



Bye, Bye Isle Casino. Hello Harrah

You will soon be able to find the iconic Harrah's casino brand in Pompano Beach. Harrah's which is known for larger-than-life entertainment can be found in destination cities like Las Vegas, Atlantic City, and New Orleans. Pompano Beach city officials, representatives of Caeser's Entertainment which owns the Harrah's brand, and representatives of The Cordish Companies who will develop the project attended a groundbreaking last month.

The Cordish Companies had already planned to make Isle Casino a Live! Destination by expanding the casino, adding a parking garage, and space for outdoor games, but the addition of Harrah's will solidify Isle Casino as a world-class destination. Work on the project is slated to begin this fall.

■ *Hello Harrah, see page 5*



The Old 'Wash House' to Become New Restaurant

By Megan Rebecca

A former laundromat will be the site of a swanky rooftop bar and restaurant in Old Town Pompano.

The "Wash House" is located at the corner of N. Flagler Avenue and NE 1st Street. Right now, it is a vacant building, but it in the 1900s this area was home the city's first general store, according to the Pompano Beach Historical Society. The area continues to remain vital to the city's history, according to Nguyen Tran, Pompano Beach's Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Director. "This site is a critical location for the creation of a thriving food and beverage destination," he said in a blog on the city's website.

■ *Wash House, see page 5*



WESTVIEW COMMUNITY CEMETERY FIGHT:

Dead OR Alive?

By Attiyya Atkins

The Westview Community Cemetery controversy isn't dead.

IN fact, it's more alive than ever. Instead of one board representing the historically black cemetery located at 1900 NW 24th Street, Pompano Beach, two boards now think the future of the property is in their hands.

Last year, the board of trustees that consisted of Walter Hunter, Evander Derico, Vincente Thrower, and Gary McLamore, entered into a deal which sold 4.5 acres of the 14-acre cemetery to developer KZ Copans. KZ Copans plans to build a storage facility on the property and agreed to fix up the disheveled cemetery.

Outrage, public discourse, legal proceedings, and the establishment of a steering committee followed on the premise that the sale of the cemetery was faulty and didn't include the community's wishes. The sale has been discussed at several planning and zoning and city commission meetings, and within a court of



law. A court date was scheduled for Jan. 21, but the judge rescheduled due to COVID-19. A new court date hasn't been set.

In January, after a vote at C&S events, a new board was instated consisting of Connie McGirt, Traniqua Hargrett, Kevin Eason, Ollie Eason, Jason Fuller, Quenton Thompkins, Edward Phillips, Lajill Holloway, and Sonya Williams Finney. The board plans to supersede the current board, stop the sale of the property, and improve upkeep of the cemetery.

Khambrel Davis of Davis and Davis PLLC, an attorney for the community, says that the new board is a community initiative and that the "community is acting well within the rights outlined in the by-laws." He states that a meeting must take place in January to confirm the

boards leadership. Members of the board represented by Hunter have failed to do so.

While Hunter's board remains in possession of the premises, including keys and locks to the cemetery, the new board wants these items. Letters have been drafted telling the "old" board to relinquish their ownership and transfer the keys and locks to the "new" board.

Hunter told the New Pelican that the new board will not gain possession of the cemetery and doing so would be illegal. He told the New Pelican that "we are chartered with the state and we are legal."

Still, the community is motivated to keep the integrity of the city's black cemetery where many local leaders have been buried including

■ *Dead or Alive?, see page 5*

Government officials and local leaders at Black History Month events in Pompano Beach



Ifrolix Band

Pompano Beach's Rollicking Reggae Band and Entertainment Company

Want to feel the island vibes? Check out Ifrolix

Studio, a cozy reggae lounge within city limits at 1715 S Dixie Highway. Ifrolix is also a four-person group of talented musicians who perform reggae, dance hall, and popular covers.

Their studio is a full-scale entertainment and production company that provides live music, audio and video recording, DJ services, and more for weddings, birthdays, corporate parties, and other special events.



entertainment space, which is a perfect place to produce your promo video or host your next event.

Check out Ifrolix at the C37 Lounge

1751 South Dixie Highway, C37

Pompano Beach, Florida USA

Their phone number is 954-643-6176

Their website is <https://www.ifrolixtv.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ifrolix>

<https://www.instagram.com/ifrolix/>

You can email requests to amazukigroup@gmail.com

BASS player and founder Mark McKenzie is a modern-day Jamaican Renaissance Man. Besides being a musician, he is a world-renowned ice sculptor, chef, and entrepreneur. Other members of the Ifrolix band include keyboardist Ito Dan, a Belizean musician, producer, sound engineer, and music director. Carlton Starliner plays drums and percussion, and his energetic beats are reminiscent of the sounds of the islands. Singer Ras Lee and Chavel provide powerful reggae vocals, and DJ Funtasy spins pumping dance music in

between sets.

