



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.

OCTOBER

2025



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Newsletter	Junette Powell	
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Picnic		
Program		
Relay for Life	Nova Brown	
Student Assistance Fur		
8 Nadine White-Boyd		
Sunshine	Paul Baker	
Toys for Tots	Lauriston Simms	
Ferrin Memorial Schola	arship Fund	
	Genieve White	
Website	Radcliffe Brown	
Youth	Rhonda Ferrin-Davis	

CONTACT US

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561.790.4002
cafci@bellsouth.net
www.cafcipbc.org
www.facebook.com/cafcipbc

General Membership Meeting 2nd Saturday of month Board Meeting 4th Thursday of month See back page for calendar of events.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends of CAFCI,

ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP BALL: Our 34th Annual Friendship Ball held on September 20, 2025 was once again a night to remember. It brought together friends, families and community members for an evening filled with joy, dancing, and fellowship. This year's theme, Bridging Generations: Celebrating the Past, Present, and Future of Community Service, truly came alive as we honored our history while looking forward with optimism. The entertainment was vibrant, the atmosphere welcoming, and the program flowed with the professionalism and warmth that CAFCI is known for. The feedback was very positive with most attendees saying that this year was the best; the food was appetizing; they liked the flow of the program and they loved the music.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the 2025 Friendship Ball Committee, chaired by Dennis Wright, with team members Paul Baker, Cindy Beckles, Barrington Berry, Thalia Lauren, Alvin Nembhard, Junette Powell, Audrey Smith, Hildreth Stoddart-Brown, Barbara Walker and Genieve White. Special thanks to those who worked on Sponsorship and the Journal: Nova Brown, Thalia Lauren, Caren Muir, Junette Powell, Hildreth Stoddart-Brown and Genieve White: Public Relations and VIP: Cindy Beckles, Nova Brown, Barbara Walker and Nadine White-Boyd: Online Marketing and Promotions: Cindy Beckles, Nicole Johnson; Treasurer: Audrey Smith; Decorations: Cindy Beckles, Charmaine Henry, Jennifer Powell-Pittman and Hildreth Stoddart-Brown. Their dedication and teamwork made this year's Ball a tremendous success. We also extend special appreciation to our sponsors and supporters, whose generosity made the Ball possible and helped us continue funding scholarships and community programs. Look for full coverage and pictures of the Ball in the November issue of the newsletter.

BUSINESS AWARENESS: On Saturday, September 13, 2025, we hosted our Business Awareness Event, which had a wonderful turnout. Members and supporters came together to share information about their businesses, products and services. It was inspiring to see the talent and enterprising spirit within our community, and the event reinforced how much we can accomplish when we support one another. Thanks to all who made this event a success. Please see a list of participants and pictures elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please also mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

International Games Night - Saturday, November 8, 2025:
 Our annual tradition returns at the General Membership
 meeting location. Bring your friends, family, and your favorite
 games! We will enjoy an evening of ethnic dishes, cultural
 sharing, and laughter.

President's Message continued on page 4

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October 16 - 31

Charmaine Henry	16
Inez McCallum	20
Wayne Thomas	21
Britt Deviney	23
Caren Muir	25
Babbette Bodden	26
Wayne Wilks	26
Doreen Baker	28

November 1 - 15

Eaton Richardson	04
Dwayne Clarke	06
Nova Brown	07
Lloyd Swaby	08
Chioma R. Deere	10
Myrna Adams	11
Pamela Fraser	12

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 (cafci@bellsouth.net) and we will update the birthday list. We apologize for any oversight.

GET WELL TO:

Jeff Webb



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 from pg. 2)

- Board of Directors Election December 2025:
 Elections for vacant seats on the CAFCI Board will take place at our December General Membership meeting. If you are interested in chairing the Nominating Committee or becoming a candidate to serve as a director, please reach out.
- New Year's Eve Ball Wednesday, December 31, 2025: We are excited to announce the return of our New Year's Eve Ball at the Royal Palm Beach Cultural Center. Many of you shared how much you missed this event last year, so we are thrilled to bring it back. Please plan to join us as we ring in 2026 together with elegance, fun and community spirit. Save the date—you don't want to miss it!

As we move forward into another season of service and celebration, let us continue to strengthen the bonds that make CAFCI such a vibrant and impactful organization.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support and participation.

