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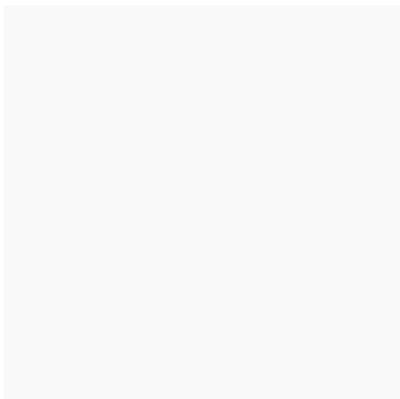
Plus, how the Freedom Tower gets lit.  Inbox x

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## Archived Newsletter x

Jul 10 -  [This Miami man is coming to Netflix](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/this-miami-man-is-coming-to-netflix)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/this-miami-man-is-coming-to-netflix>)

Jul 09 -  ['La Vaquita' is reborn](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/la-vaquita-is-reborn/)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/la-vaquita-is-reborn/>)

Jul 06 -  [Biscayne Boulevard says hi to jai-alai](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/biscayne-boulevard-says-hi-to-jai-alai)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/biscayne-boulevard-says-hi-to-jai-alai>)

Jul 05 -  [All hail the OG InstaCart](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/all-hail-the-og-instacart/)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/all-hail-the-og-instacart/>)

Jul 03 -  [Where to get your fireworks fixed](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/where-to-get-your-fireworks-fixed/)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/where-to-get-your-fireworks-fixed/>)

Jul 02 -  [It all started with surfing on reddit in Miami](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/it-all-started-with-surfing-reddit-in-miami/)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/it-all-started-with-surfing-reddit-in-miami/>)

Jun 29 -  [Now this local has picked up two tons of trash](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/now-this-local-has-picked-up-two-tons-of-trash/)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/now-this-local-has-picked-up-two-tons-of-trash/>)

Jun 28 -  [5 'AA' were throwing down the bomb today](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/5-aa-were-throwing-down-the-bomb-today/)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/5-aa-were-throwing-down-the-bomb-today/>)

Jun 27 -  [We're not "late."](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/we-re-not-late/)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/we-re-not-late/>)

## Happy Monday!

There are no holidays to give us a break this week, but if you're feeling down, peep this cool new spot in Miami Lakes (<https://www.miami.com/miami-restaurants/he-turned-this-former-vaquita-farm-store-into-a-not-quite-cuban-restaurant-192778/>). Mylo Gonzalez turned a former "la vaquita" (aka Farm Store) into a craft beer spot serving up great food – including a Cuban sandwich made with waffles and croquetas ☐ (Sorry, diet.)

Amid all the immigration news lately, what's really been on our mind is the Freedom Tower. So here's some info on how that Miami landmark gets its shine.



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The Freedom Tower lit up in a patriotic display. (☐: Courtesy of Miami-Dade College)

## ALL OF THE LIGHTS

Jun 26 - ☐ [Giving new meaning to “](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/f0%9f%a4%afgiving-new-meanin)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/f0%9f%a4%afgiving-new-meanin>)

Jun 25 - 🙌 ["No hate, no fear, immig  
welcome here."](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/no-hate-no-fear-immigrants-are-w)  
([https://thenewtropic.com/newslett  
no-hate-no-fear-immigrants-are-w](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/no-hate-no-fear-immigrants-are-w))

Jun 22 - ☐ [When life gives you Limu](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/when-life-gives-you-lime/)  
([https://thenewtropic.com/newslett  
when-life-gives-you-lime/](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/when-life-gives-you-lime/))

Jun 21 - ☐ [These were Bourdain's fa  
spots](https://thenewtropic.com/ne06-21-these-were-bourdains-favori) ([https://thenewtropic.com/ne  
06-21-these-were-bourdains-favori](https://thenewtropic.com/ne06-21-these-were-bourdains-favori))

Jun 20 - 🗿 [Hero, or Florida man wi](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/hero-or-florida-man-with-a-death-y)  
([https://thenewtropic.com/newslett  
hero-or-florida-man-with-a-death-y](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/hero-or-florida-man-with-a-death-y))

Jun 19 - ☐ [From milkman to the For](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/f0%9f%a5%9bfrom-milkman-to-t)  
([https://thenewtropic.com/newslett  
f0%9f%a5%9bfrom-milkman-to-t](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/f0%9f%a5%9bfrom-milkman-to-t))

Jun 18 - 🎲 [Lucky number thirteen](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/lucky-number-thirteen/)  
([https://thenewtropic.com/newslett  
lucky-number-thirteen/](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/lucky-number-thirteen/))

