



News >> Page 5
Making Waves!
**Jazz Fest Pompano Beach
Announces 2025 Lineup**



THE CITY'S NEW DOWNTOWN

IS ANOTHER STEP CLOSER TO BECOMING A REALITY

The \$2 billion Downtown Master Developer agreement with RocaPoint Partners, LLC was voted upon and passed during special joint meetings held by the City-Commission and its CRA. This achievement officially launches an exciting new stage in the development of a Downtown destination!

“THIS is a transformative moment for Pompano Beach,” said Mayor Rex Hardin. “Years of planning and community input will culminate in a new era of prosperity for our City. Our downtown will become an economic engine, creating jobs and keeping taxes low. While other cities grapple with outdated designs, Pompano Beach will be a beacon of innovation.”

The Downtown will also introduce new and exciting amenities for our residents, enhancing their quality of life.

RocaPoint Partners has a stellar reputation as a Master Developer creating forward-thinking projects where residents live, work, raise families, and have fun! Stay tuned for additional updates on this exciting project at www.downtownpompanobeach.org.



Celebrate and Preserve Pompano Beach's Rich Black History

Rock Road Restoration Historical Group and the City of Pompano Beach are proud to announce The Gathering, a special event dedicated to celebrating and preserving the rich history of Pompano Beach's Black community. This unique free family event will offer various activities aimed at collecting, documenting, and archiving residents' stories and photos. The event is September 14, 2024, from 12 pm to 4 pm at Apollo Park.

■ *Black History, see page 10*

Back-to-School Struggles in Broward County

By Attiyya Atkins

A new school year always comes with its fair share of chaos, but for students in Broward County, this one hit a little differently. Between long lines at the newly installed metal detectors and a strict no-phone policy, the first few days of school felt more

like an obstacle course than a fresh start.

Metal Detectors Mean Long Waits
Imagine rolling up to school, already half-awake, only to be met with a line stretching down the sidewalk. That's exactly what happened to students in Broward County this year thanks to the district's new metal detectors. Many

high school students at Blanche Ely high school waited more than 45 minutes just to get through the doors. Laptops, umbrellas, and even binders set off the alarms, slowing down the process. The district apologized and promised things would get better, but for students, "it was a frustrating way to kick off the year," said senior Sahmone Atkins.

No-Phone Rule Has Everyone Talking

As if long lines weren't enough, students were also hit with a new no-phone policy. That means no texting, no scrolling, and no TikTok—even during lunch. Headphones and AirPods? Also banned. While the rule

■ *Back-to-School, see page 10*



NONE OF THESE THINGS SHOULD MOVE YOU

moving—whether you step forward in faith or stay stuck in the past, wondering what could have been.

Villij News!

Acts 20:24 says, “None of these things move me unless I use it doing the work assigned to me by our Lord Jesus Christ—telling the good news of His love and grace.”

Paul speaks about the past, the present, and the future.

- He talks about the past, reflecting on his ministry and his unwavering love for the gospel.
- He acknowledges the present, understanding that this will be his last meeting before facing trials.
- And he speaks on the future, reminding us that as disciples, we must keep pressing forward.

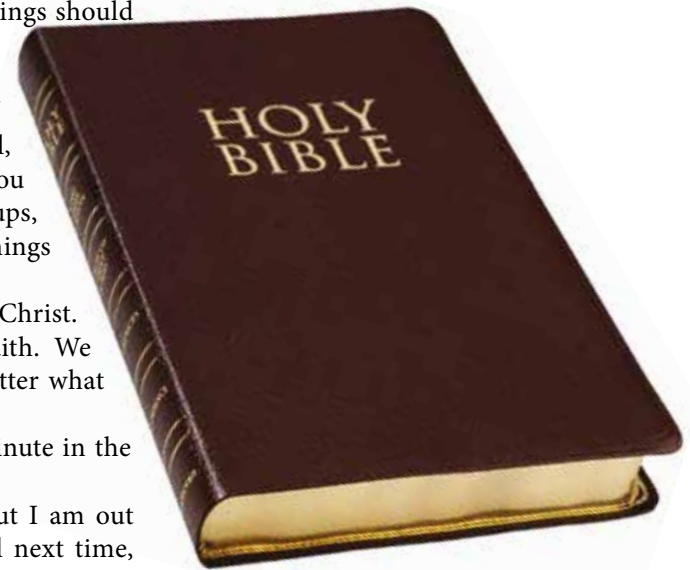
Listen, none of these things should move you—not depression, divorce, doubt, disbelief, or danger. None of these things moved Paul, and they shouldn’t move you either. Headaches, hiccups, hangups—none of these things should shake your faith.

