



Volume 2  
Edition 13

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## DYER

At the December 10th **CFHLA Hospitality Gala**, City of Orlando **Mayor Buddy Dyer** was recognized as CFHLA's **2016 Charles Andrews Memorial Hospitality Award** recipient. This award is the highest honor bestowed upon an individual by CFHLA, in recognition of achievements and contributions to Central Florida's Hospitality Industry, as well as the community at large.

Mayor Dyer was selected as this year's Charles Andrews Memorial Hospitality Award Honoree for his role in the following **Hospitality and Community accomplishments** in Central Florida:

- **The 2007 City of Orlando / Orange County Interlocal Agreement - paving the way for the construction of the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts and the Amway Center, as well as providing for critical improvements to the Orlando Citrus Bowl**
- **Securing both a Major League Soccer franchise (Orlando City Soccer Club) and National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) franchise (Orlando Pride)**
- **Revitalization of Downtown Orlando - to the benefit of both residents and visitors to our region**
- **Efforts in revising the 2007 Interlocal Agreement in 2012 to expedite Citrus Bowl renovations for sports tourism opportunities, including: additional college football bowl games, Camping World Kickoff series**

[Orange County](#)

[Osceola County](#)

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- and Copa America Centenario matches
- **Commitment in 2016 to revise the Interlocal Agreement to provide additional support to Visit Orlando, a dedicated sports bid fund, enhancements to the Orange County Convention Center and the completion of Phase II of the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts**
- **Leadership in the aftermath of the June 12th Pulse nightclub attack - establishing the OneOrlando Fund which has collected nearly \$30 million for Pulse victims' families and survivors**



CFHLA President/CEO Rich Maladecki, Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer and CFHLA Board Chairman David Bartek of Loews Hotels

CFHLA thanks Mayor Dyer for his continued support of Central Florida's Hospitality Industry and positive relationship with the Association.

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## GA

On Wednesday, December 14th, the **CFHLA Governmental Affairs Committee** met with newly-elected **State Representative Amy Mercado** (District 48) at the [Mall at Millenia](#) (Thanks to host Steven Jamieson, General Manager).



(from left) 2017 GA Committee Chairman Peter Kacheris of the Waldorf Astoria Orlando/Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek, State Representative Amy Mercado, CFHLA Board Secretary Keith Wolling of the B Resort and Spa Lake Buena Vista and CFHLA Board 1st Vice Chairman Fred Sawyers of the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort

Representative Mercado, who was endorsed by CFHLA during her election campaign, is the daughter of **State Senator "Vic" Torres**, who was also endorsed by CFHLA during this past election cycle.

Representative Mercado expressed her support of CFHLA's efforts to **repeal TDT-expanding legislation** passed during the 2016 Session and agreed with GA Committee Members that the preservation of current **Visit Florida** funding levels should be a central focus of Central Florida legislators during 2017. GA Members and Representative Mercado also discussed the importance of establishing a **"level playing field"** between **Shared Economy Companies** and traditional transportation and lodging companies as it relates to taxation, insurance requirements and safety regulations.

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## PAC/PC

On Monday, December 5th, Members of the CFHLA-PAC/PC Board of Directors gathered at [Craig Miller's Field House](#) sports bar in the Dr. Phillips Area for a "Victory Luncheon," to recap the political successes of the PAC/PC in 2016, to introduce new 2017-2018 PAC/PC Board Members and to "salute" individuals departing the PAC/PC due to term limits.

A surprise visit was made by CFHLA-PAC Endorsed Candidate for **State Senate District 11, Randolph Bracy**, who thanked the CFHLA Members in attendance for their support of his successful campaign and discussed his priorities for the 2017 Session.

Approximately **85% of all CFHLA-PAC Endorsed Candidates** were elected on November 8th, and CFHLA is looking forward to these **"Tourism-Friendly"** Elected Officials serving as ambassadors to Central Florida's Hospitality Industry.



