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Manuel Oliver To Speak At FAU's Student Activism Program



FAU Receives Endowment to Name LeRoy Collins Public Ethics Academy



FAU Volleyball Opens Season at Sunshine State Challenge

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See Page 8 for full story

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The Boca Raton Tribune PAGE TWO

Quote of the Week:

"The LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One will Save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing." - Zephaniah 3:17

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BOCA BEAT

BY: PEDRO HEIZER

Congratulations to Scott Singer and Andy Thomson on winning the Boca Raton Mayor and Seat A races! Both men will do a great job as they both have great visions for the city!



- There is a new Mayor and Council Member taking their spot at the Council Chambers. Scott Singer and Andy Thomson both won their races after a special election was held on Tuesday, August 28 to fill the Mayoral spot left by Susan Haynie who is still suspended by Governor Rick Scott.

- Florida Atlantic University's student activism program for high school students, "The Barb Schmidt Fellowship: Cultivating Community Involvement, Activism and Social Change," will launch on Saturday, Aug. 25. Manuel Oliver, co-founder with his wife Patricia of "Change the Ref" (CTR), will be the keynote speaker for the day. Oliver's address will begin at 11 a.m. in the University Theatre.

- Palm Beach State College has become a hiring pipeline for the nation's No. 1 eye hospital. Twelve graduates of the Ophthalmic Medical Technology program currently work at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Palm Beach Gardens as ophthalmic technicians, comprising almost one-half of the facility's technician staff of about 25.

- Florida Atlantic University's Public Ethics Academy within the School of Public Administration in the College for Design and Social Inquiry recently received a \$475,000 endowment from the LeRoy Collins Legacy Group, Inc. to name the LeRoy Collins Public Ethics Academy in honor of former Florida Gov. LeRoy Collins.

- The popular STEM Saturday that draws dozens of children to Palm Beach State College each month is going big with STEAM Fest 2018, a new initiative slated for Sept. 22 at the Lake Worth campus.

- Boca Raton Regional Hospital has again been recognized as a top-ranked regional hospital in U.S. News & World Report's 2018-2019 annual review of its Best Hospitals. The Hospital is currently ranked 13th out of approximately 300 hospitals in Florida and 3rd in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale metro area, making it the highest ranked hospital in Palm Beach County. Last year, Boca Regional was ranked 16th in Florida and 6th in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale metro area.

- Financial Peace University is coming to Boca Raton with two locations. One at Spanish River Church and the other at Victory Church.

- Florida Atlantic University's A.D. Henderson University School has been named the No. 2 Best Public Elementary School and the No. 8 Best Public Middle School in America by Niche, the largest website for researching public and private K-12 schools.

- Palm Beach County schools will be closed on Tuesday, August 28, after the School Board approved a revision to the 2018-2019 school calendar. August 28 is Primary Election Day in Florida, and many School District of Palm Beach County schools are used as polling places. The School Board proposed the change following discussions with Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections, Susan Bucher.

- The Eugene M. & Christine E. Lynn Cancer Institute (LCI) at Boca Raton Regional Hospital has once again received a three-year accreditation from the Commission on Cancer (CoC), a program of the American College of Surgeons. The CoC evaluates cancer care programs on their commitment to provide comprehensive, high-quality and multidisciplinary patient-centered care.

- The School District of Palm Beach County is an A-rated district, and has the highest number of District-operated "A" schools when compared with other large urban school districts. According to preliminary school grades released Wednesday by the Florida Department of Education, the District ranks highest in Florida on total number of points earned when compared with other large urban districts.



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COMMUNITY

Manuel Oliver To Speak At FAU's Student Activism Program



Florida Atlantic University's student activism program for high school students, "The Barb Schmidt Fellowship: Cultivating Community Involvement, Activism and Social Change," will launch on Saturday, Aug. 25. Manuel Oliver, co-founder with his wife Patricia of "Change the Ref" (CTR), will be the keynote speaker for the day. Oliver's address will begin at 11 a.m. in the University Theatre, 777 Glades Road, Boca Raton campus and is open to the public. CTR was founded in memory of the couple's son, Joaquin Oliver, who was one of the 17 victims of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in February. For more information, contact Suzy Livingston at slivingston@fau.edu or 561-297-3158.

Manuel and Patricia Oliver are committed to making sure that their son's life and the lives of the other 16 victims are never forgotten and that real change happens to prevent future tragedies like this from happening ever again. CTR gives the kids of today the tools they need to be empowered to make changes to critical issues that affect our nation, through education, conversation and activism.

The Barb Schmidt Fellowship program at FAU also has the goal of empowering youth by providing student leaders with a platform to develop the skills and knowledge needed to initiate, execute and sustain a social movement. The fellowship gives students hands-on experience through peer mentorship and workshops led by social influencers and FAU faculty. Students will learn key

professional and technical skills that are essential for driving social change.

The program will run on weekends throughout the 2018-19 school year with the goal of creating a project portfolio to include all aspects of social movement development and implementation by the end of the spring semester. The 30 high school students in the program are from Palm Beach and Broward counties and were chosen through an application process this past summer. The students will earn six college credits (three per semester) and a \$1,000 stipend upon successful completion of both fall and spring semesters.

