

October 2022



The Coalition Monthly

The Newsletter for Jamaican Alumni Associations in Florida

Editors

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Dear Members of our Alumni Community:

Our hearts go out to residents on the west coast of Florida who suffered terrible losses due to Hurricane Ian. We are certain that members of our alumni community know individuals that have been directly and indirectly affected by the storm and we are encouraging you to help through agencies like the American Red Cross, and the Salvation Army, or any neighborhood organization that you are sure is authentic. Please be careful when you are donating to “Go Fund Me” accounts because just like the Surfside tragedy, many of these pages may not be legitimate.

Here are the links to the Red Cross Association and to Salvation Army:

[Hurricane Ian Relief Information | Red Cross](#)
[Donate to Emergency Disaster Services \(helpsalvationarmy.org\)](#)

If anyone knows of members of our alumni community living on the West Coast that are in need, please let us know. Naples and Fort Myers are not too far for us to arrange a convoy with supplies to assist those in need.

The Annual **ALL ALUMNI WALKATHON** will be on **December 3, 2022**, and associations’ executives and their designees will be receiving the Walkathon Pledge Sheets by email in the next 2 weeks. This will be our time to come together and celebrate our accomplishments throughout the year. As with the previous years, the annual walkathon will serve as a fundraising event for the associations. ***Please remember that all funds raised will be kept by the respective alumni association.*** We will provide food, water, drinks, and music at the event. The registration fee is \$75 per association and it will be used to defray some of the cost for this event. We are looking forward to 6 solid hours of healthy walking, exercise, and fun between 9:00 AM and 3 PM at Miramar Regional Park on December 3, 2022.



Stories and pictures of recent activities for (1) Calabar Alumni Association are on pages 4-7; (2) Wolmer’s Age Quod Agis Sports Alumni Association, on pages 8-9; and (3) Glenmuir Alumni, on pages 10-11. We would like to continue this trend and are asking you to send pictures and write-ups to us after your events.

There are two feature stories in this month’s newsletter.

1. *Defying the Odds: Brothers at Troy High School Aim to Succeed Despite Poverty (Pages 12 - 14).* We are trying to contact the principal of Troy High School and the Mayor of Warsop, C Junior Gager to see how we can help with the boys' education.
2. *KC's Michael Coke Jr, Simply Excellent! Buoyed by 19 Exam Passes He's Now Pursuing Degree in Actuarial Science at UWI (Pages 15-16).*

There are events for eight (8) alumni associations that will benefit students associated with our alumni community, and once again we are hoping for widespread support from your alumni association. Please see the list of upcoming events below:

- **Tivoli Gardens High School Sport Alumni 3rd Annual Fundraiser, October 8 (Page 17)**
- **Titchfield Alumni "Noon to Closing" Columbus Weekend, October 8 & 9 (Page 18)**
- **Manning's Past Students Association Fun Day in the Park, October 15 (Page 29)**
- **Cornwall College Alumni 28th Anniversary Celebration Weekend, October 28-30 (Page 20-22)**
- **St. Andrew Technical "Solar Panel Fundraising Event", October 29 (Page 23)**
- **St. Hugh's Alumnae Holiday Session, November 26 (Page 24)**
- **The Coalition's Annual "All Alumni" Walkathon, December 3 (Page 25)**
- **XLCR Alumni XMAS Bash, December 10 (Page 26)**

The events above are listed on the Coalition's website at <https://www.cjaaf.info/events-on-the-horizon>.

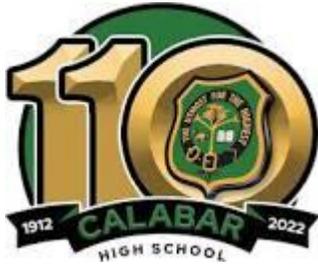
Alumni Association information is listed on Pages 27-30.

Once again, we will be sending out Walkathon Pledge sheets to all alumni associations. Usually, we send the sheets to the presidents who distribute them. If you would like the pledge sheets sent to another alumni representative instead, please send us an email with the person's name and email address.

Stay safe and healthy.

