



Hometown News

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT—VOTE MAY 13

Do you care about the future of Homestead? Of course you do! If you want to make your voice heard, please be sure to **vote on two bond referendums** on May 13. As a longtime resident of Homestead who cherishes our Historic District and looks toward a great future, I am excited at the possibilities ahead of us! I urge all registered voters to go to the polls and vote.

Here's how your votes will decide the future of downtown Homestead.

Ballot Issue # 1 addresses Homestead's need for a new police station. The current Homestead Police Station at 4 South Krome Avenue has toxic levels of radon that pose serious health risks. Radon is a leading cause of lung cancer -- and radon levels in our police station have been measured at 5 times higher than normal. The station also has major mold and water damage. Built in 1912 when Homestead had only 121 residents, this historic building is woefully out of date to serve the public safety needs of 21st-century Homestead's 64,426 residents.

The May 13 bond referendum asks citizens to vote on a \$21 million plan to move our public safety personnel out of this dangerous building and build a modern police station for Homestead. Until the

new building is completed, police operations would be housed temporarily in the City Baseball Complex.

Given the toxic levels of radon in the current building, we have no choice but to make a move. Clearly, a new police station is long past due! I am in full support of this new police station and encourage your support as well with your vote of YES on May 13.

Ballot Issue # 2 asks your opinion on completing a Cultural Arts Center in the old Seminole Theatre. The City of Homestead acquired the Seminole Theatre building in the downtown Historic District in 1992. Although partially remodeled, the building needs significant upgrades to be commercially viable. The ballot issue on May 13 asks Homestead citizens to vote on a \$5 million bond referendum to transform the building into a vibrant Cultural Arts Center for Homestead.

A multi-purpose Cultural Arts Center could boost our community life by creating jobs and attracting visitors to shop, sightsee, and support downtown businesses. The space could host conventions and meetings, film festivals and concerts, rental offices for non-profit organizations, and arts

activities such as dance lessons, photography and painting studios, and community college classes.

Over the past year, the Homestead City Council and many concerned citizens have studied dozens of ideas on these issues – and now it's up to YOU. I urge all of you to review these issues in more detail on the city website at www.cityofhomestead.com/communityalert – and then, make your opinion known in the voting booth. Your vote matters – to you and your family, to our public safety personnel, to our community, and future generations of "Homesteaders." Speak up for Homestead's future with your vote.

PLEASE NOTE:
Registered voters in precinct 907/949 will be able to vote in this special election on May 13, at Gateway Church of Christ, 1800 E. Mowry Drive. The voting polls at the Villages of Homestead Clubhouse will be closed while the clubhouse is under construction. Residents assigned to this precinct will receive a notice in the mail of this temporary polling location change from Miami-Dade County Elections.

By investing in the arts and incorporating arts and culture into their economic development plans, states can reap numerous benefits—economic, social, civic, and cultural—that help generate a more stable, creative workforce; new tourism; and more livable communities. ~NGA Center for Best Practices

CITY OF HOMESTEAD—News and Events!

The NYBA (National Youth Basketball Association) Sports, offered at our own Roby George Park, emulates the NBA experience and consists of 8-10 regular season games, playoffs, and best out of 3 championship games. NYBA's basketball seasons run longer than in any other league in South Florida, which provides the children the opportunity to learn plays, techniques and play as a cohesive team by the end of each season. NYBA is a competitive youth basketball program that plays all year around. During the winter and spring seasons our players in the 12U - 17U brackets get to play their championship games on the Miami Heat court.

It sure looks like the NYBA program in Homestead has paid off for some young men. Homestead shows up at American Airlines Arena. Congratulations to our Homestead All Stars! The 7U Homestead Pistons won first place in the All Star Games Dade County-wide! Pictured with NYBA Director Jon Wasielewski are Urick Grant and Raul & Joel Gutierrez.



The 12U Homestead Pacers All Stars pictured below include Joseph Gonzalez, Yasmami Torriente, Daniel Sanabria and Gabriel Ambers. Their teammates not pictured are Richard Lampkin, Alex Moreira, and Robert Clarke.



The 17U Homestead Pistons All Stars Skills Competition Winners include: Roy Gamino, Mike Quintino, Preston Moore, and Angel Ocasio, Jr., all from South Dade High and pictured below. Additional 17U team members are Flemmie Shropshire, Neslie Pierre, Gustavo Mendez, Woodbendy Gurrer, Stevenson Gurrer, Christopher George, and Kevin Delus. The 14U Homestead Bulls All Star is Yandy Gonzalez. Great job to the



director, coaches and team players. Keep on shining!



Councilwoman Judy Waldman

Who kept the faith and fought the fight; The glory theirs, the duty ours. ~Wallace Bruce

The Relay for Life Jail & Bail was such a success! Thanks to you, we collected over \$10,000 in "bail" for our Relay for Life City of Homestead team, American Cancer Society. You all have touched my heart beyond my imagination. This amount far exceeded my goal. With help from our Relay volunteers, headed by Michael Hitt and Jacki Pilkington, and the Homestead Police, the Command Staff and Reserve Officers, we had such a great time with this. Lazaro Morales and Mike Tepedino constructed the prison cell at the Community Center with Eric Weiss' guidance. I just can't thank you enough for making this event not only successful but a fun, happy time which is not always prevalent in the lives of those fighting the disease. See below for the evidence of a good time; but to see pictures of everyone who participated, visit the City's Face Book page as well as mine! Thank you all so much!



EVENTS

City of Homestead National Prayer Day at City Hall Room 210; 650 NE 22 Terrace	May 1 10-11:30 a.m.
HARB Spring Bazaar—Sam Johnson Fitness Center	May 2-3 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Putt Fore Paws Golf Tournament at Keys Gate Country Club; Golf@Thisisthedog.com	May 3 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Relay for Life Highway Holdup, US1 & Campbell	May 3 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
National Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) Day	May 3
National Nurses' Week	May 5-11
Cinco De Mayo	May 5
Chamber of Commerce 2014 Business Expo at Banyan Tree at Keys Gate, 4300 Palm Drive	May 6 4-8 p.m.
Chamber of Commerce Military Appreciation Dinner at Turkey Point, 305-247-2332	May 9 5-8 p.m.
American Cancer Society's Relay for Life at Homestead Hospital	May 10-11 12 p.m.-6 a.m.
8th Annual Sunrise Magnolia Gala at Hyatt Coral Gables. 305-273-3063	May 10 7 p.m.
Mother's Day	May 11
VOTE—Special Election. City of Homestead Bond Referendum—2 ballot issues	May 13 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
National Peace Officers Memorial Day	May 15
PATCHES Gala Fundraiser, 305-242-8122	May 16
National Armed Forces Day	May 17
Charity Car Wash on Pit Road & Take a Lap on track at Homestead-Miami Speedway; 305-230-5243	May 17 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Military Appreciation Day - Losner Park/Downtown Homestead—104 N. Krome Ave. FREE	May 17 3-8 p.m.
Dade County PBA Law Enforcement Awards Gala-Hyatt Coral Gables 305-273-3063	May 20 5-8 p.m.
KAPOW Awards Dinner at Jungle Island	May 20 5-8 p.m.
Memorial Day	May 26
Miami Healthy Kids iPromise HIV & STD Prevention Health Rally; 305-247-1116. FREE	May 31 12-5 p.m.

May 2014