"We have all been inspired by what youth leaders are doing to make our world a better place. We want to support the work being done by facilitating students' growth in community engagement and social change efforts," said Michael Horswell, Ph.D., dean of FAU's Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters. "Becoming a Barb Schmidt Fellow will help students gain essential skills for successful organizing, foster partnerships through networking with other activists, university faculty and community leaders, and enable the launch of multiple projects for the benefit of our communities."

Donors interested in making a gift to support a student(s) fellowship can make a donation at fauf.fau.edu/Barb-SchmidtFellowship or by contacting Gail Vorsas at gvorsas@fau.edu or 561-297-2337. All gifts to the program made by Saturday, Sept. 1, 2018 will be generously matched by Peaceful Mind Peaceful Life.

Singer Elected Mayor, Thomson Defeats Cottrell After Hand Count



There is a new Mayor and Council Member taking their spot at the Council Chambers.

Scott Singer and Andy Thomson both won their races after a special election was held on Tuesday, August 28 to fill the Mayoral spot left by Susan Haynie who is still suspended by Governor Rick Scott.

Deputy Mayor Scott Singer took over as mayor and decided to run for the seat in the special election, leaving his Seat A open for the taking.

Kathy Cottrell, Tamara McKee, and Andy Thomson all filled to earn the votes for Seat A, and after 72 hours since poll closed, Thomson was declared the winner after a manual count was done on Friday morning.

In the final tally, Thomson earned 7,927 votes, Cottrell earned 7,897, and McKee came in third with 2,133 votes.

"It is evident from this ex-

tremely close race that there is deep division within our City," said Thomson after his victory. "I am hopeful that now that it's over, we can all come together. My goal is to help us put aside our differences, focus on the issues that matter to our community, and get to work on making beautiful Boca even better."

In the Mayoral race, Scott Singer defeated Al Zucaro and Bernie Korn by earning 11,801 of the total 18,622 votes cast for Mayor. With 63.37 percent of the votes, Singer will officially take over as Mayor of Boca Raton and will finish out the term of suspended Susan Haynie.

"I am here to represent all residents," said Singer at his victory party at New York Prime restaurant. "I'll work to serve them whether they voted for me or not and move the city forward in a positive direction."

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No. 1-Ranked Bascom Palmer Fills Jobs with PBSC Grads

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"The Palm Beach State College program is very critical to our continued success," said Anthony R. Garand, executive director of the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Palm Beach Gardens and Naples. "I find that those who come through the program have a very sound foundation and practical skill set. All of them have been successful in putting what they've learned into practice. They are some of my best technicians."

The Ophthalmic Medical Technology program, based on the College's Palm Beach Gardens campus, launched in 2012 and awards a two-year Associate in Science degree. The professionally accredited program trains students to be ophthalmic medical technologists who assist eye physicians and surgeons in the evaluation of vision and treatment of patients with eye disorders. Bascom Palmer made its initial program hires in 2014 from the inaugural graduating class, and since then as many as 14 have been employed there.

As announced earlier this month, U.S. News & World Report once again ranked Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University of Miami Health System as the nation's best in ophthalmology. Recognized as a global leader in vision research, medical education and patient care, Bascom Palmer received the No. 1 ranking in 2018-19 for the 15th year in a row and the 17th time overall since the publication began surveying U.S. physicians for its annual "Best Hospitals" rankings 29 years ago.

"The greatest endorsement any program could ever receive is when the most highly respected ophthalmic institution in the world, who could attract and hire anyone they want, validates the quality of our graduates by hiring not one, but 14, with an interest in hiring more," said Robert M. Kershner, M.D., chairman, medical director and the lead professor for PBSC's Ophthalmic Medical Technology program.

"What Bascom Palmer has said to us is your students are so inquisitive. It's not just a job for them, it's a career," said Mark McKay, associate professor for the program.

Palm Beach Gardens native Kerri Bryant was that first graduate to be hired, and in two years she was promoted to a senior ophthalmic technician. She is the co-lead technician for the glaucoma service, and among a range of responsibilities, she helps train new technicians and manage schedules.

"I feel what is most valued by Bascom Palmer and by the doctors that I work with is that because of my educational background, I'm able to think a step ahead, see problems maybe down the road, or testing that the doctor will want," Bryant said. "I can tell that they're impressed. Palm Beach State really gave me the confidence to walk into the No. 1 eye hospital in the country and apply less than three months after I graduated and get in, and that's strictly because of the Ophthalmic Medical

Technology program."

Second to be hired was Ryan Stanfield. His interest in eyes started when he took a job at Pearl Vision and knew from the first day that he had found his niche. His interest in the medical side of vision was growing just as he heard about PBSC's new program.

Stanfield also has been promoted to senior ophthalmic technician and is now the co-lead technician for the retina service and lead technician for retina research. He works with doctors researching treatments or diagnostic testing and measures patients' visual acuity according to research protocols. He also trains other research technicians.

