

June

NEWS

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.

2021

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

to all the Fathers, Grandfathers and those who play the role of Father!

DAD

Author Unknown

You May Have Thought I Didn't See, Or That I Hadn't Heard, Life Lessons That You Taught To Me, **But I Got Every Word.** Perhaps You Thought I Missed It All, And That We'd Grow Apart, But Dad, I Picked Up Everything, It's Written On My Heart. Without You, Dad, I Wouldn't Be The Person I Am Today; You Built A Strong Foundation No One Can Take Away. I've Grown Up With Your Values, And I'm Very Glad I Did; So, Here's To You, Dear Father, From Your Forever Grateful Kid.

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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 ★ www.cafcipbc.org www.facebook.com/cafcipbc

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

FRIENDSHIP BALL: Our 31st Annual Friendship Ball will be held at the Downtown Marriott in West Palm Beach on <u>Saturday, September 18,</u> 2021. Interest is high for this year's ball after not having the ball last year due to Covid-19. The venue is quite large and we will separate tables for anyone concerned about social distance seating. Tickets will be available for purchase by the end of June. Once again, this will be an exciting evening. More details will be announced at the July meeting, and in the July and August issues of the Newsletter and on CAFCI's website (www.cafcipbc.org).

We continue to review all of our remaining programs for the rest of the year; additional information to come regarding membership appreciation, games night and the New Year's Eve Ball. Please support our fundraising event on July 17th which will be a BBQ at Veterans Park in Royal Palm Beach. Details of the event can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND COMMITTEE: Special thanks to the Student Assistance Fund Committee for raising funds, selecting the recipients and hosting the awards ceremony. The ceremony this year will be virtual. Please see details and access information for the June 12th awards ceremony in this newsletter. The 2020/2021 Student Assistance Fund Committee members are: Doreen Baker. Leonie Escoffery, Doreen Grayson, Clover Henry-Gilroy, Barry Martin, Alpha McDonald and Co-Chairs Junette Powell and Nadine White-Bovd.

CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH: This month, like most of the country, CAFCI will celebrate Caribbean-American Heritage Month. On Monday May 31, 2021, the President of the United States declared the month of June as Caribbean-American Heritage Month. President Biden in his proclamation stated "In every generation, our society, spirit and shared ambitions have been refreshed by wave after wave of immigrants seeking out their American dream. Throughout our history, Caribbean Americans have brought vibrant cultures, languages, traditions and values that strengthen our country and add new chapters to our common story."

Thanks to all our members who have contributed positively to make strengthening our country a reality.

Dennis Wright, President

CAFCI BBQ

Join CAFCI on Saturday, July 17th from noon until sunset for a socially distant BBQ at Veterans Park in Royal Palm Beach. Join us and have some fun! See the flyer elsewhere in this issue for additional details.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS	12	
Marcia & Frank		
Hayden		
	16 - 30	
Gladys E. Brown		
Carmen Johnson	18	
Georgia Brown	19	
Rhonda Ferrin-Davis	21	
Doreen Grayson	22	
Shama Rhoden	27	
Lillian McGann	28	
Caroline Hmara	30	
JULY 1 - 15		
Mavis Baxter	01	
Audrey Campbell	01	
Angela Russell	06	
Henworth Ferguson	07	
Cheryl Lewis	07	
Everett Wheatley	07	
Marjorie Mendez	08	

CONDOLENCES TO:

Inez McCallum on the loss of her brother

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 STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND VIRTUAL AWARDS CEREMONY Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 7 pm VIA ZOOM

Join us for our General Membership meeting on Saturday, June 12th when the Student Assistance Fund Committee will officiate the monthly meeting. The meeting will be dedicated to the SAF Awards ceremony honoring the 2021 Award recipients, and you will have an opportunity to meet and congratulate them.

We conduct 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=dllLNER0a2JuNIh tYUZIVkZzYmRSdz09 OR

Download the ZOOM App or visit website: 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

CAFCI'S VALUES STATEMENT:

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

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

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

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.

GET INVOLVED WITH CAFCI

There are many ways you can participate in the work of CAFCI and one way is by serving on a committee. Each month, a committee will be featured giving you the opportunity to see what it entails. This month we are highlighting the Membership & Retention Committee.

MEMBERSHIP & RETENTION COMMITTEE Opportunity Knocks... Join the Membership & Retention Committee!

CAFCI needs you! Over the last year our members have come together to continue to make a difference through this complex pandemic. Let's face it, 2020 was a very challenging year! Thank you for your efforts. There is strength in unity. CAFCI is regrouping as the pandemic recedes, and we are currently requesting your help to re-establish the Membership & Retention Committee.

As members of CAFCI, we all know and value the tireless work it takes to serve both the community and our members. Membership is the heart of any strong organization. Without your help we could never have done the numerous balls, picnics, talent shows and student assistance initiatives over the past 30 years; or brought Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration and Cultural Diversity Days to Royal Palm Beach. There is simply no way to thank you for your efforts, but the Membership & Retention Committee always endeavors to ensure that you feel connected and appreciated.