We have to grow up in Christ. We have to mature in faith. We have to stand firm, no matter what comes our way.

And that’s your One Minute in the Word.

I’m not out of word, but I am out of lines, Villij News. Until next time, know this—I’m pulling for you, I’m praying for you, and I believe in you.

God bless you. Stay connected.



By: Rev Griff

I’m Rev Griff and this is your One Minute in the Word.

I’m in the book of Acts. Life keeps

YOU ARE INVITED
WORSHIP WITH US

Service

SUNDAY SCHOOL 8:45 A.M.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERVICE 9:45 A.M.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE

STUDY 6:30 P.M.



OPEN ARMS DELIVERANCE
**PASTOR HENRY AND
LADY BELINDA GOODWIN**



Alison Fournier



Debresia LeSane



Audrey Fesik



Andrea McGee



Rhonda Eaton



Ed Phillips



Barry Moss



Sajan Kurian



Rex Hardin



Thomas McMahon



Beverly Perkins

Pompano Beach Candidates Running for Office

By **Mikeyla Bien-Aime**

Election Day is Tuesday, November 4. Be informed. Office: Mayor - At-Large – Keep it Traditional or New Face on Dais?

Rex Hardin

Rex Hardin has been a long-time resident and active member of the Pompano Beach community. He served as a City Commissioner before becoming Mayor. Rex focuses on improving city services and infrastructure. He is involved in local organizations like the Rotary Club and the Sample-McDougald House Preservation Society. Rex also owns a local printing business and works as a real estate agent.

Debresia LeSane

Debresia LeSane is a fresh face in Pompano Beach politics and aims to bring fresh ideas to the community. She focuses on increasing community engagement and transparency. Debresia believes in listening to residents' concerns and working together to find solutions. She has a background in community service and wants to improve the quality of life in Pompano Beach. Her goal is to make local government more responsive and effective.

Office: Commissioner - District 1 – Cousins on Different Sides of Development

Audrey Fesik

Audrey Fesik is running for District 1 Commissioner with a focus on public safety and local services. She has been actively involved in community events and volunteer work. Audrey wants to ensure that the voices of residents are heard in city decisions. She believes in working closely with local law enforcement to keep neighborhoods safe. Audrey is committed to transparency and accountability in government.

Andrea Leigh McGee

Andrea Leigh McGee has been the District 1 Commissioner since 2018. She grew up in Pompano Beach and has a degree in Communications from the University of Miami. Andrea worked in the film industry and real estate before entering politics. She focuses on smart growth and creating job opportunities in the city. Andrea meets with residents and developers to ensure projects benefit the community.

Office: Commissioner - District 2 - Unopposed

Rhonda Eaton

Rhonda Eaton is dedicated to

improving local education and public services in District 2. She is active in various community groups and works to support local schools. Rhonda wants to make sure that city services are accessible to all residents. She emphasizes the importance of transparency and communication in local government. Rhonda is committed to making Pompano Beach a better place to live.

Office: Commissioner - District 3 Past Candidate vs. Previous Past Candidate

Alison Fournier

Incumbent Alison Fournier is focused on environmental sustainability and public health. She has participated in numerous local projects aimed at improving the community. Alison believes in working closely with residents to address their concerns. She wants to enhance public amenities and services in District 3. Alison aims to bring a new perspective to the city commission.