Dennis Wright

LET'S DO BUSINESS

When we support a small business in our community or share a recommendation about that business' services and excellence, we help that business to grow; and in helping that business to grow, we help our community to grow. We show by virtue of our dollars and our support, that a business is reputable, valuable, and worthy of patronage.

Let's Support Businesses in Our Community.

ROYAL NAILS & LASHES

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11969 Southern Blvd. Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411 561.333.9727

https://royalnailsandlashes.com Email: royalnailsandlashes@gmail.com Mon - Fri: 9 am - 7:30 pm Sat: 9 am - 6 pm; Sun: 10 am - 4 pm

If you would like to recommend a business to be featured in the "Let's Do Business" section in our Newsletter, please contact the Newsletter Committee so that we can share it with our members.

• junettep56@gmail.com or thaliaec@gmail.com

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Saturday, October 11, 2025

In-Person & Via Zoom 10287 Okeechobee Boulevard Level-X Fitness Center - Suite A-5 Royal Palm Beach (corner of Okeechobee Blvd. and State Road 7 / US 441)

Join us at our monthly General Membership meeting on Saturday, October 11th. Let's come together, fellowship and make plans for our upcoming events, including the New Year's Eve Ball and annual MLK Celebration.

If you are unable to attend in person, join us via Zoom:

- Visit website: www.cafcipbc.org
 Select "Enter Zoom Meeting"
- Click on link or copy and paste link in your browser: https://usO2web.zoom.us/j/85318987422?pw d=dllLNEROa2JuNlhtYUZlVkZzYmRSdzO9
- www.zoom.com Select "Join A Meeting"
 Meeting ID: 853 1898 7422 | Password: 478705
- Call-In: +1 646 558 8656
 Meeting ID: 853 1898 7422 | Password: 478705

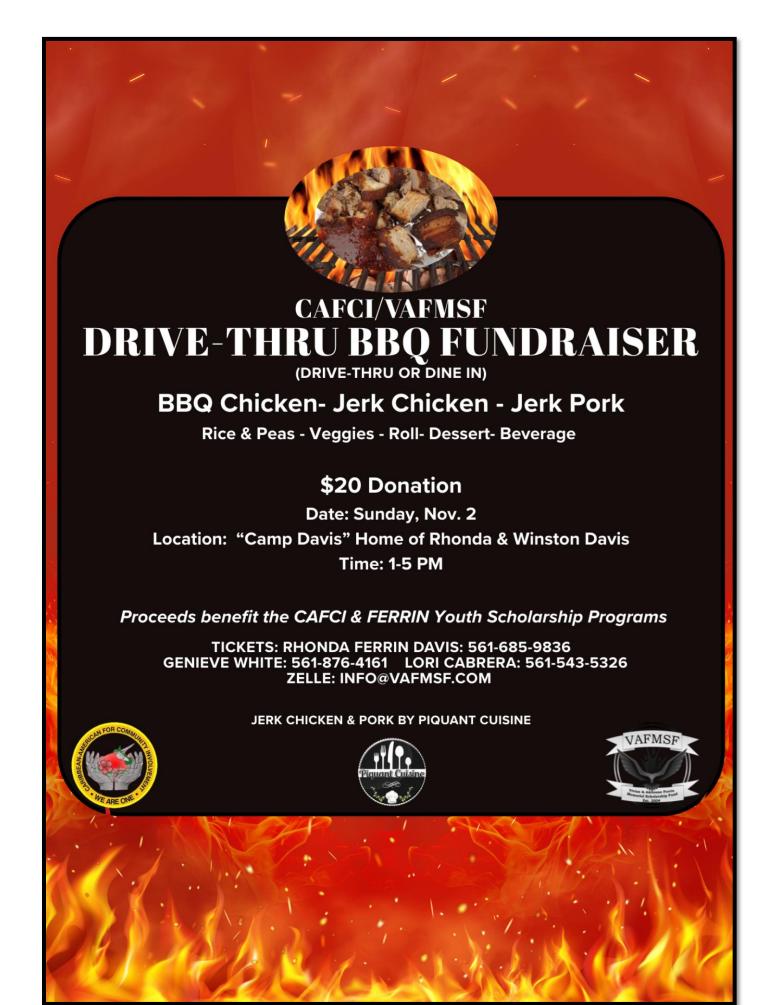
THANK YOU!!!

To the Officers, Board Members and members of my CAFCI FAMILY:

I humbly thank you for electing me for Outstanding Citizen for 2025. I truly thank all of you for your love and support through the years.

