



# CAFCI NEWS

March 2026

**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.

CAFCI



## PICNIC In The Park

Fun, Food and Friends...  
the perfect recipe  
for a great day!



SAT., APRIL 11, 2026  
12 noon 'til sunset



Okeehzeelee Park  
NC-Tuskegee Pavilion  
7715 Forest Hill Blvd.  
West Palm Beach, FL



Games, Raffle, Music,  
Entertainment  
& More...

FISH: \$25 (Pre-Order Only)

MEALS: \$20

CHILDREN (Under 12): \$12

Hamburger & Hot Dog: \$7

Fish \* Jerk Chicken \* Jerk Pork \* BBQ Chicken  
Served with Rice-n-Peas \* Festival \* Vegetable  
Hamburger & Hot dog  
SOUP & DESSERT FOR SALE

FOR TICKETS OR MORE INFORMATION CALL

AUDREY SMITH 561.601.8856 OR YVONNE WRIGHT 203.733.5542

ADVANCED TICKET RESERVATIONS RECOMMENDED.

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS**

President ..... Dennis Wright  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President ..... Rhonda Ferrin-Davis  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President ..... Marva Wilks  
Treasurer ..... Yvonne Elliott  
Recording Secretary ..... Doreen Baker  
Corresponding Secretary ..... Norma Smith-Hill

## **DIRECTORS**

Paul Baker  
Carolyn Hmara  
Caren Muir

## **NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

Thalia Lauren, Co-Chair  
Junette Powell, Co-Chair  
Shirley Morrison  
Max Smith  
Barbara Walker

## **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

Alliance ..... Genieve White  
Annual Friendship Ball ..... Dennis Wright  
Budget ..... Radcliffe Brown  
Bylaws ..... Barbara Walker  
Cultural ..... Jannette Sharpe-Paul  
Finance ..... Genieve White  
Grants ..... Shirley Morrison  
Historian/Protocol ..... Rhonda Ferrin-Davis  
Home Of Our Own ..... Radcliffe Brown  
Membership ..... Micaela Ferguson  
Newsletter ..... Junette Powell  
..... & Thalia Lauren  
Parliamentarian ..... Nadine White-Boyd  
Picnic ..... Yvonne Wright  
Program ..... Rhonda Ferrin-Davis  
Relay for Life ..... Nova Brown  
Student Assistance Fund ..... Junette Powell  
..... & Nadine White-Boyd  
Sunshine ..... Paul Baker  
Toys for Tots ..... Lauriston Simms  
Ferrin Memorial Scholarship Fund .....  
..... Genieve White  
Website ..... Radcliffe Brown  
Youth ..... Rhonda Ferrin-Davis

## **CONTACTUS**

**Caribbean-American For  
Community Involvement**  
675 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard  
Suite # 134  
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411  
561.790.4002  
cafcipbc@bellsouth.net  
[www.cafcipbc.org](http://www.cafcipbc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/cafcipbc](https://www.facebook.com/cafcipbc)  
**General Membership Meeting**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of month*  
**Board Meeting**  
*4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of month*  
*See back page for calendar of events.*

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

February was an impactful and productive month for CAFCI as we celebrated heritage, strengthened leadership and continued planning for the months ahead.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH MEETING:** Our Black History Month meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup> was both educational and inspiring. We were honored to welcome Alfonso Brooks, Founder and CEO of the Afrikin Foundation who delivered a dynamic presentation on African-American heritage and the global impact of African and Diaspora culture. His message reinforced the deep connections between Africa and the Caribbean and the importance of preserving and celebrating our shared identity.

CAFCI was excited to partner with the Afrikin Foundation to host the African Art Show at the community center in the Village of Wellington. This collaboration reflects our commitment to cultural education, artistic excellence and meaningful community partnerships.

A heartfelt thank you to Sheena Bouchét for her meaningful presentation on our history and ancestral roots back to Africa. Her remarks reminded us that our strength as African-Americans is grounded in resilience, culture and legacy.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH LEADERS FORUM:** CAFCI was well represented at the Black History Month Leaders Forum held in Wellington on February 25<sup>th</sup>. A sizable number of our members attended, demonstrating our organization's visible presence and continued commitment to leadership engagement within our broader community.