Thomas McMahon

Thomas McMahon has experience in local government and is dedicated to improving infrastructure. He focuses on community safety and effective governance. Thomas listens to residents' needs and works to address them. He

believes in maintaining transparency and accountability. Thomas is committed to enhancing the quality of life in District 3.

Office: Commissioner - District 4

John Jones

John Jones is dedicated to economic development and public safety. He has a background in business and believes in practical solutions for local issues. John wants to attract new businesses to Pompano Beach to create jobs. He is committed to making the city a safer place to live. John listens to residents' concerns and works to address them effectively.

Beverly Perkins

Beverly Perkins has been active in local politics, focusing on social justice and community development. She works to ensure that all residents have equal opportunities and services. Beverly is involved in various local organizations and initiatives. She believes in transparency and accountability in government. Beverly is committed to improving the quality of life in District 4, and has been a commissioner for more than 20 years.

Edward W. Phillips

Edward W. Phillips is focused

■ *Candidates, see page 10*

Imagination Unchained

A Three-Day Juneteenth Celebration by Black Genius in Flight

By **Kristen Hernandez**

Lauderhill, FL – Black Genius in Flight’s Juneteenth celebration showed South Florida what it means to be Black and unchained. The three-day event was presented at the Lauderhill Performing Arts Center, located at 3800 NW 11th Place, Lauderhill.

“BLACK Genius in Flight brings the message through the music,” said Stichiz, featured R&B artist and radio DJ for 103.5 The Beat. “We spread it using poetry to art to the violin.”

With the help of Next Weekend Productions, the Juneteenth event was split into three cultural categories, each dedicated to the

selected themes of art, comedy and concert. Each day had surprise guests, like a performance by MTV’s Making the Band semi-finalist Marcus Terrell and the Serenades; a discussion with filmmaker, Chavoita LeSane, about his documentary, *On the Line*; and a surprise performance by Grammy-nominated duo, Black Violin.

Opening Night – Cultural Arts

The Juneteenth celebration kicked off with a showcase of local Black artists, screenwriters, producers and actors. *Imagination Unchained* highlighted the captivating works of Michael Love, who continued the legacy of the Florida Highwaymen, a group of 26 African American artists from the 1950’s through the 1980’s, that used bright, vivid colors to capture beautiful untouched Florida landscapes.



Alexander Star,
Recording Artist



Host, Nicki Gelin



Music Artist Yung Wylin



Violinists, Sons of MyStro

Attendees had an opportunity to have a frank and open conversation with Florida filmmaker, Chavoita LeSane, creator and executive producer of the documentary about his father “*On the Line: The Richard Williams Documentary*.” The film focused on the life story of Richard Williams, who catapulted his daughters, Serena and Venus Williams, into tennis legends. According to LeSane, the film “wasn’t the full story of my father.” “Future events will be more educational,” Belvit Jordan said, CEO of Next Weekend Productions. “More education progressively moves the story forward. Our focus is ‘edu-tainment,’ a fun way to bring knowledge to people about the facts of our history as Black Americans. We’ve got three librarians who consulted on the fact checking element, so that what we’re putting on stage can’t be denied or debunked. No matter what angle we go, you’ll always get the truth.”

Freedom and Pride– A Night of Synergy

Black Genius in Flight combined Pride month into their Juneteenth celebration on day two, with “A Night of Synergy,” featuring headliner, Marcus Terrell and the Serenades. The evening

was hosted by Frankie Red Wordz, who introduced skilled beats by DJ Dimples, three-time consecutive winner of the Southern Entertainment Award’s Female DJ of the Year.

The night provided a fun, exciting evening of hilarious comedy, stunning visual arts and unified power.

The Banger – Signature Concert featuring Sons of MyStro and Friends

Imagination Unchained wouldn’t have been complete without the headline concert by Sons of MyStro, the talented, crossover duo that precisely mixed classical instruments with hip-hop, serving up a fusion of musical mastery.

