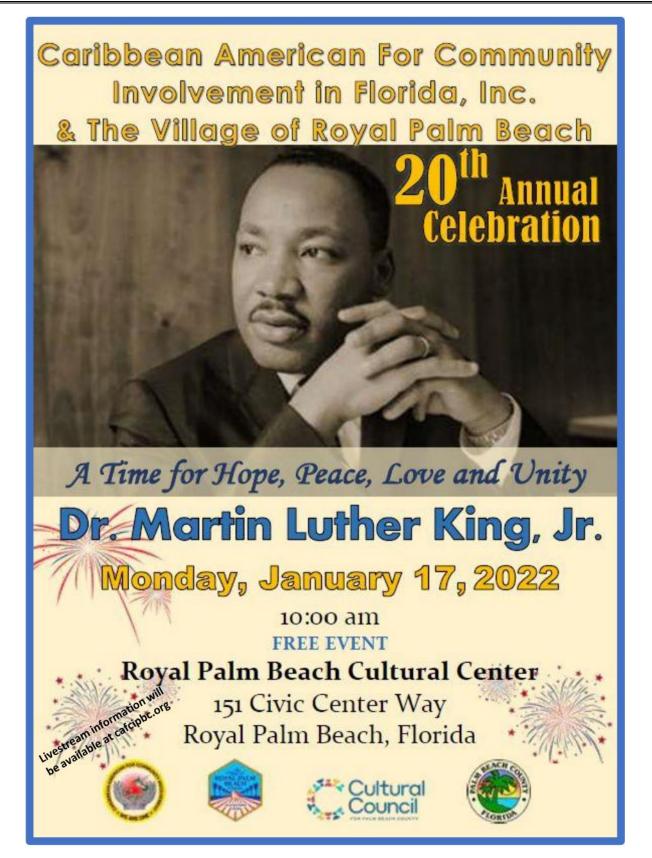




Caribbean-American For Community Involvement in Florida, Inc. Our mission is to enhance, maintain and sustain the quality of life for the community consistent with the culture and traditions of our diverse ancestral heritage.

# JANUARY

2022



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

President	Dennis Wright	
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Genieve White	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Rhonda Ferrin-Davis	
Treasurer	Diana Bishop-McIntosh	
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Doreen Baker	
Corresponding SecretaryMarjorie Mendez		

### DIRECTORS

Winsom Genus-Martin \* Carolyn Hmara Barry Martin \* Hildreth Stoddart-Brown

### **NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE**

Marcia Hayden \* Lawrence Logan Shirley Morrison \* Junette Powell Barbara Walker \* Thalia White Lauren

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

AllianceGenieve White Annual Friendship BallDennis Wright		
Budget		
BylawsBarbara Walker		
CAFCI Home Radcliffe Brown		
Cultural Hildreth Stoddart-Brown		
FinanceGenieve White		
GrantsShirley Morrison		
Historian/Protocol Rhonda Ferrin-Davis		
NewsletterJunette Powell		
& Thalia White Lauren		
ParliamentarianNadine White-Boyd		
Picnic Diane Bishop-McIntosh		
Program Rhonda Ferrin-Davis		
Relay for LifeNova Brown		
Student Assistance Fund Junette Powell		
Sunshine & Nadine White-Boyd		
Talent ShowJunette Powell		
& Nadine White-Boyd		
Toys for TotsLauriston Simms		
Venue/Reservations Lawrence Logan		
Ferrin Memorial Scholarship Fund		
Website Radcliffe Brown		
Youth Rhonda Ferrin-Davis		

### CONTACT US

Caribbean-American For Community Involvement 675 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard Suite #134 Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411 561.790.4002 cafci@bellsouth.net ★ <u>www.cafcipbc.org</u> www.facebook.com/cafcipbc

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year! I hope you celebrated safely with family and friends. I thank all our members for your support over the last year. Your contributions once again enabled us to weather the storm during another year of pandemic brought about by COVID-19, and we still need your continued support during 2022.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Welcome Hildreth Stoddart-Brown to CAFCI's Board of Directors. Thanks to all returning board members: Genieve White, First Vice President; Rhonda Ferrin-Davis, Second Vice President; Doreen Baker, Recording Secretary; Marjorie Mendez, Corresponding Secretary; and Directors: Winsom Genus-Martin, Carolyn Hmara and Barry Martin. Special thanks to outgoing Director Diana Bishop-McIntosh, Treasurer. We appreciate her contributions, skills and the many other attributes she brought to CAFCI. We look forward to working with her on various committees.