Here are some of the Membership & Retention Committee responsibilities:

- Welcome New Members
 - > Encourage participation on committees.
- Follow-up with CAFCI Visitors
- Facilitate Processing Membership Applications
- Fundraise for CAFCI
- Organize and Execute Membership Events
 - > Membership Appreciation Day
 - > Membership trips/excursions
 - Games Nights
 - Black History Month Special Events
 - > Milestone Anniversary Special Membership Events

Looking for a unique way to give back? Please help CAFCI as we continue to support our members. Please contact Dennis Wright, President of CAFCI, if you would like to join the Membership & Retention Committee.

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." - Helen Keller

Submitted by Cynthia Beckles, MBA, DTM

CAFCI Picnic Committee invites you to a

Saturday, July 17th * noon 'til sunset Veterans Park 1036 Royal Palm Beach Blvd., Royal Palm Beach

1050 Noyal Falli Deach Divu., Noyal Falli Deach

Barbecue Chicken or Jerk Pork or Combination Served with A Rice and peas ~ Festival ~ Vegetable

\$ Soup & dessert on sale \$

\$15

donation

For tickets or more information call Diana Bishop-McIntosh ~ 561.201.0782 or Yvonne Wright ~ 203.733.5542 Advanced ticket reservations recommended

Come join us and let's have some fun!!!

OUR CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO 2021 GRADUATES AND THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENTS OF THE SAF AWARDS!



CAFCI Student Assistance Fund

Empowering Youth & Investing In Our Future

On behalf of the Board of Directors and CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund Committee, congratulations to all CAFCI family and friends who have relatives that have graduated or will be graduating from high school, college or university. Congratulations also to the ten CAFCI 2021 Student Assistance Fund award recipients listed below. This year CAFCI awarded a total of \$14,500 to 10 students. The awards ranged from \$500 to \$1,500.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND VIRTUAL AWARDS CEREMONY June 12, 2021 at 7 pm

The Student Assistance Fund Committee will have a virtual awards ceremony this year in light of the pandemic. The award ceremony will take place at CAFCI's regularly scheduled meeting on Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 7 pm dedicated to the CAFCI Student Awardees. You will have an opportunity to "meet" the recipients who will be in attendance, hear motivational inspirational keynote speaker, Janet Holder, and view a video presentation with the current and past recipients joined by their friends and families. Please join us to congratulate the recipients. Award checks will be mailed to each recipient after June 12, 2021. Thank you videos from the 2021 award recipients and congratulations videos from past recipients will be posted on CAFCI's website and Facebook page shortly.

The Student Assistance Fund Committee would like to thank everyone who donated to the Student Assistance Fund. Special thanks to the hard-working committee members: Doreen Baker, Leonie Escoffery, Doreen Grayson, Clover Henry-Gilroy, Barry Martin, Alpha McDonald, Junette Powell (Co-Chair) and Nadine White-Boyd (Co-Chair).

We still need your help. There are several ways you can help raise the funds needed:

CONGRATULATIONS 2021 SAF AWARD RECIPIENTS

Bencheta Beauzieux Cassie's Castle/Simms Award

Danielle Nelson Audrey C. Martin Award/CAFCI Junior Citizen Award

> Faith-Jasmin Wilson Audrey C. Martin Award

Natasha Starcher Jess & Victoria Santamaria Award

Mitha Matilus Amanayea Abraham Award

> Murleve Roberts CAFCI Award

Dashleyne Valliere CAFCI Award

Rachel Rose Vivian & Adrienne Ferrin Memorial Scholarship Fund Award

> **Gabriela Rodriguez** *Gloria Edwards Award*

Mark Shim, Jr. CAFCI Junior Citizen Award

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 donate on CAFCI's website at https://www.cafcipbc.org/donation-center and select the Student Assistance option.

SAF GO FUND ME:

Visit <u>https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/student-assistance-fund-for-2020-graduates/cloverhenry-gilroy?utm_campaign=ocdonate&utm_medium=email&utm_source=crowdrise</u>.

Even a small donation could help CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund Committee reach its fundraising goal. If you cannot donate, it would be great to share the fundraiser link to help spread the word with family, friends and social media contacts.

All donations help CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund Committee reach its fundraising goal. A big thank you to everyone who has already donated and thank you for your continued support.

MESSAGE FROM PAST SAF RECIPIENTS

Leevens Cherisma 2018 SAF Recipient

Hi Mrs. White- Boyd,

I hope you're doing well. My Spring semester went very well. My final grades were A, A, A-,A-, B- (Dean's List). I also volunteered for a total of 55 hours this semester. Now, I am just preparing for my internship in the Entrepreneurship program (Jim Moran College of Entrepreneurship) at CVS in Miami.

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# Kenjela Mullings 2020 SAF Recipient

Good afternoon Ms. Powell and the rest of the CAFCI Committee,

I hope you all are doing well. I deeply apologize for the late update; Time got the best of me. I cannot believe how fast the time has flown. One moment I was a High School Senior, now I am a College Sophomore. I am so blessed to have been able to maneuver my way (both academically and socially) through college during this pandemic. I was able to finish off both semesters strong by getting straight A's and maintaining my 4.0 GPA. I aim to maintain these grades throughout the rest of my collegiate years. I remember mentioning that my career goal was to be a surgical PA, but as of recently, I learned more about Occupational Therapy and have decided to pursue it at a graduate level (in the near future). I am excited for what is to come for this career path and have been actively getting involved within the field. Aside from academics, I also had the opportunity to partake in a few clubs that catered to my creativity: A cultural-based dance club and a Magazine Team (to which I am now Art Director). Joining these clubs and meeting new people has allowed me to slowly leave my comfort zone and experience new things. One thing I can say is that college has definitely opened doors for fostering my own creativity and simply trying new experiences. Hopefully, this fall semester will provide me with a wealth of newer experiences.

