



Caribbean-American For Community Involvement in Florida, Inc.

Our mission is to enhance, maintain and sustain the quality of life for the community consistent with the culture and traditions of our diverse ancestral heritage.

March

2015

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 CAFCI Home Radcliffe Brown
 Cultural Elet Cyris
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 Relay for Life Nova Brown
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 Sunshine Elet Cyris
 Talent Show Nadine White-Boyd
 Toys for Tots Lauriston Simms
 Venue/Reservations Lawrence Logan
 Vivian Ferrin Memorial Genieve White
 Website Radcliffe Brown
 Youth Rhonda Ferrin-Davis

CONTACT US

1030 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard, Box 11
 Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411
 561-790-4002

cafcif@bellsouth.net * www.cafcipc.org

Board meetings - 4th Thursday of the month
See back page for calendar of events.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CAFCI relies heavily on fundraising efforts to achieve our mission and goals. For many, fundraising is an uncomfortable subject because it involves asking people for money. This year, we will need to do more fund raising to achieve our mission. During our 25th anniversary celebration last year, we received quite a bit of publicity and as a result a lot more people are aware of what we do in the local community which is good for our organization. This year we expect to see more students applying to our student assistance program. We are expected to donate more to Relay for Life. A personal goal of mine is to do more for our members which means we need to do more to raise funds for these programs. If you have a fund raising idea, please tell us about it so we can determine the feasibility of that program. In addition, you will be hearing from various CAFCI committee chairs requesting financial donations for specific programs. Your generous donations will help us grow our programs.

Valentine's Day Celebration: A large portion of the meeting in February was spent celebrating Valentine's Day. Thanks to everyone who contributed by bringing special dishes, food and drinks to make the evening fun. Special thanks to OG for supplying the music, Cynthia Beckles for donating prizes, and to the folks who decorated and set up the room. Thanks to Henworth Ferguson for his poetry renditions in celebration of black history month.

Picnic: Please plan on attending our annual picnic on April 4th, and also Relay for Life on April 25th. Please see details on both of these programs elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thanks to Margaret Berry and Genieve White for doing a wonderful job of cleaning up files in our office.

Dennis Wright
 President

SAVE THE DATE!
September 19, 2015

**CAFCI's ANNUAL
 FRIENDSHIP BALL**

*Details will be provided on
 the website and in upcoming
 issues of the NEWS.*

**HAPPY
 BIRTHDAY**

MARCH 16-31

Winston Davis	15
Douglas McKenzie	18
Adrienne Ferrin	19
Eution MacLarty	22
Lauriston Simms	23
Lorna Hughes	27
Cynthia Beckles	31

APRIL 1 - 15

Ronald M. Dawson	01
Hilary Hurbs	01
Livingston Weathers	02
Rupel Johnson	04
John Lewis	04
Lori Valuntas	08

CONDOLENCES TO:

Margaret Berry on the loss of her aunt
 Alfred Nelson and family
 on the loss of his wife Audrey Nelson
 Joyce and Alan Smith and family
 on the loss of their nephew

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Rupel Johnson ■ Beryl Spence

Please Let Us Know...

*Please contact one of our Sunshine
 Committee members if you are ill, know
 of anyone who is ill or would like to
 share any condolences and would like
 it to be announced in the NEWS:*

Elet Cyris, Chair 791-9087
 Paul Baker 784-0067
 Samuel Baxter 798-2864

GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, March 14 at 7 pm
Harvin Center, Royal Palm Beach

March's general meeting will be dedicated to Relay for Life and our guest speaker will be Steve Whalen, Relay for Life Royal Palm Beach committee chair. We will also provide updates for CAFCI's upcoming events including: the Annual Picnic (tickets will be distributed), Cultural Diversity Day and Annual Friendship Ball.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Saturday, April 4 at 11 am to sundown
Micanopy Pavilion, Okeehchee Park

Invite your family and friends to join us at CAFCI's annual picnic. There will be food, games, dominoes, Easter egg hunt, prizes and a bounce house. This will be a fun filled day for the whole family. Tickets will also be available at the general membership meeting on Saturday, March 14th. We are also planning additional activities for everyone. If you have questions, please call Lauriston Simms, Picnic Chairman, at 561-719-0263. More information will be posted on CAFCI's website, www.cafcipbc.org.

