



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.

November

2017

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

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DIRECTORS

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Charmaine Henry

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Sandra Gordon * Lascelles Harris
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Junette Powell * Barbara Walker * Thalia White

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Alliance Genieve White
Annual Friendship Ball Dennis Wright
Budget Radcliffe Brown
Bylaws Barbara Walker
CAFCI Home Radcliffe Brown
Cultural Elet Cyris
Finance Genieve White
Food Alvin Nembhard
Grants Barbara Walker
Historian/Protocol Rhonda Ferrin-Davis
Newsletter Junette Powell & Thalia White
Membership Pamela Fraser
Parliamentarian Nadine White-Boyd
Picnic Millie Hampton
Program Rhonda Ferrin-Davis
Relay for Life Nova Brown
Student Assistance Program Junette Powell
..... & Nadine White-Boyd
Sunshine Elet Cyris
Talent Show Nadine White-Boyd
Toys for Tots Lauriston Simms
Venue/Reservations Lawrence Logan
Vivian Ferrin Memorial Genieve White
Website Radcliffe Brown
Youth Rhonda Ferrin-Davis

CONTACT US

1030 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard, Box 11
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411
561.790.4002
cafcifl@bellsouth.net * www.cafcipc.org
facebook.com/cafcipc

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

CAFCI'S ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP BALL: Our 28th Annual Friendship Ball, a truly remarkable event, was held on October 28, 2017 at the Hilton Palm Beach Airport. Despite the rain, this was another awesome celebration of CAFCI's role and contributions to the community. Be sure to read the article elsewhere in this newsletter for full details. Special thanks to the entire Ball and Journal Committees for their hard work and dedication in hosting a successful and entertaining program. The team consisted of: Cindy Beckles, Radcliffe Brown, Nova Brown, Audrey Campbell, Pamela Fraser, Millie Hampton, Charmaine Henry, Lawrence Logan, Alvin Nembhard, Junette Powell, Audrey Smith, Barbara Walker, Genieve White, Nadine White-Boyd, Thalia White, Dennis Wright and Jerome Wright.

Once again, our members, friends and supporters came out to support this worthy cause. I wish to thank everyone who worked so hard to make this event a success. Special thanks to Genieve White and Audrey Campbell, team leaders for the journal, and all the other team members who helped us to raise much needed funds. To all our ticket sellers, and everyone who came out to help, a hearty "thank you."

BOARD ELECTIONS: All CAFCI members in good standing are eligible to be nominated to serve on the Board. This is an opportunity for you, our members, to get your voices heard and to contribute to the future direction of CAFCI. Ultimately, it is our responsibility to vote for the candidates at the general membership meeting on **Saturday, November 11, 2017.**

INTERNATIONAL GAMES NIGHT: International Games Night was held on Saturday, October 14th. This year's attendance was the largest in several years. It was a delight to see so many people enjoying the different ethnic food, drink and music. Folks played their favorite games of Dominos, Ludo, Scrabble and various other card and board games. Special thanks to all our members, friends and supporters who donated food, drinks and dessert for the event. Thanks to CAFCI games night coordinators: Pamela Fraser, Lawrence Logan, Alvin Nembhard, Yvonne Wright, Charmaine Henry and Cindy Beckles.

Dennis Wright, President



NOVEMBER 16 - 30

Norman Martin	16
Gwendolyn Biersay	17
Carlos Bodden	18
Winsom Genus-Martin	18
Dorothy Lynch	19
Junette Powell	21
Dr. Elaine Ealy	22
Norman Stephens	28
Andrea D. McMillan	30

DECEMBER 1 - 15

Caswell M. Brown	03
Beverly McKenzie	03
Hazel Harris	05
Yvonne Gray	10
Ernie Garvey	11

CONDOLENCES:

Mark and Shirley Morrison
on the loss of his father
Radcliffe "Woody" and Nova Brown
on the loss of his father

GET WELL TO:

Norma Rose; Margaret Berry.

