

Chamber Chatter

A Publication of the Belle Glade Chamber of Commerce



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Black Gold Jubilee



**APRIL 2ND 2022
STARTS @ NOON
TORRY ISLAND
BELLE GLADE, FL**

**FREE CONCERTS!!
TRACY BYRD
7:30 pm**

- Art Show**
- Free Kid's Rides**
- Cornhole Tournament**
- Corn & Sweets Cook-off**
- 5K Run/Walk & 10K Run**
- Volleyball Tournament**
- Car Show**
- Variety of Food**
- Fireworks at 9 pm**
- AND SO MUCH MORE!**



f /blackgoldjubilee

BLACKGOLDJUBILEE.ORG

THANK YOU TO OUR VALUED SPONSORS!



This year the Jubilee is scheduled on **April 2nd** and will be preceded by multiple events including the Children's Fishing Contest, Night Time Golfing Tournament, the Little Miss Black Gold Pageant, and the Harvest Queen Pageant.

New, this year will be a mini concert the night before the Jubilee! On the morning of the Jubilee, festivities start with a 5K Walk/Run and 10K Run, at noon begins a day of fun, food, and entertainment. The day is completed with the grand finale - a spectacular fireworks display over the lake.

For more Black Gold Jubilee Information, visit the website by clicking [HERE](#)

Chamber Banquet Awards



The Chamber's Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony was held on Tuesday, February 22nd at the First Baptist Church's Gymnasium. Originally scheduled in October of 2021, the banquet was postponed due to the Covid variant outbreak.

The theme of the banquet was "Winter Wonderland", with over 200 people in attendance. A delicious prime rib meal was served with New York style cheesecake as dessert. The night continued with various awards being given. Below are the recipients of the awards.



2021 Community Pride Winner was awarded to Bernard Godek, CEO of Habitat for Humanity Palm Beach County and Josh Burrell, Director of Construction.



PBSC Impact Award was awarded to Andrew Barrett (right) by Dr. Latanya McNeil (left).



2021 Sheriff's Deputy of the Year was awarded to Deputy Sheriff, Jonathan Bryant (right) by Captain Emory Payne (left).



2021 Firefighters of the year was awarded to both Captain Stephen O'Sullivan (right) and Captain Todd Fote (left) by Chief Javatis Midget (center).



Agri-Industrial Man of the Year was awarded to Willie Lee (right) by presenter Paul Allen (left).



2021 Citizen of the Year was awarded to Dr. Robert Rease (center) by Stever Prielozny (right), also pictured is Terri Calsetta Chamber Board President (left).

MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Checkmark Collections



An Interview with Melissa Nash, President of CheckMark Collections

Tell us about CheckMark Collections:

CheckMark Collections specializes in account receivable management/financial service. As revenue recovery specialists, we offer our client a convenient, hassle-free way to collect debt; and for the debtor an opportunity to pay in a way that is easy and respectful.

Does CheckMark Collections have a Mission/Vision?

Yes, our mission is to assist businesses return earned revenues to their top line.

Tell us about your management team:

I (Melissa Nash) am the president and bring over 30 years in the business finance industry to the company. I am no stranger to the Glades area; I grew up in Belle Glade. My grandmother Rosa was Postmaster and also a teacher at Gove ECE specializing in Deaf Education.

I lead a team of specialists including James Pierre, Collections Manager. James, originally from Miami, understands a multi ethnic community and the diversity of our rural community.



Why did you decide to join the Chamber?

We already have several clients from the Glades area, and I still come out regularly to support local business. I'm always excited to see advancement in any industry and look forward to working with the Chamber to promote commerce in the Glades area.



Is there something special you would like to share about CheckMark Collections?

What's special about where we are today is that the pandemic allowed our business to go back home and operate. I started as a home-based business in 2007 and was featured in INC. magazine in 2009 as *1 of 11 Businesses You Can Start in Your Pajamas*.

With a proven model, we are now offering opportunities to be awarded a Franchise and join our brand. *The goal is to build entrepreneurs and have small and local, serve small and local.*



Name a "fun fact" about the business:

We are highly regulated both State and Federally, we refer to all the Departments and Regulatory Agencies as "alphabet soup". The best advice I can give is that for any reason you find yourself behind in payments, even if by unintentional oversight, just talk to the person on the other side of the phone, it is their job to work with you on a solution.



"Our goal is to build entrepreneurs and have small and local, serve small and local"
- Melissa Nash.