**LEADERSHIP TRANSITIONS:** February also marked important transitions within CAFCI. We extend sincere appreciation to Genieve White for her dedicated service as Chief Financial Officer and many years of service on the board. We welcome Marva Wilks as she assumes the CFO position and look forward to her stewardship and financial leadership.

We also acknowledge the transition of the Chair of the grants committee position to Jannette Sharpe-Paul and Micaela Ferguson as Co-Chairs. We are confident their collaborative leadership will continue to strengthen CAFCI's foundation and forward momentum. A sincere thank-you to Shirley Morrison for chairing that committee for several years.

**CULTURAL DIVERSITY DAY:** We have been working closely with the Cultural Committee in selecting the venue for our annual Cultural Diversity Day celebration in May. Planning is underway to ensure this signature CAFCI event reflects the richness, vibrancy and unity of our Caribbean heritage.

**ANNUAL PICNIC:** Mark your calendars for our Annual CAFCI Picnic on Saturday, April 11, 2026 at Okeeheelee Park. This is always a wonderful opportunity for fellowship, family fun and strengthening the bonds that make our organization special.

*(Continued on page 4)*

<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b>	<b>Page#</b>
CAFCI Annual Picnic	1,4
President's Message	2,4
Board, Committees & Contact	2
Member Acknowledgements	3
Upcoming CAFCI Events	4
- Cultural Diversity Day	
CAFCI Values Statement	4
Member Spotlight	5
Our Children Are Our Future	6 - 10
- Student Assistance Fund	
- CAFCI Scout Troop 111	
CAFCI In The Community	11 - 13
Month of Celebrations & Awareness	14
Ways to Support CAFCI	15
- Membership	
- Home Of Our Own	
CAFCI Calendar of Events	16
Events Around Town	16

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

Arthur and Rosalind Ellis



**March 16 - 31**

Douglas McKenzie	18
Nicole Johnson	22
Lauriston Simms	23
Lorna Hughes	27
Cynthia Beckles	31

**April 1 - 15**

Godwin Okalie	01
John Lewis	04
Peter Scott	06
Lori Valuntas	08
Claudette Christie	12
Cleveland Lewis	15

*If you are a CAFCI member and notice that your birthday or the birthday of another member has not been acknowledged, please send an email to CAFCI (cafcibellsouth.net) and we will update the birthday list. We apologize for any oversight.*

**GET WELL**

Sandra Gordon

**CONDOLENCES TO**

The Family of Sybil Dawson



**Please Let Us Know...**

*We want our members to know that we, the Board and Sunshine Committee, are always here to support you. Please contact (or ask someone else to contact) one of our Sunshine Committee members if:*

- *you are ill or know of any CAFCI member who is ill or*
- *you have or know of a close family member of a CAFCI member who is ill or*
- *you have, or know of a CAFCI member who has, lost a family member.*


*Remember, if we are not notified, we cannot share it in the Newsletter or offer our support.*

Paul Baker, Chair .....561.784.0067  
 Samuel Baxter .....561.358.3737  
 Elet Cyris.....561.791.9087

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Cont'd)**

RELAY FOR LIFE PARTNERSHIP: Reminder, as part of our continued commitment to community wellness and service, CAFCI is partnering with Relay For Life, a signature initiative of the American Cancer Society. We encourage members and supporters to make a cash donation through our website to support this important cause. Every contribution helps in the fight against cancer and demonstrates CAFCI's dedication to giving back. While CAFCI will not participate in the Relay For Life on-site activities this year, we continue our wholehearted support.

February has shown that CAFCI is not only honoring history — we are actively building legacy through leadership, partnership and service. Thank you to every member who continues to represent our organization with pride and purpose. Together, we celebrate our roots and strengthen our future.