The past few years have had a significant impact on all of us, but I would like to thank all of you for your support and dedication during these challenging times. This year will bring its own challenges, but I am sure that by working together and focusing on our priorities, we will continue to fulfill our mission.

**FRIENDSHIP BALL:** Due to the rapid spread of the latest variant of the Coronavirus, the CAFCI Annual Friendship Ball scheduled for Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup> was postponed until September 2022; the exact date has yet to be determined. Thank you for your understanding and support of CAFCI. We will provide further update when CAFCI has developed our plans more fully. Again, thank you.

**TOYS FOR TOTS:** Thanks to Lauriston Simms, Rhonda Ferrin-Davis, Grace Episcopal Church, the scouts and the rest of the team for making the Toys for Tots Drive a success. Additional toys and food packages were also given to CAFCI by Grace Episcopal Church as part of our Toys for Tots Drive. Thanks to all our members and supporters for your donations.

**CULTURAL COMMITTEE:** Thanks to Elet Cyris for continuing to serve as chair of the Cultural Committee for two years after announcing her retirement as Committee Chair. Your service is appreciated. I am pleased to announce that we now have a new chair, Hildreth Stoddart-Brown. We wish her well and will give her all the support that she needs during the transition period. Thanks to all the members of this committee for all your work over the last year.

Dennis Wright

Welcome New Members

Charlesworth B. and Hilary Varlack



J	anuary <mark>16 – 3</mark> 1
Herbert Chambers	16
Marcia Hayden	18
Berman Patterson	18
Kareem Ali	19
Loraine Cargill	21
Hilary Varlack	30
Herbert Chambers	26

#### FEBRUARY 1 - 15

V. Alvin Nembhard	02
Yvonne Lawrence	04
Yvonne Richardson	06
Patrick McLaughlin	08
Yvonne Wright	08
Sandra A. Gordon	13
Radcliffe Brown	14

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

### CONDOLENCES TO:

Audrey Campbell on the loss of her husband

Honorable Judge Maxine Cheesman on the loss of her husband

Wayne and Marva Wilks on the loss of his sister

Yvonne Elliott, Danielle Nelson, Genieve White, Nadine White-Boyd & Thalia White Lauren on the loss of a relative

#### GET WELL TO:

Sandra Gordon • Marcia Hayden

### Please Let Us Know...

Please contact (or ask someone else to 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 newsletter. If no one tells us, we cannot share it.

Elet Cyris, Chair	. 561.791.9087
Paul Baker	. 561.784.0067
Samuel Baxter	. 561.798.2864

# GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

### Saturday, January 8, 2022 at 7 pm VIA ZOOM

Join us for our General Membership meeting on Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will feature a presentation by our very own Nadine White-Boyd on "How to participate in Amazon Smiles to help CAFCI receive donation from Amazon purchases." We are conducting our monthly membership meetings via Zoom until further notice. You will need a mobile device (smart phone/tablet) or a computer/laptop with a microphone to participate in the meeting. You may also call in. See instructions below.

### Click on link or copy and paste link in your browser:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85318987422?pwd=dllLNER0a2JuNl htYUZIVkZzYmRSdz09

OR

## Visit website: www.cafcipbc.org

Select "Click to Access Zoom General Meeting" OR

# Download the ZOOM App: www.zoom.com

Select "Join A Meeting" Meeting ID: 853 1898 7422 Password: 478705 OR

### Call-In:

+1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 853 1898 7422 Password: 478705

# **TOYS FOR TOTS**

Thanks to the generosity of our CAFCI members who either made donations on-line to purchase toys or dropped off gifts. Thanks also to Grace Episcopal Church who donated additional toys and lots of food making CAFCI's 2021 Toys for Tots Drive a huge success. Lauriston Simms, with his helper elves, drove to Belle Glade and met with a Palm Beach Sheriff Officer who took them to a needy area where the food, toys and clothes were distributed. The Toys for Tots committee would be remiss if it was not mentioned that even though we only meet virtually, CAFCI's members remain committed and overwhelmingly supportive, making sure that our annual projects are very successful. Your donations made a lot of kids and adults happy this past Christmas.