Ifrolix embraces the energy and magnetism of reggae. McKenzie named the band "Ifrolix" as a pun on the word "frolic." The word frolic means to "play and move

about cheerfully, excitedly, or energetically."

Their music will have you dancing and they can bring the party to you, providing all your entertainment needs. Ifrolix also rents out the C37 lounge and

Florida AIDS Walk and Music Festival

The Florida AIDS Walk and Music Festival will be held on Saturday, March 19 at Fort Lauderdale Beach. The event starts at 8 a.m. There will be a 5K walk, bars, food trucks, vendors, and concerts by Jessie J and Grammy-nominated artist Deborah Cox.

The event is hosted by the Afro Pride Federation. Proceeds from the event will go to local AIDS service organizations.

The federation is a community resource that is all about loving the skin that you're in. It's a LGBTQ+ organization based in Fort Lauderdale and offers several services specific to black people who consider themselves LGBTQ+, such as one-on-one therapy, HIV/AIDS testing and information, and Afro-LGBTQ+ referrals for health and mental health services.

In addition to the AIDS walk,

the federation will host a music and culture festival Pridechella, May 26 to 29.

The organization also has a collective group of multicultural artists and creative artistic teams featuring individual and group exhibits, performances, and art installments.

For more info visit the Afro Pride Federation today at www.sflafropridefederation.com or call 954-951-2911.



Letter From the Editor

2022's Black History Month flew by. February felt much shorter than the normal 28 days. The brevity of it all had me wondering, what is the point? Why do we celebrate? And I realize it's not as much for us black folk as it is for other races to celebrate us. This year, the celebration was wack. Not much Malcolm X, not much history, not much of anything. I got an email on February 28th from a local mall telling me how to important Black History Month is and how we need to appreciate black business owners. I checked the mailing list, the last day of the month was the first time they mentioned Black History Month. It leads me to the question, is Black History Month going out of style?

Fashion changes, but style never fades. As a people, we can't let Black History Month

fizzle out. We have to keep pushing our history and our accomplishments 365 days a year. We are worth it. We have endured so much that some people want us to forget. Case and point, Governor Ron DeSantis' move to ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory in schools. The theory is rooted in civil rights teachings that race permeates all aspects of society, including law and justice, as well as the importance of telling the stories of African Americans and other marginalized people of color. Now, how and why would a governing body attempt to ban that from schools? It's controlling and its deplorable, and it's an overreach.

But honestly, I didn't learn much about black history growing up in the school system in Port Charlotte. My parents taught me. They taught me

about Kwanzaa, about the pyramids of Egypt, about HBCU's, about Booker T. Washington, Emmet Till and the Tuskegee Airmen. Now, it's up to us to not be concerned about the politics of it all, black history is our history, and we need to teach it every day and every month. In Pompano, we have the honor of being a city that's rich in black history, especially on the northwest side. Check

out the Ali Cultural Arts Center, the Blanche Ely Museum, Esther Rolle Avenue, and a bevy of streets named after local black leaders like Mattie B. Slappy.

Now we're well into March. March is Women's History Month, so let's celebrate continue to celebrate black and women. Let's celebrate what we've overcome and what we have yet to achieve. This is my

message to you to show out, nah, I want to you to BLACK OUT. Go get that promotion, teach your kids, spend time with your family and let the world know how amazing YOU are. Life is too short not to appreciate what you have in this moment. Embrace the beauty of it all.

Wishing you more life.

Sincerely,
Attiya



KFP

Kappa Foundation of Pompano Beach

Women of Distinction

The Kappa Foundation of Pompano Beach will host a ceremony to honor trailblazing women for Women's History Month. The event will take place on Saturday, March 19 at 11 a.m. at Apollo Park, 1580 NW 3rd Ave, Pompano. Founder of Villij News, Attiyya Atkins, will be honored at the ceremony.



COVID-19 Victims Day

The City of Pompano Beach named March 1, the first Monday in March, as Victims and Survivors Memorial Day in memory of those who lost their lives due to COVID-19 amidst the global pandemic that started in 2020.

THE city issued a proclamation at a February city meeting. As of March 1, the COVID-19 risk to Broward County is medium, with a positivity rate of 5.4%. A low positivity rate means that the virus is under control and is posing a minimal threat. Also, 84% of people in Broward County have received at least one dose of the vaccine, and

70% have received the second dose, which contributes to the city's reduced transmission rate. In order to protect yourself and family from the virus, vaccines are available at the Pompano Citi Centre, 1955 N. Federal Highway, Tuesday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free tests are available for mail delivery at www.COVIDtest.gov.

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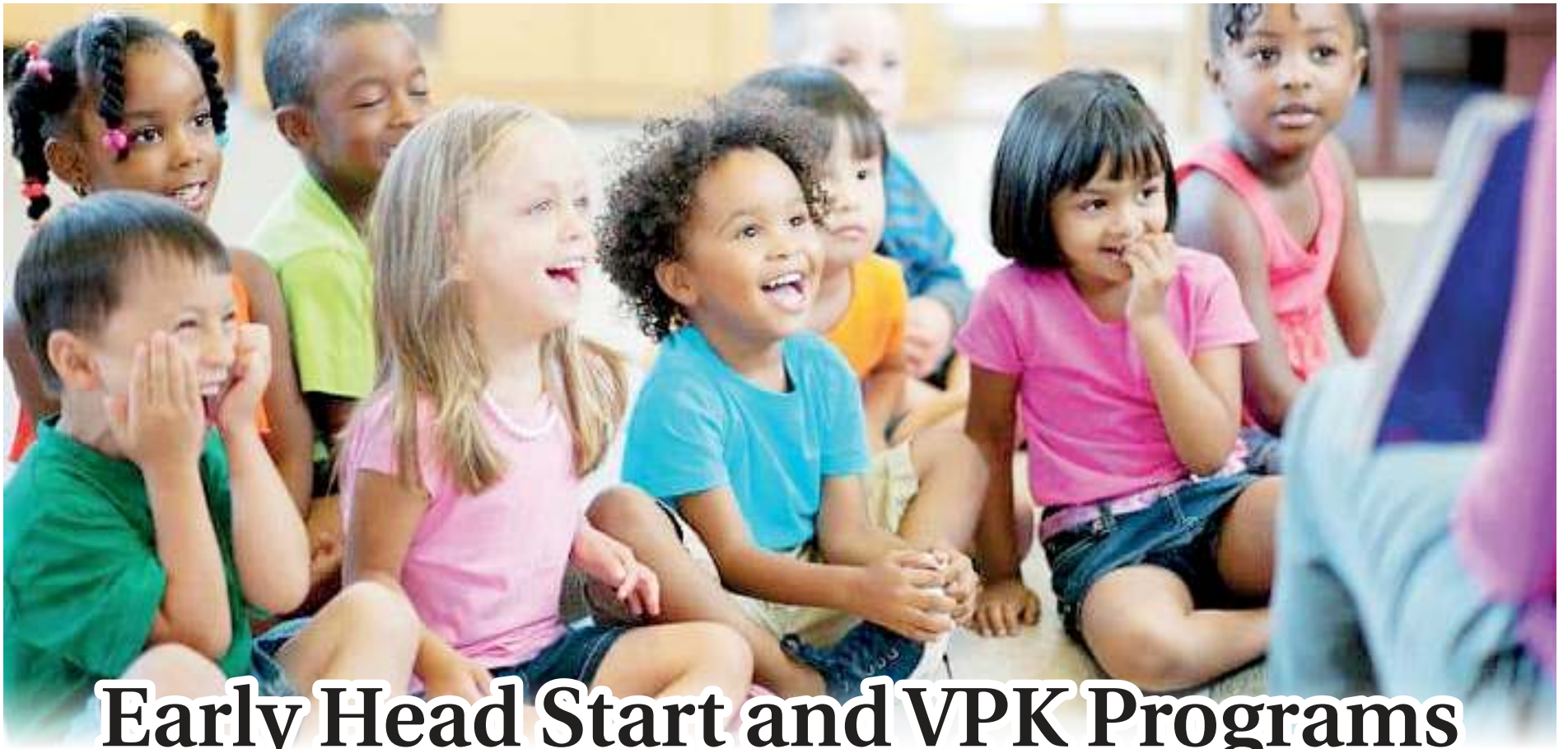
Publisher : A+ Editing & Content Creation

Editor-in-Chief : Attiyya Atkins

Distribution : Atkins United Moving

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Early Head Start and VPK Programs

Childcare can be quite expensive. Sign up for Early Head Start or VPK to save some coins. The early Head Start program is still accepting applications.