“Saturday was ‘The Banger,’ because when we’ve delivered a message and ‘drop the mic,’ we’re not dropping anything,” Jordan said. “We’re going to ‘bang, bang, bang it up!’”

Guest performers were introduced by host, Nicky Gelin, and included sets by Stichiz; Young Wylin, top ten artist on Billboard; Emmy-nominated, Alexander Star; and award-winning poet, Ja Rhymes. Concert attendees were treated to a surprise performance by Grammy-nominated duo,

Black Violin, winners of Showtime at the Apollo in 2005.

“That ending with the surprise, Black Violin, was really moving,” said Marvin Dejean, 55, Pompano Beach resident, after the show. “It’s not just Black history, it’s our American history. The fabric of this country is changing. Awareness is changing people. The next generation is seeing a very different country.”

Our current political climate and constant division across the country needs the message of Juneteenth more than ever. The third annual Juneteenth experience, *Imaginations Unchained*, was a movement, not just a local event. It showcased the talented Black artists around South Florida who’s imaginations remain unchained, and creativity knows no bounds.

“The history of the contribution of Black people is in jeopardy,” Jordan said. “Folks are trying to change the narrative of the stories and history of our contributions. The new generation doesn’t know the truth, that the narrative will only change if we change the way we tell the truth. People of color in Florida are an asset to this country, we dream big, and we are world changers.”



Stichiz Radio Host



Artist Marcus Terrell and the Serenades

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Making Waves! Jazz Fest Pompano Beach Announces 2025 Lineup

FREE MUSIC FESTIVAL BRINGS GRAMMY WINNERS AND RISING STARS TO CITY'S SHORE

Mark your calendars, music lovers! Pompano Beach Arts is thrilled to announce Jazz Fest Pompano Beach will return to the City's beautiful shore on January 24th and 25th, 2025.

THIS 4th annual festival promises to be bigger and tastier than ever before, featuring a stellar lineup of renowned jazz musicians including Joshua Redman & Gabrielle Cavassa, Judith Hill, Randy Brecker, and Jazz Funk Soul alongside a vibrant new food court with a New Orleans flavor! This free festival will once again be hosted by Mark Ruffin of Sirius XM's Real Jazz. There is no charge for General Admission tickets but registration is required. There are a limited number of VIP Seats at \$200 for a 2-day pass. Complete details at www.pompanobeacharts.org/jazzfest.

"This year's event will feature two days of critically acclaimed artists who have graced the stages of the biggest jazz events in the world. We are honored to produce this landmark festival for our community, shining the spotlight on our City while welcoming music lovers from all over the state and beyond," said Ty Tabing, Director of The City of Pompano Beach Cultural Affairs Department, operating as Pompano Beach Arts. "Our Cultural Affairs Department is grateful to the City Commission for their support of events like Jazz Fest, which impact our City's economic development while enhancing the quality of life for our residents."

During the next few months more details about the festival will be announced including food vendors, art installations and much more.

Learn more at www.pompanobeacharts.org/jazzfest.





Pompano Beach Arts Unveils Exciting Upcoming Season

“State of the Arts: A Look Ahead” Previews 2024/2025 Cultural Events

Pompano Beach Arts is thrilled to invite the community to attend an entertaining evening dedicated to celebrating the upcoming artistic season. State of the Arts: A Look Ahead is a must-attend event, bringing together residents, artists, and cultural enthusiasts from across South Florida. The free event on September 17, 2024 begins with a reception at 6:30 pm, followed by a presentation featuring an electrifying preview of the dynamic programming to come, with live performances, exciting announcements, and ticket giveaways.

“WE are so proud of the incredible growth of our arts programming and the wonderful input our audiences have provided, informing our planning and

helping us create the stellar season that is to come,” said Ty Tabing, Director of The City of Pompano Beach Cultural Affairs Department, operating as Pompano Beach Arts. “This

year we are bringing back some of your favorite events, adding in top requests, and expanding our repertoire with live theatre and other compelling productions.”

During this event, guests will be among the first to discover the extraordinary season of arts and entertainment in Pompano Beach, with live previews from the City’s own professional theater company, the Pompano Beach Players, as they embark on their inaugural season.