"I'm very lucky that we have Bascom Palmer in this area, and it was very nice of them to get me involved in the research and see if I was interested," Stanfield said. "Of course, I wouldn't be where I'm at today if it wasn't for the Palm Beach State program getting me prepared for the field. I wouldn't be able to even get my foot in the door at Bascom Palmer. I would have needed experience."

Usually, technician candidates aren't hired unless they have a one year minimum of work experience, but Bascom Palmer does give consideration for training.

"I've been able to have the requirement waived if these technicians have the degree from Palm Beach State," Garand said. "By the time they've done two years of training, including hands-on experience and internships, they are trained well enough so that we are able to start them at a mid-point of the salary range instead of lower in the range."

Yadira Hanson, one of Bascom Palmer's most recent hires, graduated from the PBSC program in May. A native of Colombia, she came to the U.S. eight years ago as an experienced licensed practical nurse. She had planned to keep going and become a registered nurse when she discovered the Ophthalmic Medical Technology program while taking prerequisites at the Palm Beach Gardens campus.

"Getting into that program changed my life and gave me a new pathway," Hanson said. "When I arrived at Bascom Palmer, I knew what I needed to do. I had a lot of questions, yes, because each doctor wants different things, but basically, everything I learned, I'm practicing now."

Bryant, Stanfield and Hanson share a common sense of purpose in their growing careers. As Bryant said, "I love that we have the opportunity to really help people and make a difference. In the health care field, blindness is actually the number one fear for people, even over death. People are very scared to lose their eyesight, so we're really part of making a huge difference and impact on people's lives and health."

Going into its seventh year, the Ophthalmic Medical Technology program greets the incoming class of 2020 this week. The classes are intentionally small to ensure individual attention and lots of interaction with the equipment and professors.

"We usually only take 15, but we had such strong applicants this year, we accepted 16—the largest number ever to enroll," McKay said.

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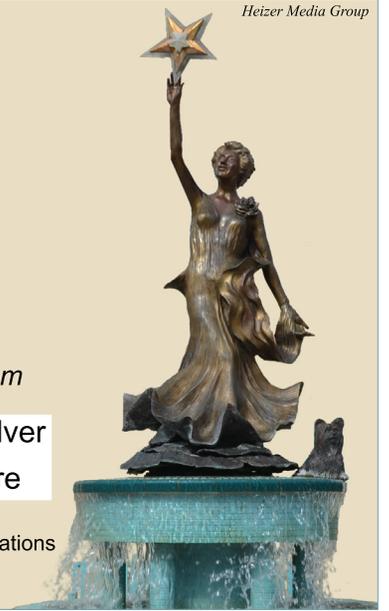
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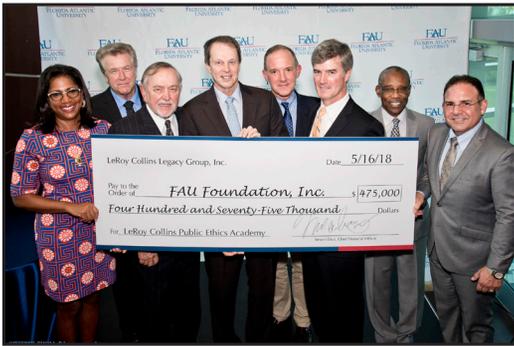
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FAU Receives Endowment to Name LeRoy Collins Public Ethics Academy



Florida Atlantic University's Public Ethics Academy within the School of Public Administration in the College for Design and Social Inquiry recently received a \$475,000 endowment from the LeRoy Collins Legacy Group, Inc. to name the LeRoy Collins Public Ethics Academy in honor of former Florida Gov. LeRoy Collins.

"It was my grandfather's steadfast conviction with respect for others and a moral courage guided by the truth and by his conscience that helped him define his leadership," said LeRoy Collins III, Collins Center board member. "FAU is a worthy partner and I am excited to see all that the Academy will accomplish."

In addition to naming the Public Ethics Academy, a portion of the endowment will be used to fund two student scholarships each year.

The Academy, first organized by

FAU in 2009, was re-launched in 2017 and Peter Cruise, Ph.D., was named its executive director. The University-based nature of the Academy, housed at FAU's Boca Raton campus, allows for the rapid incorporation and dissemination of the latest scholarly research on ethics issues by noted faculty for the Academy's training programs.

"The Academy's research and training programs will promote and inform the principles Gov. Collins stood for and believed in," said Wesley Hawkins, Ph.D., dean of the College for Design and Social Inquiry. "This generous endowment will impact students for years to come and expand the Academy's programs and services throughout the University."

The Academy's objectives are to increase understanding of local government and how it functions, promote high ethical standards in public service, provide an informational base for more informed policy making and develop the capacity of local officials to govern effectively.

"As one example of FAU President John Kelly's vision of significant community engagement, the wonderful public service legacy of Gov. LeRoy Collins will continue at FAU through the Public Ethics Academy that now bears his name," Cruise said.

Women in Leadership Program Tackles Gender Bias in Workplace

With women continuing to be underrepresented at all levels in corporate America, and even more so at the highest levels, a new program is being launched at Florida Atlantic University's College of Business to provide highly driven professionals with the skills necessary to succeed in executive management positions.