Dennis Wright

## **CULTURAL DIVERSITY DAY**

**Saturday, May 9, 2026**

**1 pm to Sundown**

Commons Park

11600 Poinciana Blvd, Royal Palm Beach, FL

The Cultural Committee is diligently working on what will unquestionably be a stellar Cultural Diversity Day program. The event is a collaborative effort between the Village of Royal Palm Beach and CAFCI and is supported by the Cultural Council for Palm Beach County. Entrance to this event is free, so come and get your culture on! We are taking Royal Palm Beach's diverse hidden cultures out of the shadows and honoring the wealth of our different traditions. Let us come together to exchange and celebrate our multifaceted food, language, dance and cultural customs. Invite friends and neighbors and inform any culturally unique performers and vendors you know to register on [cafcipbc.org](http://cafcipbc.org) or email CAFCI at [cafcibellsouth.net](mailto:cafcibellsouth.net). The flyer with further details, and the vendor form, will be in April and May issues of the newsletter as well as on the CAFCI website at [www.cafcipbc.org](http://www.cafcipbc.org) and the Caribbean-American for Community Involvement Facebook page.

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## **CAFCI ANNUAL PICNIC**

**Saturday, April 11, 2026 at 12 noon**

Okeeheelee Park NC-Tuskegee Pavilion

7715 Forest Hill Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL

Plans are in the works for the annual picnic, a fun-filled day for the entire family with delicious food and entertaining games. If you are willing to volunteer, please contact Dennis Wright at 203.482.5079. For more information, see the flyer elsewhere in this newsletter, go to the CAFCI website ([cafcipbc.org](http://cafcipbc.org)) and/or Caribbean American for Community Involvement Facebook Page. Tickets for this year's picnic will be available shortly.

## **CAFCI 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 socioeconomic background. We support the participation in and promotion of events that lead to respect and mutual understanding among the various cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic 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.*

*CAFCI MEMBERS... If you would like to share the accomplishments of a close relative (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](mailto:ujama4@aol.com) or phone 561.784.0067). If there is any other information you would like included in the NEWS, please submit the information to Junette Powell ([junettep56@gmail.com](mailto:junettep56@gmail.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.*

# Member Spotlight



## Have You Met David I. Muir? Jamaica, W. I.



**Photographer and Cultural Visionary, DAVID I. MUIR** is the co-founder of Island SPACE Caribbean Museum (ISCM). Located in Plantation's Broward Mall, it is the first and only museum in the world dedicated to the celebration and elevation of Caribbean culture. David and his business partner, Calibe Thompson—Island SPACE's Executive Director—opened the museum five and a half years ago driven by a desire to unite the multiple Caribbean cultures living in South Florida.

"One in four individuals living in South Florida was born in the Caribbean," David asserts. "That was according to the 2010 census. It's probably more now." He points to the millions of Haitians, Cubans, Jamaicans and Caribbeans of every stripe that have made South Florida their home.

Born in St. Andrew, Jamaica, David lived there until age 27. He says his vision was to create an institution that could promote and preserve the diverse cultures of the Caribbean, while showing the similarities among them, particularly among the diasporic community in America.

"The Caribbean is vast. You have people speaking Dutch in Suriname, Spanish in Cuba, English in Jamaica and Trinidad, and French or Creole in Haiti. All these different countries may have different languages, and slightly different traditions, but when you look closely you'll see they have much in common. That is why it was important to show the shared heritage that unites us, plus the recognition that we are a collective body that gets its strength by coming together."

Individual museums celebrate an island's particular traditions, but ISCM's uniqueness is that it celebrates the cultural ties that bind all Caribbeans, and, unlike other museums, although it showcases paintings and other Caribbean artwork, its focus is on showcasing Caribbean artifacts and hosting presentations that spotlight the culture, history, religion, and politics of the region.

The museum features several quintessentially Caribbean exhibitions. "Annually we have five major events, including the Rum Cake-Black Cake Festival," David says. "The Mango Festival is very unique, offering up samples of the dozens of different Caribbean mangoes. A big part of our heritage is reggae; thus we annually organize a music festival called "Reggae Genealogy" which educates people about our music; and we have the Anancy Festival which is very important to Caribbean culture."

The museum presents 30 events and gets 12,000 visitors annually. It is open Thursday-Saturday from 11AM-7PM, and Sunday from 11AM-6PM.

David calls ISCM one of his proudest accomplishments; another, outside of his wife Caren, and their six children (three from his first marriage and three from hers), is his photography.