# RESCHEDULED CAFCI'S 31st ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP BALL

The Board and members of CAFCI are deeply grateful for the support from our sponsors and supporters. With the rapid spread of the latest variant of COVID-19, it is with an abundance of caution that we decided to reschedule the Annual Friendship Ball from Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup> to **September, 2022** (the exact date to be determined). Updates will be provided in the upcoming newsletters and on the CAFCI website (www.cafcipbc.org). The Journal, showcasing the support, will be distributed at all our events over the next year. Additionally, it will be distributed electronically to all our advertisers, sponsors, members and our mailing list. Thanks for your understanding and support of CAFCI.

**RAFFLE:** The raffle drawing scheduled to be held at the Friendship Ball will now take place at the MLK Day Celebration on January 17, 2022. Raffle tickets are still available; a book of six tickets cost \$10.

First Prize \$400 • Second Prize \$250 • Third Prize \$150

For tickets, please call Dennis Wright at 203.482.5079 or Alvin Nembhard at 561.670.8113.

### MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY CELEBRATION Monday, January 17, 2022 at 10 am Royal Palm Beach Cultural Center & Livestream

The Cultural Committee and the Village of Royal Palm Beach are in the process of planning an exciting 20<sup>th</sup> Annual MLK program which will take place on Monday, January 17, 2022, beginning at 10 am. There will also be the presentation of the 2021 "Outstanding Citizen of the Year" and the drawing of the raffle, previously scheduled to take place at the Annual Friendship Ball. The event will be live streamed. For additional information, visit CAFCI's website at www.cafcipbc.org.



RELAY FOR LIFE 2022 Saturday, March 26, 2022 South Florida Fairgrounds

Relay for Life 2022 will be held on March 26 at the South Florida Fairgrounds. At this time our committee has decided that we are not ready to participate in any in-person activity because of the COVID-19 virus. We are well aware that cancer never sleeps, and we hope you will still consider making a donation to the American Cancer Society. Please help us reach our goal of \$1,000. Any amount would be greatly appreciated. You can go to the CAFCI website at cafcipbc.org. Click on the relay for life image and make your secure donation. If you are not comfortable contributing online, you may mail a check made payable to American Cancer Society to the CAFCI, Attn: Relay for Life, 675 Royal Palm Beach Blvd., Suite 134, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411.

Thank you.

Nova Brown, Committee Chair

# OUR CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE

CAFCI and the Student Assistance Fund (SAF) Committee are honored to recognize its members and their relatives for their accomplishments, so please share your good news with us, and we will publish as space permits.

# CAFCI STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND (SAF)

Empowering Youth & Investing In Our Future

For more information, visit the Student Assistance Program section on CAFCI's website <u>https://www.cafcipbc.org/studentassistanceprogram</u> or contact Nadine White-Boyd at 561.351.6895 or Junette Powell at 561.346.2353.

### **COLLEGE STUDENT ASSISTANCE APPLICATION**

The application is available on the Student Assistance Program section on CAFCI's website (https://www.cafcipbc.org/studentassistanceprogram). Please encourage Palm Beach County graduating high school seniors who have been accepted into an accredited institution of higher learning to apply for the award. **The application deadline is March 4, 2022.** 

# STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND AWARDS CEREMONY

**Date:** Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 6 pm **Venue:** To be determined

## WE NEED YOUR HELP. You can sponsor an award recipient and/or donate to SAF via one of the methods listed below:

- 1. Mail check payable to CAFCI, Attention: SAF, 675 Royal Palm Beach Blvd, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411.
- 2. CAFCI's website at <a href="https://www.cafcipbc.org/donation-center">https://www.cafcipbc.org/donation-center</a> and select the Student Assistance option.
- 3. Utilize the app, "Where's The Food" delivery service and **all delivery fees collected between January 10<sup>th</sup> and February 10<sup>th</sup> will go to CAFCI.** See additional details on the "Ways to Support CAFCI" page in this newsletter.

A donation of any amount will help CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund Committee reach its fundraising goal. Please help spread the word to family, friends, businesses and social media contacts.

The SAF Committee extends a big THANK YOU to Clayton Robinson and Golden Krust Restaurant (Okeechobee Blvd. & Jog Road) for donating 10% of purchases made upon presentation of the coupon during November 15th through December 20th. Thanks to all who participated by supporting Golden Krust.