RELAY FOR LIFE

Saturday, April 25 at 4 pm
Royal Palm Beach High School

CAFCI, are you ready to Relay? It's that time again. Relay for Life Royal Palm Beach begins on Saturday, April 25th at 4 pm through Sunday, April 26th at 6 am at the Royal Palm Beach High School. Thanks to those who took a donation envelope at our last monthly meeting. You are encouraged to continue getting donations. More envelopes are available for anyone who wishes to join our team. This year we would like to increase CAFCI's goal to \$3,000. That means that everyone will have to do their part to make it happen. Remember, luminaries in honor or in memory of loved ones are also available for a suggested donation of \$5.

As part of our fund raising efforts, we will be raffling a basket of "Caribbean Goodies". The cost for raffle tickets will be \$2 for one or \$5 for three. We are also seeking donations for the night of the event. Items needed include water, chicken wings, hard-dough bread, lemonade and baked goods. If you are interested in donating any of these items, please see Nova after the general meeting or call 561-791-3344. Let's go Team "Island Steppers" as we do our part in the fight against cancer! Come and get additional information at our General meeting on Saturday, March 14th.

Go team!

Submitted by Nova Brown

CULTURAL DIVERSITY DAY

Saturday, May 9
Veterans Park, Royal Palm Beach

The Cultural Committee, spearheaded by Elet Cyris, is diligently working on an awesome Cultural Diversity Day program which is a collaborative effort between the Village of Royal Palm Beach and CAFCI. The free event is scheduled for May 9th at Veterans Park in Royal Palm Beach. Invite your friends and family to participate in this day of sharing our rich cultural and diverse heritage. It brings our community together to share its food, language, dance and customs. There will be diverse entertainment. Look for further details in the April issue of the newsletter as well as on CAFCI's website at www.cafcipbc.org.

Thanks to CAFCI Family!

On behalf of the Crooks and Walters family, we want to express our sincere thanks to all of CAFCI members for their expressions of sympathy to the families and attendance at the memorial service held recently for Donald E. Crooks. We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness and we will always have a special place in our hearts for the CAFCI Family.

*Sincerely,
Crooks and Walters Families*

CAFCI MEMBERS.....

If you would like to share any accomplishments of close relatives (e.g. child, grandchild, niece and/or nephew) with your CAFCI Family in the "Our Children Are Our Future" section of the NEWS, please provide the information to Paul Baker (email: ujama4@aol.com or phone 784-0067). If there is any other information you would like to be included in the NEWS, please submit information to Junette Powell (junettep@hotmail.com).

IMPORTANT: Include "CAFCI NEWS" in the subject line when sending e-mails. Inclusion of articles submitted will be at the discretion of the Newsletter Committee and based on space availability.

CAFCI'S VALUES STATEMENT: *Caribbean American for Community Involvement acknowledges and honors the fundamental value and dignity of all individuals and pledges itself to creating and maintaining an environment that respects diverse traditions, heritages, and experiences. We believe in giving a voice to all people and respecting all people regardless of ethnicity or socio-economic background.*

We support the participation in and promotion of events that lead to respect and mutual understanding among the various cultural, ethnic and socio economic groups in our community. We believe in promoting honesty and integrity by being transparent in all our dealings, having fun and fellowship with each other while volunteering and caring for the young and elderly and helping those in need.

DISCLAIMER: The views and opinions expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily the views and opinions of CAFCI's members and/or the Newsletter Committee members.

OUR CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE:

Kate Deviney, daughter of Andrea McMillan, recently won the school Spelling Bee at Palm Beach Public Elementary. She will now advance to the Regional Southeastern Florida Scripps Spelling Bee. Kate, a 5th grader, recently performed two violin pieces at the CAFCI 2015 MLK celebration.

Submitted by Paul Baker

Nico Brown, a recipient of the CAFCI student assistance award in 2005, and son of Radcliffe "Woody" and Nova Brown, attended and graduated from the University of Central Florida with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. In 2010, Nico was hired by the UCF Physics Department as part of a team doing experimental studies on the early stages of planet formation. These experiments take a variety of different forms, and many of them are done in a microgravity (free fall) environment. Nico was the lead engineer in the design, fabrication and testing of the vacuum system and overall mechanical infrastructure for a payload that was selected to fly on a commercial suborbital rocket. In addition, he worked on several ground-based experiments; realizing his childhood dream of someday working with NASA. One of the experiments was sent to the International Space Station. During his tenure at UCF, he received the "once in a lifetime opportunity" to experience true weightlessness when he flew on one of the Zero-G corporations modified Boeing 727 jets. With some of his work going into space, he also got the opportunity to be a VIP guest at one of the rocket launches at Cape Canaveral. This allowed him to be the closest anyone could get to the launch pad. Being that close to a rocket launch was another highlight of his time at UCF.