Self-taught, he has done photography since childhood and has worked as a professional photographer since moving to Florida in 2002. In that time he has published numerous photography books, including 6 coffee table books—the most notable being *Pieces of Jamaica: The Real Rock Edition* celebrating Jamaica's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and its sequel, *Pieces of Jamaica: The Jamrock Edition*, commemorating Jamaica's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

David's work has been featured in over 50 magazines, and he has co-authored books on Caribbean cuisine with pre-eminent Caribbean chefs.

Beyond family, photography, and the museum, he is a serial entrepreneur. "I started my first business when I was in high school at Champion College in Jamaica," he says, and "I've been working as an entrepreneur ever since."

His latest entrepreneurial pursuit is 'PostNet,' a franchise business he started with his wife last February. PostNet is a one-stop shop that offers printing, notary, FedEx and UPS services. Based in Greenacres, Palm Beach County, it can be contacted by visiting [PostNet.com/FL182](http://PostNet.com/FL182).

Asked what he would share with anyone who wants to pursue a dream he says, "The most important thing I would tell you is don't let anyone else define what's possible. In every phase of my life, including high school, when I told people what I wanted to do with my life they told me, 'No, you can't do that.' But they were incorrect. What I know is that I own my life. I own my dream. So that is what I would tell someone.

"Another thing is that you must put in the work. You should not only believe in yourself, you must equip yourself by doing what is necessary to be the best in your field. Doing that, believing in yourself and going after it, you can achieve your dream."

David and his wife Caren live in Palm Beach County. They are both CAFCI members.

By Max Smith, Newsletter Committee Member

*Member Spotlight is an opportunity to share your story. If you would like to share your story or recommend someone, please email us at:*

- [junettep56@gmail.com](mailto:junettep56@gmail.com) or
- [thaliaec@gmail.com](mailto:thaliaec@gmail.com).

*We look forward to shining the spotlight on you.*

## OUR CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE

**CAFCI and the Student Assistance Fund (SAF) Committee would be honored to recognize the accomplishments of its members and/or their relatives. Please share your good news with us and we will publish it as space permits.**

### **Student Assistance Fund** **EMPOWERING YOUTH & INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE**

Each year the Student Assistance Fund (SAF) Committee offers deserving Palm Beach County high school seniors the opportunity to apply for a monetary "Student Assistance Award" from CAFCI. We need your help! A donation of any amount will help CAFCI's SAF Committee reach its fundraising goal. See enclosed letter for details to name your very own Student Assistance Fund Award. A donation of any amount will help CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund Committee reach its fundraising goal. Donate to the Student Assistance Fund and/or sponsor an award recipient, via one of the following methods by April 30, 2026:

- Mail check payable to CAFCI, Attention: SAF (write "SAF" on your check on the notes line to make sure it is posted to the SAF program), 675 Royal Palm Beach Blvd, Suite #134, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411.
- Donate online at <https://www.cafcipc.org/donation-center>. Select the Student Assistance option.

Please also share the fundraiser link to help spread the word with family, friends and social media contacts. CAFCI and the Student Assistance Fund (SAF) Committee would be honored to recognize the accomplishments of its members and/or their relatives. Please share your good news with us and we will publish it as space permits. For more information, please contact Nadine White-Boyd at 561.351.6895 or Junette Powell at 561.346.2353. Thanks in advance for your continued support.

*The SAF Committee extends a big THANK YOU to Clayton Robinson and Golden Krust Restaurant (Okeechobee Blvd. & Jog Road) for donating 10% of purchases to CAFCI's SAF for purchases made upon presentation of the coupon from December 19, 2025 through February 14, 2026. Thanks to all who participated by supporting Golden Krust. Thanks also to everyone who has supported our fundraisers and made a donation.*

### SAVE THE DATE

**Saturday, June 13, 2026 at 3 pm**

### **STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND AWARDS CEREMONY**

**PORTUGUESE AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER  
13265 Okeechobee Blvd., Loxahatchee, FL**

**Join us to Congratulate the  
2026 SAF Award Recipients.**

**You will have an opportunity to  
meet the award recipients, as well as  
view a video presentation by the  
current and past recipients.**

### **Message from Past Recipient**

*January 30, 2026*

*Good afternoon,*

*I hope all is well as we begin this new year. I wanted to provide a brief update on how my college experience is going this semester. It has officially been 3 weeks into the spring semester at Valencia College. All my classes have been pretty light so far in terms of workload. I am especially excited for my design class, as we are digging into what truly makes a design. This term, I am focused on staying on top of coursework, adjusting to college life, and making the most of the opportunities available to me. I want to take the time to sincerely thank you for giving a helping hand in my journey to furthering my education. This scholarship has lifted a significant weight off my shoulders, especially in covering the costs for my art classes. Art supplies are definitely not cheap! Thank you again for your generosity and encouragement.*

*Sincerely,  
Deja Patterson  
2025 SAF Award Recipient*



Caribbean-American For Community Involvement (CAFCI) in Florida, Inc.

# STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND



## WHO WE ARE

CAFCI was founded by a group of residents in an effort to enhance, maintain and sustain the quality of life for the community, consistent with the culture and tradition of our ancestral origins. The organization was incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the provisions of Chapter 617 of Florida Statutes on August 13, 1999.

CAFCI is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to volunteerism and social activities, with special emphasis on our youths and senior citizens. Our annual affairs continue to serve and help the social, educational and health needs of the community.

## OUR MISSION

CAFCI's mission is to maintain and sustain the quality of life for the community, consistent with the culture and tradition of our diverse ancestral heritage.

## STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND AWARD PROGRAM

Each year we offer deserving local high school graduates the opportunity to apply for a monetary "Student Assistance Award" from our organization.

Past student awards ranged from \$500 - \$1,500 per student.



## AWARD CEREMONY

Each year in the month of May or June, CAFCI holds an award ceremony for students, their families, and members and friends of CAFCI.

We invite community leaders, Student Assistance Fund Committee members (past and present), past award recipients, the general public and friends of CAFCI to attend and participate in the event.



## STUDENT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Students applying must have at least a cumulative 2.7 GPA and demonstrate continuous academic success in their high school tenure to be eligible.
- Applicants must show that they have participated in school and community activities.
- Applicants must show interest in the Caribbean community.
- The monetary assistance is awarded to students who are going on to a college, university, or other accredited institution of higher learning.
- If selected, the student must provide proof of acceptance from the school before receiving the award.

For more details and to apply visit [cafcipbc.org/student-assistance](http://cafcipbc.org/student-assistance).

## How YOU Can Help Our Students

1. Make check or money order payable to:  
C.A.F.C.I. (Note for Student Assistance Fund)
2. Donate by going to CAFCI's website [www.cafcipbc.org](http://www.cafcipbc.org) and click on Donate to Student Assistance Fund.

No contribution is too small. On behalf of the students, their families and CAFCI, Thank You Very Much.

## CONTACT US

Caribbean-American for Community Involvement (CAFCI) In Florida, Inc.  
675 Royal Palm Beach Blvd., Suite 134, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411  
561.790.4002 ~ [cafc@bellsouth.net](mailto:cafc@bellsouth.net) ~ [www.cafcipbc.org](http://www.cafcipbc.org) ~ Search: CAFCI



## Caribbean American For Community Involvement, in Florida, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) Organization – (EIN #65-096408)

650 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard • Suite 134 • Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411  
www.cafcipc.org • E-mail: [cafcipc@bellsouth.net](mailto:cafcipc@bellsouth.net) • Phone: 561-790-4002

December 12, 2025

Re: Name a Student Assistance Award with CAFCI

Dear Friends of CAFCI,

Caribbean American For Community Involvement in Florida, Inc. (CAFCI) is pleased to invite community leaders, families, businesses, and supporters to **name your very own Student Assistance Award** through the CAFCI Student Assistance Fund (SAF). Named award sponsors join a distinguished group investing in the future of deserving students and are recognized at the annual CAFCI Student Assistance Award Ceremony.

For **36 years**, CAFCI has served the Palm Beach County community through volunteer-led programs, including our Student Assistance Award Program, which provides financial support of **\$500 to \$1,500** to deserving, college-bound high school seniors. Your named award helps remove financial barriers and affirms a student's potential.

A **Named Student Assistance Award** is a meaningful way to invest directly in a student's future while honoring a loved one or legacy, celebrating a profession or business, or supporting a personal cause that is important to you.