CheckMark Collections

2475 Mercer Ave, Suite B307

West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Hours: Mon-Fri 8-6

561-697-4911

info@checkmarkcollections.com

www.chechmarkcollections.com

MCA Fishing 21, LLC



An Interview with Jeffery J. Willis Jr. Founder and CEO of MCA Fishing 21, LLC

Tell us about MCA Fishing 21, LLC: We started as a dream conceived in a small Texas garage in 2013. That dream led me to tournament fishing. While fishing, I realized some important life lessons in patience and perseverance. These, among other life skills, I felt were desperately needed in the youth, and I wanted to help pass these skills on to them. This brought me back home to the Glades with a vision to reach out and mentor the youth in our community.

Does MCA Fishing 21, LLC have a Mission/Vision? Yes, our mission is to bring today's youth together and provide them with discipline, stability and a growing mindset that will develop them and ultimately our communities. Giving life skills learned through fishing and hunting.

Tell us about your management team: I am the founder and CEO Jeffery J. Willis Jr. I was born in South Bay and grew up in a single parent home where my mother raised me with strong biblical principles which guide me today. Khadeidra K. Willis is our manager, and my wife! Her background is in developing and mentoring youth. Which she has done for elementary through college age youth for over the last 15 years.



Why did you decide to join the Chamber?

Joining the Chamber, we feel, is a way for MCA Fishing to become more active in the community and to expand our services throughout the Glades.

Is there something special you would like to share about MCA Fishing 21, LLC?

Well, as I mentioned earlier, we started with fishing but are continuously looking for ways to expand mentoring through the MCA brand. Currently we have developed a youth program called "The Total Experience" where the youth can learn structure, responsibilities, and decision-making processes by working with each other and respecting diversity through the process.

Name a "fun fact" about the

business: Not many people know this but; three games into the 10th season of me playing professional football, I quit to start fishing... **#fromfootballtofishing!**



"Education is Our Driving Force"

MCA Fishing 21, LLC

Hours: Daily 9am-3pm

561-441-4426

MCAfishing21@gmail.com

www.builttolast21.com

Stayed tuned next month when we spotlight our newest member- **HCA Florida Palms West Hospital**

Renewing Members

Thank You! **RENEWING MEMBERS**

**Al-Iman Mosque
American Insurance Brokers
Anne M. Gannon, Tax Collector
Career Source
Cavinee's Paint and Body Shop
Comfort Air Conditioning & Sheet Metal
Community United Methodist Church
Dress for Success Palm Beaches
Everglades Equipment group
First Bank
Glades Chiropractic Center
Glades Day School
Horizon Inn & Suites
Injury Center of the Glades
Karen Corbin-wheeler
Kirchman Oil
Larry Royal Family Businesses
Leigh's Epic Destinations**

**McDonalds of Belle Glade
McGahee Termite & Pest Control
Orsenigo Farms, Inc
Osceola Farms - Florida Crystals
PAG Surveyors, Inc
PBC Food Bank
PBC Property Appraiser
Reliant Fire & Security, Inc
Roy E Burch Trust
Seminole Supply Company, Inc
South County Mental Health Center
State Farm Insurance- Barney Walker
Torcivia, Donlon, Goddeau Ansay PA
Tru Flo Corporation
Wedgworth's Inc
Wilkinson-Cooper Produce
Young Singers of the Palm Beaches
ZenBusiness**

Belle Glade City Events



City of Belle Glade
Parks and Recreation

BASKETBALL LEAGUE

William H. Pitt Gymnasium
1101 SW Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd
Belle Glade, FL 33433

Register Now
Six "6" Teams needed for League Play



March 16, 2022 - April 22, 2022
Wednesday • 7:00pm - 10:00pm Weekly
LIMITED SPACE

Life is always better when I'm playing BASKETBALL!

Registration Location: Lake Shore Civic Center
1224 SW Ave E Pl
Belle Glade, FL 33430

Parks and Recreation
Kirk Patrick, Director
561-914-6404

Darren Hill, Recreation Program Specialist
Kenny Ward, Recreation Program Specialist
(561) 914 - 6414

BEGINS MARCH 22, 2022

AEROBIC CLASSES

CITY OF BELLE GLADE
PARKS AND RECREATION



DAYS: TUESDAY & THURSDAY
TIME: 7:00PM-8:00PM

LOCATION: LAKE SHORE CIVIC CENTER
1224 SW AVE C PL | BELLE GLADE, FL

"Healthy Hearts Matter"

Parks and Recreation
Kirk Patrick, Director
561-914-6404

Debra Jones, Recreation Specialist
561-878-1796



****MASK REQUIRED****

**City of Belle Glade
Parks and Recreation**

ADULT CO-ED SOFTBALL

**LOCATION: GLADES PIONEER PARK
866 SW 16TH ST, BELLE GLADE, FL 33430**

**DATE: MAY 15, 2022 - JULY 24, 2022
SUNDAYS AT 5:00 PM**

**REGISTRATION LOCATION:
LAKE SHORE CIVIC CENTER
1224 SW AVE E PL|BELLE GLADE, FL 33430**

**PARKS AND RECREATION
KIRK PATRICK, DIRECTOR
561-914-6404**

**DARREN HILL, RECREATION PROGRAM SPECIALIST
561-914-6414**

AWE Scholarships



ALLIANCE OF
WOMEN
EXECUTIVES

We are pleased to announce AWE's 2022 Scholarship Applications are now open! If you are interested in applying, please see below for instructions and important information. We look forward to reviewing this year's candidates and future recipients.