I cannot thank you all enough for your dedication and financial support towards my academic endeavors. I will be sure to keep you all updated in the years to come. Take Care and Stay Safe.

Best Wishes,



**CONGRATULATIONS** ... Ifeoma Elise White-Thorpe who received a Bachelor of Arts in Government with a secondary in Chemistry and a Language Citation in Igbo from Harvard University. Ify will be pursuing her JD at Harvard Law School, Class of 2024.

(Grand-daughter of Genieve White & niece of Nadine White-Boyd & Thalia White Lauren)

# IT'S HARD TO BE A TEACHER AT TIMES ...

Teacher: *Construct a sentence using the word "sugar".* Student: *I drank tea this morning.* Teacher: *Where is the word sugar.* Student: *It is already in the tea!*'

Teacher: *Our topic for today is Photosynthesis.* Teacher: *What is photosynthesis class?* Student: *Photosynthesis is our topic today.* 

Teacher: John is climbing a tree to pick some mangoes. (Begin the sentence with Mangoes) Student: Mangoes, John is coming to pick you.

Teacher: *What do you call mosquitoes in your language?* Student: *We don't call them, they come on their own*.

Teacher: One day our country will be corruption free. What tense is that? Student: Future impossible tense.





Darrell Lange, Harold Williams, Jared Lange



Ryan McNally, Ethan Estevez, Paul Estevez

Submitted by Lori Cabrera

**CAFCI Scouts BSA Troop 111** have had a marvelous month of May. All enjoyed a close-to-home campout at Lion Country Safari. Scouts had a blast exploring the attractions and animals. Afterward they enjoyed a cool swim, pizza, cracker barrel and an evening of skits and songs. The campfire program was especially moving as this was the last campout for Scoutmaster Harold Williams. Eagle Scouts, William Gulley, Ethan Estevez and Jonathan Farrell honored

> Mr. Williams by joining the celebration. The following day, the scouts were delighted when Mr. Williams, ASM, Mr. Lange and Life Scout Jared Lange got a pie in the face after the closing ceremony. This tradition for all outgoing scouts and



leaders never fails to bring lots of smiles and laughter.

The Troop ended the month with the annual Memorial Day Flag Ceremony at Veterans Park. We are looking forward to Summer Camp in July and a High Adventure, canoeing trip in Minnesota.



Noah Cabrera



Micah Johnson, Jackson Eubanks



To all members, friends and supporters of Alliance for Disaster Relief, it is with deep heartfelt gratitude that we express our appreciation for all your efforts in making the collection of items for the St. Vincent Emergency Assistance Drive a success. The items were shipped to and received by the Catholic Diocese. Everyone should be proud of the result of this combined effort. On behalf of the Alliance, thanks again. The Alliance is comprised of the following organizations: Caribbean-American for Community Involvement In Florida, Inc. (CAFCI), Caribbean Educators (C.A.R.E.), Grace Episcopal Church, Jamaicans of the Palm Beaches (JOPB), United Sports Club and Children of Helen in Palm Beach, Inc. (St Lucian).



# CONGRATULATIONS 2021 GRADUATES



Join us to Celebrate and Honor CAFCI STUDENT ASSISTANCE FUND 2021 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Virtual Awards Ceremony Saturday, June 12, 2021 at 7 pm

# Featuring

Motivational Inspirational Keynote Speaker EDUCATOR, JANET HOLDER

> BS, Business Management MA, Education Curriculum

# Via Zoom

Zoom.com Meeting ID: 853 1898 7422 Password: 478705

OR



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



**Thank You** 2021 Donors & Sponsors Thank you for your financial support and commitment to CAFCI's Student Assistance Fund.

Doreen & Paul Baker Larry Bernstein/RW Baird Khamilah\*\*, Maximus, London & Khylee Brown Bodden & Bennett/Carlos Bodden, Esq. Margaret Berry Dr. Colette Brown-Graham Lorianne Cabrera Dr. Marline Campbell Cassie's Castle/Lauriston Simms Althea Ceasor, Esg./ Bank of America **Claudette & Lukie Christie** Chioma Deere, Esq. Michelle Diffenderfer, Esg. Dr. Elaine & Ben Ealy Wendy Edwards & Family The Escoffery Families **Facebook Donors** Florida Power & Light **Clover & Trevor Gilroy** Golden Krust/Clayton Robinson Yvonne & Jason Gray Hazel Hamilton Hazel & Lascelles Harris **Nadine Harrison** Carolyn & Jeff Hmara **Dorothy Jacks Paulette Kinsel** Thalia & Timothy Lauren **Marie Lindsey** Melissa Martin Pat & Raymond Martin Shihein & Adam Martin