### Award Details:

- **Donation Amount:** \$1,000 minimum per named award
- **Your Chosen Name:** Award presented in the name you choose
- **Frequency:** One-time or annual
- **Criteria Preference (Optional):** You may indicate a preference such as career interest, academic achievement, or community service. The SAF Committee will consider these preferences whenever possible during the selection process.

### How to Name an Award

1. Complete the CAFCI SAF Named Award Sponsorship Form and email it to [cafcipc@bellsouth.net](mailto:cafcipc@bellsouth.net)
2. Submit payment using one of the following methods:
  - Online: Visit [www.cafcipc.org](http://www.cafcipc.org) and donate under the *Student Assistance* section
  - By Mail to: CAFCI  
Royal Palm Beach Blvd, Suite #134, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411, ATTN: SAF

CAFCI is a 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions may be tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

Your named award contribution is more than a gift. It is an opportunity to place your name, values, and legacy behind a student's success.

For questions or assistance, contact: Junette Powell at 561-346-2353 /[junettep56@gmail.com](mailto:junettep56@gmail.com), or [cafcipc@bellsouth.net](mailto:cafcipc@bellsouth.net).

Thank you for your continued support of CAFCI and for considering this opportunity to make a lasting impact.

Sincerely,

*Junette Powell*

Junette Powell  
Co-Chair, SAF Committee

*Leonie Escoffery*

Leonie Escoffery  
Treasurer, SAF Committee

*Dennis Wright*

Dennis Wright  
CAFCI President



*Caribbean American For Community Involvement, in Florida, Inc.*

A 501(c)(3) Organization – (EIN #65-096408)

650 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard • Suite 134 • Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411  
www.cafcipbc.org • E-mail: cafci@bellsouth.net • Phone: 561-790-4002

CAFCI Named Award Sponsorship Form

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Thank you for your interest in sponsoring a named award with Caribbean American For Community Involvement in Florida, Inc. (CAFCI). **Please complete the form below to help us process your generous contribution.**

1. **Full Name of Sponsor/Donor:** \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Organization/Business Name (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_
4. **Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone No:** \_\_\_\_\_
5. **Primary Contact Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone No.:** \_\_\_\_\_
6. **Name of the Award (e.g., The John Doe Community Leadership Award):**  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. **Donation Amount:**

- \$1,000 (1 Named Award)       \$3,000 (2 Named Awards)  
 \$4,000 (4 Named Awards)       Other: \_\_\_\_\_

8. **Frequency of Sponsorship:**

- One-time       Annual

9. **Preferred Student Criteria (optional):**

- Career Interest (e.g., Law, Engineering, Education): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Community Service Focus \_\_\_\_\_  
 Academic Achievement \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other: \_\_\_\_\_

10. **Would you like to present the award at the next ceremony?**

- Yes       No

11. **Any additional notes or preferences?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Info:** Junette Powell, CAFCI SAF Committee Co-chair at 561-346-2353 / junettep56@gmail.com or  
www.cafcipbc.org

# CAFCI SCOUTS ✦ TROOP 111

Greetings CAFCI,

February was an amazing month for Troop 111 - filled with excitement, honor and reverence throughout all of our scouts. As we continue this year, I would like to be grateful for everyone who has supported our troop.



Jessica Mahne, Landon Girard

We had a very amazing campout our scouts went on. Although I couldn't make it, I can relay words from those who did.

Scouts attended TNAW, Tipisa North American Weekend at Camp La Noche which is part of the Central Florida Council. Scouts described the Native American activities as exciting and fun and would love to go again next year.



Chad Girard, Ryan McNally, Eagle Scouts; Micah Johnson, Landon Girard, Cheri Estevez

We also had another amazing Eagle Scout Project build day held by Lucas Schnick-Baker! He directed his project from start to finish like a true leader by teaching and demonstrating what the tasks were and then delegating the tasks amongst us.

In addition, we have (2) two new Eagle Scouts who have earned the highest rank. Congratulations Micah Johnson and Landon Girard.

Overall, we had an incredible month and would like to once again thank everyone in CAFCI for their continued involvement and support of Troop 111!



Micah Johnson, Landon Girard

SCOUT LAW | "A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent."

SCOUT OATH | "On my honor, I will do my best, to do my duty, to God and my country, and to obey the Scout Law, to help other people at all times, to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight."