To be eligible, you or your child must:

- Head Start children must be 3-or 4-years-old on or before September 1, 2022.
- Early Head Start accepts pregnant women and children

birth to 3-years-old.

- Family income must be at or below the US Department of Health & Human Services Poverty Guidelines to qualify for the program.
- VPK is for children who

turned 4 on or before September 1, 2021

Needed documents:

- Proof of age (child's ORIGINAL birth certificate or foreign passport).
- Proof of guardianship, if applicable.
- Parent/guardian photo

identification (FL Drivers License or Passport).

- Proof of Broward County residence (domicile).
- Proof of ALL HOUSEHOLD INCOME FOR PREVIOUS CALENDAR YEAR (2021) OR PAST 12 MONTHS.

Dead or Alive?

continued from page 1

actress Esther Rolle.

“I’m impressed with the community,” Davis said. “It’s a case of people of color standing up for what’s being taken away from them.”

The sale of the cemetery will be discussed in a court of law. Attorney Johnny McCray who also represents the community says the steering committee will provide transportation to the elderly who would like to testify as witnesses once the new court date has been set.

Wash House

continued from page 1

The vacant space will transform into a 6,000-square-foot restaurant with rooftop seating, inside and outside dining, and space for entertainment.

The city plans to make a number of improvements including rebuilding the outside of the structure, installing new windows and doors, and improving the roof. The CRA purchased the building for \$1.2 million in September 2019. The organization then demolished the interior leaving just dirt floors.

Hello Harrah

continued from page 1

David Cordish, founder and CEO of The Cordish Companies, told the Sun Sentinel: “With Harrah’s Pompano Beach at its heart, Live! Resorts Pompano will bring together casino gaming with best-in-class entertainment, retail, dining, hotel, residential, office, logistics and lifestyle amenities into one dynamic destination.”

New Dates Announced for Jazz Fest Pompano Beach

CITY OF POMPANO BEACH

Two-Day Festival Features Grammy® Award-winning Lineup Arturo Sandoval, Cécile McLorin Salvant, Sammy Figueroa and More! Friday, April 15th and Saturday, April 16th

LET the music play! The City of Pompano Beach has announced the new dates for the City's inaugural Jazz Fest. The star-studded festival kicks off Friday, April 15th at The Great Lawn along the beach for an evening concert with 10-time Grammy® Award-winner Arturo Sandoval.

Saturday, April 16th features an immersive musical extravaganza at the Pompano Beach Cultural Center. During the afternoon, the Center's Arts Plaza will be filled with the sounds of legendary artists including Sammy Figueroa, Brian Lynch, Magela Herrera, Ashley Pezzotti, in addition to emerging and student artists under the direction of Grammy® Award-winning professor Dr. Ed Calle. In the evening, Grammy® Award winning singer Cécile McLorin Salvant takes the stage inside the Center's theater. Jazz Fest Pompano Beach is a partnership with KCC

Productions, a well-known concert and festival production company. Ticket information at www.pompanobeacharts.org/jazzfest.

Friday, April 15 | 8pm | VIP \$65 | GA Free, RSVPs requested - Arturo Sandoval

Jazz Fest Pompano Beach starts making waves Friday evening at the City's stunning beachfront. The recently redeveloped area now boasts world-class restaurants, a new Hilton Hotel and the stunning Fisher Family Pier. The Great Lawn will be the site of the concert by 10-time Grammy® Award winner Arturo Sandoval with special guest vocalist Ashley Pezzotti and Master of Ceremonies Grammy® Award-Winner Nestor Torres.

A world-renowned trumpeter, pianist and composer Arturo Sandoval will perform a spectacular set of original music with homages to legends including Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie and Clifford Brown. A limited number of VIP tickets are available for this event at \$65. General Admission is free, guests are asked to bring lawn chairs or blankets, and RSVPs via the website are required.

Saturday, April 16 | 12 pm – 6 pm | Free, RSVPs required - Jazz Fest on the Arts Plaza

On Saturday, the festival heads Downtown, as the



Pompano Beach Cultural Center's Arts Plaza located at 50 West Atlantic Boulevard comes to life with two outdoor stages, food trucks, a jazz bar and festival vendors. A stellar line-up of musicians will be

hitting the high notes for the enjoyment of jazz enthusiasts and casual fans alike. In addition, there will be meet-n-greet opportunities. General Admission is free, guests are asked to bring lawn chairs or

blankets, and RSVPs via the website are required.