Sandra & Rupert

FLORIDA'S CALABAR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S RECENT ACTIVITIES



The Florida Chapter of Calabar Alumni Association was quite busy in September with the hosting of their annual golf tournament, the donating of JM\$5.25 million to the health and wellness program at Calabar High School, and the 110th Calabar Old Boys Association's Annual Dinner and Awards event that was held in Jamaica. The golf tournament was followed by a dinner. Based on the success of this year's golf tournament and dinner, the association is already planning the 2023 event.



SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER
2023
SOUTH FLORIDA

C B A R F L A . O R G

Florida Chapter's Dougie Streete (left in the picture) with other former students of Calabar, at the 110th Calabar Old Boys Association's Annual Dinner and Award.







Calabar Alumni Florida Commits Five and a Quarter Million dollars to Health and Wellness Program at Calabar

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 10, 2022

Fort Lauderdale, Florida – Calabar High School Alumni Association Florida Chapter Inc. will donate to Calabar five million two hundred fifty thousand (**Jamaican**) dollars (**JM\$5,250,000**) dollars through an initiative known as the Calabar Alumni Florida Health and Wellness Program.

The funds from the newly minted Calabar Alumni Florida's Health and Wellness Program will support the school's measures to improve students' general welfare regarding nutrition, physical health and mental wellbeing. "While the demand for nutrition assistance remains high, our youth's emotional and behavioral health is just as important as physical health," pronounced Karl Thompson, the departing president of the Florida chapter. He has held the two-year post since November 2020. Against this background, in addition to bolstering nutrition assistance, qualified planned activities that expand the student's capacity to engage in positive behaviors to nurture their wellbeing, build psychological resiliency and personal goal setting are all eligible to be funded by the program.

Calabar Alumni Florida, the old boys' chapter in the State of Florida, is a Florida not-for-profit corporation and a US-registered charitable organization. The Health and Wellness program was tapped as this board's major project following its Strategic Giving Plan, which provides the guidelines for supporting Calabar in various areas. During each board's term, a key initiative is voted on and designated as the primary project to which up to seventy percent of funds are channeled.

Titled initially Success Makers, the concept advocated by Dr. Winston Whyte, a current board director, former State of Florida Teacher-of-the-year and retired Miami-Dade County school principal, was transformed into the Calabar Alumni Florida Health and Wellness Program, which more fittingly describes the goals beyond just aiding nutritional needs. "We are glad to be a part of a new urgency for creating wellness programs geared towards high school students, as it is often overlooked or overshadowed. Initiatives, especially those aimed at families that can least afford it, resonate deeply with me," commented Dr. Whyte, who will make a formal presentation to the school's leadership at the school's Founders' Day Lecture on its 110th anniversary on Monday, September 12, 2022, 7 pm at the Boulevard Baptist Church.

At a recently held annual general membership meeting of the Calabar Alumni Florida, the keynote speaker, former prime minister and distinguished Calabar Old Boy, the Most Honourable P.J. Patterson, remarked, *"I believe Old Boys Chapters should concentrate on specific areas of their choice. You have already made yours. Let me commend your Executive Board for the designation of The Calabar Alumni Florida Health and Wellness Program, which gives you a wide-open space for your help."*

"We are extremely grateful to our members and other well-wishers scattered throughout Florida and beyond, including Texas, California and even Calgary, Canada, for their direct contributions and patronage, especially during these COVID years," added Karl Thompson. "Let us do good together is our mantra, and with this initiative, we certainly hope to do so. Hopefully, with this financial commitment, we can get other groups, professionals or companies locally to partner with us on this journey."

SPOTLIGHT ON AGE QUOD AGIS SPORTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

“WOLMER’S VERSUS CAMPION OVER-40S FOOTBALL MATCH IN JAMAICA, A BIG HIT FOR THE SOUTH FLORIDA BASED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION”.

The annual Wolmer’s versus Campion over-40s football match on September 24, 2022, was a big hit for the South Florida based alumni Age Quod Agis Sports Alumni Association (SAA). This was the first time the annual face-off was held in Jamaica. It is reported that not even the threat of Tropical Storm Ian kept the soccer fans away as hundreds of alumni and supporters attended the reunion match between two of Jamaica’s top high schools. Pictured on the left are



Grace Baston, principal of Campion College and Dwight Penny-cooke, principal of Wolmer’s Boys School, who were at the game showing their full support for the annual reunion football match.