To apply for membership in BSA Troop 111 or to volunteer for scouting, visit: <https://my.scouting.org/VES/OnlineReg/1.0.0/?tu=UF-MB-085taa0111>

Yours in Scouting,  
Kirill Montoya  
Senior Patrol Leader, Troop 111



# AFRIKIN ART WELLINGTON EXHIBIT ... EXTRAORDINARY

The grand opening of the **AFRIKIN ART WELLINGTON EXHIBIT** on February 25 was nothing short of extraordinary. What unfolded inside the Village of Wellington Grande Ballroom was more than an art show — it was a powerful tribute to Black history, culture and creative excellence.

From the moment guests entered, it was clear this was a transformative experience. The ballroom had been completely reimagined into a sweeping gallery space, its walls alive with color, texture, and story. Each piece on display felt intentional and deeply rooted in heritage — celebrating resilience, identity, ancestry, and joy. The artistic range was phenomenal, showcasing works that were both visually stunning and emotionally stirring.

What made the evening even more special was the diversity of the audience. Attendees ranged from as young as four years old to members of the very elderly generation. Families, art enthusiasts, longtime residents and first-time visitors wandered the exhibit together, engaging in thoughtful conversations not only with one another but with the artists themselves. It was inspiring to see so many meaningful exchanges taking place — children asking curious questions, elders sharing reflections and artists speaking passionately about their work.



There was truly something for everyone. Whether it was a bold contemporary canvas, a piece steeped in historical symbolism, or a work that quietly captured everyday beauty, each visitor seemed to find something that touched their soul. The atmosphere was uplifting and filled with camaraderie — a shared appreciation that transcended age and background.





Perhaps most powerful was the sense of collective pride. To witness one's culture being uplifted and celebrated so wholeheartedly by the entire town was a profound delight. The exhibit did more than showcase art; it fostered unity, understanding and appreciation. It reminded us of the importance of honoring history while celebrating the vibrant creativity that continues to shape our present.

The Afrikin Art Wellington Exhibit has set a high bar for community cultural events. It was not simply an evening of viewing art — it was an experience of connection, transformation and celebration that will resonate long after the final piece is taken down.

By Norma Smith-Hill



# CAFCI FEBRUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Celebrating  
Black History Month & Support of Relay for Life



## CAFCI MEMBERS TOUR SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OFFICE



Supervisor of Election, Wendy Link, facilitated a tour of the new Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections office and voting tabulation center. CAFCI members, **Barbara Walker** and **Marva Wilks**, participated in the tour. They enjoyed seeing firsthand all the safeguards in place to be sure that all ballots are properly handled and accurately counted.

## FEBRUARY... A Month of Celebrations & Awareness

### WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

Women's History Month 2026 runs from March 1–31, honoring women's contributions to history, culture, and society. **The 2026 Theme: Leading the Change** -- The National Women's History Alliance (NWA) has announced the 2026 theme as **"Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future."**

This theme is about more than just environmentalism. While it certainly honors the women fighting to protect our planet, it also expands the definition of "sustainability" to include:

- **Financial Sustainability:** Women creating equitable economic systems.
- **Social Justice:** Leaders building resilient, inclusive communities.
- **Education:** Educators ensuring knowledge is passed down to future generations.
- **Leadership:** Mentors preparing the next wave of changemakers.

According to the **NWA**, this theme recognizes that women are often the ones "designing blueprints for sustainable transformation." It celebrates those who understand that a truly sustainable future must support both the people and the planet. International Women's Day is observed on **March 8, 2026**.

Source: [Women's History Month 2026: Theme, History & How to Celebrate | Remitly](#)

### NATIONAL READING MONTH

March is National Reading Month! As Dr. Suess once said, "The more that you read, the more things you will know."

Source: [national reading month 2026 - Google Search](#)

### HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Spring is a Season of Wellness -- March is more than just a bridge between winter and spring; it is a health awareness month dedicated to holistic well-being. Whether you are focusing on world health days or local community health goals, having a structured calendar ensures you never miss a beat. Baldwin Publishing's Celebrate Today Calendar takes the guesswork out of planning. It's your go-to resource for a steady stream of articles, recipes, videos, and graphics tailored to every national health day and monthly observance. It's the easiest way to keep your feed relevant and your audience connected all month long. As spring inspires many people to think ahead to fresh garden veggies and warm-weather meals, don't miss our March Food Days Calendar. It's loaded with dietitian-approved healthy recipes that are designed to go viral on social media.