Alpha McDonald Lillian McGann Janae Moodie\*\* **Alvin Nembhard Jannette Sharpe-Paul** Port of Palm Beach/ Wayne Richards, Esq. Junette & Neil Powell **Carey Robinson** Norma Rose Victoria & Jess Santamaria Mary & Peter Scott **Janette Sharpe-Paul** Marcia Rowe Gillian Strowbridge\*\* Latheria Strowbridge Audrey & Aldin Smith **Michelle Thomas** Adrienne & Vivian Ferrin Memorial Scholarship Fund **Barbara Walker** John Walker **Genieve White** White-Boyd Law, P.A. Leonie Whorms Marva Wilks Jean & Richard Williams Jovce Wilson **Percival Wood** Sheila & Jerome Wright **Yvonne & Dennis Wright** 

Special thanks to VyBen Entertainment for putting together the students' Thank You and congrats video. Thanks to the Student Assistance Fund Committee for their dedication and investment to CAFCI: Doreen Baker, Leonie Escoffery, Doreen Grayson, Clover Henry-Gilroy, Barry Martin, Alpha McDonald, Junette Powell (co-chair) and Nadine White-Boyd (co-chair).

\*\* Past Recipient.

# 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 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 payable to: C.A.F.C.I. (Note for Student Assistance Fund)
- Donate via PayPal<sup>®</sup> by going to CAFCI's website www.cafcipbc.org and clicking on Donate to Student Assistance Fund.
- It is preferred that your generous donation is received no later than June 1, 2021, in preparation for our virtual Award Ceremony on Saturday, June 12, 2021.

No contribution is too small or large 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: cafci@bellsouth.net

## Student Assistance 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 range 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.



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Search: CAFCI

# JUNETEENTH In Modern Times



Juneteenth (June 19<sup>th</sup>) is enjoying a **phenomenal growth rate** within communities and organizations throughout the country. Institutions such as the **Smithsonian**, the **Henry Ford Museum**, and others have begun **sponsoring Juneteenthcentered activities**. In recent

years, several local and national Juneteenth organizations have arisen to take their place alongside older organizations - all with the mission to promote and cultivate knowledge and appreciation of African American history and culture. Juneteenth today, celebrates African American freedom and achievement, while encouraging continuous selfdevelopment and respect for all cultures. As it takes on a more national, symbolic and even global perspective, the events of 1865 in Texas are not forgotten, for all of the roots tie back to this fertile soil from which a national day of pride is growing.

The **future of Juneteenth looks bright** as the number of cities and states creating Juneteenth committees continues to increase. Respect and appreciation for all of our differences grow out of exposure and working together. Getting involved and supporting Juneteenth celebrations creates new bonds of friendship and understanding among us. This indeed brightens our future - and that is the <u>Spirit</u> of Juneteenth.

# JUNE IS ... NATIONAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

National Caribbean-American Heritage Month in June recognizes the contributions of the Caribbean-Americans to the diversity and broader landscape of American culture. Caribbean-American immigrants and American citizens of U.S. Caribbean territories are a vibrant part of the American melting pot. They have a long tradition of contributing to our communities and serving their country. From the first Secretary of Treasury, Alexander Hamilton, to civil rights activist, W.E.B. DuBois, and Jennifer Carroll, Lieutenant Governor of Florida, Caribbean-Americans step up to challenges across generations. The month is an opportunity to celebrate the heritage, history and cultural diversity, and a time to explore the traditions Caribbean-Americans carry with them.

**HOW TO OBSERVE:** Share your experiences and knowledge during National Caribbean-American Heritage month. Learn the history of immigration from the Caribbean by visiting museums and exhibits. Visit with friends and family members and learn about their experiences and culture. Use #CaribbeanAmericanHeritageMonth to share on social media.

This year marks the 11<sup>th</sup> official celebration of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month (CAHM). According to CAHM's official website, it "was established out of the need to create and disseminate knowledge about the contributions of Caribbean immigrants to America, and to be, in short, the platform for a dialogue between Caribbean peoples and the American public." CAHM, founded by Dr. Claire Nelson, is celebrated at the national level by the Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS). On its website, ICS states:

In 2000, ICS began leading activities in celebration of June as Caribbean American Heritage Month in Washington DC, building on efforts started by a now defunct ad-hoc group of Washington DC residents to have a Caribbean Heritage Month designated in Washington DC in 1999. Since then, the month has grown to include celebrations all over the country. South Florida is home to many Caribbean immigrants and their descendants, so the month is of special importance to the region. Click on the above link for Caribbean American Heritage Month events in South Florida:

https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=7MHeA&m=IyXi8hzgL6I mMf&b=38VwlqrTwjd1TM7UzQ2EVQ

ICS works with partners at several organizations to present a parage of events for varied palates. Learn more about this year's events, view this year's national presidential proclamation and get more information at www.caribbeanamericanheritage.org

There are over 1,500 national days. Don't miss a single one. Celebrate Every Day with the <u>National Day Calendar</u>!

# WHAT REALLY HAPPENED ON JULY 4TH 1776

On July 4, 1776, the 13 colonies claimed their independence from England, an event that eventually led to the formation of the United States. Each year on July 4<sup>th</sup>, also known as Independence Day, Americans celebrate this historic event.

The conflict between the colonies and England was already a year old when the colonies convened a Continental Congress in Philadelphia in the summer of 1776. In a June 7<sup>th</sup> session in

the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall), Richard Henry Lee of Virginia presented a resolution with the famous words: "Resolved: That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

Lee's words were the impetus for the drafting of a formal Declaration of Independence. Although his resolution was not followed up on immediately, on June 11<sup>th</sup>, consideration of the resolution was postponed by a vote of seven colonies to five, with New York abstaining. Finally, however, a Committee of Five was appointed to draft a statement presenting to the world the colonies' case for independence to the world.

Members of the Committee included John Adams of Massachusetts; Roger Sherman of Connecticut;



Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania; Robert R. Livingston of New York; and Thomas Jefferson of Virginia. The task of drafting the actual document fell on Jefferson.

On July 1, 1776, the Continental Congress reconvened, and on the following day, the Lee Resolution by a vote of 12 of the 13 colonies for independence was adopted, New York not voting.

# Why do we celebrate the Fourth of July?

Discussions of Jefferson's Declaration of Independence resulted in some minor changes,

but the spirit of the document was unchanged. The revision process continued through all of July 3<sup>rd</sup> and into the late afternoon of July 4<sup>th</sup>, when the Declaration was officially adopted. Of the 13 colonies, nine voted in favor of the Declaration, two -- Pennsylvania and South Carolina -- voted No, Delaware was undecided and New York abstained.

John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. John Hancock signed his name "with a great flourish" so England's "King George can read that without spectacles!"

Today, the original copy of the Declaration is housed in the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and July 4<sup>th</sup> has been designated a national holiday to commemorate the day the United States laid down its claim to be a free and independent nation.

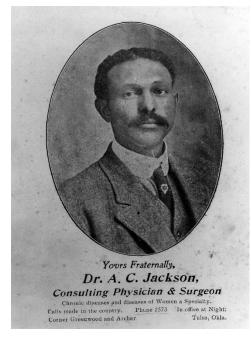
## Source: https://www.military.com/july-4th/history-of-independence-day.html

**Did you know?** John Adams believed that July 2<sup>nd</sup> was the correct date on which to celebrate the birth of American independence and would reportedly turn down invitations to appear at July 4<sup>th</sup> events in protest. Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died on July 4, 1826—the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

# A TIME IN HISTORY

The awareness of the horrors and losses in the 1921 Tulsa race massacre is so recent and raw that the full impact is yet to be realized or felt. I believe that as purveyors of history study, chronicle, and analyze lives, successes, and opportunities permanently interrupted by that event, the realization of the irrevocable interruption to the progress of the Black community in particular, and the advancement of America in general, will set in. Take the life story of Dr. Andrew C. Jackson, for example. His accomplishments in medicine in his short life is penned in the following article. But there seems to be no recorded detail of his remarkable medical and surgical achievements that drew national attention nor notes of the surgical tools he created. Professional career legacies and life-saving discoveries that could have advanced American society much closer to its race to a more perfect union were all wiped out in that single act.

Barbara Walker, Newsletter Committee member.



## Dr. Andrew Cheesten Jackson, Tulsa, Oklahoma

**A.C. Jackson** was an African American surgeon who was killed during the Tulsa race massacre in 1921. The following is a reprint of his story from the Black Wall Street website <u>http://blackwallstreet.org/acjackson</u>.

## "Hands of Peace"

Prominent professionals like Dr. Andrew Cheesten Jackson transcended, if only temporarily, the color line. Dr. Jackson, christened the most able Negro surgeon in America by the Mayo brothers (of Mayo Clinic fame), treated patients of all races.

The most prominent Tulsan killed in the riot was Dr. Jackson, a 42-year-old surgeon, living at 523 North Detroit Avenue. According to Jackson's white neighbor, former police commissioner and retired judge John Oliphant, Dr Jackson had raised his hands to surrender to a group of whites when two of them shot Dr. Jackson dead in what Oliphant called "cold-blooded murder."

He was born to Captain Townsend D. Jackson and his mother Sophronia, in Memphis, Tennessee in February of 1879. Dr. Jackson was the youngest of three children. Both of his parents were former slaves with Sophronia being from Texas and Townsend from Georgia. The couple met and married in Memphis a few short years before their daughter, Minnie Mae, was born in 1875.

Dr. Jackson graduated from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, practiced for a while in Tulsa and Claremore, Oklahoma, then trained as a surgeon in Memphis, Tennessee. His work was such that he attracted the attention of the Mayo Brothers, and, in 1919, he returned to Tulsa as a specialist in "chronic diseases and surgery for women."

Dr. Jackson lived on what was one of the most exclusive blocks in all of Greenwood. His neighbors included Booker T. Washington High School principal, E.W. Woods, Tulsa Star publisher, A.J. Smitherman, and physician R.T. Bridgewater.

Dr. Jackson created some of the most innovative surgical tools that are still being used today, post modifications and surgical and technological advancements. Surgical students the world over have been influenced by this great surgeon's contribution to the medical community.

Why Dr. Jackson, one of the gentlest of men, would have been singled out is not known. Perhaps he was mistaken for the more outspoken Smitherman or Bridgewater. Perhaps he was just in the wrong place at the wrong time.

The riot had all but died down, Oliphant said, when Dr. Jackson "came walking toward me with his hands in the air. "ere am I. I want to go with you,' he said. A body of about seven men, all armed, intercepted him and two young fellows fired on him. He fell to the ground, and one of the men fired again."