A big thank you to everyone who has already donated and thank you for your continued support. The list of 2021 Donors and Sponsors is posted on CAFCI's website at www.cafcipbc.org/studentassistanceprogram.

### 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 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 any accomplishments of close relatives (eg. 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 (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.



**CAFCI Scouts BSA Troop 111** had a very eventful month of December. We started out with a fabulous cooking event called, "CHOPPED". Patrols worked together to prepare an entree and dessert for the three judges: Webelos Parent, Dan Mandanici, former Troop 111 Eagle Scout, Al Pantone and Scoutmaster Ryan McNally. These culinary delights were rated on taste, creative use of ingredients and presentation. The event was hosted by none other than our first Scoutmaster and Chef, Mr. David Pantone. Even the visiting Webelos scouts participated as "sous chefs". Earlier in the day, the

cub scouts earned cooking advancements by preparing and cooking two meals over an open fire that they had to light without the benefit of matches. Everyone had a wonderful time trying their hand at this miraculous feat.



We ended the month with our annual Holiday Party complete with a Movie by the fire, watched on a large screen built by former Eagle Scout Jordan Davis, son of our charter representative, Mrs. Rhonda Ferrin-Davis. Jordan's homemade "GIANT" games also delighted the scouts as they played ping pong, jenga, badminton, tic-tac-toe, checkers and corn hole. A huge thank you is extended to the Davis family for making it possible for the Troop to mark the end of another awesome year in scouting at our beloved, Camp Davis!

By Lorianne Cabrera

JUST FOR LAUGHS IT'S HARD TO BE A TEACHER AT TIMES ... Teacher: "Construct a sentence using the word "sugar" Pupil: 'I drank tea this morning." Teacher: 'Where is the word sugar." Pupil: "It is already in the tea!!"

# WAYS TO SUPPORT CAFCI

Donate to CAFCI at https://www.cafcipbc.org/donation-center



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

2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES (Single - \$60 • Couple - \$100) Submit your membership dues online at <u>https://www.cafcipbc.org/membership-dues</u> OR

Mail to CAFCI Attention: Lawrence Logan, 675 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard, Suite #134, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411



# DO YOU HAVE FOOD DELIVERED???

Help support CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund when you have your favorite local West Palm Beach restaurants delivered to your door. For a list of participating restaurants, visit <u>https://www.wtfnmore.com/restaurants</u>

All delivery fees collected between January 10<sup>th</sup> and February 10<sup>th</sup> will go to CAFCI as a donation. Use Code CAFCI at check out.

- 1. Order online at <u>www.wtfnmore.com</u> OR
- Download the app today ios: <u>https://apps.apple.com/.../wheres-the-food-n.../id1551141800</u> Android: Where's The Food n More - Apps on Google Play



# DO YOU SHOP ON AMAZON???

Help support CAFCI when shopping online at Amazon ... IT'S EASY!

- 1. Just sign into or create your account at <u>https://smile.amazon.com</u>
- 2. Select **Caribbean American for Community Involvement in Florida** as your preferred charity.

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to CAFCI, thereby helping to fund CAFCI programs such as the Student Assistance Fund for college bound students, Scouts, annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration and Cultural Diversity Day as well as other events that benefit the community.



Caribbean-American For Community Involvement, in Morida, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) Organization – (EIN #65-0965408) 675 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard • Suite #134 • Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411 www.cafcipbc.org • E-mail: cafci@bellsouth.net • Phone: 561.790.4002 Follow us on Facebook

January 1, 2022

Dear Prospective Student Assistance Fund Donor:

Caribbean-American For Community Involvement in Florida, Inc. (CAFCI) continues its more than 31 years of service to the community. CAFCI, a (501)(c)(3) organization, functions due to 100% of dedicated volunteers and is committed to advancing our youths' higher education. For the past 29 years, CAFCI has raised funds to assist well deserving college-bound high school students in our communities to achieve their educational goals. Your financial donation and dedication to helping CAFCI advance our youth's higher education will help to open college doors to students. With your financial support, CAFCI will be able to award between \$500 to \$1,500 to each deserving student.