The match lived up to its expectation with each team dominating at various points in the game. However, it was **Youtuber and singer Wayne ‘Wayne Marshall’ Mitchell**, from Wolmer’s, who in the first half got the better of Richard ‘DJ Narity’ Innerarity, steward of the Campion goal. Kudos to the Florida-based executive board of Age Quod Agis SAA for taking this bold step to have the reunion match in Jamaica.

Students currently attending Campion College and Wolmer’s Schools attended this event which members of the Florida-based SAA executive board (below) felt, showed the importance of school spirit and giving back to your alma mater.

Proud members of the Age Quod Agis Sports Alumni Association in the picture on the right, commemorate their victory following the exciting match on Saturday. From left to right – Christopher McLennon, Shemiah Hohn, Alberga Harriott, Winston O’Connor, Jason Taylor, Brian Stoddart, Sheldon Lawrence, Lissant Mitchell, Richard Brown, Andre Gray and Gary McNaughton.



Incorporated by a group of Wolmerians living in Florida in 2016, Age Quod Agis Sports Alumni Association is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to raise funds at an annual weekend event. Age Quod Agis’ vision is to provide funds for meals, equipment, facility upgrade, and any other support that is deemed necessary. To date the association has donated more than J\$7 million in support of nutrition programmes, sporting and medical equipment, gears and sports field enhance-



ments at Wolmer’s high schools. In 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the association also donated funds to support the digital learning transformation at the school.



The winning Wolmer’s Over-40 team.

This year’s event was endorsed by the Jamaica Tourist Board and sponsored by Sagicor, Medical Disposables and Supplies Limited, Lynk, Grace Foods, Guardsman, Benjamins Cosmetics, VM Wealth Management, FESCO, JP Tropical and Champions Football Academy.

Pictures from Glenmuir High School Alumni Association's
End of Summer Weekend (September 23 - 25, 2022)





DEFYING THE ODDS BROTHERS AT TROY HIGH SCHOOL AIM TO SUCCEED DESPITE POVERTY

Observer West
September 15, 2022



Chantol Bailey (second left) poses with her brothers (from left) Adrian Nelson, Richard Nelson and Jay Nelson at the Troy High School in deep-rural Trelawny on Monday. (Photo: Horace Hines)

TROY, Trelawny - Despite the acute socio-economic challenges facing three brothers who are students at the Troy High School, they are determined to defy the odds as they relentlessly pursue their academic journey at the deep-rural Trelawny-based educational institution.

Richard Nelson, the eldest, who started at the Trelawny secondary school in grade nine, is now the deputy head boy, while Adrian was recently promoted to grade 10 after finishing at the top of his class. Jay has just started in grade seven at the school. According to their sister Chantol Bailey, after discovering that her three younger brothers had to be sleeping on the floor while living with their paternal grandmother in St Catherine, she felt compelled to take them under her wings at her Stettin home in Trelawny where she lived with her husband and three children.

Although the living conditions were far superior to what they were accustomed to in St Catherine, Bailey is finding it very challenging to send the boys to school, as her husband is the sole breadwinner, as she is unable to work having suffered extensive chop wounds during a domestic dispute. The incident has left her unable to use one of her hands. But even before that, she was initially confronted with the challenge of securing placement for the two elder brothers before they were accepted at Troy High School.

As fate would have it, the youngest brother Jay, who was performing at infant school level when he came to Trelawny, has since shown marked improvement and was placed at Troy High School after his Primary Exit Profile (PEP) exams. For most days, the two elder brothers have to attend school on alternate days as their sister is only able to find the bus fare for just one of them. Richard, 17, reflected that there was only one belt to share among himself and Adrian, who turned 16 on Wednesday; and so he had to employ innovative ways whenever they both attended school the same day, as boys are not allowed at the institution without wearing a belt.

"So when we just started going to school we only had one belt. So if he [Adrian] a go and me naw go, him wear the belt and when me a go me would the wear it. But if the two of us are going now them don't let we in unless we have the belt. So one go over first and send someone with it to the gate," Richard related. The deputy head boy also recounted that sometimes he

had to seek employment with his brother-in-law, who is a mason, to supplement what his sister assisted them with for school. He noted that before he became a member of the executive group of the prefect body, he had to also "chance" selling sweets to other students at the school, which is not allowed, for economic survival.