Others detailed that Dr. Jackson died tragically in the 1921 Tulsa Race Riot ("the "Holocaust"), the worst of the so-called "race riots" in early twentieth century America. Gunned down by a white 14-year-old teenager while surrendering at his residence, Dr. Jackson, lacking medical attention, bled to death.

Dr. Jackson's killers were never identified.

Article and images reprinted from http://blackwallstreet.org/acjackson



ARE YOU READY??? Ready Or Not, Hurricane Season Is Here!

Atlantic Hurricane Season June 1-November 30 **Hurricane season is here!** To be sure you are prepared, here are some tips. Click on the blue underlined text for more detailed information. For complete information, visit <u>https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes</u>.

Hurricanes are dangerous and can cause significant damage because of storm surge, wind damage, rip currents and flooding. They can happen along any U.S. coast or in any territory in the Atlantic or Pacific oceans. Storm surge is historically the leading cause of hurricane-related deaths in the United States.

## PREPARE FOR HURRICANES

**Know your Hurricane Risk** -- Hurricanes are not just a coastal problem. Find out how rain, wind, water, even tornadoes could happen far inland from where a hurricane or tropical storm makes landfall. <u>Start preparing now</u>.

Make an Emergency Plan -- Make sure everyone in your household knows and understands your hurricane plan. In your hurricane plans include the office, kids'

<u>daycare, and anywhere you frequent</u>. Ensure your business has a <u>continuity plan</u> to continue operating when disaster strikes. Discuss the latest <u>Centers for Disease Control (CDC) quidance on Coronavirus (COVID-19)</u> and how it may affect your hurricane planning.

Know your Evacuation Zone -- You may have to evacuate quickly due to a hurricane if you live in an evacuation zone. <u>Learn your</u> evacuation routes, practice with household, pets, and identify where you will stay.

• Follow the instructions from local emergency managers, who work closely with state, local, tribal, and territorial agencies and partners. They will provide the latest recommendations based on the threat to your community and appropriate safety measures.

**Recognize Warnings and Alerts --** Have several ways to receive alerts. <u>Download the FEMA app</u> and receive real-time alerts from the National Weather Service for up to five locations nationwide. <u>Sign up for community alerts</u> in your area and be aware of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) - which requires no-sign up.

**Those with Disabilities** -- If you or anyone in your household is an <u>individual with a disability</u> identify if you may need additional help during an emergency.

**Review Important Documents --** Make sure your <u>insurance policies and personal documents</u> like ID are up to date. Make copies and keep them in a secure password protected digital space.

Strengthen your Home -- De-clutter drains and gutters, bring in outside furniture, consider hurricane shutters.

**Get Tech Ready --** <u>Keep your cell phone charged</u> when you know a hurricane is in the forecast and purchase backup charging devices to power electronics.

Help your Neighborhood -- Check with neighbors, <u>senior adults</u>, or those <u>who may need additional help</u> securing hurricane plans to see how you can be of assistance to others

**Gather Supplies** -- <u>Have enough supplies</u> for your household, include medication, disinfectant supplies, <u>masks</u>, <u>pet supplies</u> in your go bag or car trunk. After a hurricane, you may not have access to these supplies for days or even weeks.

Remember that not everyone can afford to respond by stocking up on necessities. For those who can afford it, making essential
purchases and slowly building up supplies in advance will allow for longer time periods between shopping trips. This helps to protect
those who are unable to procure essentials beforehand and must shop more frequently. Only take the items you and your family
may need so that others who rely on these products can also access them.

# **STAY SAFE DURING A HURRICANE**

## **Stay Informed**

- Pay attention to emergency information and alerts.
- If you live in a mandatory evacuation zone and local officials tell you to evacuate, do so immediately.

# **Dealing with the Weather**

- Determine how best to protect yourself from high winds and flooding.
- Take refuge in a designated storm shelter, or an interior room for high winds.

- If trapped in a building by flooding, go to the highest level of the building. Do not climb into a closed attic. You may become trapped by rising flood water.
- Do not walk, swim, or drive through flood waters. Turn Around. Don't Drown! Just six inches of fast-moving water can knock you
  down, and one foot of moving water can sweep your vehicle away.

# **Personal Safety**

- If you must go to a community or group shelter remember to follow the latest recommendations from <u>the Centers for Disease Control</u> and <u>Prevention (CDC) for protecting yourself and family from COVID-19</u>. Be sure to review your previous evacuation plan and consider alternative options to maintain physical distancing to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and update your plan accordingly.
- If you must evacuate, if possible, bring with you items that can help protect you and others in the shelter from COVID-19, such as
  hand sanitizer, cleaning materials, and two clean, well-fitted masks that have two or more layers for each person.