Love and Blessings,

Winsom Genus-Martin
2025 Citizen of the Year Recipient



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

The 2026 Student Assistance Scholarship Application period has opened. The application window will close on Friday, February 27, 2026. Please share the link or QR Code with your friends and relatives so they can share with their families. The 2026 application may be accessed in the following ways:

- Via the CAFCI Website: https://www.cafcipbc.org/studentassistanceprogram
- Via the Application Site: https://form.jotform.com/251476528213053



Via OR Code

The 2025 awards ceremony video with photos and congratulatory messages from past recipients can be viewed on CAFCI's website https://www.cafcipbc.org/studentassistanceprogram.



ONGOING DONATION: To donate to the Student Assistance Fund and/or sponsor an award recipient, please contact Nadine White-Boyd at 561.351.6895; Junette Powell at 561.346.2353; or visit CAFCI's website at https://www.cafcipbc.org/donation-center and select the Student Assistance option. A donation of any amount will help CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund Committee reach its fundraising goal. If you cannot donate, please share the fundraiser link to help spread the word with family, friends and social media contacts.

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 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).

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 + TROOP 111

Hello CAFCI,

My name is Kirill Montoya, and I am honored to have been elected as the new Senior Patrol Leader of Troop 111 in Royal Palm Beach. Over the years, I have had the chance to serve in many different leadership roles within our troop, while also learning new skills through the BSA's rank advancement and merit badge programs. Now, I am excited to take on this new role and help guide our troop forward.

My goal as Senior Patrol Leader is to serve both our troop and our community while supporting other youth leaders as they grow. One of our scouts, Ethan Thompson, delivered a huge box of popcorn to a local Fire Department. These treats were purchased with donations given to Scouts during their popcorn sale fundraiser. Giving back to those who safeguard and serve our community is very important to our Scouts.

In regard to advancement, this month has already been very exciting! Three of our Scouts—Keenan Stack, Mohammed Almasoodi and Christopher Clarke—earned the rank of Eagle Scout. We are extremely proud of them and grateful for their example of hard work and dedication.



Ethan Thompson, Rivera Beach Firefighters

We also have many upcoming events that I'm looking forward to:

- October 12, 2025 Troop 111 will be helping Our Lady Queen of Apostles with unloading pumpkins in preparation for the Church Fall Festival.
- October 25, 2025 We will be volunteering with the Gulfstream Council and Pack 147 at the Spook-O-Ree Campout, a fun event with a Beetlejuice twist! This will be a great opportunity for Scouts to serve and have fun together.
- November 2025 Our troop will go on our annual Mystery Campout. No one knows the location yet, but we're all
 excited! This campout is a special tradition where we celebrate the Troop's birthday, build stronger friendships
 and enjoy new adventures.

I look forward to sharing future updates about our activities, accomplishments and upcoming events throughout my term. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve Troop 111 in this role, and I look forward to working with everyone as we continue to grow, give back, and live out the values of Scouting. Many thanks to CAFCI for always supporting our Scout goals.



Christopher Clarke, Mrs. McKinney Clarke



Mr. Almasoodi, Mohammed Almasoodi



Keenan Stack, Ms. Pfister



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



September 13th Monthly General Membership Meeting BUSINESS AWARENESS NIGHT

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO
PARTICIPATED IN SHARING THEIR
BUSINESS WITH CAFCI

Kenesha Dixon
MARY KAY CONSULTANT

Micaela & Robin Ferguson
ELIJAH'S PEDIATRIC ADVOCACY
FOUNDATION

Bianca Bee LouisBEE THE BARTENDER

Clyde Matthews

ARTHOR OF – 14 KARATZ: GOLDEN KEYS

TO A FULFILLING RELATIONSHIP

Marjorie Mendez, PA
KELLER WILLIAMS WELLINGTON REALTY

Robert Miller
PIQUANT CUISINE

Caren & David Muir
POSTNET PALM BEACH

Clifton Reid
JAMMIN PATTIES & METIERSUITE

Sylvia Sharps
ART OF NOISE ENTERTAINMENT GROUP
WWARSLLC.com

Audrey Sherrill
FOREVER GLAM BY AUDREY'S BOUTIQUE

Hildreth Stoddart-Brown
B&B REALTY & PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
CREATIVE VISION EVENTS & DECOR