Many ambitious students are denied access to a college education due to financial constraints. This year, because of COVID-19 resulting in the loss of jobs and loss of family members, there is an overwhelming number of students facing financial challenges in achieving their college goals. As you can imagine, many high school students may hold the key to a cure for a disease but may never have the opportunity to maximize their potential. Many have innovative ideas for probable solutions to social problems, yet may never have a chance to expand on them. Others are discouraged simply because the first step to higher education may seem financially impossible.

CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund Committee is requesting your financial help. We invite you to partner with CAFCI in financially assisting our youths to make their educational goals a reality. Your contribution will make a difference in the lives of our youth as your donation will not only provide hope to more students but will also help to ease their financial burden. Please find accompanying information about our organization and past recipients.

We look forward to receiving your life-changing contribution to help with assisting students as they embark on one of their lifelong endeavors to begin college. We will publicly acknowledge you on our Donors' List. You may make your donation online by going to www.cafcipbc.org/donation-center and select Student Assistance or by mailing your donation to:

> CAFCI Attn: Student Assistance 675 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard, Suite 134 Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

Thank you in advance for your donation. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at 561-790-4002.

Respectfully,

Nadine White-Boyd Nadine White-Boyd Co-Chair, Student Asst. Committee Junette Powell Junette Powell Co-Chair, Student Asst. Committee President

Dennis Wright **Dennis Wright** 

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



#### 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**

Caribbean-American for Community Involvement'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 Recipients - 2019

A sample of some of our star students from the Class of 2019.



### How YOU Can Help Our Students

- Make check or money order <u>payable to</u>: C.A.F.C.I. (Note for Student Assistance Fund)
- Donate by going to CAFCI's website www.cafcipbc.org and clicking on Donate to Student Assistance Fund.
- It is preferred that your generous donation be received on or before April 22, 2022, in preparation for our virtual Award Ceremony on Saturday, May 7, 2022.

No contribution is too small and on behalf of the students and families, we *Thank You Very Much*!

### Contact Us

Caribbean-American for Community Involvement, Inc. (CAFCI) 675 Royal Palm Beach Blvd., Suite 134 Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411 Phone: 561.790.4002 Web Site: www.cafcipbc.org E-mail address: <u>cafci@bellsouth.net</u>



Search: CAFCI

## 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.



### **Student Eligibility Requirements**

- Students applying must have at least a cumulative 3.0 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.

### **Award Ceremonies**

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

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



Use of the images, photos, and likeness of persons contained in this material does not constitute their endorsement of CAFCI or its activities.

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# SCHOLARSHIPS & FINANCIAL AID RESOURCES

# School District of Palm Beach County

For more information on financial aid and scholarships, visit <a href="https://palmbeachschools.org/students\_parents/scholarships\_and\_financial\_aid">https://palmbeachschools.org/students\_parents/scholarships\_and\_financial\_aid</a>

The Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties Scholarships

Visit <u>https://yourcommunityfoundation.org/scholarships</u> for more details. Or reach out to <u>scholarships@cfpbmc.org</u> and the team will be happy to assist you. Eligible applicants are current seniors in high school or current undergraduate students attending school in Palm Beach or Martin Counties. Some funds require interviews and some do not. Interview invitations are not an indication of receiving an award. Scholarships are awarded mid-April 2022. The deadline is Monday, January 31, 2022 at midnight.

# Be A 2022 Station1 Fellow!

Are you a bold and creative thinker and an aspiring changemaker who is passionate about applying science and technology to create a more equitable, creative, prosperous, and sustainable world?
Apply to Be A 2022 Station1 Fellow! Target Deadline: Saturday, January 15, 2022, 11:59 pm EST Station1 Frontiers Fellowship (SFF) is a prestigious, fully-funded ten-week summer experience for undergraduate students focused on socially-directed science and technology education, research, and innovation. SFF 2022 will be in a fully virtual format and students will participate remotely in all program activities from their city of residence. For more information and to apply visit <a href="https://www.station1.org/sff">https://www.station1.org/sff</a>.

Special thanks to 2019 SAF Award recipient, Shevauna Dumay, now a first-year law student at the University of Miami, who has graciously provided this information.