Also being unveiled this year is the City’s Black Box Theater located at the Ali Cultural Arts

Center, which will debut in March 2025. With support from the Broward Cultural Division, Pompano Beach Arts will be providing stipends to six community partners to create bold and original productions that connect with our audiences.

The event also provides a unique opportunity to connect with the new class of Artists in Residence (AiR) from Bailey Contemporary Arts (BaCA). The AiR Program provides artists with studio space to create new work, collaborate with fellow resident artists, and engage with the community.

Attendees can also win tickets to upcoming shows and events, including VIP passes to the highly anticipated Jazz Fest Pompano Beach 2025, which will be bigger and better than ever, with an expanded footprint featuring two stages and a stellar array of artists including Randy Brecker, Judith Hill, Joshua Redman & Gabrielle Cavassa, and Jazz Funk Soul. Taking place directly on the City’s stunning beach on January 24 & 25, the free event also features emerging talents, live art, and incredible food and cocktails.



Man Tries to Kidnap 15-Year-Old Girl in Pompano

The Broward Sheriff's Office Special Victims Unit is releasing a composite sketch of a man who attempted to kidnap a 15-year-old girl in Pompano Beach. Detectives are also releasing surveillance video of the subject's vehicle.

According to investigators, the vicious crime occurred at around 6:45 a.m., on Thursday, Aug. 29, near the 200 block of Northwest 12th Court. The young girl told investigators she was walking to school heading westbound on Northwest 12th Court when an unknown man driving a grey colored sedan stopped her and ordered her to get into his vehicle. The victim declined and continued to walk

westbound.

Detectives say the man drove beside the girl again and pointed a black and grey firearm at her and demanded she gets into the car. The girl quickly fled the area to a place of safety and reported the incident. The subject's vehicle fled eastbound.

Surveillance video from the area captures the victim walking to school. It also

captures the subject's vehicle following the girl. The car is then seen fleeing the location.

Investigators described the subject as an adult male, between 20 and 35 years of age. At the time of the incident, the subject had facial hair and was wearing a white tank top and black gym shorts. The subject was driving a grey colored sedan.

Man Shot in Pompano Beach

A 44-year-old man is dead after being shot in Pompano Beach, and detectives with the Broward Sheriff's Office Homicide Unit are investigating the circumstances surrounding his murder.

At approximately 4:44 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 19, BSO deputies and Pompano Beach Fire Rescue responded to a shooting call near the 1500 block of Northeast 28th Street. On scene, emergency crews

located the victim, Keith Bryan Poole, suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. Paramedics transported the victim to Broward Health North, where he was later pronounced deceased.

According to witnesses, Poole was standing outside of his residence when a subject known to him began shooting. Detectives say the shooter fled the scene following the incident. BSO Crime Scene and Homicide Unit detectives

responded and are currently investigating the fatal shooting.

Anyone with information on this incident should contact BSO Homicide Detective Steve Novak at 954-321-4325 or submit a tip through the SaferWatch App. If you wish to remain anonymous, please contact Broward Crime Stoppers at 954-493-TIPS (8477), online at browardcrimestoppers.org, or dial **TIPS (8477) from any cellphone in the United States.

SUPPORT LOCAL JOURNALISM



Attiyya Atkins

Scan to pay \$Tiyais

The Vault Opens Soon

The historic bank building in Old Town is getting a new lease on life as construction advances on The Vault, a 1920's style restaurant promising a unique dining experience. The building, steeped in local lore, was once the target of a daring heist by the infamous Ashley Gang.

JOHN Ashley, known as the "swamp bandit" led the notorious criminal outfit operating in South



Florida during the early 20th century. Despite a long rap sheet which included murder and moonshining, John had a tremendous following among Florida crackers who looked at him as a Robin Hood-style character who provided money and food to those in need.