Concert times, additional information and ticket information will be regularly updated at www.pompanobeacharts.org/jazzfest.

Tähti's Social Club

By Megan Rebecca

Broward County is proud to have over 275,000 residents of the Caribbean or West Indian descent.

Many of these residents are older than 55, and often times long for activities that remind them of back home in Jamaica, Haiti, Trinidad, Guyana, and other Caribbean nations. That's where Tähti's Social Club comes in. The club is a space for

adults to engage in stimulating, fun, and culturally inspired activities with virtual and in-person events. The organization has hosted Caribbean-themed game nights with dominoes, cards, Ludo, and other games. The club also offers book clubs, recipes, estate planning, and even dating.

The club was created by Dr. Nardia Aldridge to honor her late mother, Tähti. The club is for people who "do not

view themselves as old and do not want to visit a more traditional senior center, based on more than 100 one-on-one interviews," Aldridge said. "The perception of the traditional senior center does not align with how these people view themselves, particularly as life spans increase and an effort to remain fit."

For more information visit <https://www.tahtissocialclub.com>





Local Movie Review: Pompano Boy

KRISTEN HERNANDEZ

As I put pen to the page, I'm sitting in the exact spot on Pompano Beach that was gorgeously magnified up on the Big Screen during the opening scene of Pompano Boy. Last night, I attended the film screening which premiered at the historic Savor Cinema in Las Olas and was written and directed by South Florida native, Andrew Paul Davis.



NOW a renovated former church, Savor Cinema is a small, classic style movie house reminiscent of golden age movie experiences that will transport you back in time. With just one quaint viewing room, it's the ideal venue for private and exclusive showings.

The screening of Pompano Boy was a red-carpet affair with the actors and writer/director, all South Florida natives, some even born and raised here in

Pompano, all in attendance. When the lights were dimmed and the red curtain parted, after the cheers from the audience quieted, we were all treated to a realistic drama set in authentic Pompano Beach. The writer of the film was careful to include some local hotspots and actual employees as well. Brew Fish Bar & Grille was mentioned, Wings N' Things was a frequent meeting spot in the flick, and several shopping complexes in the neighborhood were all featured, with the highlight being the real Pompano Beach, the

other side, the not-so-pretty underbelly.

The movie itself is a paradox of our backyard. Pompano is a tragically beautiful place, which by all appearances looks like the perfect paradise. Meanwhile, underneath the shimmering mirage, is a place filled with fleeting dreams, lost souls, and beautifully flawed people trying to find their way. The story reveals truth, layer by layer. It's a tale about our broken religious beliefs, broken foster system, and two lost families, both trying to stuff the hole in their hearts with temporary

fixes and devastatingly real consequences.

The ending left too many unanswered questions and felt incomplete. At times, the story was slow to reveal itself. After the credits, I was left with the sense of wanting more exploration, that it could've been deeper, especially knowing the writer spent 23 years immersed in the Evangelical faith and then studied child psychology as an adult. Looking back, I've realized it's because I actually ended up caring about the charac-

ters and their outcome, that it is brilliant writing.

At the very least, Pompano Boy is worth checking out and is now streaming on Amazon. Even if drama isn't your thing, just to see the places you probably visit every week, to see our incredible white sanded beach and turquoise water, perfect palm trees and frolicking iguanas, and of course, bragging rights. Our slice, our paradise, our Pompano Beach, on full display for the world to drool over. Grab your popcorn and enjoy the show!



After a COVID Delay, The Bite Eatery Food Hall is Coming Soon

By Megan Rebecca

Pompano Beach will open its very own food hall - The Bite Eatery, 2715 E. Atlantic Blvd. It's been a longtime coming for the food hall that was set to open in the summer of 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic and matters of public safety halted the opening, but things are back on track for an opening this March.

RESIDENTS can expect to see the city's first food hall open this month. The concept is similar to the Sistrunk Marketplace which features food, drinks, and atmosphere.

The Bite Eatery will offer nine restaurants, vendors, and a full-service bar. Some of the featured restaurants are



I Heart Mac & Cheese, Taco Vibez, Ceviche Time, and Senbazuru Asian Fusion. At each table, patrons can see all the menus and food options.

The Bite Eatery will be both beneficial for business owners

and consumers alike, as vendors can provide full-service restaurant services at a fraction of the cost. There will be tablets at each table that will allow customers to view each menu and order quickly and easily. The

Bite Eatery is in Harbor Village and is within walking distance from beach and the Intracoastal.

