



Hometown News

Events for a Cause—A Reason to Give!

Domestic violence and human trafficking are more prevalent than you or I could imagine. The statistics are astonishing, and we need to fight to stop the abuse, which is the **cause**. Start Off Smart, Inc. (SOS) is an absolutely amazing organization not only for fighting this cause, but they are volunteers in our community events, meetings and other fundraisers as well. Their purpose is to educate the community, including victims of violence, to be equipped with a voice for help and a way out. SOS is a non-profit organization and initiative of the Homestead Police Department that integrates law enforcement and human services personnel. Established in 1991, their mission is to effectively and efficiently guide individuals, children and families toward independence and safety using strong community

collaboration. Funding for the operation of SOS is provided through grants and in-kind donations.

Now for the **fun!** SOS holds their annual gala which is their biggest event and hope to raise funds to continue the care they provide to the victims in the South Dade area. On **September 27, 2014**, at the Miami Marriott Dadeland, they will host a **Champions for SOS MASQUERADE BALL**. I am so excited for this event. The night will include cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, a band and a DJ from **7 p.m. to midnight**. There are sponsorship and entertainment packages available. Tickets are \$100/person or \$900/table of 10. **Call 305-224-5585** to purchase your tickets, sponsor the event, or make a donation to the silent auction. Please support this cause and SOS, who do so much for our community-in-need!

MASQUERADE BALL
CHAMPIONS FOR START OFF SMART
September 27, 2014
7 P.M.-12 A.M.
Miami Marriot Dadeland
9090 South Dadeland Blvd. • Miami, FL 33156
Cocktails & Hors d'oeuvres 7:00 p.m.
Silent Auction begins at 7:00 p.m.
Open Bar
Dinner 8:30 p.m.
Florida Grand Opera Performance
Band & DJ until 12:00 a.m.
Early Bird Tickets for \$75.00 per person
until August 31, 2014
Regular price \$100.00 per person
Early Bird Tables of 10 for \$700.00
until August 31, 2014
Regular price \$900.00
Sponsorship and Entertainment
Packages Available
Visit our website
sosmasquerade.com
Serving our Community by Inspiring,
Educating and Giving Hope
For more information
please call 305-224-5585
 **SPONSORED BY**
BACARDÍ



The Third Annual **Championship Taste** (formerly known as the Pineapple Gala to some of you) will be held at the Chalet Village, Homestead-Miami Speedway on Thursday, **November 13, 2014, 6-10 p.m.**, kicking off NASCAR's Ford Championship Race weekend! Tickets to this unique dining experience are \$100 for general admission accompanied with two complimentary drink tickets and \$250 for VIP which offers access to the VIP Chef's Table with Celebrity Chef, open bar, and a meet-and-greet with NASCAR celebrities. Live music entertainment and free parking for all. There's the **fun!** The **cause** is to raise funds for our Homestead Hospital's Speediatrics Unit, a special place for children needing emergency medical care. It is decorated in a cheerful motorsports theme to ease their minds while they receive treatment. There is still room for restaurants wishing to enter and for sponsors. Please **call 786-243-8220** for more information. I hope to see you there!

"If you give me any problem in America, I can trace it down to domestic violence. It is the cradle of most of the problems, economic, psychological, and education."

-Salma Hayek

CITY OF HOMESTEAD—News and Events!

NEW CITY HALL underway! It is really happening! If you missed the groundbreaking ceremony on August 21, 2014, I am sure you have seen the pictures and posts on social media. It was a hot day but no one seemed to mind with the gleaming faces of hope and anticipation and the realization sinking in, this is ours; this is what we have worked so hard for and is developing right before our eyes. Before we know it, we won't remember this lot without our beautiful City Hall adorning the land. I welcome that day! We have come a long way baby!



Patriot Day (September 11) remembers those who lost their lives during the 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States. September 11 was proclaimed Patriot Day on the first anniversary of this horrific day in America by President George W. Bush. The flag is flown at half-mast in respect of those nearly 3,000 people who perished on that fateful day. Many observe a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m., the time that the first plane hit the World Trade Center. Our local VFW 4127 will lead their annual 2-mile walk of remembrance on Saturday, September 6 at 9 a.m. This is day that we remember where we were and how we felt at that very moment we got the news. We must never forget and always be alert, brave and strong. Thank you to our military, our firefighters, our police, and our EMTs, locally and throughout our nation!

SHOUT OUT! Thank you to Dr. Patrick Del Vecchio, OD for providing assistance to SOS (Start Off Smart, Inc.) clients with eye exams and glasses. Dr. Del Vecchio is located at 28 N. Homestead Blvd., 305-247-2334. This is a valuable charity he is providing to our residents in need. Giving back to the community.

Councilwoman Judy Waldman

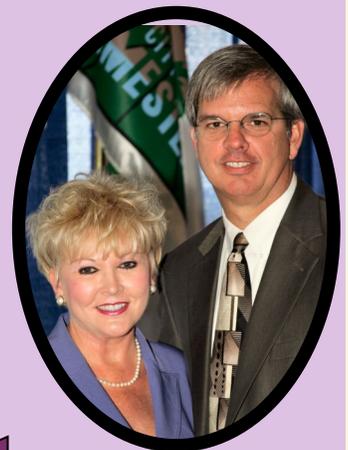
"For me and my family personally, September 11 was a reminder that life is fleeting, impermanent, and uncertain. Therefore, we must make use of every moment and nurture it with affection, tenderness, beauty, creativity, and laughter." - Deepak Chopra, M.D.

EVENTS

HAPPY LABOR DAY!	Sep 1
MAYOR JEFF PORTER'S BIRTHDAY—HAPPY BIRTHDAY	Sep 3 ALL DAY
VFW 4127 Freedom Walk—Remembering victims of 9/11; register at 305-322-6133—FREE	Sep 6 9 a.m.—12 p.m.
Racing to Success Business Expo at Miami Airport Convention Center; 305-247-2332 Chamber of Commerce	Sep 10 11:30a.m.—8 p.m.
Patriot Day	Sep 11
FNGLA Day on the Bay; 305-248-1117 for more information	Sep 20
International Day of Peace	Sep 21
3rd Annual Champions for SOS Masquerade Ball at Miami Marriott Dadeland Grand Ballroom—call 305-224-5585 for tickets	Sep 27 7 p.m.—12 midnight

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MY DEAR FRIEND, MAYOR JEFF PORTER!

Check out our Council throw-back photo!



September 2014