The Kathleen Brush Program for Women in Leadership is an intensive 12-session course that will be held at FAU's Boca Raton campus on Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 5 through April 24, 2019, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"This certificate program will combine both hard and soft business skills while also teaching techniques to overcome subtle gender biases that affect a woman's ability to advance her career," said Paige Garrido, assistant director for corporate training & talent development for FAU Executive Education.

In addition to the in-class curriculum, participants will be matched with

C-Suite level mentors and will be developing a written Individual Development Plan to guide professional growth.

"So little attention has been given to the hidden bias that exists amongst both men and women; a bias that prevents women from being promoted," said Kathleen Brush, Ph.D., a business executive, strategy consultant and author whose gift established the program. "Right now, the estimates



are that it will take upward of 200 years before the world will be able to experience the economic, political, and social benefits from gender equality in leadership. That's insane. FAU's program has been designed to facilitate delivering those benefits sooner."

The program will feature a networking and mentoring program and emphasize applying theory-to-practice. The cost to participate is \$4,750. Some partial scholarships are available. Professional development and continuing education credits are available.

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EDITORIAL

By *C. Ron Allen*

Mourning the Loss of 3 Great American Patriots



It is like a déjà vu experience. Exactly one week ago I penned my column about one of my mentors and local role model retired U.S. Army Col. Will "Bill" Condry who died - a few days earlier - at the age of 90.

Here I am again, writing about the passing of, in my opinion, three giants of men: Lawrence Strainge, Sr., Robert Brown and Senator John McCain.

A wise old woman once said that death comes in threes. While the persistence of this belief is difficult to explain and easily demolished, I still maintain that my grandmother was a clever woman.

Less than 24 hours after I prayed with him by his hospital bedside, Cmdr. Strainge went home to be with God last Thursday. And a few days later while at Col.'s funeral, I learned that my fraternity brother, Robert, also transitioned.

To add insult to injury, later that evening I got the text informing me of Sen. McCain's death.

With their passing, the American people lost four patriots who served honorably in the armed forces.

A U.S. Army Korean war veter-

an, Cmdr. Strainge, 82, was a member of the American Legion, the nation's largest veteran services organization.

He had 44 continuous years of membership in Sherman Williams Post # 188 and served many roles during his impressive career: post adjutant from 1991 to 1993 and 2005 to 2014; post commander from 1982 to 1986, 1995 to 1999 and from 2014 to 2017); 11th District commander from 1987 to 1988); department vice commander for the southern area from 1993 to 1994); department commander from 1998 to 1999); and national executive committeeman alternate from 199-0 to 2000.

I recalled the excitement around Delray Beach in 1998 when he was elected the state's department commander, becoming the second African-American in the organization's history to rise to such rank.

Around town, Cmdr. Strainge was perhaps most associated with coordinating the street parades in which the Legion's color guard participated.

When organizers of the Roots Cultural Festival were considering having

a parade, he and his wife of 60 years, Lillie, volunteered for the task. He did the same for the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. walk.

He made arrangement for cars and assisted parade participants when needed.

They also could not start the field entertainment without the flag raising ceremony, directed by the Strainges.

Cmdr. worked hard behind the scene getting permits and developing the parade lineup. Several years ago, he began grooming me as his replacement. I recall him introducing me to some key people in the city, then said, "You got it now. I will be here to work with you."

Robert was my fraternity brother and friend who after a stint in the U.S. Air Force went to work for Florida Power & Light. Upon retiring, he worked for Broward School Board and later operated a restaurant in Lake Worth until he left for Lithonia, GA, in the early 2000.

Robert has now gone to be with his heavenly father, where there is neither sin, shame, nor sorrow. By his removal a great blank has been made in the frater-

nity and his community at large. May the Lord in His mercy heal the wide breach.

There is not much that I can say about Sen. McCain that has not already been shared. However, although he was not one of my favorites, over time I grew to like him after I learned about his character. In his later years, I found him to be a man of hope, faith and someone who demonstrated a depth of character under the most trying of circumstances that very few could match. He will forever be remembered for his inspiration and devotion to public service and self-sacrifice. By far, he was among the most honorable and most moral of politicians in the Beltway.

Rest in peace, Cmdr. Strainge, Bro. Brown and Sen. McCain. Our thoughts are with your families and loved ones.

Congrats to Mayor-elect Scott Singer and Andy Thomson on winning the Seat A race after a hand count. For those who did not vote, you still have another chance in the mid-term election in November. If you are not registered, you have until Oct. 8 to do so.

POSITIVE LIVING

By *Dr. Synesio Lyra, Jr.*

Don't Just Assume Anything!

In human interactions, one of the barriers to effective communication is what experts classify as error of assumption. People prematurely interpret certain words heard or read as something totally different from what was intended. This also applies to gadgets people use or refrain from using! Two persons may hear the same words from another at the same time, may observe together the same happening and, yet, come with totally different conclusions. One understood correctly, while the other allowed his own personal opinion to determine what was really done or said!

Quite often, people look at certain patterns in the actions of others they are close to, and just assume that it will always be so. This occurs within a household, in work environments, with neighbors, and in other settings where there is an opportunity to notice some repetitive activities.

Yet, what is repetitive in some situations is not an indication of that being the only way that things can or shall be done at all times. That's why verbal communication is necessary to clarify actions, to ascertain the nature of procedures in doing anything, since persons can approach things differ-

ently when they so choose, even if previously they might have followed a different route.

In this age of modern technology, and the availability of so many devices, and multiple social media programs, some people who have embraced all kinds of such gadgets and corresponding means of communication, erroneously expect that to be so with all their friends.

Several people today do everything with their cellular phones, having even abandoned the use of a desk computer. They imagine that friends with whom they communicated by com-

puter before, have also transitioned into the cell phone only. But it's not always so!

It is wise that all your friends and relatives are aware of your limitations and of your chosen mode of operation, so that your communications can continue without being obstructed by the variations of the current technological revolution! Without talking and asking and telling, effective communication may be impossible; no one is equipped to guess what others prefer doing or not doing!

Dr. Synesio Lyra, Jr. is a Florida resident who, for many years, was a professor at the post-graduate level. He is a writer, a sought-after conference speaker, a man who lived in five continents of the world, having received his education in four of them. When he resided in southern California, he wrote a weekly column for the daily "Anaheim Bulletin," which was carried for about six years, until he moved to south Florida.

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COLUMNISTS

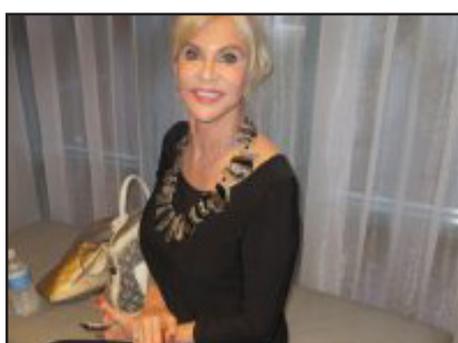
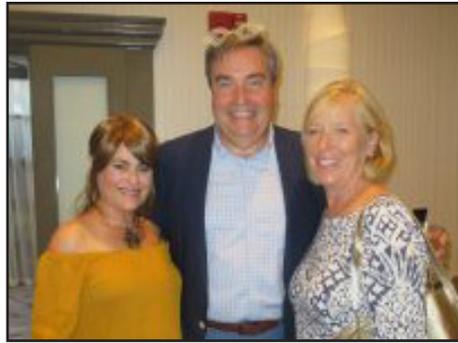


BOCA SOCIETY HAPPENINGS

By Charlotte Beasley

Battle of the Bartender's Fundraiser at Boca Marriott

The Battle of the Bartender's fundraiser was held at the Boca Marriott hotel this past week. Here are some of the Bartender's who competed.



FAITH

By Robert J. Tamasy

'You Are Now Entering The Mission Field'

When you hear the term "mission field," what comes to mind? Typically we think of a distant land, with people living in an alien culture, speaking an unfamiliar, even strange language. Have you ever thought about the mission field that exists right outside your office or cubicle, or the people you will encounter during your next sales call?

Years ago, a friend of mine, Ken Johnson, established a ministry to business owners and top executives. One of his goals was to help each member recognize that they were missionaries – in their office buildings, manufacturing plants, and sales territories. In fact, Ken had little signs printed that he gave to everyone affiliated with his Christian Network Teams. The signs read, "You are now entering the mission field."

Nowhere does the Bible specify that the only people who qualify as "missionaries" are those under the direct authority of a church or mission agency, or that their income must be generated solely through charitable contributions. For that reason, a business or professional person working with individuals who do not claim to be followers of Jesus Christ can rightly consider himself or herself a missionary.

When Jesus commissioned His followers near the end of His time on earth, He directed them to "therefore go and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matthew 28:19-20). Nowhere in this command did He indicate this must be done only within an institutional,

religious context.

Similarly, in Acts 1:8 Jesus declares where serving others in His name should take place: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." In saying this, Jesus was describing the entirety of the known world at that time. He was instructing His followers, "Tell people about Me wherever you go, whether it is in the office next door, your neighborhood, across the city, or in a totally different part of the world."

Thinking about this, it indicates that regardless of the source of our incomes, we are charged to serve as representatives of Jesus Christ – what CBMC calls "marketplace ambassadors" – wherever we go. We do not need a specific call to leave our professions or move to another part of the world. As someone has wisely said, God wants us to get involved with other people where we are – because we obviously cannot serve God where we are not.

Over its nearly 90 years of existence, CBMC has seen many thousands of men and women come to know Jesus Christ in a life-changing way, and many of them have grown to become faithful and zealous ambassadors for Him not only in their own cities and nations, but also wherever they travel and conduct business. A literal translation of Matthew 28:19 is, "As you are going, make disciples (followers) of Jesus." Wherever we go – wherever opportunities God provides take us – we are to serve Him and reach out to others with His Good News.



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STEAM Fest Set for Sept. 22 at the PBSC Lake Worth campus

The popular STEM Saturday that draws dozens of children to Palm Beach State College each month is going big with STEAM Fest 2018, a new initiative slated for Sept. 22 at the Lake Worth campus.

The inaugural STEAM Fest will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Natural Science building. The exhibition of science, technology, engineering, art and math will include indoor and outdoor science demonstrations, contests, crafts and more. It is free and open to children in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade and their families.

STEAM Fest is a spinoff of STEM Saturday, which began in February 2017 to introduce children to biology, anatomy, chemistry and physics. Dr. Sankaranarayana Chandramohan, a PBSC professor of anatomy and physiology and microbiology, launched STEM Saturday after the response he and his students received at activity tables they hosted at the "Our Body: The Universe Within" exhibit at the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium in West Palm Beach. It is held on the fourth Saturday of each month during the fall and spring terms and draws between 60 to 100 people.

However, the Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education

at Palm Beach State approached Chandramohan, who is known as Dr. Chandra, and his team about collaborating on a bigger event. As one of the partners of a PNC Grow up Great grant, supported by the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, the Institute already holds STEAM Fairs at local public and private schools. At the STEAM Fairs, children explore contraptions, large-scale interactive exhibits that help them learn about science, technology engineering, art and math.

"We partnered with them thinking we could expand those offerings to be a larger event for the community and to have more of a focus on the early childhood age," said Kat Lai, an instructional designer for the Institute of Excellence in Early Care and Education and a member of the planning committee. "We strongly believe that the younger that we can get children to be excited about and interested in STEAM, the more likely they are to be strong thinkers throughout their lives."

Chandramohan said he is hoping to attract at least 300 people. Other presenters include the PBSC Science Club and professors, the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, Loggerhead Marinelife Center and other community agencies.

H.O.M.E. is Shedding Light and Hope to Boca Raton's Homeless Population



Four years ago, a group of men from the First United Methodist Church created a shower and laundry program which they eventually called Love Boca Outreach Ministries. The idea came up after a homeless woman attended a Celebrate Recovery meeting and they saw the need of this community given that week after week the population kept growing.

The church started to reach out to the community for support and one of the parishioners was Jim Batmasian. Jim felt touched by the need of this population, and became the main benefactor, making his mission to change lives and break the cycle of homelessness. As of today, Love Boca has evolved to H.O.M.E. (Homeless Outreach Mentoring and Education) with the Mission to build bridges from homelessness to wholeness.

The last official count of homeless in Palm Beach County as of May 2018, there are 1308 homeless people on record, in the city of Boca Raton, no city-government institutions have statistics regarding that population within our limits. Even though Sun Sentinel focused on the tent city in downtown Ft. Lauderdale, Boca Raton has its own problem as evidence as the people served by H.O.M.E. every week, where they see from around 40 people in the summer to 90+ during the winter months.

Once a week a group of dedicated volunteers from the community help welcoming the homeless to the weekly showers and meals services, while embracing them to pursue improvements in their life. Another volunteer that needs special mention and has been with the organization since its beginning is Ms. Bonnie Stryker, she embodies the heart of a true servant not only by running the services at church but also managing the laundry services on Monday. Bonnie has been nominated for Junior League's

Woman Volunteer of the Year, the organization and the homeless are blessed by her selfless actions.

Although this is not the easiest population to serve and support nor do you see the results of your actions right away, every little success is worth it because the time invested can help to save a life.

One of the most prominent success stories is Don A., who successfully completed the Celebrate Recovery program and was guided by Mr. Batmasian's mentorship and the support from Love Boca is now a successful property manager, has reestablished contact with his family and has become a mentor for other participants.

Jon D. had been blind for 5 years due to cataracts and the inability to get treated even though he had insurance. Love Boca found out he had been assaulted and robbed in the streets and he couldn't defend himself due to his disability and immediately started to build bridges to obtain the operation he needed to potentially recover his sight that's how Dr. Goldman and Dr. Weiss from Eye Associates of Boca Raton gave him the Gift of Sight through the partnership with Caridad Center last Thanksgiving.

A single woman who was the victim of an abusive relationship opened to us about needing to escape the situation but being paralyzed by fear of her boyfriend. Volunteers protected her while they contacted AFDA and through the cooperation of the Boca Raton Police were able to provide safe passage to a secure future.

The efforts of H.O.M.E. are dependent solely on volunteer population as well as financial support from the community, if you would like to get involved with the cause please visit www.homeboca.org or give them a call at 561-465-5311.



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7th Annual Pompano Beach Brazilian Festival



The Brazilian spirit of Carnival is once again coming to Pompano Beach Community Park Saturday Oct. 20 and Sunday Oct. 21 for the 7th annual Pompano Beach Brazilian festival, presented by Vista Motor Company — the largest Brazilian festival on the southeastern coast of the U.S.

This year's festival is projected to attract approximately 20,000 celebrants to the 300,000-square-foot Pompano Beach park where attendees will enjoy 45 multi-cultural food vendors, a kids zone, extreme sports park, parading Samba and Capoeira performances and five world-renowned musical acts. This year's concert lineup aims to represent every region of Brazil.

On Saturday, performances include Elba Ramalho (at 4pm), a Brazilian Forro singer who has won two Latin Grammy awards and been nominated for six; and Chimarruts (at 6pm), an eight-person, peace-promoting reggae band and winner of the Brazilian MTV Award's Best Reggae Band. Performing with Chimarruts for two new singles off their latest album will be special guest James McWhinney, formerly of Big Mountain — the band best known for their 1994 cover of Peter Frampton's "Baby, I Love Your Way," which reached the U.S. Top 40.

On Sunday, performances include Don & Juan (at 3pm), a Brazilian country duo from southern Minas Gerais known for their hit TV show about the history of Brazilian country music; and Marcelo D2 (at 6pm), an eclectic hip-hop artist who weaves in samba, bossa nova and jazz influences into his revelatory raps. Marcelo D2 has won eight Brazilian MTV awards and was praised by New York Times reporter Larry Rohter in 2011 for having a persistent "curiosity to see what happens when different genres are combined in unexpected ways.

Festival co-founder and organizer Luciano Sameli said, "never before has the festival had such a noteworthy lineup of musicians representing all regions of Brazil."

The main stage will also pay tribute to colorful Brazilian art. The stage design, called "Journey of the Mind," will essentially be a giant, vibrant canvas painted by Brazilian artist Valter De Moraes, whose work is deeply rooted in Picasso-esque cubism and 1950s pop art. His paintings fittingly evoke rhythm, dance and music.

In addition to the headlining acts, this year's festival will feature the event's first ever local talent show on Saturday Oct. 20 at 3pm; plus a festival kick-off gospel show; performances by the Brazilian Festival's own Samba dancers; guest performances by Capoeira acrobats and Brazilian percussionists; and the festival's first ever community awards ceremony, recognizing remarkable festival participants (such best exhibitor, tastiest vendor and most jammin' local band).

Of the 45 food vendors in attendance, an abundance of multi-cultural cuisines will be served including sushi, Greek, Indian, Mexican, BBQ, açai bowls, and multiple styles of Brazilian food including traditional churrasco, acaraje and pão de queijo.

"We have a variety that is unbeliev-

able," said Sameli. "The festival is becoming one of the largest multi-cultural food festivals of the year"

Since the festival first started in 2012, it has roughly quadrupled in size and extended from one day, to two.

"We started the first year with approximately 5,000 people. The second year about 7,500, and in 2016 more than 20,000," said

Sameli. "The festival is truly a way of showing what the Brazilian community is capable of doing together...it is meant to display that the Brazilian community is united."

Unity is a theme Sameli and the festival's co-founder, Pompano Beach Mayor Lamar Fisher, have been promoting through the festival since its inception. Together Mayor Fisher and Sameli wanted to create a community event that could bridge the gap between Brazilian residents and the Broward community at large.

Based on Brazilian television subscriptions and U.S. census data, it is estimated that approximately 360,000 Brazilians live in Florida — the largest Brazilian population in any state of the country. In addition, 993,000 Brazilians visited Florida in 2017, and over a million in 2016 (according to Visit Florida, the state's official tourism marketing corporation). Brazil ranks third in the world for providing Florida with the most tourist visitors behind Canada and the United Kingdom.

Understanding Brazilians as an integral and essential part of the local population and culture, Mayor Fisher saw the festival as a way to celebrate and connect the community. In 2012 he recruited Sameli, who at the time was working for a Brazilian television station, to help plan the first festival.

With the support of the City of Pompano Beach, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Arts Department, the Pompano Beach Fire Department, Broward Sheriff's Office, generous corporate donors like Vista Motors, and the nonprofit organization, the Heartbeat Foundation Corp., the event has been a growing success.

"This is the most important event of the year for our Brazilian community," said Pompano Beach Mayor Lamar Fisher. "We are so proud to host the event. The event displays the true flavor and culture of our Brazilian community; the entertainment is overwhelming; the food is authentic and once you attend the event, you can't wait for it to happen again."

In the last seven years, the festival has generated approximately 2,800 temporary jobs and donated more than \$20,000 to local institutions. In addition, it has contracted services from approximately 150 local businesses, and helped more than 400 local small businesses with brand exposure. While the cultural focus of the festival is Brazilian, Sameli says he believes the festival is helping to establish Broward County as a "multicultural capital of Florida."

In addition to promoting unity and multiculturalism, from the beginning the festival has placed emphasis on promoting environmentally-conscious practices. It's a cause that's extremely important.

"I'm from Brazil and we have seen what has happened in Brazil in the Amazon forest the past few decades," said Sameli. "It's something that makes Brazilians extremely sad. Global warming is,

today, one of the most important concerns of our generation. So the festival is also about environmental protection and awareness."

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Local Teachers Earn Stewart Award

Professors Nataliya Romenesko and Dr. George Stoupas are the 2018 recipients of the Stewart Distinguished Teaching Awards, the top honor presented by Palm Beach State College for excellence in teaching and learning in the classroom.