Please Let Us Know...

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

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

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING Board Election

Saturday, November 11, 2017; 7 pm
Kevin Harvin Center, Royal Palm Beach

The General Membership meeting will be dedicated to the election of CAFCI's new Board. All CAFCI members in good standing are eligible to be nominated to serve on the Board. This is an opportunity for you, our members, to get your voices heard and to contribute to the future direction of CAFCI. After the Board election, the Membership and Retention Committee will have a fun game segment.

OUR CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE:

The committee continues to seek monetary donations. Please contact us at 561.790.4002 or cafcibellsouth.net to make a donation. Thanks for your continued support. All donations are welcome and tax deductible. Please note that the application is available on CAFCI's website as well as information about the application in this newsletter.

SAVE THE DATE

Student Assistance Awards Ceremony:
Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 6 pm

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

The Alliance for Disaster Relief Group consisting of **CAFCI, C.A.R.E., Children of Helen (St. Lucia), Grace Episcopal Church, Jamaicans of The Palm Beaches and United Sports and Social Club** are collecting hurricane relief donations for the Virgin Islands and Dominica. The items include: D batteries; solar flashlights, radios, solar fans, solar portable lantern; mosquito repellent, paper towels, water, baby items, detergent, toothpaste, tooth brush, can foods. The items are being shipped by **November 15th**. Trailer will be at Grace Episcopal Church to be packed.

CAFCI MEMBERSHIP CORNER

"CAFCI AND ITS MEMBERSHIP, TOGETHER WE SOAR"

October was a spectacular month! Our CAFCI Members worked diligently to give back. Remember... when you invest in others, you cannot lose.

The International Games Night on October 14 was so entertaining. We had a huge turnout. Congratulations to Genieve White for winning the "Be Our Guest Contest". Thank you to everyone who helped to make this a great evening.

The Friendship Ball on October 28 was an incredible evening. We know that when many of you heard the Tornado warning, some of you may have thought of turning around. We are appreciative that you came. It was a wonderful time of celebration and great fun. Congratulations to Thalia White for being named the 2017 CAFCI Citizen of the Year.

Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks for life and all that we have achieved throughout the year. Although some of us have had personal challenges this year, it is wonderful to have prevailed. We are a family of commitment with a "strong tower". Together we soar! We would like to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Personal Tip: Start a Gratitude Journal. Take time each day for quiet reflection. The Journal will help you focus on what is important and lower your stress level.

CAFCI is all about you! We are here to serve you. Feel free to email Pam Fraser, Membership and Retention Committee Chairperson, at pamela.fraser@yahoo.com if you have any questions or suggestions. Let us continue to work together to make a difference in the community. We appreciate you CAFCI.

"Success isn't about how much money you make. It's about the difference you make in people's lives."

First Lady Michelle Obama

"We gain strength and courage and confidence by each experience in which we really stop to look fear in the face ...We must do that which we think we cannot."

First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt

Submitted by
Pamela Fraser, Chair and Cindy Beckles
Membership and Retention Committee

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

A Spectacular Event...CAFCI Pours It On!



"Anything worth having, is worth the wait!" Attendees of CAFCI's 28th Annual Friendship Ball held on October 28th, definitely embraced that sentiment. Hurricane Irma forced the event to be postponed from its original September date, then the torrential rainfall from tropical storm Phillipe *almost* put a damper on Saturday night's festivities. However, resilience is one of the reasons why CAFCI has progressed over 28 years, and members, guests, and supporters were not about to let the weather

spoil this long-awaited, much-anticipated annual ball! The beautifully decorated Hilton Palm Beach Airport ballroom welcomed guests, and the dripping umbrellas neatly stacked in the foyer were no match for the elegantly dressed ladies and gentlemen whose gorgeous smiles and festive spirits lit the room up with the warmth and spirit of community that has become emblematic of every CAFCI event. The Mistress of Ceremony, Winsome "Lady C" Charlton, kept the crowd entertained with humor and insightful observations. This year's theme was "CAFCI and its Community: Together We Grow!"