Known for hiding out in the Everglades, it has been reported that the gang, which also included his family members,

robbed over 40 banks between 1915 and 1924, raking in over \$1 million. Part of that haul occurred when they robbed the Bank of Pompano in September 1924. Armed with rifles and pistols, they stormed the bank, terrorizing employees and making off with thousands in cash and bonds. The brazen heist sent shockwaves through the community, but as it turned out, their days would be numbered. Thanks

to a tip by a rumored insider, possibly John's disgruntled brother-in-law, the gang was killed by law enforcement in Fort Pierce that November. Their demise was major news, but since the Ashley Gang had survived so many close calls, the public was skeptical they were dead. To prove the bandits were indeed gone, all four corpses were carried outside and displayed on the sidewalk in front of the mortuary!

**Tripadvisor
Travelers'
Choice Awards**



***Pompano Beach
wins TripAdvisor Travelers
Choice Award***

The reviews are in! Pompano Beach is proud to be a 2024 TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Award winner. This esteemed award places Pompano Beach among the top 10% of global destinations based on consistently excellent reviews from visitors.

The award is a testament to the authentic experiences and positive impressions shared by countless travelers on Tripadvisor over 12 months. Their firsthand feedback highlights Pompano Beach as a must-visit destination!



Obituary Richard Lee Macon

Owner of Freeman Macon Funeral Home

Richard Lee Macon was born on June 19, 1929, in Midway, Florida to Ruby and Fred Macon. He was the fourth of eight children and a midwife brought him into this world. At the age of six, he moved to West Palm Beach, Florida to live with his grandmother Rebecca Johnson so he could attend Finnell, a private school.

AT the age of seven, he moved back to Midway, Florida. While he was in the 4th grade, his family moved to Delray Beach, Florida. At the age of 15, Richard began his first job selling pins in a bowling alley. His second job was as a bellhop at a hotel.

At the age of 18, Richard joined the United States Army. In the Army, he was the chaplain's assistant and a corporal (the highest rank at the time). He received an honorable discharge and moved back to Delray Beach, Florida. While in Delray Beach, he became the first black police officer. Six months later, he left the department

because he was accepted into Morehouse College and he stayed for three years. He also attended Wesleyan University in Connecticut for two years, where he was one of the few blacks attending the university. He was the only black top pledge Delta Sigma Fraternity. Additionally, he also attended Florida A&M University for three years. Richard received his teaching certificate from Tallahassee, Florida to teach grades 1-12.

In 1967-1968, he was a substitute teacher in both Delray Beach and Pompano Beach. In 1966, Richard moved to Pompano Beach permanently to help his family and his sister, Teresa Freeman. While living



in Pompano Beach, he became interested in the funeral home business. He began helping his sister and liked the funeral home business. At the time, he did not have any experience in the business. Therefore, he attended Miami-Dade College where he received an associate degree in

Mortuary Science and General Studies. In 1970, he became a licensed funeral director and started working at Freeman Funeral Home, the first black funeral home in Pompano Beach.

The original Freeman Funeral Home was located on the corner of Hammondville

Road and NW 10th Avenue in Pompano Beach. In 1967, Richard purchased the property where Freeman Funeral Home is now located (738 Hammondville Road/Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd). During the early days of his business, the local families would ask Richard to bury their loved ones and offered their houses or property as payment. Although most funeral homes accepted family property, Richard would refuse to take the property because he felt it was best for families to keep their homes. In the meantime, he buried a lot of people for free.

Richard also started an ambulance company to transport blacks to the local hospitals. Many babies were born in the company's hearse in route to the hospital. Richard had a compassionate heart and used it to help others. Richard serves his community with the pride and honor. He has been a funeral director for 46 years.

Candidates

continued from page 3

on improving public services and community engagement. He has a background in community service and local governance. Edward believes in listening to residents and addressing their concerns. He wants to make local government more responsive and effective. Edward is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in District 4.

Office: Commissioner - District 5

Grant Archer

Grant Archer has a background in business and public service. He focuses on economic development and improving local infrastructure. Grant believes in community engagement and listening to residents' needs. He aims to bring practical solutions to the city commission. Grant is dedicated to making District 5 a better place to live.