Jun 15 - 🍷 [Edible flowers, gold flak](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/edible-flowers-gold-flakes-and-boc)  
([https://thenewtropic.com/newslett  
edible-flowers-gold-flakes-and-boc](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/edible-flowers-gold-flakes-and-boc))

Jun 14 - 🐓 [The first rule of Fight Cl](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/the-first-rule-of-fight-club/)  
([https://thenewtropic.com/newslett  
the-first-rule-of-fight-club/](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/the-first-rule-of-fight-club/))

Jun 13 - 🗣️ [“What high school did y](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/what-high-school-did-you-go-to/)  
([https://thenewtropic.com/newslett  
what-high-school-did-you-go-to/](https://thenewtropic.com/newslett/what-high-school-did-you-go-to/))

You might have seen it shining blue or pink, or even a patriotic red, white, and blue. We're talking about the Freedom Tower.

The Miami landmark lights up for all kinds of occasions, just like the Empire State Building in New York or the Willis Tower in Chicago.

But how does it all work? We reached out to Juan Mendieta, the communications director over at Miami-Dade College, to find out more about how the building chooses its signature shine for special occasions.

**When they first started lighting the tower up:** The practice first started about 10 years ago with the color red, which remains the default.

**How it all works:** The lights are programmed through a mobile app designed by MDC engineers about 10 years ago. It includes a bunch of color options and patterns and only works on the college's internal wifi to avoid being hacked.

**How they choose the colors:** Mostly it's pegged to major holidays or events like the 4th of July and Pride Month, but MDC has also displayed the colors of a country's flag in solidarity after notable events or tragedies (i.e. the deadly attacks in Paris (<https://www.nytimes.com/news-event/attacks-in-paris>) a few years ago). They also get requests tied to

Jun 12 - 🍷 [Stop by this spot instead](https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/stop-by-this-spot-instead-of-ihob/)  
(<https://thenewtropic.com/newsletter/stop-by-this-spot-instead-of-ihob/>)

national charitable causes like shining pink lights for breast cancer awareness month or going blue on Human Rights Day.

**Any weird requests?** “For the most part, I am sure because of the building’s significance, people have been very respectful and avoided outlandish requests,” Mendieta says. “I only recall a couple times where a cause was too nascent or very localized or not linked to a national charity and we had to kindly decline.”

*Other buildings like the Miami Tower and the Frost Museum of Science use similar technology to illuminate their buildings. The Miami Tower’s system has been in place since 2012*

*(<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article1942927.html>) and replaced a process where a worker individually changed colored gels on the building’s 382 lights.*

*Are there other burning questions you have about random things in Miami, or just something you’ve always been curious about? Hit reply and let us know or email us at [hello@thenewtropic.com](mailto:hello@thenewtropic.com)*

*(<mailto:hello@thenewtropic.com>) and we’ll try to get you some answers.*

## **BULLETIN BOARD**

📖 Coding bootcamp LaunchCode has a free bootcamp coming up. It kicks off July 23, and will be two nights a week for seven months at the Little Haiti Cultural Center. There are 150 spots, and they're taking applications through July 15. Want to learn to code without having to quit your job and shell out a ton of cash? Maybe this is for you. Details here. (<https://www.launchcode.org/lc101>)

📖 The Miami-Dade College Idea Center is now accepting applications for “Scale Up Miami: Jumpstart Your Small Business,” a four-week training program consisting of Saturday workshops that will help you refine your business marketing strategy, improve operations, and “gain financial know-how to access new funding channels.” The program is meant for local small business owners and includes three months of coaching and technical assistance after the program. Applications are open through July 13. You can find them here (<http://theideacenter.co/scaleupmiami/>).

*Got an opportunity, workshop, scholarship, grant, etc. you want other curious locals to know about? Hit us up at [hello@thenewtropic.com](mailto:hello@thenewtropic.com) (<mailto:hello@thenewtropic.com>) to have it listed here.*

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([http://www.frostscience.org/exhibition/poison/?wbu\\_p=1](http://www.frostscience.org/exhibition/poison/?wbu_p=1))

Science, folklore, & history collide at Frost Science's new exhibition The Power of Poison. Catch the #ToxinTakeoverMiami open now through Sept. 3rd.