Eventually, the brothers' plight was recognised by vigilant members of the school's academic staff, who are now providing them with much-needed assistance. In fact, during Monday's consecration service and benefaction ceremony at the school, the boys were selected among the recipients of grants handed out by the chairman of the school board, C Junior Gager, who is also mayor of Falmouth and the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) councillor for the Warsop Division.

The first red flag that signalled the brothers' woes to the school was their poor attendance, according to Melody Smith, senior guidance counsellor at Troy High School. "First of all, there is a system here at the school where if the students are absent for a number of days then the form teacher needs to refer the students to the guidance department. So when their reference came in and I recognised these two boys are brothers, that's Richard and Adrian at the time, before the addition of Jay, I did my background checks and I realised that they were having a challenge," said Smith.

"They were not miserable in how they carried themselves; they were still mannerly, they were pleasant. The truth is if we were not serving the PATH [Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education] lunch they would gladly stay without the food. If you don't identify them and go for them and say 'I am giving you lunch,' they will gladly stay without the food."

Acting Principal Alliah Chambers Green said despite their financial challenges, the brothers' academic performance and their mannerism are outstanding, adding that Richard also demonstrates leadership qualities.

"I heard from the teachers and there was a constant word on the ground that this young man has leadership potential. Whenever we are looking for prefects, teachers observe conduct and mannerism, leadership qualities and we identify them. And so, we were able to see those students whose names are recurring. So he [Richard] would have been identified as someone with leadership potential," Chambers Green argued. "In spite his [Richard] attendance pattern, he was still standing out. He was still seen as an excellent student."

Although he is still uncertain how they will be paid for, Richard revealed that he will be sitting nine subjects in the next sitting of the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) exams and is adamant that he is striving for grade one passes in all of them.

"I don't know how I will get to pay for them but the school say if you score a certain amount on the subjects, PATH will pay for some of them. I want to get pure grade ones. I don't want to let down anyone who is helping me," he said.

Meanwhile, Bailey, who still has her mind set on attending teachers' college next year, has recently achieved four of the five subjects required to matriculate to the tertiary institution while attending evening classes. She further revealed that she will be sitting two additional subjects this academic year.

"I went to the Albert Town Evening Institution where I did the subjects through HEART /Trust NTA; they offer free tuition," she told the **Observer West**.

"I got my results last Monday and I was successful in four CXC subjects — one in English A, one in social studies, a grade three in maths, three in EDPM [electronic document preparation management]. I got distinction in City of Guilds math and English language and I have signed up to do human and social biology and information technology this year as five subjects are required for teachers' college," said the mother of three, who dropped out of St Catherine High School in grade 10 after she became pregnant.

Added Bailey: "I don't know where the money is coming from for teachers' college but I am a God-fearing person, so I am confident that it will happen."

**KC'S MICHAEL COKE JR, SIMPLY EXCELLENT
BUOYED BY 19 EXAM PASSES HE'S NOW PURSUING DEGREE IN ACTUARIAL SCIENCE AT UWI**

By Romardo Lyons

September 12, 2022



Michael Coke Jr can easily be described in one word" excellent. The Kingston College (KC) graduate, who last week started pursuing a bachelor's degree in actuarial science at The University of the West Indies, Mona, earned a total of 19 passes in secondary level examinations over his last three years in high school. The passes comprise grade ones in mathematics, English language, physics, chemistry, biology, principles of business, principles of accounts, French, and information technology in the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate examinations.

At the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE) Unit 1 level he scored grade ones in physics, chemistry, pure mathematics and computer science, as well as a grade three in communication studies. This year, in the CAPE Unit 2 exams Coke Jr scored grade ones in physics, chemistry, pure mathematics and computer science, and a grade two in Caribbean studies. Surprisingly, though, Coke Jr told the **Jamaica Observer** that the exam result of which he is most proud is the grade two he received for Caribbean Studies.

"That was one subject that absolutely refused to click with me for the entire year. The copious amount of content and the nature of the material rendered me concerned that I'd actually fail. But thanks to a few marathon sessions by my former Head Boy Chad Rattray, I was able to pass with a two," the Stony Hill, St Andrew resident said.

"I'll never forget the tsunami of relief that washed over me after seeing that grade because I remember being particularly worried that I would fail," he shared.

For a youngster who mainly pursued science-heavy subjects for which there is a practical coursework component or labs, being outside of school because of the novel coronavirus pandemic was a major setback.