Norma Smith-Hill LPT REALTY LLC

Lloyd Swaby
CENTURY 21 TENACE REALTY



Back Row: Lloyd Swaby, Robin Ferguson, Clive Reid, Clyde Matthews Middle Row: Micaela Ferguson, Marjorie Mendez, Audrey Sherrill, Sylvia Sharps, Robert Miller

Front Row: Hildreth Stoddart-Brown, Norma Smith-Hill, Kenesha Dixon



Creative Vision Events & Décor



Forever Glam By Audrey's Boutique



Century 21 Tenace Realty

September 13th Monthly General Membership Meeting BUSINESS AWARENESS NIGHT (continued)

















CAFCI34th Annual Friendship Ball

Sponsors, Advertisers & Supporters

Special thanks to our Sponsors, Advertisers, and Supporters who continue to give CAFCI their support to enable the organization to be engaged and provide educational assistance and service to the community.

AKERMAN LLP, GRASFORD W. SMITH, ESQ.

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HI-CLASS PROMOTIONS OF WAVS RADIO
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CAROLYN HMARA

HOME DEPOT - PALM BEACH LAKES BOULEVARD
HOME DEPOT - ROYAL PALM BEACH
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LPT REALTY, NORMA SMITH-HILL

PALM BEACH COUNTY, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT & COMPTROLLER

PIQUANT CUISINE

PORT OF PALM BEACH

POSTNET PALM BEACH, CAREN AND DAVID MUIR

RICH PHOTO WORKS

RIVIERA DENTAL, DR. KAREN C. REID

ROYAL INN HOTEL RESORT

SCHILLING ADVISORS, BARRY MARTIN

WASH AND WAX PROS

DENNIS WRIGHT

2025 BALL COMMITTEE

COLUMBUS DAY | INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY October 13, 2025

COLUMBUS DAY is on the second Monday of October. It marks the anniversary of Christopher Columbus' arrival to America on October 12, 1492. He was an Italian explorer who took three ships the Santa Maria, Nina, and La Pinta and sailed across the Atlantic Ocean looking for a faster way to get to the Far East and by accident landed in the New World. The day celebrates the landing of Christopher Columbus's ships in the New World. Later in history another national holiday with old historic roots in America, Thanksgiving Day, was first celebrated in 1621 in Plymouth, Massachusetts by the early settlers who celebrated the work and sacrifice to have a good harvest.

States that don't celebrate Columbus Day: Florida, Alaska, Hawaii, Vermont, New Mexico, South Dakota and Maine don't celebrate the day. Iowa and Nevada do not have Columbus Day as an official holiday but mandate that the governor proclaim it by statute each year. California and Texas still recognize the day but it is not an official holiday where government workers get paid time off. There are also several cities around the country that do not celebrate the day and instead celebrate Indigenous Peoples Day.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY -- Indigenous Peoples' Day is a holiday in the United States that celebrates and honors Indiaenous American peoples commemorates their histories and cultures. It is celebrated across the United States on the second Monday in October, and is an official city and state holiday in various localities. It began as a countercelebration held on the same day as the U.S. federal holiday of Columbus Day, which honors Italian explorer Christopher Columbus. It is celebrated as an alternative to Columbus Day, citing the lasting harm Indigenous tribes suffered because of Columbus's contributions to the European colonization of the Americas.

Source: indigenous peoples day - Search

CARIBBEAN FOLKLORE MONTH

CARIBBEAN FOLKLORE MONTH is an annual celebration that occurs every October, established in 2021 by the Caribbean Books Foundation to honor the rich traditions, myths, and legends of the Caribbean. The month highlights these stories, which are passed down through generations and reflect the region's diverse cultural heritage, featuring classic folk characters like Anancy, La Diablesse, and Papa Bois.

Celebrations include online events, storytelling festivals, exhibitions, and featured books, often with a focus on preserving folklore for future generations.

Source: caribbean folklore month - Google Search

8 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT CARIBBEAN FOLKLORE MONTH, visit https://islandoriginsmag.com/what-to-know-caribbean-folklore-month/



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH is October. Breast cancer is the most common cancer globally with around 2.3 million new cases every year. It represents one in eight cancer cases in both sexes and a quarter of all cancers in women1 with 70% mortality occurring in resource constrained settings. Health system barriers and patient level factors with low levels of awareness and knowledge are contributing to low uptake of early detection services, with resultant late-stage diagnoses and poor outcomes. In many resource-constrained settings, breast cancer affects a relatively younger population significantly contributing to premature mortality and maternal orphans.