LEARN MORE » ([http://www.frostscience.org/exhibition/poison/?wbu\\_p=1](http://www.frostscience.org/exhibition/poison/?wbu_p=1))

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## WHAT'S NEW IN THE 305

**Dab on 'em.** The Holy Smokes Tobacco Shop has Miami-Dade officials heated. The Kendall shop has been selling Miami-*Dab* County vape kits for folks who use marijuana oil in their vape pens. Their kits use the same colors, design and font as the county's ubiquitous logo, which prompted a county lawyer to send a letter demanding the shops stop selling the kits. The company's owner said he doesn't really plan to fight the county since the kits didn't really spark (heh) sales in the way he'd hoped. (Miami Herald (<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article214063629.html>))

**Sneak preview.** David Beckham and his team are continuing their push for an MLS soccer stadium at the Melreese golf course and on Sunday night they released renderings and a promo video ([https://www.instagram.com/p/Bk\\_LH2qFgzt/](https://www.instagram.com/p/Bk_LH2qFgzt/)) for the proposed "soccer village" called the Miami Freedom Park. The \$1 billion plan calls for a stadium, 110 acres of green space, youth soccer fields and keeping

some golfing. On Thursday, City of Miami commissioners will decide if the plan will go before voters in November. (Instagram, Miami Herald (<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article214536159.html>))

**The “other” kind of gentrification.** While most folks know about climate change and sea level rise, the concept of “climate gentrification” is slowly but surely (<https://thenewtropic.com/climate-change-gentrification/>) becoming part of the conversation. A new study from Harvard researchers focused on Miami shows that fears about the effects of climate change have pushed up prices for properties at higher elevations while property values in lower-lying areas have continued to decrease. That higher ground has traditionally been home to mostly working-class and low-income residents who are now at risk of being pushed out by wealthy folks seeking land where their investments can last. (The New Tropic, City Lab (<https://www.citylab.com/equity/2018/07/the-reality-of-climate-gentrification/564152/>))

**Access denied.** After protests and a visit by Sen. Marco Rubio, the feds are rolling back politicians’ access to the Homestead facility housing immigrant children. The Department of Health and Human Services blocked U.S. Rep Carlos Curbelo from visiting the facility last week – which is in his district – even after he followed federal guidelines. An HHS spokesperson said the visits have caused an

“unnecessary strain” on staffers. Curbelo said he doesn’t “feel sorry” for the agency and well...we hear that. (McClatchy

(<https://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/politics-government/article214424669.html>))

**No more \$40 beers.** After years of tourists being scammed into paying crazy prices for food and fancy drinks on South Beach, Miami Beach officials have created official guidelines for menus and are now requiring businesses to get their menus approved by the city. Restaurants now have to list prices, spell out any special costs, and even have make sure service charges are in a big enough font for customers to read. (Miami New Times

(<https://www.miaminewtimes.com/news/miami-beach-requires-ocean-drive-restaurants-to-approve-menus-with-city-10500735>))

**And speaking of beers...** Last year as Hurricane Irma hit North Bay Village, knocking down power lines and trees, some village cops decided to crack a few Corona Lights instead of patrolling the streets and responding to emergency calls. Records indicate that half the members of a special hurricane “Landfall Team” were drinking on the job while the police department was receiving calls for medical emergencies. And the only punishment for the cops was giving up some extra pay and receiving written reprimands. (Miami Herald

(<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/local/community/miami-dade/article214285549.html>))

# EVENTS

## OUR PARTNER EVENTS

 **Tuesday:** Talk safer personal care at Jackson Hall with an expert ([Allapattah](http://bit.ly/2tP4miA)) (<http://bit.ly/2tP4miA>)

 **Tuesday:** Talk food entrepreneurship at Tostada Tuesdays ([North Miami Beach](https://www.facebook.com/events/235402630600975/)) (<https://www.facebook.com/events/235402630600975/>)

 **Thursday:** Talk diet trends with the experts at Jackson Hall ([Allapattah](http://bit.ly/SummerPopUpWithUMSylvester))

(<http://bit.ly/SummerPopUpWithUMSylvester>) 😊

**Saturday- Sunday:** Eat all the mangos at Fairchild's annual mango festival (P.S. How is there still no mango emoji?) ([Coral Gables](https://www.fairchildgarden.org/Events-Community-Outreach/Events-Details/the-mango-and-tropical-fruit-festival)) (<https://www.fairchildgarden.org/Events-Community-Outreach/Events-Details/the-mango-and-tropical-fruit-festival>)

 **Sunday:** Learn how to eat like a monk, then catch this flick about reincarnation ([North Beach](https://www.o-cinema.org/event/becoming-who-i-was/)) (<https://www.o-cinema.org/event/becoming-who-i-was/>)

 **Wednesday, July 18:** Enjoy some jazz at the Yard ([Wynwood](http://bit.ly/jazzattheyard)) (<http://bit.ly/jazzattheyard>)

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Check out this event from our advertiser, CIM Consulting .

