

Pinecrest

ONE OF MIAMI'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

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It's the most wonderful time of the year!

BY ALANA S. PEREZ

Pinecrest Gardens Director



Let the holiday merriment begin. With all of the concerts and movies and family activities we have to choose from—making a decision of which events to attend over the next two weeks

will surely be more challenging than putting together your holiday gift list.

JAZZ

Treat yourself to tickets for the South Motors Jazz Series on **Saturday, December 10, at 8:00 p.m.** The Gardens welcomes Grammy Award Winner **Dr. Ed Calle and Mamblue** in a program titled "A Not So Silent Night." This 2015 Latin Grammy Award winner and five time Grammy nominee is a renowned musician, composer, orchestrator and professor. Throughout his legendary career, he has become one of the most recorded saxophonists in history appearing on more than 1,200 albums, almost 9,000 singles, and countless television and movie soundtracks with artists ranging from Frank Sinatra to Celia Cruz. Jazz up the season and join us for this amazing big band concert with a

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Read in St. Augustine



Pictured (l-r) are David and Shelly Schwartzenfeld, and Joanne and Andy Hesser with their dogs, Cooper and Piper, reading their favorite newspaper while visiting St. Augustine, Florida. Thanks for taking us along!

Sign up for youth baseball and softball

BY GRANT MILLER

Publisher



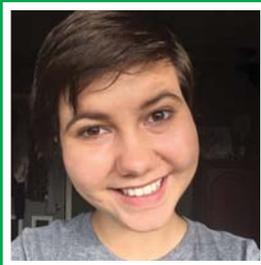
Registration has started for the 2017 season of Howard Palmetto Baseball and Softball.

Divisions are available for girls and boys from high school ages all the way down to T-Ball for 4- and 5-year olds. The league is open to all residents of Miami-Dade County and the games are played at area municipal parks — Suniland, Greer, Coral Reef and Palmetto Bay.

Visit www.howardpalmetto.com for information and to access the online registration. Registration fees are \$220 for baseball and softball and \$185 for T-Ball. Player evaluations begin in December and the season starts in January, continuing through April/May.

Positive PEOPLE in Pinecrest

These Positive People help add to the quality of life in Pinecrest. Look inside for their stories.



ELLY SCHNAU



JOHN CYRIL MALLOY IV



MAYA LEBOWITZ

First-ever 'public transit day' message: Ride, don't drive

BY MARITZA ARCEO-LOPEZ

Friday, December 9 will be an all-day affair to encourage residents and local leaders to ride public transit.

We're all too familiar with getting stuck in Miami rush hour. In fact, the 2015 Urban Mobility Scorecard from the Texas A&M Transportation Institute — the national authority on transportation issues — ranks traffic congestion in the Miami-Dade/Broward/Palm Beach region as the 12th worst for urban areas in the nation.

To build upon the steps that Miami's leaders are taking to strengthen our public transit system, two social-entrepreneurs, Rebecca Fishman Lipsey of Radical Partners and Marta Vicedo of Urban Impact Lab, are teaming up to engage locals in solutions.

Fishman-Lipsey and Vicedo are declaring Friday, December 9 as "Public Transit Day" and are urging public officials, community leaders, and residents to take the pledge to use public transportation for the day. What started out as a Miami-focused effort has now expanded to include transit

riders and leaders in Broward and Palm Beach. Public Transit Day is being co-hosted by local organizations and businesses committed to improving South Florida's public transit system.

"Earlier this year, we facilitated a massive community brainstorm with 1,700 locals on social-media, and they generated 400 unique ideas to strengthen transit in Miami," Fishman-Lipsey said. "The most popular idea was to engage residents and local leaders in using public transit and we're excited to bring it to life."

Everyone is encouraged to share about their riding experience using #PublicTransitDay and to follow social media posts through Twitter (@MIATransitDay), Instagram (miatransitday) and Facebook (the 100 Great Ideas page).

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"Public Transit Day is an open invitation for everyone, especially people that have never or rarely use our transit system," said Vicedo. "This is about taking action and gaining insight around one of the most important local issues of our generation."

While activations will be happening all



over the county, the day's signature event will be a Lunch @The Underline (Brickell Metrorail stop) where locals can enjoy their lunch with elected leaders and their community at the county's longest picnic table. Free tickets to this event are available here. Buskerfest Miami, a street performance festival now in its fourth year, is also happening on Dec 9th from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and provides even more incentive to explore our transit system.

Already building a groundswell of support from transportation experts, Fishman-Lipsey and Vicedo are working with

Alice Bravo, Director of Miami-Dade County's Department of Transportation and Public Works, and Lyft, who will have a special offer that day for new users (use promo code MIATRANSITDAY to receive \$5 off each of 10 rides in a two-week period). The Miami Foundation is the lead sponsor for the event, and Ride2MD, the Miami Center for Architecture & Design. Whole Foods and Tri-Rail are core supporters as well.

For information go to <www.publictransitday.com>, or contact <rf@radicalpartners.net> or <marta@urbanimpactlab.com>.



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