## **RETURNING HOME AFTER A HURRICANE**

- Pay attention to local officials for information and special instructions.
- Be careful during clean-up. Wear protective clothing, use appropriate face coverings or masks if cleaning mold or other debris, and maintain a physical distance of at least six feet while working with someone else. People with asthma and other lung conditions and/or immune suppression should not enter buildings with indoor water leaks or mold growth that can be seen or smelled, even if they do not have an allergy to mold. Children should not take part in disaster cleanup work.
- Continue taking steps to protect yourself from COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, such as washing your hands often and cleaning commonly touched surfaces.
- Wear protective clothing and work with someone else.
- Do not touch electrical equipment if it is wet or if you are standing in water. If it is safe to do so, turn off electricity at the main breaker or fuse box to prevent electric shock.
- Do not wade in flood water, which can contain dangerous pathogens that cause illnesses, debris, chemicals, waste and wildlife. Underground or downed power lines can also electrically charge the water.
- Save phone calls for emergencies. Phone systems are often down or busy after a disaster. Use text messages or social media to communicate with family and friends.
- Document any property damage with photographs. Contact your insurance company for assistance.
- Engage virtually with your community through video and phone calls. Know that it's normal to feel anxious or stressed. Take care of your body and talk to someone if you are feeling upset. Many people may already feel fear and anxiety about the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). The threat of a hurricane can add additional stress. Follow CDC guidance for managing stress during a traumatic event and managing stress during COVID-19.

# 7 Extreme Hurricane Facts You May Not Know

- 1. Patricia Was the Strongest Hurricane Based on Maximum Sustained Winds: Patricia's maximum sustained winds reached an incredible 215 mph on the morning of October 23, 2015. For perspective, a Category 5 hurricane has winds of 157 mph or greater, which Patricia exceeded by nearly 60 mph.
- 2. Tropical Storm John Lasted a Month: In 1994, a single named storm stuck around for 30 days in the Pacific Ocean before finally fizzling.
- Record For Longest Duration as a Category 5 Held by Two Atlantic Hurricanes: That record was recently tied by Hurricane Irma in September 2017 which had two stints as a Category 5 totaling 3.25 days. The 1932 Cuba Hurricane also held Category 5 strength for that amount of time, according to Dr. Phil Klotzbach, a tropical scientist at Colorado State University.
- 4. Hurricane Emily Moved at Nearly 70 mph: The most extreme forward speed that has ever been recorded for a hurricane was Emily in 1987. Just prior to becoming non-tropical, Emily's forward motion was an astonishing 68.65 mph in the north Atlantic.
- 5. A Record 127 Twisters Spawned by Ivan: Ivan in 2004 holds the record for the most tornadoes on record produced by a named storm in the United States with 127 total. Ivan's tornadoes struck nine states from Florida to Pennsylvania in a three-day period from September 15-17. Virginia saw the most tornadoes with 40 followed by Georgia with 25 and Florida with 22.
- 6. Smallest Named Atlantic Storm on Record Was Marco in 2008: Marco's tropical storm-force winds extended out just 12 miles from its center of circulation.
- 2005 Holds Record For Most Storms in a Single Atlantic Season: The record for the most storms with tropical storm-force winds or greater in a single Atlantic hurricane season is 28 set in 2005. Virtually every corner of the Atlantic basin saw a named storm in 2005.

# COVID-19 VACCINE NEWS

All Floridians sixteen (16) years and older are eligible to receive any COVID-19 vaccine as prescribed by the Food and Drug Administration. (Persons 16 or 17 years of age must choose only a date offering the Pfizer. A parent or guardian must be present at the appointment.)

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.

For those with no internet access, the Health Care District's helpline at 561.804.4115 is available to assist in English, Spanish and Creole. Appointments are available based on demand and vaccine supply that is received weekly.

**VACCINES FOR HOMEBOUND SENIORS:** The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) is providing vaccine appointments for homebound seniors. The state encourages homebound individuals to sign up to receive a COVID-19 vaccine at their home by filling out the survey available by emailing HomeboundVaccine@em.myflorida.com or calling 866.779.6121. Someone from the Florida Division of Emergency Management will contact you within 72 hours to collect more information and schedule your appointment.

**UPDATE ON FACE COVERINGS WITH PALM BEACH COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE:** The Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller of Palm Beach County will no longer require fully vaccinated people to wear face coverings in our offices, following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and new protocols from Palm Beach County regarding face coverings in County-owned buildings. Visit <u>www.mypalmbeachclerk.com/services</u> to learn more.

# VACCINE PRE-REGISTRATION

The Health Care District of Palm Beach County has streamlined its online COVID-19 vaccine appointment request process to make it more user-friendly and efficient. The new scheduling system is available at http://vaccine.hcdpbc.org

## **ADDITIONAL VACCINE RESOURCES**

- 1. Palm Beach County Vaccine information: <u>https://discover.pbcgov.org/coronavirus/Pages/vaccine.aspx</u>
- 2. Palm Beach County Vaccine Sites: <u>https://discover.pbcgov.org/PDF/COVID19/PBC-Vaccination-Sites.pdf</u>
- 3. Palm Beach County Healthcare District: <u>https://www.hcdpbc.org</u>/
- 4. Information on vaccines: <u>https://getvaccineanswers.org</u>
- 5. VA Medical Center: 561.422.6838 (veterans only)
- 6. Call now (888) 436-6665 if you have any related Covid-19 Vaccine Questions. Doctors and Nurses from AdventHealth LIVE to answer your questions.

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>

## MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT COVID-19 VACCINES

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html

## **COVID-19 TESTING SITES**

<u>https://discover.pbcgov.org/coronavirus/Pages/default.aspx#testing</u> <u>https://www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing</u> <u>https://www.walgreens.com/topic/findcare/coronavirus.jsp?</u>

# COVID-19 VACCINE

With the vaccines now available, you probably have questions. We're here to help separate the myths from the facts so you can make the best decision.