The Friendship Ball, being CAFCI's signature event, raises funds for various programs including the Student Assistance Program. It was only fitting that one of the 2017 Student Assistance Award recipients, Jordaine Randon, got the evening off to an inspirational start with her wonderful rendition of the National Anthem. The President's Reception, hosted by the always gracious Dennis Wright, set the tone for the lovely evening filled with fellowship, fun and fantastic food and music.

The stars truly came out for this affair. The Honorable Fred Pinto welcomed the honored guests who brought words of greetings which included Honorable Melissa McKinlay, Vice Mayor of Palm Beach County; Hon. Wayne Richards, Commissioner, Port of Palm Beach; Hon. Jeff Hmara, Village of Royal Palm Beach and Mrs. Carolyn Hmara; Hon. Matty Mattioli, past Mayor of Royal Palm Beach; Dr. Jean Enright, Vice Chair of the Port of Palm Beach; Hon. Jess Santamaria, former Palm Beach County Commissioner and Mrs. Victoria Santamaria; Mrs. Marcia Andrews, Palm Beach County School Board, District 6 & Mr. Robert Andrews; Attorney Laurie Cohen, Wellington Village Attorney and Mr. Cohen; past Mayor of the Village of Wellington;



Officers & Members of Jamaicans of the Palm Beaches; Officers & Members of United Sports Club; Mrs. Anastasia Fevrier, President, and members of Children of Helen Alliance, Inc (St. Lucian); Mr. Neville Lake, President, Caribbean Cultural Group, Port St. Lucie; and Carlos Bodden, Esq. & Mrs. Babbette Bodden. Proclamations that September 16, 2017 and October 28, 2017 were Caribbean American for Community Involvement Days were issued by Commissioner McKinlay on behalf of the Palm Beach County, by Hon. Fred Pinto on behalf of the Village of Royal Palm Beach and by Laurie Cohen, Esq. on behalf of the Village of Wellington.

The Keynote Speaker, Keith Herring, Toastmasters Speech Champion, gave an award winning speech in which he interwove humor with the inspiring message reminding the audience that if

we prioritize our life goals, and cease worrying about the things that we cannot change then our energy and effort will bring to fruition enduring happiness and success.



Thalia White was recognized as CAFCI's 2017 Outstanding Citizen. Thalia is the Director of Development Operations at the Kravis Center. She also serves on the Board of the American Lung Association, and is a dedicated CAFCI member who every year generously gives of her time and talent volunteering on several committees (most notably the Newsletter Committee). Thalia's service to the community does not stop at the boundaries of Palm Beach County but she also reaches out to those in need internationally through mission trips to China, Haiti, and Brazil. Hon. Wayne Richards presented the award and a lovely bouquet to Thalia, The band paid tribute to this most deserving "Outstanding Citizen of the Year" by serenading her with the song "She's Royal", as Thalia and Attorney Aubin Robinson took to the dance floor.

Special thanks to the entire Ball Committee for all their professionalism, hard work and dedication. They gathered weekly for months to make this memorable event a success. In addition, thank you to the CAFCI members, family, sponsors and friends who supported this event and made it possible.

Special thanks to the sponsors and donors: Jess Santamaria of Royal Inn Hotel Resort; the Kravis Center, William Caler of Caler, Donten, Levine, Cohen, Porter & Veil, PA, Ellis, Ged & Bodden, P.A.; Hi-Class Promotions and the Port of Palm Beach. The evening culminated with stellar raffles and door prizes. Door prize sponsors included: The Big Time Restaurant Group, Bluegreen Vacations, Doherty Enterprises, Duffy's Sports Grill, ER Bradley's Saloon, GraceKennedy, Hilton Palm Beach Airport, Home Depot-Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard, The Kravis Center, The Lake Worth Playhouse, Publix Supermarkets, Roger Dean Stadium, Sam's Club, Southwest Airlines, Texas Roadhouse Grill, Trader Joe's-Wellington, Whole Foods Market and Zen Massage.