# Marshall-Motley Scholars Program

Law School Admission Council (LSAC) is honored to partner with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund to promote the Marshall-Motley Scholars Program at a webinar on Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm at which they will share more information about this unique scholarship opportunity. Register in advance for this webinar at <a href="https://lsac-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_NDIWEBmURs277yhWiGyCJQ">https://lsac-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_NDIWEBmURs277yhWiGyCJQ</a>.
The deadline to apply for this year's Marshall-Motley Scholars Program is Friday, February 11, 2022.
There is no cost to apply. Please contact events@LSAC.org with any questions you may have. To ensure timely and consistent delivery of communications from the Law School Admission Council, please add

events@LSAC.org to your Safe Senders and contact lists. Special thanks to 2019 SAF Award recipient, Shevauna Dumay,

now a first-year law student at the University of Miami, who has graciously provided this information.



# JANUARY IS NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

**National Mentoring Month** is an annual designation observed in January. This month, focus is on how we can all work together to increase the number of mentors to make sure young people in our communities have dependable people to look up to and follow in their footsteps. NMM celebrates mentoring and the positive effect it can have on young lives. Its goals are to:

- Raise awareness of mentoring in its various forms.
- Recruit individuals to mentor, especially in programs that have waiting lists of young people.
- Promote the rapid growth of mentoring by recruiting organizations to engage their constituents in mentoring.

For more information visit <u>http://www.nationalmentoringmonth.org/</u>





The birth record on file in New Orleans City Hall is spare: "Norbert Rillieux, quadroon libre, natural son of Vincent Rillieux and Constance Vivant. Born March 17, 1806. Baptized in St. Louis Cathedral by Pere Antoine."

Vincent Rillieux was an inventor himself who designed a steam-operated press for baling cotton. He appears to have had a long relationship with Constance Vivant, "a free woman of color," and one of their sons, Norbert, became what is now called a chemical engineer. The use of the father's surname and the baptism in New Orleans' cathedral indicate the paternity was publicly acknowledged.

As a boy the precocious Norbert showed an interest in engineering, and his father sent him to France for his education. By the age of 24, Rillieux was an instructor in applied mechanics at the Ecole Centrale in Paris. Around 1830, Rillieux published a series of papers on steam engines and steam power.

While in France, Rillieux began working on the multiple effect evaporator. As George Meade, a sugar expert, wrote in 1946: "The great scientific contribution which Rillieux made was in his recognition of the steam economies which can be effected by repeated use of the latent heat in the steam and vapors." What Rillieux did, and what became the basis for all modern industrial evaporation, was to harness the energy of vapors rising from the boiling sugar cane syrup and pass those vapors through several chambers, leaving in the end sugar crystals.

Rillieux's evaporator was a safer, cheaper, and more efficient way of evaporating sugar cane juice than the method then in use, the Jamaica train. In this system, teams of slaves ladled boiling sugar juice from one open kettle to another. The resulting sugar tended to be of low quality since the heat in the kettles could not be regulated, and much sugar was lost in the process of transferring juice from kettle to kettle.

Some Louisiana sugar planters quickly understood the significance of Rillieux's invention, and he returned to New Orleans in the early 1830s, years that coincided with a sugar boom. Rillieux tinkered with his invention over the next decade, and in 1843 he was hired to install an evaporator on Judah Benjamin's Bellechasse Plantation. Benjamin, a Jewish lawyer who later served as secretary of war in the Confederacy, became Rillieux's staunchest supporter in Louisiana sugar circles. Benjamin wrote in 1846 that sugar produced with the Rillieux apparatus was superb, the equal of "the best double-refined sugar of our northern refineries."

The success of his evaporator apparently made Rillieux, according to a contemporary, "the most sought after engineer in Louisiana," and he acquired a large fortune. But while his invention no doubt enriched sugar planters, Rillieux was still, under the law, "a person of color" who might visit sugar plantations to install his evaporator but who could not sleep in the plantation house. (Nor, for that matter, could a man of Rillieux's accomplishments be expected to stay in slave quarters. Some planters, it appears, provided Rillieux with a special house with slave servants while he visited as "a consultant."). As the Civil War approached, the status of free blacks deteriorated with the imposition of new restrictions on their ability to move about the streets of New Orleans and other draconian laws.

It was about this time that Rillieux moved back to France. Race relations may have played a part in his decision. At one point, Rillieux became incensed when one of his applications for a patent was denied initially because authorities mistakenly believed he was a slave and thus not a citizen of the United States. The declining profitability of the sugar industry in Louisiana also may have been a factor. In any event, in Paris, Rillieux developed a passion for Egypt. In 1880, a visiting Louisiana sugar planter found Rillieux deciphering hieroglyphics at the Bibliotheque Nationale. Rillieux died in 1894 and was buried in the famed Paris cemetery of Pere Lachaise. His wife, Emily Cuckow, lived comfortably for another eighteen years.