Dr. Anita Kaplan, dean of bachelor's degree programs and chair of the Stewart Awards Committee, announced the winners during



Convocation Tuesday where College administrators welcomed back faculty and staff for the start of the 2018-2019 new academic year and updated them on new initiatives. A 10-member committee picked the winners from among 20 applicants for the award that includes a \$5,000 cash prize.

"I feel incredibly proud and honored to be recognized with this award. Palm Beach State College is a special place, and my colleagues and students inspire me to keep learning and improving my teaching," said Stoupas, associate professor of Human Services in the Addiction Studies program.

"I was absolutely certain that all applicants had come up with amazingly innovative ideas and, therefore, remained humble in my expectations. I could not have asked for a better start to this semester," said Romenesko, who teaches English on the Lake Worth campus. "I am also lucky to have my supportive colleagues, who made this recognition even more special with their kind words."

The Stewart Awards, open to all full-time and part-time faculty and instructors, began in 2006 with a grant from the Douglas and Virginia Stewart Foundation. The College selects two winners each year.

Stoupas was chosen for his "Check Yourself Before You Wreck Yourself," project used in his Group Counseling in Substance Abuse course. It involved students reflecting on their social-emotional skills in the classroom,

which is expected to help them in the workplace and in their private lives. He said students presented self-reflection reports, using rubrics throughout

the semester and analyzed their ratings with specific examples for both their strengths and weaknesses.

"One of the biggest gifts I get as a teacher is encouraging students as they learn about themselves. My hope is that I can help them grow and be successful in whatever path they choose," he said.

Romenesko was honored for an assignment in her Introduction to Literature course requiring students to explore, read and write various forms of Literature through discussions of common nar-

rative elements such as short stories, poetry and literature. Through a Book Project, students form small groups and are tasked to co-author a

children's book of their own.

She said students, among other things, must demonstrate an understanding of literary analysis, interpretation and analyze the characteristics of a particular literary work, including proper use and interpretation of literary terminology in fiction.

As part of the self-nomination process, professors must demonstrate that they go above the norm by developing, implementing, assessing and analyzing innovative learning practices to help students succeed in reaching their academic goals.



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The Boca Raton Tribune

SPORTS

Lynn University Holds Third Annual Spirit, Service, Strength Conference for Student-Athletes



The 2018-19 academic school year began on Monday and Lynn University's athletic department welcomed back its 300-plus student-athletes with the Third Annual Spirit, Service, Strength Conference presented by adidas on Wednesday evening.

"Spirit, Service and Strength is the brand of Lynn University Athletics," said Director of Athletics Devin Crosby. "It's important our student-athletes be reminded how special it is to be a Fighting Knight and the expectations of honor, humility and excellence we each uphold on a daily basis."

Set in the de Hoernle Sports & Cultural Center, the Spirit, Service, Strength Conference brings all of the Fighting Knights student-athletes together to discuss the pillars of the athletic department while engaging them in lively discussions through guest speakers.

The night was opened with a recognition of the 2018 NCAA Division II Men's Golf National Champions by Director of Athletics Devin Crosby and moved into a welcome by President Dr. Kevin M. Ross.

Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) co-presidents Conrad Rhein and Kristina Ortiz and men's

basketball athlete Daniel Cooper gave impassioned speeches about honor, loyalty, humility, empathy, excellence, maturity and respect, all core values of Spirit, Service and Strength. Head swimming coach Niki Alvarez also took the podium to discuss the importance of being comfortable with being uncomfortable.

Additional speakers on the evening were Assistant Director of Athletics for Communications Chad Beattie to impart the importance of being responsible on social media, Associate Director of Athletics Sara Quatrocky introduced the CARE team of athletic trainers, academic support staff and mental health professionals while Associate Director of Athletics Jon Lobbe discussed Lynn's partnership with adidas.

Newly-appointed Assistant Athletics Director of Compliance Jennifer Stearsman closed out the night with a heartfelt story about her decision to join Lynn and how a fateful meeting in 2014, when the Fighting Knights men's soccer team defeated her old institution Young Harris, showed her that Lynn was committed to excellence and that she was eager to join an environment with those ideals.

FAU Volleyball Opens Season at Sunshine State Challenge



The Florida Atlantic University volleyball team will begin the 2018 campaign this weekend at the Sunshine State Challenge, hosted by the University of Miami. The Owls will face Florida Gulf Coast, UM and UCF over the weekend.

FAU was picked to finish third in a poll of the C-USA coaches, after finishing 9-5 in conference play. Seniors Abbi Reid and Ivone Martinez and junior Sigourney Kame were all named to the preseason All-Conference team. All three were also named to the all-conference team at the end of the last season.

History: The Owls hold a 7-3 advantage over FGCU in the all-time series, including a 3-1 win last season at a tournament in Fort Myers. FAU lost to UM and UCF at that same tournament. UM leads the all-time series over the Owls 9-1, while UCF's all-time record moved to 31-9.

Coverage: Links to live stats of all matches and video of the UM match will be available at fausports.com.

Upcoming: FAU will return home for the FAU Invitational on Friday, Aug. 31 and Saturday, Sept. 1.

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