In December of 2014, while studying for a second degree in Electrical Engineering, he was informed about an open position at Siemens in North Carolina (a large engineering firm located all over the World). With a little hesitation, he applied for the position thinking he would probably not take the job since he was so close to completing his degree. As God would have it, the demand for precision in the lab at UCF gave Nico the experience and discipline Siemens was looking for. He was offered the position of Quality Engineer with a salary and benefits he could not refuse. His new responsibilities include making sure that any parts coming out of the Siemens plant are of the highest precision and quality. He is looking forward to learning new things and being a valuable team member at Siemens.

Congratulations Nico! Your CAFCI family is so proud of you.

Submitted by Rhonda Ferrin-Davis

STUDENT ASSISTANCE UPDATE:

Awards Ceremony:

Date: May 16, 2015 at 7 pm;

Venue: Village Golf Club,

122 Country Club Drive, Royal Palm Beach, FL

Scholarship Application:

Students interested in applying must have at least a 3.0 GPA and must demonstrate continuous academic success through their high school tenure. Applicants must show that they have participated in school and community activities, and must also show an interest in the Caribbean community. The monetary assistance is awarded to students who plan to attend a college, university or other accredited institution of higher learning. Proof of acceptance from the prospective institution must accompany the application.

Eligibility Requirements:

Applicant must:

- Be a resident of Palm Beach County, Florida
- Currently attend high school in Palm Beach County, and is expecting to graduate within one year
- Demonstrate an interest in Caribbean-American affairs
- Provide a completed application **postmarked no later than March 28, 2015**
- Provide an acceptance letter from an accredited college
- Be available for an interview on **April 18, 2015**
- Be able to attend a presentation of awards ceremony, if selected, on **May 16, 2015 at 7 pm**

Applications are available on the CAFCI website; Palm Beach County School District website; at the Harvin Center and also from committee members. Applications will also be available at February and March membership meetings. ***Applications and accompanying documents must be addressed to CAFCI, 1030 Royal Palm Beach Blvd., Box 11, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411; **Attn. Student Assistance**. For more information, please contact Committee Chair, Dr. Elaine Ealy, at (561) 351-0068 or via email at cafcibellsouth.net.

Garage Sale:

We are now accepting donations to support the CAFCI Student Assistance Committee at the Village-sponsored Garage Sale at Veterans Park in Royal Palm Beach on **Saturday, April 11, 2015 from 9 am – 1 pm**. Invite your family and friends to come out and support this very worthy cause. All contributions will go to the scholarship fund.

Submitted by Dr. Elaine Ealy



C.A.F.C.I.

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVMENT, inc.

Presents
A Fun Family Day

Annual Easter Picnic

Saturday April 4, 2015

11:00 AM - Sundown

*Okeeheelee Park - Micanopy Pavilion
(Forest Hill Blvd. ¼ Mile East of the Turnpike)*

This is a family affair where family and friends are all invited for a fun filled day of enjoyment.

Come out and join us for this year's spectacular event

- **Dominoes**
- **Scrabble, Ludo ...**
- **Bake Goods Sale**
- **50/50 Raffle & More**
- **Bring your favorite game**

**Music,
Kids Games,
Bounce House
Easter Egg Hunt
Bring Your Chairs & Table**

No Personal Food Baskets Allowed

Adults: \$15 (includes Dinner from around the Islands & beverage)

Children under 12: \$5 (Hamburger, Hot Dogs and Chips)

For info, contact Committee Chair Lauriston Simms (561)719-0263

For Tickets, contact Lawrence Logan (561)791-0162

Percival Woods (561)596-7768

Betty Malory (561)294-0312

SAVE THE DATE!

***2015 RELAY FOR LIFE
OF ROYAL PALM BEACH
NEEDS YOU TO JOIN
THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER!***

WHEN: SATURDAY APRIL 25, 2015

TIME: 4:PM UNTIL 6:AM

WHERE: ROYAL PALM BEACH HIGH SCHOOL



A For C.A.F.C.I.

If you have experience in commercial real estate, multi-year fundraising projects, creative finance, project management or marketing, the *Home of Our Own program needs your expertise*. Input from individuals with expertise in these areas is needed to assist us in revising our strategy to obtain a home for CAFCI and creating an associated plan to reach our objective.