CFHLA-PAC/PC Chairman Jay Leonard of the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Resort Disney Springs Resort Area, CFHLA-PAC/PC Vice Chairman Keith Wolling of the B Resort and Spa Lake Buena Vista and CFHLA PAC/PC Board Member Jim Gross of the DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld

***This "Victory Luncheon" also featured the election of 2017 PAC/PC Officers and with unanimous support, each of the following 2016 officers were "re-elected" to serve in PAC/PC Leadership positions:***

- **Chairman: Jay Leonard**  
[Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Resort Disney Springs Resort Area](#)
- **Vice Chairman: Keith Wolling**  
[B Resort & Spa Lake Buena Vista](#)
- **Secretary: Mark Politte**  
[DoubleTree by Hilton at the Entrance to Universal Orlando](#)
- **Treasurer: Rick Patterson**  
[Associated Planners Group](#)

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## ELECTION

The CFHLA-PAC and CFHLA-PC Boards of Directors will have a new look in 2017, as the PAC/PC Board Elections concluded in late November and CFHLA Council Representatives are being selected.

***Please congratulate the following CFHLA Leaders who will begin serving won the CFHLA-PAC and CFHLA-PC Boards of Directors effective January 1st:***

- **Guy Bouchard**  
[Global Resort Homes](#)  
*(2017 CFHLA Vacation Rental Council Representative)*
- **Ruthann DiLauri**  
[Minuteman Press](#)
- **Jim Gross**  
[DoubleTree by Hilton Orlando at SeaWorld](#)
- **Maureen Haggerty**  
[Spinout Guest Laundries](#)
- **John Luke**  
[Hilton Orlando](#)
- **Ron Nagy**  
[Bohemian Hotel Celebration](#)
- **Stuart Newmark**  
[Revolutionary Road Hospitality Group](#)
- **Laura Sherman**  
[CLC Encantada Resort](#)  
*(2017 CFHLA Vacation Ownership Council Representative)*

If you are interested in serving on the PAC and PC Boards of Directors in 2018, please email CFHLA Public Policy Director, Kevin Craig, at [publicpolicy@cfhla.org](mailto:publicpolicy@cfhla.org) for more information.

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## GREEN

On Monday, December 5th, the Orlando City Council unanimously passed a revised **Building Energy and Water Efficiency Strategy (BEWES) ordinance**, which will aim to achieve the City's sustainability goals while minimizing any potential burden on Orlando's business community.

The revised ordinance, which passed its first reading on November 14th, provides **incentives** for **large building owners** who conduct energy audits and report their scores to the City of Orlando. Following pushback from community business leaders, including CFHLA, over language that would have penalized non-participating businesses, City officials agreed to remove financial penalties and the listing of "non-complying" companies publicly.

CFHLA thanks **City Commissioners** as well as **Mayor Dyer** for creating a voluntary, incentive-based program that will feature a collaborative effort between the City of Orlando and the Orlando business community to work toward a more sustainable and energy efficient **City Beautiful**.

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## HAYNIE

On Tuesday, December 13th, the **Tiger Bay Club of Central Florida** hosted a "**Roast**" Dinner Reception to honor retiring Orange County Comptroller, **Martha Haynie**, for her 27 years of service holding the Comptroller title.

CFHLA was proud to serve as a title sponsor of this event, as Comptroller Haynie has benefited Orange County's **Hospitality Industry** by serving as the "**watchdog**" of **Tourist Development Tax** collections during her tenure.

Comptroller Haynie was "roasted" by friends and fellow Orange County government colleagues, such as **Supervisor of Elections Bill Cowles**, before addressing the crowd herself to thank friends, family and community partners for their support over her 27 years of public service.

CFHLA **salutes** Comptroller Haynie for her service to Orange County and positive relationship with the Hospitality Industry.