Source: ACS Style: American Chemical Society National Historic Chemical Landmarks. Norbert Rillieux and a Revolution in Sugar Processing.

http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/whatischemistry/landmarks/norbertrillieux.html (accessed December 29, 2021).

Submitted by Barbara Walker

# COVID-19

For the most up-to-date and accurate information about COVID-19 and vaccinations visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at <u>www.cdc.gov/covid-19</u>

For the latest COVID-19 vaccine updates in Florida visit <u>https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/vaccines/</u> The Florida Health COVID-19 24-hour hotline is available to answer general vaccine questions: 866.779.6121 Senior Hotline: 866.201.6754 - Appointment line for seniors over 65 who do not have access to a computer.

# IN THE NEWS ...

### **OMICRON VARIANT**

The recent emergence of the Omicron variant (B.1.1.529) further emphasizes the importance of vaccination, boosters, and general prevention strategies needed to protect against COVID-19. Everyone 5 and older should get vaccinated and boosters are recommended for everyone 18 years and older.

For more information on the Omicron variant visit <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/variants/index.html</u>.

To find COVID-19 testing sites, vaccine information, vaccine locations, or free monoclonal antibody therapy treatments, please visit https://floridahealthcovid19.gov/. For more information, please contact the Florida Department of Health by phone 1-866-779-6121 or by e-mail COVID-19@flhealth.gov.

To have the things that you have never had, you must do things that you have never done. <u>Dr. Shaun Marler - Pastor, Harvest Ministries</u>

Clinics Can Help Mobility, Independence and Dignity

**DONATE TO CLINICS CAN HELP:** DO YOU HAVE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT OR UNOPENED MEDICAL SUPPLIES YOU NO LONGER NEED, OR ARE YOU IN NEED OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT OR SUPPLIES? If so, check out "Clinics Can Help," a local nonprofit organization that accepts gently used durable medical equipment (e.g. wheelchairs, hospital beds, walkers, shower chairs, commodes, nebulizers, oxygen concentrators, etc.) and unused medical supplies (adult diapers, wound care materials, etc.) donated by the community. "Clinics Can Help" cleans and refurbishes the equipment it receives, and redistributes it, along with donated medical supplies, to Palm Beach County residents who need it. "Clinics Can Help" stores the equipment and supplies at its warehouse at 2560 Westgate Avenue in West Palm Beach. Last year it provided over 3,000 children and adults in Palm Beach County with medical equipment and supplies. CAFCI members can donate medical equipment or unused medical supplies to "Clinics Can Help," or seek needed medical equipment and supplies. To learn more, click on this link: <u>https://www.clinicscanhelp.org/</u>. You can also call "Clinics Can Help" at 561.640.2995 to see if it has the equipment or supplies you need.

# 2022 MEMBERSHIP DUES

(Single - \$60 \* Couple - \$100)

Submit your membership dues online at www.cafcipbc.org OR Mail to CAFCI Attention: Lawrence Logan, 675 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard, Suite #134, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411



You can assist in the effort to find a home for CAFCI by putting on an event or promoting an activity to raise funds. To share your ideas or provide information regarding available property, or if you have a question, please send an email to cafci@bellsouth.net, radcliffewoody@aol.com or call 561.791.4002 and leave a message.



Participation in the Home Of Our Own project is available through the Buy-A-Brick program. Visit the web page at www.cafcipbc.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 for a \$1,000 brick and \$150 for a \$3,000 brick are available.



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

# I AM YOUR NEW YEAR By Elaine Ealy

I am your New Year I am the brand new page In your book of time. On me you've scribbled Or will scribble What I should do for you And you, for me.

I am here again with yet Another time of hope For YOU to search YOU Inside and out. To find your strengths Your weaknesses, too, Then act accordingly. I am your new opportunity To make wrongs right To make amends To learn from your mistakes Of the past, And renew your goals, dreams, Your commitments.

I now give you my all I give you a new start Offer you every opportunity To refresh your life Use me to the best Of your ability. I am your New Year.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU!