Sunday, Mar 17	St Patrick's Day Parade
Sunday, Mar 24	Concert, John Bartus



Presented By
Key Colony Beach
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Pooch Promenade Costume Contest

SUNDAY, MARCH 3
KCB 7th Street Park

Registration 9:00-9:15 am
Parade & Contest 9:30 am



Event Sponsors

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BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY | KEYS REAL ESTATE
HOMESERVICES

TRACY CHACKSFIELD
REALTOR®



Key Colony Beach Day



Key Colony Beach Day Celebration

Sunday, March 3rd, 9 am to 4 pm
Music, Exhibitors, Games, Food Trucks

OPPORTUNITY

Calling all Artists, Merchants, Service Providers,
Clubs and Food Trucks

Reach over 3000 residents and guests in one of the Premier Upscale Communities in the Keys. Special offerings for all exhibitors who register **BEFORE FEBRUARY 1** including:

- 10% Discount on Registration Fees **ONLINE** with code word **EARLYBIRD**
- Breakfast at KC Inn with \$2 off voucher
- \$10 off voucher for \$20 KCB Day T-shirt
- Exhibitor name and web address co-marketed with event advertising on Social Media, Flyers, and Signage
- Exhibitor recognition announcements throughout the event
- Exhibitor Hospitality Service

ATTRACTIONS

Continuous Entertainment Including

- World-famous Barracuda Races
- Continuous Musical Acts
- Shaded Food Pavilion with tables and chairs
- Expanded Pooch Parade
- KCB Day Parade
- Multiple AM and PM 50/50 and raffle pulls

REGISTER



<https://www.kbcba.org/contact-1>



ann@kbcba.org



(410) 336-5368 call or text



Save our Monarchs: Plant Native Milkweed



Protecting monarch butterflies in the Florida Keys involves creating a hospitable environment for their survival. Here are some steps you can take:

1. **Plant Native Milkweed:** Monarchs lay their eggs exclusively on milkweed plants. Planting native milkweed species like *Asclepias tuberosa* and *Asclepias incarnata* can provide food for the caterpillars.
2. **Avoid Pesticides:** Pesticides harm butterflies and their larvae. Use natural pest control methods or choose butterfly-friendly alternatives.
3. **Create Butterfly Habitats:** Designate areas in gardens or public spaces as butterfly habitats by planting nectar-rich flowers such as lantana, pentas, and salvias to provide food for adult butterflies.
4. **Education and Awareness:** Educate the community about the importance of monarch butterflies and their life cycle. Encourage others to join conservation efforts.
5. **Support Conservation Organizations:** Collaborate or support local conservation groups or initiatives working to protect monarchs in the Florida Keys. They often provide guidance and resources for conservation efforts.
6. **Volunteer for Monitoring Programs:** Participate in butterfly monitoring programs to track their populations and understand their behaviors better.
7. **Conservation of Overwintering Sites:** If there are specific sites where monarchs overwinter in the Florida Keys, support efforts to protect and conserve these areas.



Remember, creating a butterfly-friendly environment involves small but impactful steps taken collectively by individuals, organizations, and communities.

For more info, contact the Marathon Garden Club www.marathongardenclub.org.

Beautification Committee



Congratulations to Larry Mills and his soon to be bride Linda for being our January Beautification winner.

Larry has lived on 4th St in KCB since 2010 after moving to Marathon in 2007 from Charlestown, South Carolina. During his 11 years in this house he has completely renovated it adding tropical gardens in the back and front. Larry is an avid fisherman and car enthusiast and served on the Code Enforcement Committee.

Congratulations!



WHO? WHAT? WHEN? WHERE: Theater of the Sea!

In 1940, a tourist traveling through the Florida Keys from Atlanta, GA noticed one of the roadside quarries, which although landlocked, was filled with seawater and colorful parrot fish. Knowing his employer, P. F. "Bud" McKenney, was attracted to fishing and the beauty of the sea, he told him of his discovery in Islamorada. After visiting the area for himself, Bud and his wife Martha envisioned the land becoming a live menagerie of sea critters, a Theater of the Sea. Alonzo Cothron agreed to lease the land to the McKenney's, and in 1941 they sold their ice cream parlors in Atlanta and moved to Tavernier to begin their new business venture. The outbreak of WW2 delayed their plans but shortly after the end of the war, the McKenney's started construction on their Theater. Cothron assisted in the removal of additional coral rock as McKenney himself developed the property. Milton Santini, a local fisherman, was hired to transport four dolphins to the park and allowed the facility to open its doors in 1946. The Theater offered daily porpoise shows and guided marine life tours in an intimate, up-close and personal setting. The park operated from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm and admission was \$1.50 for adults and \$0.55 for children over seven years old.



(Excerpts from Theater of Sea website)
#UpperKeysHistory #JerryWilkinson #Loralea Carrera
#Keysmuseum #FKHDF #HPSUK #Islamorada
#TheIslanderResort #Theaterofthesea,
#KennyMcKenney, #KeysAttractions #TOTS



Marathon Garden Club House and Garden Tour, Saturday, March 2nd, 2024

The Marathon Garden Club will host their annual House and Garden Tour on Saturday, March 2nd from 10am until 4pm featuring 4 luxury oceanfront homes on Key Colony Beach and Stirrup Key. Also included will be our unique garden and Orchid Wall at our clubhouse.

Tickets are \$35 and may be purchased at the Garden Club, 5270 Overseas Highway, MM50, Gulf (Mon. – Fri. 10-2), from the Marathon Chamber of Commerce, at the DK Beach Boutique on Key Colony Beach or online at Eventbrite (www.eventbrite.com). Call the garden club at 305-743-4971 for more information or visit www.marathongardenclub.org.

[Click for Link to
KCB City/Community
Calendar of Events](#)

FEBRUARY

KCB Book Club

On January 11, the KCB Book Club met in the patio room of the KC Inn. We had read *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. The book led us through discussions about emotions, animals, their intelligence, and traveling across the country. We also learned of an animal refuge north of Tampa that gives private tours which include meeting their giraffes.

The next meeting of the KCB Book Club will be held on February 8th, at 3:00 p.m., in the patio room of the KC Inn. Same place, same time which allows us all to spend the day fishing or playing on the water. We are reading *Someone Else's Shoes* by Jo Jo Moyes. I've been told the Marathon Library has the book. Come join us for some fun conversation.



The Key Colony Beach Community Association helps to build a happier, healthier community. We believe that by working together and volunteering our time and energy, we can create a better place for everyone to live in. Our volunteer-based organization is always looking for dedicated individuals who share our passion for community engagement and empowerment. We provide a variety of opportunities for people of all skill levels to get involved and make a positive impact. Together, we can achieve great things!

We are reaching out to the community to gather information about your preferences, skills, and availability to assist in staffing our events. Your involvement, even if just for 2 hours, makes a significant difference in the success of these events, and we want to ensure that your experience aligns with your preferences. So please, click below and take our short survey. Thank you.

[Click Here for Survey](#)



**KCB Mugs, License
Plates and Other Items
for Sale in City Hall**



P.O. Box 510884
Key Colony Beach, FL 33051
A Not For Profit
Organization



[**KCBCA.org**](http://KCBCA.org)

Any articles, photos, questions, comments are welcome.

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**It's Your Community.
Be there
for it!**