"My entire fifth form year was filled with obstacles. Halfway through the school year, in 2019-2020, COVID hit and classes went online. Best believe I suffered the entire time because I barely had good connectivity back then. As a result, it would be customary for me to not only show up for only part of the classes, but to have barely learnt anything throughout. Luckily enough, KC had revision classes towards the start of CSEC and I used those to catch up," he explained.



Michael Coke Jr takes a break from working on his laptop on The University of the West Indies, Mona campus last week. (Photo: Karl Mclarty)

"These are normally experiments conducted physically and a report is prepared by the student for each experiment and that report is graded. In the past few years, though, science students were not given the luxury of physical school; therefore, our departments ar-

anged entire days in the week just for a class to come in and perform multiple experiments so that we could try to stay on schedule to submit grades by the CXC's (Caribbean Examination Council's) deadline," Coke Jr told the **Observer**.

The 19-year-old related that his life, especially since the age of 10, was characterised by an incessant changing of address. However, he said there was no absence of stability, and credits his father for his undying commitment.

Before Kingston College, he attended New Providence Primary School in Liguanea, and was "mentored by teachers such as Mr Rodriques and Miss Dell until my graduation in 2015".

He said at KC he got off to a rocky start, but it was nothing from which he couldn't rebound.

"I managed to find my academic stride while still finding time to soak in the pleasures of high school life. In my latter years, my passion for sciences led me to the vice-presidency of our school's science and engineering clubs, and I was afforded the opportunity to explore community service and project management via the Interact Club. In my final year I was named one of Kingston College's deputy head boys," Coke Jr recalled.

Leisure time for Coke Jr sees him watching television or reading and learning Spanish.

His family and friends, he said, have given him tremendous support throughout his academic journey. "Sometimes I'm convinced that my achievements bring them more joy than it does me. Sometimes the only motivation I need is that I'm doing this to make them proud," he said, adding that his short-term career goal is to become an actuary for "a sizeable insurance firm".

"However, actuaries are more than just insurance calculators. Our ability to assess financial risk makes us useful to a wide range of industries, such as health and energy," he said as he posited that his ultimate aim is to be a part of the generation that helps to usher Jamaica into the new age of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

EVENTS ON THE HORIZON

A NIGHT OF ELEGANCE
TIVOLI GARDENS HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI CORP.
3RD ANNUAL AWARDS FUNDRAISING BANQUET
THE SIGNATURE GRAND
6900 STATE ROAD 84, DAVIE, FLORIDA 33317
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2022

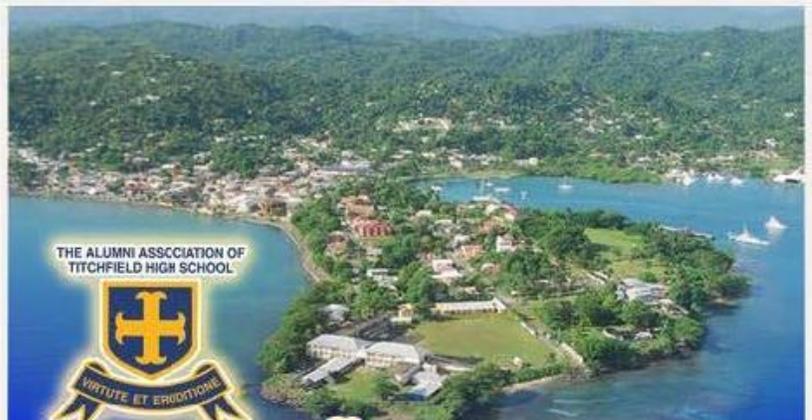
GHOST
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8:00 PM UNTIL 1:00 AM
COCKTAIL HOUR
BLACK TIE AFFAIR
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DR. MARIA SMITH
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THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF
TITCHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL



South Florida Chapter

FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday October 9th, 2022
Noon to closing Columbus Weekend
@CB Smith Park Pavillion #21
MUSIC AND FUN FOR ALL!!!

Great Food on sale
Fish...\$30.00 || Jerk Chicken...\$20.00 || Curried Goat...\$20.00
All served with Two (2) sides ::: Drinks sold separately

A CATERED EVENT, SO PLEASE PRE-ORDER BY OCTOBER 6TH

R.S.V.P Contact: PACA Perry (954.647.0293)
ALL PROCEEDS TO TITCHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

PLEASE RSVP
(If you need food)
Soup of the day also available..Mannish water

CHECK OUT THE MEET AND GREET SATURDAY NIGHT THE 8TH OF OCTOBER
(See details below)
Covid Down Titchfield UP!! UP!!

