



## 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

2014

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### OFFICERS

President ..... Dennis Wright  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President ..... Genieve White  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President..... Jannette Sharpe-Paul  
 Treasurer..... Millie Hampton

#### DIRECTORS

Shirley Morrison \* Jeff Webb  
 Jerome Wright

#### NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Sandra Gordon \* Lascalles Harris  
 Lawrence Logan \* Shirley Morrison  
 Junette Powell \* Barbara Walker  
 Thalia White

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration .Rhonda Ferrin-Davis  
 Alliance ..... Genieve White  
 Annual Friendship Ball ..... Dennis Wright  
 Budget ..... Radcliffe Brown  
 Business Awareness ..... Sean Adams  
 Bylaws ..... Barbara Walker  
 CAFCI Home ..... Radcliffe Brown  
 Cultural ..... Elet Cyris  
 Finance..... Genieve White  
 Food ..... Alvin Nembhard  
 Grants..... Nadine White-Boyd  
 Historian/Protocol ..... Rhonda Ferrin-Davis  
 Newsletter ..... Junette Powell/Thalia White  
 Membership..... Lawrence Logan  
 Membership Recruitment  
 and Retention ..... Elaine Ealy  
 Parliamentarian ..... Nadine White-Boyd  
 Program..... Jannette Sharpe-Paul  
 Relay for Life ..... Nova Brown  
 Student Assistance ..... Elaine Ealy  
 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  
 cafcfi@bellsouth.net \* www.cafcipc.org

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

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Friendship Ball:** Last month was indeed a "September to Remember." Our month-long celebration concluded with our Annual Friendship Ball held on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts. This was an evening of elegance, entertainment and, above all, fun. The venue was beautifully decorated and the program went off as planned. Our Mistress of Ceremonies, Dr. Bridgette Waldemar, did an incredible job to keep the audience informed and engaged. We had greetings from special guests, former Governor Charlie Crist and Congressman Patrick Murphy. Proclamations were presented to CAFCI declaring September 20, 2014 Caribbean American Day by: Commissioner Jess Santamaria from the Palm Beach County Commissioners; Councilman Fred Pinto on behalf of the Mayor Mattioli and the Village Council of the Village of Royal Palm Beach; and Councilman Howard Coates on behalf of the Mayor and the Village Council of the Village of Wellington. We were graced with the presence of the Honorable Franz Hall, Council General of Jamaica for the Southern District, who brought greetings from Jamaica. There were many other local officials in attendance and many others who sent us greetings which were included in our souvenir journal. Congratulations to our Citizen of the Year, Ms. Rhonda Ferrin-Davis, for all her contributions to CAFCI during these many years. This was truly a deserving award.

Special thanks to the entire Ball and Journal Committee for their hard work and dedication in putting on a successful and entertaining program. The team

*Continued on next page*



OCTOBER 16-31

Inez McCallum	20
Babbette Millings	26

NOVEMBER 1 - 15

Barbara Sangster	02
Eaton Richardson	04
Nova Brown	07
Myrna Adams	11



#### CONDOLENCES TO:

Lena and Henworth Ferguson and family on the loss of Lena's sister Norma Morris Thornhill and family on the loss of her mother

#### GET WELL WISHES TO:

Hazel Harris  
 Kenneth and Hazel McKenzie  
 Marjorie Schleifer

#### 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 ..... 791-9087  
 Paul Baker ..... 784-0067  
 Samuel Baxter ..... 798-2864

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** *(continued)*

consisted of the following individuals: Kareem Ali, Radcliffe and Nova Brown, Audrey Campbell, Johnny Davis, Elaine Ealy, Millie Hampton, Lawrence Logan, Shirley Morrison, Alvin Nembhard, Junette Powell, Jannette Sharpe-Paul, Genieve White, Nadine White-Boyd, Thalia White, Newbolt Wilson, Dennis and Yvonne Wright and Jerome Wright. Please see ball report elsewhere in this newsletter for more information on the ball. Next year promises to be just as enjoyable. Save the date, **September 19, 2015**.

**Twenty Fifth Anniversary Celebration:** Special thanks to the 25<sup>th</sup> year celebration team (chaired by Ms. Rhonda Ferrin-Davis) which includes: Nova Brown, Ernie Garvey, Audrey Gordon, Kitty Lannaman, Lawrence Logan, Junette Powell, Lauriston Simms, Genieve White and Newbolt Wilson. This team did a splendid job of planning, coordinating and hosting membership appreciation, games night and the interfaith service.

**Other Business:** Please plan to attend the next general meeting on **Saturday, October 11, 2014**. There will be a special vote to make a change in our Charter reducing the board members from 9 to 7. Please see details in this newsletter.

**Board of Directors Election:** Election for vacant seats of CAFCI Board will be held during our general membership meeting on November 8, 2014. Please let me know if you are interested in chairing the selection committee. A candidate for Director-at-Large must be a member in good standing for at least one year. The candidate must have functioned in a major role on a CAFCI committee within the past three (3) years. If you would like to see changes within the Organization, this is your opportunity to either run for office or nominate others who share your views.

*Dennis Wright*  
President

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### **2014 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

You may submit your membership dues online at [www.cafcipc.org](http://www.cafcipc.org) or mail to CAFCI  
Attention: Lawrence Logan  
1030 Royal Palm Beach Blvd., Box 11  
Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411

## **GENERAL MEETING**

**Saturday, October 11, 2014 at 7 p.m.**

*Harvin Center, Royal Palm Beach*

For the upcoming general membership meeting on **Saturday, October 11, 2014**, there will be a special vote to make a change in our Charter reducing the board members from nine (9) to seven (7).

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**BY-LAWS CHANGE:** Proposed changes to CAFCI By laws. Members will be asked to vote on the following changes at next Saturday's general meeting.

1. Reduce the number of board members from 9 to 7.
2. Board positions are as follows: President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Director.
3. The Vice President will succeed as President upon the expiration of the President's term or should the president be unable or unwilling to continue to serve. If another board member wishes to serve as President, then the board member so wishing to serve must be eligible to serve as President and is only to serve if the Vice President is unwilling or unable to serve.

### **BY-LAWS**

After discussion held regarding the number of board members and the By-Laws Committee's considerations, the following motions were made and approved.

**MOTION:** Motion made to reduce the number of board members from 9 to 7. Motion made by Nova Brown and seconded by Millie Hampton. All board members in attendance voted in favor of the motion.

**MOTION:** Motion made by Nova Brown and seconded by Millie Hampton. Motion that the board positions are as follows: President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Director. All board members in attendance voted in favor of the motion.

Discussion regarding the need to have continuity and training opportunity prior to serving as President.

**MOTION:** The Vice President will succeed as President upon the expiration of the President's term or should the President be unable or unwilling to continue to serve. If another board member wishes to serve as President, then the board member so wishing to serve must be eligible to serve as President and is only to serve if the Vice President is unwilling or unable to serve. Motion made by Nova Brown and seconded by Millie Hampton. All board members in attendance voted in favor of the motion.

## CAFCl's 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

*SEPTEMBER TO REMEMBER...* coined by Hyacinth Wilson, became the theme for the three 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee festivities. The "25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Wine and Cheese Membership Appreciation Reception" was highlighted with CAFCl's Story from 1989 to present, narrated by Leonie Escoffery and Nadine White Boyd. Each member went home with a commemorative wine glass. Special thanks to: Chef G for his beautiful hors d'oeuvres display; founding members, Mark and Leonie Escoffery, for their surprise 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake; and Charter Member Ernie Garvey for the Ermitone sounds and slide show memories.

Next was the "25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary International Games Night". What a fun night of dominoes, various card games, board games, ludo and dancing to sounds of Ermitones. Thank you to all who donated food, drinks, desserts and contributed to the success of the night.

Lastly, was the "25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Interfaith Service of Thanksgiving", which truly embodied CAFCl's Mission Statement. Messages from the six community Clergy captivated our audience as well as solos by Lorianne Cabrera and Howard Barrett, accompanied by Joseph Brabham on piano. Special thanks to Dorothy Bell for the refreshments, all who added to the table, our very eloquent Master of Ceremonies Dr. Cedric Lynch and once again Ermitones. We hope you were able to experience all - or at least one - of the events; and that it was a "September to Remember." See full story on the Interfaith Service elsewhere in this issue of the newsletter.

The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee thanks all who attended for your tremendous support. Rhonda Ferrin-Davis, Chair, Nova Brown, Ernie Garvey, Audrey Gordon, Kitty Lannaman, Lawrence Logan, Junette Powell, Lauriston Simms, Genieve White and Newbolt and Hyacinth Wilson.

By Rhonda Ferrin-Davis



*25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee - Membership Appreciation Night*

L-R: Newbolt Wilson, Lawrence Logan, Audrey Gordon, Genieve White, Junette Powell, Lauriston Simms, Kathleen Lannaman, Nova Brown, Ernie Garvey, Rhonda Ferrin-Davis



*Membership Appreciation Night*



*Membership Appreciation Night*



*Games Night*



*Games Night*

## CAFCI's Interfaith Service

The Caribbean American for Community Involvement in Florida, Inc. ("CAFCI") held an interfaith service celebrating 25 years of involvement in the community of Royal Palm Beach on Sunday, September 14, 2014 at the Royal Palm Beach Cultural Center. Distinguished guests included: Assembly of God Pastor - Reverend Calvin Lyerla of Acts 2 Worship Center; Baptist Minister and Mayor of Rivera Beach - Mayor Bishop Thomas Masters; United Methodist Minister - Reverend Emily McGee; Jewish Rabbi - Rabbi Cookie Olshein; Episcopal Minister - Reverend Steven Thomas; Covenant Church Pastor - Reverend Michael Rose, Vice Mayor of the Village of Royal Palm Beach - Jeff Hmara, Candidate for Palm Beach County Commissioner for District 6 - Michelle Santamaria and current Palm Beach County Commissioner - Jess Santamaria. The ministerial fraternity congratulated CAFCI for its 25 years of service to the community and echoed support for CAFCI's mission and values. The ministers provided nuggets of wisdom worthy of note. Reverend Emily McGee of St. Peter's United Methodist Church emphasized the fact that God created, intended and promoted diversity. Despite challenges associated with diversity, God designed that we should be different. We should therefore love one another and struggle together for equal rights and justice. Reverend McGee congratulated CAFCI for its remarkable service to the community and in being an example of getting along with others despite differences. Jewish Rabbi Olshein of Temple Israel emphasized notions of caring for others in community and volunteerism. According to the Rabbi, the major tenet of Judaism is Tzedek; the primary interpretation being justice and righteousness. She noted that the most given rule in the Torah has to do with helpfulness; categories of people to be helped include widows, orphans and strangers; that even those who receive charity are required to give back; and that the basis for the greeting "shalom" is the idea of wholeness which translates to peace. Reverend Rose commended CAFCI for its multifaceted approach to community involvement, and for its celebration of diversity. He remarked that the church could take a page from CAFCI's book, as the church in America is indeed segregated, especially on Sundays. Reverend Rose saw no reason why there should be camaraderie in sports between people of varying nationalities and ethnicities while the church in America remains divided. In order to redress this anomaly, we must be intentional in embracing and celebrating diversity. Change has to start at the top. The ethos of scripture is love, mercy, compassion and justice, he stated. Mayor Bishop Thomas Masters of St. David's In the Pines Episcopal

Church congratulated CAFCI and thanked the Caribbean community for keeping him in office. He reminded us that Jesus' ministry was to ordinary people and that Jesus invited ordinary people's involvement in transforming their communities. He also noted the role of the Village in helping the young realize their potential. Mayor Bishop Masters further challenged: "ask not what your community can do for you, but what you can do for your community." Reverend Thomas opined that although the ball is in our court, we cannot win by ourselves: "If you want to walk fast, walk alone; if you want to walk far, walk together." Beginning with Soul Winning Agents for God ("SWAG") dancers of the Sonshine Family Worship Center delighted the audience with a Praise dance to the music "the Battle is the Lord's." The sermons were punctuated by music provided by soprano soloist, Mrs. Lorianne Cabrera and bass soloist, Mr. Howard Barrett accompanied by Mr. Joseph Brabham on piano. Both inspired and thrilled the audience with quality performances and positive messages in song. CAFCI's President, Mr. Dennis Wright, concluded the proceedings by putting things in perspective. He remarked that the interfaith celebration was fitting, because we need divine guidance and help in order to positively impact our community, and noted that the Caribbean community has more churches per square mile than anywhere else in the world. The event, emceed by Dr. Cedric Lynch, was well-executed. The evening of praise, exhortation and celebration inspired and informed causing some members of the audience to wish the interfaith service to be a yearly event. Congratulations are in order to CAFCI and the Interfaith Service Committee, chaired by Mrs. Rhonda Davis, co-subchaired by Messrs. Newbolt Wilson and Lawrence Logan, for the splendid job in planning and hosting the event.

"CAFCI 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 regardless of ethnicity or socio-economic background." Shalom.

*By Dr. Douglas Lawton*



*Interfaith Service*

## *Glitz and Glamour at the Caribbean American for Community Involvement (CAFCI) Gala*

**West Palm Beach** - It was a night of celebration, glitz, glamour and a showing of Caribbean pride as community leaders, elected officials and supporters of the Caribbean American for Community Involvement(CAFCI) in Florida, Inc.came out in record numbers to socialize and party at the Organization's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Friendship Ball. Approximately five hundred patrons attended the gala, which was held on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at the prestigious Raymond F. Kravis Center in West Palm Beach. Promotional activities for this year's celebration was under the savvy management of Kareem Ali of EVI Enterprises which increased attendance and awareness of the event.



**Caribbean-  
American  
For  
Community  
Involvement**

Dennis Wright, CAFCI President

The evening's celebration began with a cocktail networking hour followed by dinner and a presentation of proclamations from various Palm Beach municipalities and CAFCI's expression of appreciation to all who supported the organization during its 25 years.

Mistress of Ceremonies, Bridgette Waldemar, kept the program tight, moving things along with witty remarks and deserving compliments to the various speakers. President Dennis Wright outlined the charitable activities of CAFCI over the past year and highlighted major accomplishments during the Organization's 25 years of service to the community.

Several members of the Organization were recognized for their outstanding and unselfish contributions, with the Citizen of the Year Award going to Rhonda Ferrin-Davis, who expressed surprise and pledged her continued dedication to CAFCI.



Musical tribute by Steve Higgins to  
Outstanding Citizen of the Year, Rhonda Ferrin-Davis



A surprise visit from gubernatorial candidate Charlie Crist brought loud cheers from the lively crowd, as Crist gave a brief address. Also making an unannounced appearance was Congressman Patrick Murphy who also offered a short address to a receptive crowd.



Formalities aside, it was time for the entertainment. Comedian Andrea "Delcita" Wright delivered a short humorous commentary before introducing the Code Red Band who took the stage followed by King Banton. The now energized crowd took to their feet as Marcia Griffiths graced the stage and immediately had everyone dancing and singing to her numerous hits. Griffiths gave a stellar performance communicating with the audience and left no doubt that she is the reigning Queen of Reggae.

DJ Mansta & Toots closed the night with a varied selection of music that kept the dance floor occupied to the end of the night.

By Eddy Edwards

Photographs by Rich Photo Works  
To view more photographs visit [www.cafcipc.org](http://www.cafcipc.org)

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM THE  
SPONSORSHIP/JOURNAL/VIP COMMITTEE:**

On behalf of the CAFCI Board and Sponsorship/Journal Committee, I would like to express appreciation to all our sponsors, advertisers, contributors of messages and articles, the hard working Journal Committee members, the members who placed messages, and all those who contributed in any way to make this year's journal publication an exceptional one. One of the Committee's objectives was to capture 25 years of CAFCI since its inception, recapturing our history. To name a few: our Founding and Charter members, Presidents, past and present board members, all recipients of the prestigious CAFCI Outstanding Citizen's Award, past and present scholarship and Junior Citizens awards recipients; some of CAFCI's achievements over the past 25 years and other organizations with whom we have collaborated. Also, for the first time, the journal size grew to sixty pages, with the largest ever advertising number of pages. All this was possible due to the hard work, and dedication of the Committee. We are most grateful to our premier sponsors: Gold Sponsor - Jess Santamaria and family; Silver Sponsor - EVI Enterprises; Bronze Sponsors - Complete Healthcare for Women of Wellington-Dr. Colette Brown-Graham, M.D. F.A.C.O.G.; Hi-Class Promotions and the law offices of Andrea D. McMillan, P.A. We acknowledge the additional support of Dr. Alban and Ventris Bacchus, Caler Donten & Levine, Mrs. Marcia Andrews, Warren and Judy Thomas, Caribbean Choice Restaurant and Bakery, Trader Joes of Wellington, The Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts; and ALL our Advertisers. Thank you committee members: Audrey Campbell - Journal Coordinator, Nova Brown, Johnny Davis, Dr. Elaine Ealy, Millie Hampton, Junette Powell, Jannette Sharpe-Paul, Barbara Walker, Thalia White, Jerome Wright and Yvonne Wright. This was indeed "A SEPTEMBER TO REMEMBER".