For more info visit [https://](https://thebiteeatery.com/)

thebiteeatery.com/
<https://m.facebook.com/pg/thebiteeatery/posts/>
<https://www.instagram.com/thebiteeatery/?hl=en>



America's First Female Haitian Democrat Elected to Congress

SHEILA CHERFILUS-MCCORMICK'S RISE TO OFFICE

Cherfilus-McCormick has made a name for herself as the first female Haitian Democrat elected to Congress. She represents Florida's 20th Congressional District. In a very close special election, Cherfilus-McCormick filled the seat left open by Alcee Hastings when he passed in April 2021. The race for the seat attracted many local politicians, including two Broward County Commissioners, Dale Holness and Barbara Sharief who relinquished their county seat to run for office.

ON the campaign trail, Cherfilus-McCormick signs could be seen throughout Pompano Beach with promise of \$1000 for families with an income of less than \$75,000 as part of her People's Prosperity Plan. A promise that had many pundits skeptical as to how it would come to fruition.

She also vowed to work on health care reform, job creation, and increasing the minimum wage to \$20 a hour. As a child of immigrants, she also supports immigration reform and desires clear "Pathway to Citizenship" and more ways for immigrants to become residents.

In the election, she won by five votes over Holness. Notably, she used \$2.3 million of her own money to fund her campaign. She is a lawyer and the owner of a healthcare company.

In Congress, she serves on the Education and Labor Committee and the Committee on Veterans Affairs.

BIO:

Her birthday is January, 25th 1979. She was born in Brooklyn, New York to Haitian immigrant parents. When she was 13, her family moved to Florida. She studied at Chaminade-Madonna College Preparatory, Howard University, and St. Thomas University School of Law.

She was named Miramar's Progressive Woman of the Year in 2019, and Community Voice of the Year in 2020.

She doesn't refer to herself as a politician, but a mother, wife, and advocate for social justice. You can follow her on her website and various social media platforms.

<https://cherfilus-mccormick.house.gov/>

<https://www.sheilafordistrict20.com/>

<https://twitter.com/Sheila4Congress>

<https://www.instagram.com/sheilaforcongress/>

<https://www.facebook.com/SheilaForCongress>



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Women's History Month Spotlight: Broward County Sheriff's Office

By BSO, **Miranda Grossman**

From ballerina to biology and forensic science, Broward Sheriff's Office Crime Lab Director Claudine Carter Pereira is the first female Crime Lab director at BSO and the first and only Black Crime Lab director in Florida. She shares her wide experience with Sheriff Gregory Tony in celebration of Women's History Month.

FOR as long as she could remember, Dir. Carter Pereira aspired to be a prima ballerina. Although she never stopped dancing, she put ballet on the backburner to obtain degrees in biology and forensic science.

"I started out dancing at three-years-old. I fell in love with ballet from day one. I trained in New York and had aspirations of becoming a ballerina. Then I had some injuries that prevented me from being able to continue that professional level. So all of the sudden I had to have a plan b. I think it's funny that I went from

being a ballerina and my plan b was a forensic scientist," Dir. Carter Pereira said. "I always loved science. I teach dance from a science perspective. I teach my ballet from a physics perspective."

Dir. Carter Pereira manages more than 55 employees who analyze evidence from across Broward County. The Crime Lab analyzes multiple areas of forensics, including a DNA Unit, Evidence Intake Unit, Latent Print Unit, Chemistry Unit and Firearms and Toolmarks Unit. She talks about the reality of working in forensics and how

it has changed since she first started her career.

"If you look at the science field, it's been a predominantly male field for years. You can see the transition in our crime lab. It started out that there were hardly any female leaders, barely any female scientists. Now it's completely changed. It's almost 50-50. We may even have more females than males," Dir. Carter Pereira said.

Listen to Sheriff Tony's conversation with Dir. Carter Pereira as they discuss the intricate science behind forensics, dance and the dedication

it takes to do both in the latest episode of Shop Talk with the Sheriff podcast for free [HERE](#) or on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, Google Podcasts and Pocket Casts, iHeartRadio, Breaker, Overcast, RadioPublic and Castbox.

If you are interested in submitting questions or topics to discuss on an episode, please send a direct message via Facebook (@BrowardSheriffsOffice), Twitter (@browardsheriff), Instagram (@BrowardSheriffsOffice) or email the questions to AskTheSheriff@sheriff.org.



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