

# Patricia's Quarterly Communicator

Spring 2014 Edition



## Mayors Youth Council Explores our Nations Capital

Over the spring recess from school, the Mayors youth council set off on an educational tour of Washington D.C! To enable the students to maximize their learning experiences, I challenged them to take charge of their own learning by touring the town without a tourist but a metro card and map instead. Check out the "reflections" of one of our youth council members and MAST @ Homestead student Yavin Bizarety.



D.C. is a world of its own. The very air of the city is divergent. Miami is a vibrant city, devoured by the status quo of fashion and music, Homestead in contrast, is a small town enveloped in gregariousness. Now, D.C is an unexpected balance between the two, D.C is dynamic duo of the comfort of home, and kind, neighborly people, ready to help confused tourists, but at the same time has been engulfed with culture and history leading it to be immersed in the essence of a perfect educational experience.

Our first day there, we visited Congressman Joe Garcia's office, we went to the Capitol Visitors Center, and the Library of Congress. I was in awe of the beautiful architecture, it was so amazing. In the Visitors Center was the mold used for Lady Freedom, the statue on top of the Capitol. I learned a few of the reasons for her design. Her design was inspired by Grecian statues, but they wanted her be as American as possible, to do this they added Native American elements in the helmet and attire. The first day was more of a welcome to D.C., it was the second and third day that was crammed with knowledge and history.

The next two days were marvelous, for example, we visited the FDR memorial. His memorial is special, because it is divided into four sections. Each section represents one of his terms in office, he was elected four times and died in the beginning of his fourth term. In his first three terms, you see the crux of his presidency. The Great Depression and World War two, throughout the memorial you see sculptures depicting the era and water, the water represents the disposition of the people during these times. This is most evident in the last section, he died in office and the water is calm and a sense of tranquility will consume as you enter the last section. The Air and space museum was especially interesting, science holds a special place in my heart, so learning about how we got to space, the physics behind it all, was prodigious.

The last day, we went to Arlington Cemetery, there we learned about Robert E. Lee and who lies there, the gravestones and the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I felt like I was in a state of everlasting melancholy. Then we left, and parting was such sweet sorrow.

By: Yavin Bizarety, Mayors Youth Council

Important Election Set for May 13th!

**TWO ISSUES TO CONSIDER**

COMMUNITY ALERT!



**VOTE MAY 13**

**BALLOT ISSUE 2: CULTURAL ARTS CENTER COMPLETION**

Homestead lacks a Cultural Arts Center that offers performing arts and entertainment.

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**COMMUNITY ALERT!**

**TWO ISSUES TO CONSIDER**



**POLICE OFFICERS BREATHING DEADLY GAS!**

**VOTE MAY 13**

**BALLOT ISSUE 1: NEW POLICE STATION**

The current Homestead police station is toxic and poses serious risks to the health and safety of police personnel. On May 13th, you can cast a vote on a bond referendum to

Be sure to weigh in on these two very important referendums! See you at the polls!

Carving Out Time to Read to Kids



What a great experience did I have at a little hidden gem in Homestead. A gem meant to "encourage children to explore, manipulate and use the tools and materials around them." On the grounds of the Homestead Hospital Campus is an early learning center for children 6 weeks to 5 years old. This early learning center is exclusively for the

children, grandchildren and adopted children of the employees of Baptist Health South Florida. The learning environment is truly one of a kind, a place where the staff provide a comprehensive child development program as well as high-quality care. Some of their many goals are to "Develop rich, meaningful and intentional activities that enhance school-readiness skills and knowledge. The Center has been recognized by The Quality Counts rating center, receiving 5 stars. They also receive 100% compliance from Department of Children and Families. A rare little gem indeed. Such a heartwarming moment with some amazing kids!

## Youth Council Winner Named Silver Knights Nominee



Vice Mayor of the City of Homestead's Mayors Youth Council has been named a Silver Knights Nominee in the community service category.

Daimiris Garcia, a senior at South Dade Senior High School is headed to The University of Florida this Fall. She will pursue her studies in International Relations, but more specifically, International Law hoping to ultimately serve as a United Nations Diplomat or as a CIA operations officer. Our future is in good hands with local students like Daimiris leading the way. Keep making your mark in this community Daimiris! The City of Homestead salutes you!

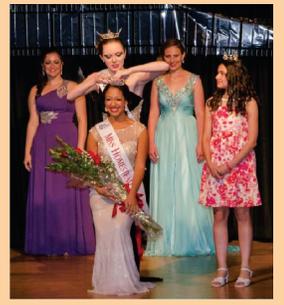


## Educator Impact Award

Cipriano Garza, Educator Impact Award recipient at WeCare's Award Care Awards held on March 12, 2014. Deep admiration for the work that he has done on behalf of migrant children in Deep South Dade!

## Mayors Youth Council Alumna Crowned Miss Homestead 2014

Crystal Raquel Ruiz age 18, was crowned the new Miss Homestead 2014. She received a scholarship award, an Official Crown & Carrying Case, Official Miss America Sash, floral bouquet, among other awards. Crystal will be going to St. Petersburg in June to compete for the Miss Florida 2014 title.



Business in the Spotlight



Local Homestead Hotel featured on The Travel Channels Hotel Impossible! Which made it "possible" for the hotel to obtain refurbished rooms, ballroom, and improved guest experiences overall. According to General Manager Marco Mejia, he the hotel has been averaging 90% occupancy since the March 3rd airing! I'm proud of the progress that The Floridian Hotel has made and look forward to witnessing their continued success.

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