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF
TITCHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL
SOUTH FLORIDA CHAPTER

TITCHFIELD TURN UP 2022

Meet & Greet

HOSTED BY CARLOS

SATURDAY OCTOBER 8th

DJ RAJAY BLACKSTONE INTERNATIONAL

Doors open at 8pm | Before midnight \$10. | After midnight \$15

@ JBPA'S PLACE
7153 West Oakland Park Blvd
Lauderhill, FL 33313



Past Students' Association South Florida Chapter

\$15 Curried goat
/Jerk chicken
\$20 Fish dinner

Fun Day in the **Park**

Music

Games

Food

When: Saturday, **October 15th 2022**
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Where: Miramar Regional Park
Corporate Pavilion 16801 Miramar
Parkway, Miramar FL 33027

Contact Info: LeRoy (954) 464-6940,
Michael (786) 286-3411, Dawn (754) 366-1791,
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DINNER DANCE

28th ANNIVERSARY

- SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2022 -

DOORS OPEN: 7PM / BEGINS: 8PM

VENUE:

CHARLES F. DODGE CITY CENTER
601 CITY CENTER WAY
PEMBROKE PINES, FL 33025

ADMISSION: \$120 USD

TABLE COST: \$1200 USD (10 TICKETS)

RAFFLE TICKETS COST: \$5 USD

MUSIC: DJ JAMES BOND

@ cornwallcollegealumni

f Cornwall College Alumni Association

<https://www.ccalumni-florida.com/cc-events/>



SUNDAY BRUNCH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2022

TIME: 12PM > 6PM

VENUE: CB SMITH PARK, CORP SHELTER 19,
900 N FLAMINGO RD,
PEMBROKE PINES, FL 33028

COST: \$25
MEAL (JAMAICAN BREAKFAST)
PARK ADMISSION FEE: \$1.50

ENTERTAINMENT: DJ MARVELOUS

 CORNWALL COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

 CORNWALLCOLLEGEALUMNI

[HTTPS://WWW.CCALUMNI-FLORIDA.COM/CC-EVENTS](https://www.ccalumni-florida.com/cc-events)



**St. Andrew Technical High School Alumni
Association SFL Chapter**

PRESENTS A Solar Panel Fundraising Event

WHEN: Saturday, October 29, 2022

TIME: 1:00 to 5:00 PM

Central Park (Executive Pavilion)

9151 NW 2nd Street, Plantation, FL 33321

(Between Broward and Cleary Boulevard)



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THURSDAY, OCT. 20TH!**

Zelle: stathsalumnisfl@gmail.com

St. Hugh's Alumnae South Florida Chapter



HOLIDAY SESSION



TICKETS \$10

Saturday, November 26, 2022

4:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Holy Sacrament Episcopal
Church Parking Lot
2801 N. University Drive
Pembroke Pines, FL 33024

MUSIC BY: DJ MARK SWABY

Food and Drinks on Sale

For more information and Tickets

Judith
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Carrol
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Karleen
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**COALITION OF JAMAICAN ALUMNI
ASSOCIATIONS OF FLORIDA**

WALK-A-THON
Fundraiser

DECEMBER 3, 2022 | 9 AM....

**MIRAMAR REGIONAL PARK
16801 MIRAMAR PARKWAY
MIRAMAR, FLORIDA 33027**

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO PARTICIPATING ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

Call Sandra or Rupert for more information
954-510-6265 or 954-242-2529

EXCELSIOR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF FLORIDA



PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL
XMAS BASH
AN INDOOR/ OUTDOOR AFFAIR
WHERE ALL THAT GLITTERS IS

Emerald Green & Gold

.....
SATURDAY DECEMBER 10TH, 2022
.....

The Germack Event Venue

4860 GRIFFIN RD, DAVIE, FL 33314

TICKETS
\$50.00

9:00PM TO 2:00AM
MUSIC BY

ATTIRE
ALL WHITE

**DJ MARK
SWABY**



DJ LYMRON

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT: SHERNETTE 954.816.9891
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