Orange County Comptroller Martha Haynie and CFHLA - PAC/PC Chairman Jay Leonard of the Wyndham Lake Buena Vista Resort Disney Springs Resort Area

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## ALCOHOL

On Tuesday, November 29th, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners held a **Work Session** on the **CFHLA proposal** to amend **Orange County's alcohol ordinance** relating to hours of sale and service. Currently, Orange County businesses may only serve alcohol to guests between the hours of 11 AM to 2 AM, with only a few exceptions.

CFHLA has proposed that for hotels, restaurants and other "professional" settings (not to include gas stations, liquor stores, etc.) that the **hours of sale and service** be shifted to **7 AM to 2 AM**, consistent with the City of Orlando and neighboring counties.

**CFHLA believes that changing this ordinance would provide a greater customer service experience** to visitors of the region who may wish to enjoy an alcoholic beverage in the morning while watching their favorite sports team or home nation play on the other side of the world, especially during events such as the **Olympics or World Cup**.

This change would also benefit **Orange County residents** who wish to enjoy brunch opportunities that are currently not as available as those in the City limits or in other Central Florida counties.

**Mayor Jacobs** and the **County Commissioners**, following comment from the County Attorney's office, voiced support of the change but will not be taking a vote on the potential ordinance amendment until an **early 2017** Board of County Commission meeting hears public comment on the issue.

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## LINKS

Below please find news articles, relating to the political interests of the Hospitality Industry:

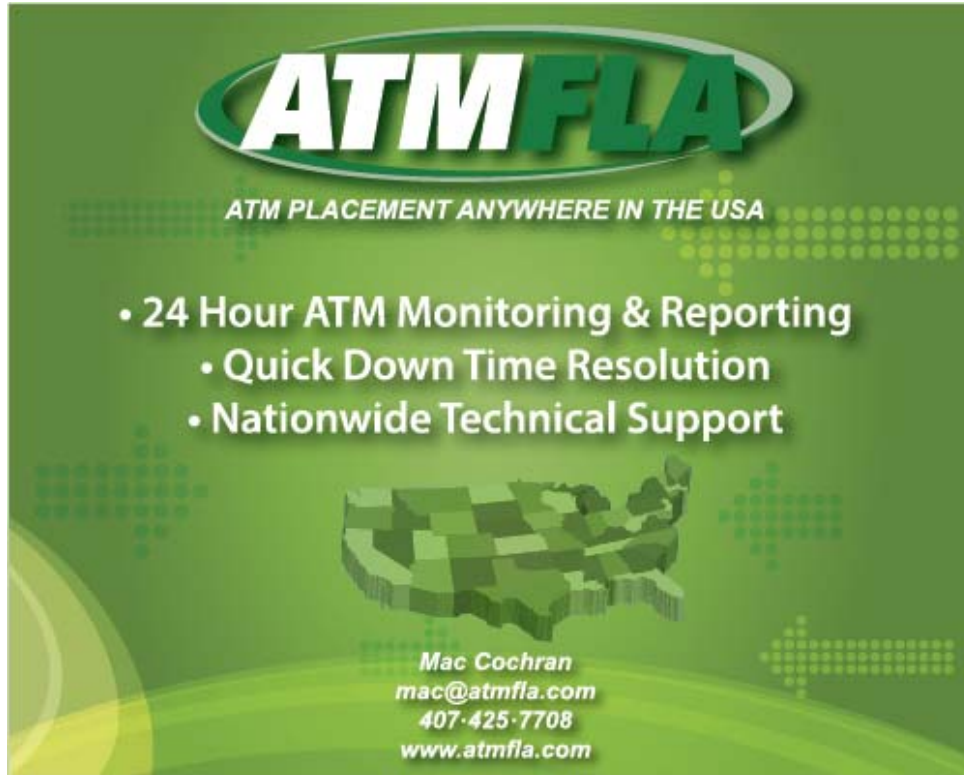
[House Speaker Says He May Kill Funding For Visit Florida over Contract with Pitbull](#)

[Orlando City Council passes Building Energy Sustainability Benchmarking Program](#)

[Orlando 2030: International Traffic Predicted To Swell by 315 Percent at OIA](#)

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