Source: [Important Health Awareness Days in March 2026 | Baldwin Publishing](#)

### COMING UP IN APRIL EASTER

Good Friday for the year 2026 is celebrated/ observed on Friday, April 3rd. Good Friday is a Christian observance held two days before Easter Sunday and it commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus Christ at Calvary (located right outside the walls of Jerusalem). Good Friday is the sixth day of Holy week and is also known as Holy Friday, Great Friday, Black Friday and Easter Friday. The day is also part of the Paschal Triduum that starts on the evening of Maundy Thursday and continues to Easter Sunday recalling the passion, death, burial and resurrection of Christ.

Source: [Good Friday 2026 - Calendar Date](#)

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## WAYS TO SUPPORT CAFCI . . . WE NEED YOU!!!

CAFCI website: <https://www.cafcipc.org/donation-center>

Please share with your friends and family.

### HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO CAFCI???

MEMBERSHIP DUES (Single - \$80 • Couple - \$140)

Submit your membership dues online at:

<https://www.cafcipc.org/membership-dues>

OR

Submit check payable to: CAFCI

Mail to CAFCI, Attention: Membership

675 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard, Suite #134, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

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

## BUSINESS



Our current objective is to have the community funding organization provide us with a Letter of Interest or credit so that when another opportunity comes our way we have a funding source to supplement our available funds.

We made an appeal for someone with the necessary knowledge, experience and skill to assist us with the planning, set up and operation of a business to provide income to assist in paying off a mortgage.

Other options under consideration include the possibility of purchasing a large commercial building and subletting some of its spaces. To that end, we are also looking for someone with property-management experience to assist us in determining the feasibility of this option.

If you are able to step in and assist, or know of anyone who can, please contact Radcliffe “Woody” Brown at 561-790-4002 or 561-791-3344 and leave a message. You can also send an email to [cafci@bellsouth.net](mailto:cafci@bellsouth.net).

*Participation in the **Home of Our Own** project is available through the Buy-A-Brick program. Visit the web page at [www.cafcipc.org](http://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 take part in the program by facilitating monthly payments to buy a brick. Monthly payments of \$50 for a \$1,000 brick and \$150 for a \$3,000 brick are available.*



Scan QR Code to Support  
CAFCI's Home Of Our Own

Submitted by Radcliffe “Woody” Brown, CAFCI *Home Of Our Own* Chair

## **Mark Your Calendar CAFCI's 2026 Events**

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

### **NO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN APRIL**

**Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> • 12 noon**

#### **CAFCI ANNUAL PICNIC**

Okeeheelee Park NC-Tuskegee Pavilion, 7715 Forest Hill Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL

### **NO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN MAY**

**Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> • 1 pm to Sundown**

#### **CULTURAL DIVERSITY DAY**

Commons Park, 11600 Poinciana Blvd, Royal Palm Beach, FL

### **NO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN JUNE**

**Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup> • 3 pm**

#### **STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND AWARDS CEREMONY**

Portuguese American Cultural Center, 13265 Okeechobee Blvd., Loxahatchee, FL

**Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ Membership Appreciation**

**Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ Scout Night & VAFMSF**

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>**

#### **CAFCI ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP BALL**

**Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ Business Awareness**

**Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ International Games Night**

**Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ Toys for Tots & Holiday Potluck**

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

#### **CAFCI NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION**

## **Mark Your Calendar AROUND TOWN**

- **Tuesday, March 24<sup>th</sup>** | Join the **WOMEN'S CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** at the 30<sup>th</sup> **GIRAFFE AWARDS**, Cohen Pavilion at the Kravis Center. For information on tickets and sponsorships go to <https://linkly.link/2X509>.
- Visit the **CULTURAL COUNCIL FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY** at <https://www.palmbeachculture.com/events> for upcoming activities.
- Events in **WELLINGTON**, go to <https://aroundwellington.com/>
- Events in **WEST PALM BEACH**, go to <https://downtownwpb.com/explore/calendar/>