Cyndy Floyd

Cyndy Floyd is involved in various community initiatives, focusing on public health and safety. She works to support local businesses and improve community services and was the first Black commissioner for District 5. Cyndy believes in transparency and accountability in government. She listens to residents' concerns and works to address them. Cyndy is committed to enhancing the quality of life in District 5.

Sajan Kurian

Sajan Kurian is dedicated to improving education and public services in District 5. He has experience in community service and local governance. Sajan believes in innovative solutions to local issues. He listens to residents and works to address their concerns. Sajan is committed to making Pompano Beach a better place to live.

Darlene H. Smith

Darlene H. Smith focuses on enhancing public services and community engagement. She has a background in education and community service. Darlene believes in listening to residents and addressing their needs. She is dedicated to transparency and accountability in government. Darlene aims to improve the quality of life in District 5.

Back-to-School

continued from page 1

was meant to help students focus, a lot of parents and students aren't happy, especially when it comes to emergency situations. The district says phones can be used in emergencies, but most students just feel disconnected. The hope is that turning the phones off will increase classroom engagement.

Trying to Find a Balance

After a rough start, the district has been working to smooth things out. By day two, they made changes to speed up the security checks, and lines were moving a little faster. But students are still getting used to the stricter rules. It's clear Broward County schools are trying to prioritize safety and focus, but with all these changes, it's taking time for everyone to adjust. One thing's for sure—this school year started off different.

McNab House and Botanical Gardens Project Takes Root

City of Pompano Beach Blog

After careful review of the input gathered during several public meetings, the Pompano Beach CRA has tapped Bermello Ajamil & Partners (BA) to begin the major site plan process for the McNab House and Botanical Gardens Project. The CRA has also selected renowned placemaking consultant Biederman Redevelopment Ventures (BRV) to advise on the programming, amenities, and events that will energize the space and create a welcoming environment for residents and visitors alike.

“WE are thrilled to have these two outstanding firms working in concert to create a stunning destination for our City,” said Nguyen Tran, CRA Director. “Throughout the next year, as we finalize the master plan and enter into the site plan process, there will be more opportunities for public engagement before the construction phase commences.”

The CRA embarked on this ambitious plan to transform the underutilized McNab Park into a vibrant destination featuring a restaurant, event pavilion, and botanical garden. BA has been involved with the project from the beginning, creating the conceptual



plan, which also includes a classroom/multipurpose building, a children's garden and playground, and a modest water feature, along with accompanying infrastructure, lush landscaping, and other elements.

To ensure a successful and comprehensive project, BA has assembled a team of experts including Kravit Architectural who will lead the design of the McNab House and Garage conversions, including the kitchen, restaurant restrooms, and event pavilion. BA Architecture will focus on the classroom, restroom, and maintenance buildings.

To achieve a cohesive design aligned with programming goals, BRV has joined the team at this stage. They'll analyze and optimize the plans, fostering collaboration between all elements to streamline

operations and maximize revenue potential, while minimizing unnecessary capital and operational costs.

BRV is a well-known placemaking consulting firm that creates, redevelops, and operates parks, public spaces, neighborhood streetscapes, and the public realms of mixed-use developments. Some of the firm's key projects include Bryant Park in New York City; Mission Rock in San Francisco, California; Fair Park in Dallas, Texas and many others.

The CRA recently had their first architectural meeting to review the master plan, fine tune the square footage of the buildings, and review the operational structure. The next milestone in this transformative project will be the announcement of the restaurant operator, which is anticipated in the coming months.

Black History

continued from page 1

“Preserving the experiences, contributions, and achievements of the residents and ancestors of our historic Black neighborhoods is vital to understanding our City's cultural tapestry,” said Ty Tabing, Director of the Pompano Beach Cultural Affairs Department, operating as Pompano Beach Arts. “We're proud to partner with the Rock Road Restoration Historical Group on The Gathering, ensuring this heritage is cherished for years to come.”