Genieve White - Sponsorship/Journal Chairperson.



*THANK YOU* Thank you ever so much for such an honor as the Outstanding Citizen for 2014. I was truly surprised and most humbled. CAFCI is very important to me and I will always work for the success of CAFCI and to increase CAFCI's presence and meaning in the community in which we all live. Again, my heartfelt thanks to CAFCI and to the selection committee.

Rhonda Ferrin-Davis

*THANK YOU* Heartfelt thanks to all the members of CAFCI for the bereavement gift in memory of my cousin, Greta McMorris. I was truly touched by your thoughtfulness. It is that unexpected kindness that touches not just the heart, but reaches down to the soul. Words cannot adequately express my gratitude. May God continue to bless you and all that you do in His name.

Shirley Nelson

*To my CAFCI Family:* On behalf of Nova and myself, I would like to thank everyone for your visits, prayers, get well cards, phone calls, emails and flowers. These expressions of concern and well wishes during my brief stay in the hospital and subsequent recovery, were greatly appreciated and reflect part of what CAFCI is about. I hope to be back to my 100% self within the next week or so. Knowing that people care makes recovery less daunting. Thank you CAFCI!

Radcliffe "Woody" Brown

**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](mailto: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 ([junettep@hotmail.com](mailto:junettep@hotmail.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.

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

**Unfortunately our Golf tournament has to be rescheduled.** Radcliffe “Woody” Brown unfortunately



became ill and was hospitalized during the time when final arrangements were being made. Under the advice of the Golf Club director, the event was cancelled and businesses that were going to participate were notified accordingly. We apologize for not having the event as planned and will announce the new date once it is secured.



In our efforts to purchase property, we have found that our biggest challenges are our ability to finance the property without one or more guarantor(s) and zoning constraints in non-commercial areas where the prices are not as high. With these challenges in mind, we are now looking to ***purchase land for cash and then build, or find a location with a lease to own option.*** In either case, the property would have to be in an area with the appropriate zoning or where it could be changed relatively easily. If you know of any property, land or facilities that meet the above criteria, please Radcliffe “Woody” Brown at 561-791-3344 or send an email to [radcliffewoody@aol.com](mailto:radcliffewoody@aol.com).

Radcliffe “Woody” Brown at



***We have made it easier to participate in the program by facilitating monthly payments to purchase a brick. Monthly payments of \$50 will be accepted for a \$1,000 brick and \$150 for a \$3,000 brick.*** The Buy-A-Brick program is still in force and provides everyone an opportunity to participate in this venture. Please visit the web page at [www.cafcipc.org](http://www.cafcipc.org) and **click on the “Home of Our Own” tab** or call Radcliffe “Woody” Brown at 561-791-3344 for more information.

## *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.*

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**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**

1030 Royal Palm Beach Boulevard  
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.*

OCTOBER 11: General Meeting at 7 p.m., Harvin Center

NOVEMBER 8: General Meeting at 7 p.m., Harvin Center

DECEMBER 13: General Meeting at 7 p.m., Harvin Center

DECEMBER 31: New Year's Eve Celebration (*time and location to be determined*)

**SAVE THE DATE!!!**

**Saturday, September 19, 2015**

**CAFCI'S ANNUAL FRIENDSHIP BALL**

**AROUND TOWN.....**

Now through October 19<sup>th</sup>: Play - **JAMAICA FAREWELL** by Debra Ehrhardt; Thursday - Saturday at 8 pm, Sundays at 5 pm; Empire Stage, 1140 N. Flagler Drive, Fort Lauderdale. For information: 954-678-1496 or [www.empirestage.com](http://www.empirestage.com)

October 25<sup>th</sup>: **5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LATIN AMERICAN FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL** 4 to 7 pm at the PGA National Resort & Spa. For tickets and more information visit [pbhchamber.com](http://pbhchamber.com).

October 25<sup>th</sup>: Sunshine Theatre presents the play "**RUN FOR YOUR WIFE**" 6 pm at Royal Palm Beach High School, 10600 Okeechobee Boulevard, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411. For tickets, contact Jenny 561-358-0928 or Ann Marie 561-385-1621.