**2022 ALLIANCE OF WOMEN EXECUTIVES
\$1500 SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION
COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKETS DUE BY APRIL 4, 2022**

*AWE proudly offers scholarships to young women graduating from a Palm Beach County high school who choose to continue their college education at:
Florida Atlantic University, Lynn University, Palm Beach Atlantic University or Palm Beach State College.*

SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must:

- *Be a young woman graduating from a Palm Beach County high school*
- *Have a minimum 3.0 GPA*
- *Provide a recommendation letter from a teacher or guidance counselor*
- *Provide the first page of her current high school transcript*
- *Provide an acceptance letter from Florida Atlantic University, Lynn University, Palm Beach Atlantic University or Palm Beach State College*
- *Complete the Scholarship Application.*
- *Write a 500 – 1000 word essay on the following topic: What hardship, great success or experience have you had that has shaped you into the young woman you are now and why are you deserving of an AWE scholarship?*

NEXT STEP

Visit our website - www.aweinc.org

*Click on the Scholarship link.
Complete the scholarship application.*

PBCWUD Outreach Engagement

Palm Beach County
Water Utilities Department
**OUTREACH
ENGAGEMENT**

Small/Minority/Women Business
Enterprise (S/M/WBE)

REGISTER NOW

[BIT.LY/PBCWUDGLADESOUTREACHEVENT](https://bit.ly/PBCWUDGLADESOUTREACHEVENT)



SCAN HERE

April 20, 2022

LOMAX HARRELLE PAVILION
5000 W CANAL STREET N.
BELLE GLADE, FL 33430

SCHEDULE

NETWORKING	11:00 am - 11:30 am
PRESENTATION	11:30 am - 12:30 pm
NETWORKING & LUNCH	12:30 pm - 1:00 pm

- PREVIEW UPCOMING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
- CONNECT WITH PRIME CONTRACTORS AND AGENCY CONTACTS
- LEARN ABOUT NEW AND UPCOMING JOB OPPORTUNITIES



Upcoming Events at Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center

Check out the updated entertainment schedule at the Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center!

Wednesday, March 23rd

2022 Season *40th*
Anniversary

SEE IT LIVE!

Dolly Hand
Cultural Arts
Center

Wednesday, March 23 at 7pm



High-energy
60's-inspired
song and dance
performance!

All Seats: \$35

Order tickets online at www.dollyhand.org

or call: 561-993-1160

Group discounts available

Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center*Palm Beach State College/Glades Campus
1977 SW College Drive*Belle Glade, FL 33430

Monday, March 21st

SEE IT LIVE!

**Helen Miller,
The Gospel Whirlwind**

Monday, March 21 at 7pm
Adults: \$25; 17 & under: \$15

40th
Anniversary

**Dolly Hand
Cultural Arts
Center
2022 Season**

"Time is Winding Up"

"I Won't
Let You Fall"



BUY TICKETS @
www.dollyhand.org

Group Rates Available

Box Office 561-993-1160

All dates, artists and programs subject to change.



1977 College Drive, Belle Glade, FL
Phone: 561-993-1160
www.palmbeachstate.edu

Sunday, March 27th

SEE IT LIVE!
Véalo en vivo

Latin Grammy-nominados

40th Anniversary
Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center
2022 Season



Mariachi Herencia de Mexico

Sunday, March 27 at 4:00 PM
\$25 Adults • \$15 Age 17 & under

Nuevo álbum: Esencia

BUY TICKETS @
www.dollyhand.org

Para comprar tickets
561-993-1160 y en línea

Tarifas para grupos disponibles
Group Rates Available

Date, artist and program
subject to change.



PALM BEACH STATE COLLEGE

3477 College Drive, Belle Glade, FL 33433
Sponsored by academic clubs
561-996-7777 or www.palmbeachstate.edu

The Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center is sponsored by the State of Florida Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. The Cultural Council, Palm Beach County, Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, and the World Development Council. The Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center and Palm Beach State College gratefully acknowledge these sponsors, past and present, for their support of our work.