The World Health Organization (WHO) launched the Global Breast Cancer Initiative (GBCI) in 2021 to reduce mortality rates by 2.5% per year by 2040 to save 2.5 million lives through three key pillars of action on health promotion for early detection, timely diagnosis; and comprehensive breast cancer management. The breast cancer awareness month (BCAM) is celebrated globally every October to create awareness about breast cancer. This October we will highlight the importance of early detection, timely diagnosis, comprehensive treatment and the need to provide support for persons with lived experience including through patient navigation. It also provides an opportunity for all stakeholders to review progress, reflect and renew commitments in tackling the disease and to build momentum to address the existing disparities and challenges in access to breast cancer care.

Source: <u>WHO Global Breast Cancer Initiative: Breast cancer awareness month</u>

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

CAFCI website: https://www.cafcipbc.org/donation-center
Please share with your friends and family.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP TO CAFCI???

2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES (Single - \$80 • Couple - \$140)

Submit your membership dues online at: https://www.cafcipbc.org/membership-dues

Submit check payable to: CAFCI
Mail to CAFCI, Attention: Membership

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





For C.A.F.C.I.



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.

Last month 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.

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 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 2025 Events

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

Saturday, October 11th at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Sunday, November 2nd, 1 to 5 pm VAFMSF DRIVE THRU BBQ

Camp Davis - 2131 F Road, Loxahatchee FL 33470

(Access through entrance of Palms West Church at 13689 Okeechobee Blvd, Loxahatchee)

Saturday, November 8th at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ International Games Saturday, December 13th at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ~ Elections | Toys for Tots

Wednesday, December 31st, 8 pm NEW YEAR'S EVE BALL

Royal Palm Beach Cultural Center

Saturday, January 10, 2026 at 7 pm; Hybrid | GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Monday, January 19th, 8:30 am MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY CELEBRATION

Royal Palm Beach Cultural Center

CAFCI GROUP EVENTS

Contact Genieve White at 561.876.4161 if you would like to attend performance(s) at the Kravis Center with the CAFCI Group.

Tuesday, October 21st at 7:30 pm | THE WIZ

AROUND TOWN

- Saturday, October 11th from 11 am to 5 pm and Friday, October 31st from 12 pm to 6 pm | God is Bigger Than Cancer Foundation, Inc. present BREAST HEALTH EDUCATION with Free Mammogram Screening at 12555 Miramar Parkway, Miramar, FL. For more information or to schedule your mammogram, call 954.762.3649, email gibtcfi@gmail.com or go to https://www.3dmobilemammography.com or https://godisbigerthancancer.org.
- Sunday, October 12 from 2 6 pm | JAMAICA WOMEN OF FLORIDA (JWOF) presents their 13TH ANNIVERSARY TEA PARTY at Colony West Golf Club, 6850 Northwest 88th Avenue, Tamarac, FL featuring distinguished guest Dr. Gabrielle Henry, Miss Universe 2025. For tickets and more information, visit https://jwofteaparty.eventbrite.com/.
- Saturday, October 25th at 6 pm | FREE SPIRIT OUTREACH INC. presents their 4th Annual COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS CEREMONY at Hilton Hotel PBI Majestic Ballroom, 150 Australian Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL. Contribution: \$120. For information call 561,708,3193 or 561,427,8688.
- Sunday, October 26th from 5 to 9 pm | A 5th Anniversary Gala Celebration, FIYAH! FASHION. FOLKLORE. FUTURE. benefiting the Island SPACE Caribbean Museum. A dazzling gala of theatrical spectacle and Caribbean soul at the Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa, 3030 Holiday Drive, Fort Lauderdale, FL. Learn more, grab your tickets, and preview the lookbook at www.islandspacefl.org/fiyah
- Sunday, November 9th from 1 pm to 10 pm | GRACE presents JAMAICAN JERK FESTIVAL at Miramar Regional Park, 16801 Miramar Pkwy, Miramar, FL. For more information, go to www.jerkfestival.com.
- 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/

CAFCI

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

2025 HURRICANE SEASON

Eastern Pacific: May 15-November 30 | Atlantic: June 1-November 30 | Central Pacific: June 1-November.

Take an Active Role in Your Safety Go to <u>Ready.gov/hurricanes</u> and use FEMA's Guide for Alerts and Warnings to learn more about hurricane watches and warnings. Download the FEMA app to get more information about how to prepare.

PRINTING OF CAFCI'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER GENEROUSLY PROVIDED BY