# **MYTH**

You can get COVID-19 from the vaccines.



# FACT

You can't get COVID-19 from the vaccines. But you may feel some side effects for a day or two, like arm pain/swelling where you got the shot, a low-grade fever, chills, tiredness, headache or muscle aches. These are normal signs the vaccines are working.

# **MYTH**

The vaccines can't be safe if they were developed so quickly.



# FACT

Thanks to a global effort with existing infectious disease research, more financial support and focused scientific efforts, a vaccine was developed quickly, with safety a top priority. All races, cultures and ethnicities, and those with chronic health conditions were included in the clinical trials. Vaccines have been proven safe and effective.

# **MYTH**

If you already had COVID-19, you don't need to be vaccinated.



# FACT

Even if you've had COVID-19, experts still recommend getting vaccinated so you're protected long-term. It's still unclear how long natural immunity lasts if you've been sick and recovered. The vaccines will increase your ability to protect yourself and loved ones.

# **MYTH**

The COVID-19 vaccines will alter your DNA.



# FACT

This is simply not true. The COVID-19 vaccines use a substance called mRNA. It helps your body make large amounts of antibodies that help protect you from the virus. Once the mRNA does its job, your cells break it down and get rid of it.

# **MYTH**

It's not safe for people with allergies to get vaccinated.



# FACT

While there have been a few reports of severe allergic reactions to the COVID-19 vaccines, these instances are extremely rare, and easily treated. If you've had a severe allergic reaction in the past, talk to your doctor for reassurance that the vaccine is safe for you.

Learn more at floridablue.com/vaccine. Our Florida Blue Center Neighborhood Nurses can also assist anyone in the community with questions at 1-877-352-5830.



Your local Blue Cross Blue Shield

Florida Blue is an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. Nurse employees provide decision support services only and do not provide medical care or advice. 104914 0221

# **Choosing Safer Activities**



# Get a COVID-19 vaccine



Take prevention measures

revention measures not needed

<u>Fully vaccinated people</u>: wear a mask <u>Unvaccinated people</u>: wear a mask, stay 6 feet apart, and wash your hands.

- Safety levels assume the recommended prevention measures are followed, both by the individual and the venue (if applicable).
- CDC cannot provide the specific risk level for every activity in every community. It is important to consider your own personal situation and the risk to you, your family, and your community before venturing out.

Safest

# A া For C.A.F.C.I.

There was no significant Home Of Our Own activity this past month. We continue to search for that ideal gem both in and outside our preferred search area. Our preferred search area is bounded on the north by Orange Boulevard, Jog Road to the east, Lake Worth Road to the south and Seminole Pratt Whitney Road to the west.

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 <u>www.cafcipbc.orq</u> 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.

Submitted by Radcliffe "Woody" Brown, CAFCI Home Chair

# **2021 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

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR

# **CAFCI'S EVENTS**

Dates are subject to change. Please check the current issue of the NEWS and the website. Saturday, June 12: General Membership Meeting ~ SAF Awards Presentation 7pm, Via Zoom Video Conferencing Saturday, July 10: General Membership Meeting, 7pm, Via Zoom Video Conferencing Saturday, July 17: CAFCI Barbecue, Veterans Park, Royal Palm Beach Saturday, August 14: General Membership Meeting, 7pm, Via Zoom Video Conferencing Saturday, September 11: General Membership Meeting, 7pm, Via Zoom Video Conferencing

Saturday, September 18

ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP BALL

Downtown Marriott Hotel in West Palm Beach

Saturday, October 9: General Membership Meeting, 7pm, Via Zoom Video Conferencing

Saturday, November 13: General Membership Meeting, 7pm, Via Zoom Video Conferencing

Saturday, December 11: General Membership Meeting ~ Toys for Tots, 7pm, Via Zoom Video Conferencing

Friday, December 31: New Year's Eve Gala (To be confirmed)

# AROUND TOWN

- Visit Cultural Council for Palm Beach County at <u>https://events.palmbeachculture.com/</u> for upcoming virtual events and activities.
- Visit the Kravis Center for in person and virtual events at https://www.kravis.org/athome or https://www.kravis.org/
- The National Association of Hebrews (NAHEB), a national organization that promotes self and community empowerment, is proud to announce the opening of the first Black nationally owned and operated credit union. The National Credit Union Association (NCUA), comparable to FDIC, has given approval for the Hebrews Federal Credit Union to become operational on June 30, 2021. For additional information and updates, feel free to visit https://www.naheb.net or contact Garfield Isles via email at <u>gilex44@gmail.com</u>.
- Saturday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 pm to sundown: Freespirit Outreach presents its annual Black, Green & Gold BBQ & Fish Fry on at Veterans Park, 1036 Royal Palm Beach Blvd., Royal Palm Beach. Donation is \$20. For more information, contact Latchmin "Chinny's" Jaramillo at 561.692.1508.
- June 6th to July 31st: Mandel Public Library offers Summer at your City Library and features an array of free reading, learning, activities, entertainment, and fun for kids and teens. For more information, click on the link: <u>Mandel Public Library of West Palm Beach</u>

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