 **Say YES to Futbol Miami**

([https://www.facebook.com/events/2540984992593903/?active\\_tab=about&wbu\\_e=1](https://www.facebook.com/events/2540984992593903/?active_tab=about&wbu_e=1))

Score a goal for Miami on Thursday July 12th from 11am - 2pm at Regatta Park to support MLS. Join us and David Beckham for games, music, and more!

LEARN MORE » ([https://www.facebook.com/events/2540984992593903/?active\\_tab=about&wbu\\_e=1](https://www.facebook.com/events/2540984992593903/?active_tab=about&wbu_e=1))

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## AROUND TOWN

### TODAY

 Dance your heart out at Candela Mondays

([Brickell](#)

(<https://www.facebook.com/events/186165901927995/>)

 Kick back with a local jazz legend ([Coral Gables](#)

(<https://www.facebook.com/events/609753026047917/>)

 Catch a special screening of Yellow Submarine

([Coral Gables](#)

(<https://www.facebook.com/events/209740422971432/>)

### TOMORROW

 Break out the board games ([Kendall](#)

(<https://www.facebook.com/events/194566661161768/>)

 Take a trip around the world at World Music

Tuesdays ([Wynwood](#)

(<https://www.facebook.com/events/65051889195114>

5/))

⚽ Watch France take on Belgium in the World Cup  
(Various locations (<https://thenewtropic.com/fifa-world-cup-miami/>))

## WEDNESDAY

🚀 Take an intergalactic detour at this talk on 2001: A Space Odyssey ([Coral Gables](#)  
([https://www.facebook.com/events/479883425797613/?](https://www.facebook.com/events/479883425797613/?notif_t=event_calendar_create&notif_id=1529506160803134)  
[notif\\_t=event\\_calendar\\_create&notif\\_id=1529506160803134](https://www.facebook.com/events/479883425797613/?notif_t=event_calendar_create&notif_id=1529506160803134)))

🎸 Slow things down at Veza Sur Unplugged, ft. Raquel Sofia ([Wynwood](#)  
(<https://www.facebook.com/events/167922890552049/>))

🎷 Enjoy some jazz in the lobby of the historic Olympia Theater ([Downtown](#)  
(<https://www.facebook.com/events/774958582687426/>))

⚽ Watch Croatia take on England in the World Cup  
(Various locations (<https://thenewtropic.com/fifa-world-cup-miami/>))

## THURSDAY

☐ Nerd out at Nerd Nite ([Wynwood](#) (<http://v>))

🕺 Get your bachata on ([Little Havana](#)  
(<https://www.facebook.com/events/1927537597499919/>))

🎸 Rock and Roll at the Anderson ([Upper East Side](https://www.facebook.com/events/229573010982524/)  
(<https://www.facebook.com/events/229573010982524/>))

🎺 Swing dance under the stars ([North Beach](https://www.facebook.com/events/1234733039963694/)  
(<https://www.facebook.com/events/1234733039963694/>))

## FRIDAY

🎸 Be a deadhead for a night ([Wynwood](https://www.facebook.com/events/2106807819551530/)  
(<https://www.facebook.com/events/2106807819551530/>))

☐ Pay tribute to the Red Hot Chili Peppers  
([Downtown](https://www.facebook.com/events/234926490645870/)  
(<https://www.facebook.com/events/234926490645870/>))

🎺 Dance flamenco under the stars ([South Beach](https://www.facebook.com/events/393710407720724/?event_time_id=393710497720715)  
([https://www.facebook.com/events/393710407720724/?event\\_time\\_id=393710497720715](https://www.facebook.com/events/393710407720724/?event_time_id=393710497720715)))

*Going to one of these? Take us with you! Email a pic to [hello@thenewtropic.com](mailto:hello@thenewtropic.com) or tag [@thenewtropic](https://www.instagram.com/thenewtropic) on Instagram. See more upcoming events on our events page, and add your own events with [a New Tropic membership](http://www.thenewtropic.com/join) (<http://www.thenewtropic.com/join>).*

## THAT'S ALL FOR TODAY.

Make it a great week, Miami. And don't worry, even if Tropical Storm Beryl becomes a hurricane (<https://www.miamiherald.com/news/weather/hurricane/article214521814.html>) it shouldn't pose much of a threat to us here in the 305.

– The New Tropic

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