

## Krewes' social celebrates, mourns the end of parade season

By LENORA LAKE

Tribune correspondent

Members of various krewes joined together to have a final toast to the 2009 parade season.

A recent End of the Parade Season social drew the guests to Rick's on the River for cocktails and a silent auction. It was organized by the Krewe of Mustang Sallies and Ryders and the Krewe of Alegria.

Organizers were Kendahl Maxwell and Joetta Villanueva of the Mustang Sallies along with Jacqueline Zalar of Alegria. Decorations included black panels printed with RIP 2009 Parades.

"This is the last time we will all be together as the parade season ends and before the next one begins," Zalar said. "I had always wanted to have one of these parties at home."

Mustang Sallies is a 4-year-old co-ed krewe, and Alegria is a 24-year-old women's krewe.

Fundraising events are planned

TAMPA - Three local nonprofits are planning fundraisers during the next two weeks. They are:

- Food Fight, benefiting America's Second Harvest.

The third annual event features a five-course dinner prepared by nine chefs from top area restaurants. They include Dan Tederous of The Capital Grille, Eri Neri of the Don CeSar and Marty Blitz of Mise en Place.

It will be Thursday at the InterContinental Hotel, 4860 W. Kennedy Blvd. The reception is at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m. A live and a silent auction are part of the evening.

Tickets are \$150 each; table sponsorships are available. For information, call Wendy Zella at (813) 254-1190, ext. 101.

- US-Africa Free Enterprise Education Foundation event, supporting its Prodigy Program for

literacy and cross-cultural initiatives.

The cocktail party, with a presentation by Lincoln Tamayo, headmaster of Academy Prep, will be at 6:30 p.m. June 25 at the Tampa Yacht Club, 5320 Interbay Blvd.

The event is hosted by Robert Thomas, Dana Ludwig, Irene Guy and Fassil Gabremariam. Tickets are \$75 each and available by calling (813) 228-7222.

- Celebrating the Face of Hope Gala, benefiting the Tampa Bay Academy of Hope, founded by former professional football player James Evans.

The 13th annual black-tie event will be at 5 p.m. June 27 at the A La Carte Event Pavilion, 4050 Dana Shores Drive. Keynote speaker is Michele Robinson, president for Verizon Southeast Region; entertainment will be by the Imperial Acrobats from China.

During the celebration, accomplishments of at-risk youth who have overcome steep odds to graduate from high school and enroll in colleges will be recognized.

Tickets are \$100 each and available by calling (813) 277-0464. Table sponsorships also are available.

#### Business society hosts social

DOWNTOWN - The University of South Florida's College of Business Society will have a Networking Above the Clouds event June 25 at The Club.

The free event, from 6 to 8 p.m., is designed for alumni to connect with fellow alumni and friends. It includes complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. The private club at 101 E. Kennedy Blvd., Suite 4200, overlooks downtown.

Attendees are encouraged to wear green and gold.

For information, e-mail [jamie.ellison@members.trust.com](mailto:jamie.ellison@members.trust.com). For reservations, go to <http://usfalumni.net>.

#### Author featured at history museum

CHANNEL DISTRICT - Author John V. Cinchett will sign copies of his new book, "Vintage Tampa Signs and Scenes," from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Tampa Bay History Center Museum Store, 801 Old Water St.

The book is a pictorial collection of 200 Tampa photos of the 1950s. The event also will feature a special exhibit of 1950s Tampa memorabilia. Admission to the museum store is free. For information, call (813) 228-0097.

#### Plant societies plan programs

TAMPA - Two plant societies will offer programs free to the public this week. They are:

- African violet prize-winning grower Mina Menish will speak about repotting plants at Friday's meeting of the Tampa African Violet Society. The event will be at 10 a.m. at the Ragan Community Center, 1200 E. Lake Ave. Growing tips are offered at the meetings. For information, call President Mary Lou Harden at (813) 689-8700.
- Representatives of Worms Way will talk about new products at Saturday's meeting of the Tampa Bay Gesneriad Society. The event is at 10 a.m. at 402 W. Martin L. King Blvd. For information, call (813) 963-7424.

Hispanic group has network social

YBOR CITY - Hispanic Young Professionals & Entrepreneurs will have a networking event for young professionals.

The social will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday at The Nest, 1430 E. Seventh Ave. It is free for members and \$10 for others.

HYPE of Tampa Bay is a not-for-profit group that provides networking and leadership opportunities for young Hispanic professionals and aims to reduce the dropout rate among Hispanic middle and high school students.

For information, go to [www.hypetampabay.org](http://www.hypetampabay.org).