As previously communicated, efforts to purchase property in the Acreage or Loxahatchee encountered zoning issues and/or regulations that prevented us from acquiring property for non-residential purposes. We are looking into areas with the appropriate zoning (or where it can be changed easily) to purchase land for cash and then build, or find a location with a lease to own option. Please contact Radcliffe "Woody" Brown at 561-791-3344 or send an email to radcliffewoody@aol.com if you know of any property, land or facilities that meet the above criteria.



The Buy-A-Brick program is still in force and provides everyone an opportunity to participate in this venture. Please visit the web page at www.cafcipc.org and click on the "Home of Our Own" tab or call Radcliffe "Woody" Brown at 561-791-3344 for more information. **We have made it easier to participate in the program by facilitating monthly payments to purchase a brick. Monthly payments of \$50 will be accepted for a \$1,000 brick and \$150 for a \$3,000 brick.**

AROUND TOWN.....

Saturday, March 28th, 8 pm, Miramar Cultural Center; Sunday March 29th, 7 pm at Coral Spring Center for Arts: Sunshine Theatre is proud to present **Jamaica's Queen of Comedy, Andrea 'Delcita' Wright** in her new hit play "**Miss ELSAYDA**", a family oriented comedy drama which is extremely funny as it looks at issues of marriage and sexuality. We now see a mature and transformed Delcita who is happily in love and many women will envy her body moves. For more information on the play or early bird discount, go to www.sunshinetheatrecompany.com for Delcita review and to win free tickets or call 786-237-5493.

Saturday, April 11th, 8 am to 1 pm: CAFCI and Vivian Ferrin Scholarship Fund will participate in the Annual **ROYAL PALM BEACH COMMUNITY YARD SALE** in Veterans Park located just south of Okeechobee on Royal Palm Beach Boulevard. Enjoy a great morning surrounded by the fountains and waterfall, musical entertainment and refreshments at the café. A free shuttle will be providing pick up and drop off for overflow parking available at Ewing Park and behind Village Hall. For more information, please call the Cultural Center at 561-790-5149.

Saturday, April 18th, 7 pm: Caribbean Educators' Association, (C.A.R.E.) presents the tenth annual **CELEBRATION OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE** at the Marriott West Palm Beach Hotel, 1001 Okeechobee Boulevard, West Palm Beach, FL. Tickets \$60 per person (No Refunds); Dress - Semi-Formal. Sponsorships available. For more information call 561-313-4772, 561-329-9835, or 561-351-6855.

Saturday, April 25th, 6 pm to 10 pm: Free Spirit Outreach, Inc. presents a **WINE AND CHEESE MIXER** at Olympia Clubhouse, 9100 Fatio Boulevard, Wellington, FL. Admission \$30. For more information, contact 561-692-1508. Tickets available at Chinny's Restaurant. Proceeds benefit kids in need.

CAFCI

1030 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard
Box 11
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
CAFCI'S EVENTS**

Dates are subject to change. Please check the current issue of the NEWS and the website.

MARCH 14: General Meeting at 7 pm, Harvin Center

APRIL 4: Picnic at 11 am, Okeeheelee Park, Micanopy Pavillion

APRIL 11: General Meeting at 7 pm, Harvin Center

APRIL 25-26: Relay for Life, 4 pm to 6 am, Royal Palm Beach High School

MAY 9: Cultural Diversity Day, Veterans Park, Royal Palm Beach

MAY 16: General/Scholarship Awards Meeting at 7 pm, Village Golf Club

JUNE 13: General Meeting at 7 pm, Harvin Center

JULY 11: General Meeting at 7 pm, Harvin Center

AUGUST 8: General Meeting at 7 pm, Harvin Center

AUGUST 29: Talent Show (Venue TBD)

SEPTEMBER 12: General Meeting at 7 pm, Harvin Center

SAVE THE DATE!!!

Saturday, September 19, 2015

CAFCI'S ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP BALL

Details will be provided on the website and in upcoming issues of the NEWS.

OCTOBER 10: General Meeting/International Games Night at 7 pm, Cultural Center

NOVEMBER 14: Annual/Voting Meeting at 7 pm, Harvin Center

DECEMBER 12: Pot Luck/Toys for Tots/Christmas Party at 7 pm, Harvin Center

DECEMBER 31: New Year's Eve Party at 7 pm, Cultural Center

2015 MEMBERSHIP DUES

You may submit your membership dues online at www.cafcipc.org or

Mail to CAFCI, Attention: Lawrence Logan, 1030 Royal Palm Beach Blvd., Box 11, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411