Musical entertainment was provided by the very talented DWHAS Reggae Band and DJ Mansta who had the crowd on the dance floor



displaying their skills and enthusiasm rocking to the irresistible sounds of reggae and calypso! CAFCI once again produced another spectacular event that celebrated the mission of the organization – to contribute to building a stronger community. There is no better way to do that than through providing educational opportunities as pathways to success for the young people who will become our future leaders.



Submitted by
Leonie Escoffery, Junette Powell and Cindy Beckles

THANK YOU...THANK YOU...THANK YOU

to our sponsors, donors, advertisers, and contributors of letters for the
2017 Annual Friendship Ball Journal

To the Committee members, who went above and beyond to solicit ads, spent numerous hours to compile and prepare for printing, KUDOS to you all. Your commitment to CAFCI, the continued growth of the organization, and its members is outstanding. The Sponsorship/Journal/Publicity committee sincerely thanks you for your continued support and generosity which has made the Journal publication possible for the last 28 years. Visit www.cafcipbc.org to view the journal. Remember to keep supporting our sponsors and advertisers.

Genieve White, Sponsorship Chair & Audrey Campbell, Journal Coordinator



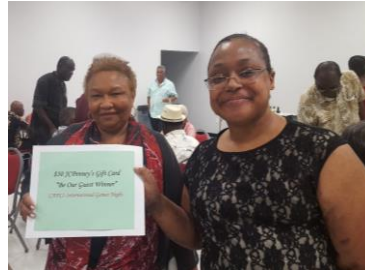


Photographs by Richard Williams of Rich Photo Works & Carol Porter



INTERNATIONAL GAMES NIGHT:

Our annual International Games Night which was held on Saturday, October 14, 2017 was lots of fun. There were quite a few friends and supporters. Attendees enjoyed food, drinks and music. Folks played their favorite games including dominos, ludo, scrabble and other card and board games. Special thanks to all our members, friends and supporters who donated food, drinks and dessert for the event. Thanks to CAFCI games night coordinators/committee: Pamela Fraser, Charmaine Henry, Lawrence Logan, Alvin Nembhard, Cindy Beckles and Yvonne Wright and special thanks to music selector OG Smith. There was a prize for the person who brought the most guests which was won by Genieve White.





Caribbean American For Community Involvement in Florida Inc. College Student Assistance Application for 2018

DO YOU KNOW A PALM BEACH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO PLANS TO ATTEND COLLEGE IN 2018? ENCOURAGE THEM TO APPLY FOR CAFCI'S STUDENT ASSISTANCE AWARD.

APPLICATION IS AVAILABLE ON CAFCI'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CAFCIPBC.ORG

Mail completed Application to:
CAFCI

Attn: Student Education Assistance Committee
1030 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard
Box 11
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

INSTRUCTIONS:

Applicant must submit the application with the following by Wednesday, February 28, 2018:

1. **Two (2)** letters of recommendation from teachers or one from a teacher and one from a guidance counselor.
2. An **official transcript** of your current academic record. Your transcript should reflect your Cumulative GPA **of 3.0 or higher** for seven semesters. Official Transcript must be in a sealed envelope with the school's seal from your high school.
3. A short essay, **200-300 words, typed on standard 8 ½" x 11" paper**, including the following:
 - a. Why you desire a career in the field you have chosen and why you feel you will be successful;
 - b. Your demonstrated interest in and association with Caribbean culture and affairs;
 - c. Your interest and involvement in community and school activities; and
 - d. Evidence of financial need.
4. Provide **acceptance letter** from an accredited college/university (**this must accompany application**).
5. If you are selected, you will be required to submit a photograph (example-senior picture) and a bio, both of which will be published in our annual Friendship Ball Souvenir Program. Photos and your image will be used in media and print advertising. Photographs will remain the property of CAFCI.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Applicant must:

1. Be a resident of Palm Beach County, Florida.
2. Currently attend high school in Palm Beach County, expected to graduate in May 2018.
3. Demonstrate an interest in Caribbean-American affairs.
4. **Provide complete signed application postmarked no later than Wednesday, February 28, 2018.**
5. Be available for an interview – Date and Time to be determined.
6. Attend Presentation of Awards Ceremony, if selected, on May 5, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

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

We are currently targeting other potential opportunities and working on a different approach to acquire something. As usual, confidentiality must be maintained so that the deal is not jeopardized. Properties west of the Seminole Pratt Whitney and in West Palm Beach are being checked out to see if further pursuit is feasible. The search continues in earnest.



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.**

You can assist in the effort to find a home for CAFCI by putting on an event to raise funds. Just send an email to cafcipbc@bellsouth.net, radcliffewoody@aol.com or call 561-791-4002. To share your ideas, information on available property, land or facilities, contact Radcliffe "Woody" Brown at 561-791-3344, or send an email to radcliffewoody@aol.com.



Radcliffe "Woody" Brown, Chair
CAFCI Home Of Our Own

AROUND TOWN.....

CAFCI is putting together groups for discounted tickets for performances at the Kravis Center. If interested, please contact Genieve White at 561.876.4161, Audrey Campbell at 561.792.1129 or Junette Powell at 561.346.2353 to get the discounted price. A minimum of 15 persons for each performance is needed to get the discount price. The first group will be "A Gospel According to Jazz Christmas" featuring Kirk Whalum and Jonathan Butler on December 15th at 7:30 pm. For more information on these and other performances at the Kravis Center, visit kravis.org.

Sunday, November 12th from 1-4pm: Raza Fashions closeout sale. Great early Christmas gifts for Friends and Family. There will also be giveaways. 2359 Bellarosa Circle, Royal Palm Beach. Call 561.281.7021 for access code

Sunday, November 19th at 6 pm: Sunshine Theatre Company presents Bashy from "Bashment Granny" in David Tullock's outrageously funny comedy "Bad Breed" at Coral Springs High School, 7201 Sample Road, Coral Springs, FL 33065. Admission: General seating \$35; Reserved seats \$40. For more information and group discount, call 786.237.5493 or visit sunshinetheatrecompany.com.

Saturday, December 2nd at 12-4pm: YES Jamaica Fundraising Luncheon at Hilton Hotel, 150 Australian Avenue, West Palm Beach. For more information, visit yesjamaica.org

Sunday, December 3rd at 4 pm: St. Christopher Episcopal Church will have a memorial service for Leonard Emile Cyris, son of Elet Cyris.

Saturday, December 9th at 8 pm: United Sports and Social Club presents its Christmas Ball. DJ Martel the Mixer at the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), 5976 Okeechobee Boulevard, West Palm Beach, Florida. Admission: \$50. Dress Code: Formal. For more information, call 561.767.7188.

December 23, 2017 from 9 pm to 1 am: Exotic Hair Creations will hold their holiday party at Village Golf Club in Royal Palm Beach, Florida. For more information, call 561-574-0597.

CAFCI

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



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2018 MEMBERSHIP DUES

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

Submit your membership dues online at www.cafcipbc.org OR

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

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR
CAFCI'S EVENTS**

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

- Saturday, November 11: **General Membership Meeting ~ Board Elections**, 7 pm at the Harvin Center
Saturday, December 9: **General Membership Meeting ~ Toys for Tots/Pot Luck**, 7 pm at the Harvin Center
Monday, January 15: **Martin Luther King Day Celebration**, 9:30 am, Location to be announced
Saturday, March 31: **Annual Picnic**, 1 pm at Okeeheelee Park, Micanopy Pavilion
Saturday, May 5: **Student Assistance Awards Ceremony**, 6 pm, Location to be announced
Saturday, May 19: **Cultural Diversity Day**, 3 pm at the Veterans Park