Through this effort, the City aims

to enrich the collections held at the Pompano Beach Historical Society, Blanche Ely House Museum, and Ali Cultural Arts Center by gathering photographs and historical artifacts from participating community members. This project will support a more equitable presentation of Pompano Beach history, offering researchers and the community a fuller representation of the local Black experience.

Highlights of the event include:

- Photograph Scanning Station:

Attendees are encouraged to bring their old photos to be scanned and digitized on-site.

- Oral History Recording Booth: Community members can share their personal stories for inclusion in the local archives.

- Historical Exhibit: Explore displays featuring historical documents and artifacts that tell the story of the community.

- Refreshment Area: Enjoy light refreshments while connecting with fellow attendees.



BROWARD HEALTHPOINT CONDUCTS 144 PHYSICALS AND IMMUNIZATIONS DURING BACK TO-SCHOOL JAMBOREE

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA – Broward HealthPoint conducted 144 free health screenings and immunizations during the Back to School Jamboree for children ages 4-18.

Simultaneous events at the Cora E. Braynon Family Health Center in Ft. Lauderdale and at Pompano Pe-

diatric Primary and Prenatal Care Center serviced the community to ensure students were ready to go back to school. The family-friendly events also offered food, entertainment, and school supply giveaways.

To schedule an appointment for immunizations, please call 954-759-6600.



SOULFUL SUNDAYS

Join us for Soulful Sundays with powerhouse singer Candace Woodson as she performs classic hits from legendary artists including Aretha Franklin, Phyllis Hyman, Valerie Simpson and more.




SEPTEMBER 8 | 6-9PM

POMPANOBEACHARTS.ORG | 954.454.7800





living room CONCERT SERIES


You are invited to a captivating concert featuring Arlene Coutee, a dynamic dancer from the Windy City's vibrant west side.



BLANCHE ELY HOUSE MUSEUM

SEPTEMBER 26 | 7PM





Letter From the Editor



WAKE UP POMPANO

Pompano Beach's has transformed from a sleepy beach town to a vibrant hub of arts and culture.

We have events like Old Town Untapped, a monthly arts festival held every first Friday, or art gallery showings at the Bailey Contemporary Arts Center. It's a testament to our community's growing appreciation for the arts and a perfect way to support local talent.

HOWEVER, as Pompano Beach undergoes this cultural and economic renaissance, we must ensure that the Black community is not left behind. I encourage you to attend city meetings, engage with local initiatives, and explore ways to be part of the city's vision for the future. Your voice matters in shaping the next chapter of Pompano Beach.

Beyond the arts, Pompano Beach's culi-

nary and music scene continues to thrive. The legacy of Black-owned restaurants and talented chefs in Pompano Beach is a key part of this growth. From the oh-so-good flavors of Bojo's Seafood Kitchen to the creative marketing genius of Q Da Souse Man, these local businesses are setting the standard. We should all take inspiration from their innovation and apply the same drive and creativity in our respective professions.

This season is a celebration of transformation and community spirit, a reminder that the heart of Pompano Beach beats stronger than ever. As always, we encourage you to explore, support, and immerse yourself in all that our incredible city has to offer. And remember—your vote matters! This will be a critical local and presidential election in November, and every vote counts, even though some may say otherwise. Make your voice heard and be a part of shaping our future locally and nationally.

**Stay inspired,
Attiyya Atkins**



Why Do I Attract Emotionally Unavailable Men?

Q : Annie, I keep finding myself in relationships with men who can't commit or express their emotions. They start off strong, but as soon as things get serious, they pull away. Am I doing something wrong, or is it just bad luck?

**Sincerely,
Tired of It**

A : Start being emotionally unavailable your own damn self. You might be just too available and that's a turn off. Yin and yang is a universal principle, and these men's unavailability could match perfect with your openness and go-for-anything attitude. This could be a pattern rooted in your own childhood experiences – you'd need to see a therapist for that! I don't have them type of answers, girl. I suggest doing some retail therapy on their dime. Get your lick back sis!

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