Habitat for Humanity News



Kelly Smallridge
Honorary Chair

What is Women Build?

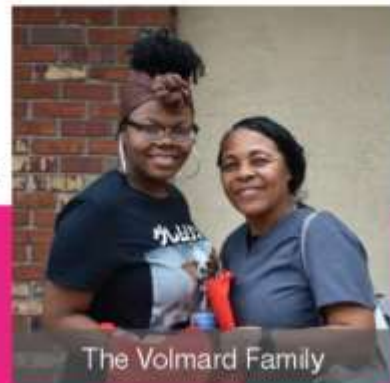
- Women Build is an annual, worldwide event, engaging women in an effort to build and repair homes for qualifying families.
- Habitat for Humanity of Palm Beach County is calling on women to roll up their sleeves and pick up a hammer to build homes for two families in Belle Glade, the Lane and Volmard Families and to help them realize the dream of home ownership.
- Starting with International Women's Day on **March 8, 2022**, teams will come together to build homes, communities and hope in Palm Beach County

How do I Participate?

- Participation is easy and no construction experience is required!
- Build your team and fundraise a minimum of \$1,500 and up to 15 volunteers can share the excitement of Women Build with a Team Build on a construction site or repair project.
- Registration is now open! Visit [habitatpbc.org](https://www.giveeffect.com/campaigns/20390-women-build-2022) or the link below to register your team today!



The Lane Family



The Volmard Family

<https://www.giveeffect.com/campaigns/20390-women-build-2022>



CONTACT US
Mitchell Fratrik
fratrikm@habitatpbc.org
561-536-5872
[habitatpbc.org](https://www.habitatpbc.org)





The Opportunity

A meaningful team building experience that impacts our community

Habitat's Team Build Day is a great opportunity tailored to companies to rally colleagues and friends toward a common cause. While strengthening bonds and learning new skills, team members will be challenged, inspired and motivated. The result? A powerfully connected team working together to create real change right here in our community!



Team Build Commitment - \$1,500 (min. contribution for a team of 10)

Your team has an opportunity to make a tangible impact in the life of a local family through one of several ways, such as, helping to construct a new Habitat home, completing a neighborhood revitalization project or completing a task critical to the success of our local Restores.

We are pleased to offer a build day experience that includes:

- Team photo and company feature on HFHPBC social media
- Hands-on participation for up to 25 team members
- Commemorative t-shirts for all team members
- Lunch will be coordinated for full day shifts
- Safety equipment, tools and training

Full Day 1 Shift: 8 am - 3 pm (lunch at 11 am)

Full Day 2 Shifts: 8 am - 11 am & 12 pm - 3 pm

Half Day Morning Shift: 8 am - 11 am

Half Day Afternoon Shift: 12 pm - 3 pm

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB NEWS



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

 @bgcpbc

 @bgcpbc

 @bgc_pbc

JOIN US IN OUR MISSION

To enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.



Visit www.BGCPBC.org to learn more!

Glades Area

- Belle Glade Elementary
- Canal Point Elementary
- Glade View Elementary
- Gove Elementary
- Pioneer Park Elementary
- Rosenwald Elementary
- Smith & Moore Family 'Career Readiness' Teen Center

More Info

- Over 1,200 youth served throughout the Glades area
- Servicing 6 elementary schools
- Lake Shore Middle School
- Glades Central High School

Programs

- Family Services
- Education & Career Development
- Technology/STEM
- Sports/Fitness & Recreation
- Cultural Arts
- Character & Leadership Development

Hours

School year
Monday - Friday 2-6 p.m.

Teen Center
Monday - Friday 2 - 8 p.m.

Summer / Holidays
7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.



West TEC News



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Visit us at : wtec.palmbeachschools.org

Call West Tech NOW
(561) 829-4620 option 4



Interested In More Events?



We have more events going on this month!
Check out our updated events calendar by
clicking [here](#).

Share Us!

Share Us With Your Friends!

Forward our Newsletter with your friends so they can keep up with the news!

Sign up for the newsletter [here](#).



Newsletter Sponsor Opportunities

Share Your News in the Newsletter!



Interested in becoming a Newsletter Sponsor?

We have both monthly and yearly opportunities, call Lamar Weathers at the Chamber to discuss which option is best for your business.

561-996-2745 or Lamar@bellegladechamber.com.

Have any News to Share?

How about an announcement that you would like make, then let us know!

Just contact us by the 20th of the month and we will place it in the newsletter for the following month.

Contact Lamar Weathers at the Chamber.

561-996-2745 or Lamar@bellegladechamber.com

This Newsletter is brought to you by:



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SLIM DOWN FOR SUMMER!



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Alishia Parenteau



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visit our website - click [here](#)



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