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# The Weekly Challenger

**We Value Diversity. We Value Education. We Value History.**

St. Petersburg • Clearwater • Tampa • Largo • Tarpon Springs • Safety Harbor • Bradenton • Sarasota

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 50

AUGUST 12 - AUGUST 18, 2010

ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

## Education As Opportunity



Marian Wright Edelman

BY MARIAN WRIGHT  
EDELMAN  
NNPA COLUMNIST

WASHINGTON, D.C. - (NNPA) - African-Americans have always seen education as a key to life and freedom. In his autobiography "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave," Frederick Douglass taught us that to educate a man is to "forever unfit him to be a slave," but to deny a person education is to "shut him or her up in mental darkness." Douglass said that when his former master ordered his wife to stop teaching Douglass to read, he felt he was being treated "as though I were a brute."

Today, if you can't read, you're sentenced to social and economic death in our globalizing world. Even children understand this. The Children's Defense Fund (CDF) Freedom Schools® program provides summer and after-school enrichment that helps children fall in love with reading, increases their self-esteem, and generates more positive attitudes toward learning. At one CDF Freedom Schools site, a 21-year-old servant-leader intern recently

described the connection between not being able to read and becoming trapped in our nation's dangerous pipeline to prison: "If you can't read by third grade, you don't want anyone to know you can't read, so you act out. When you act out, you get grouped with the other kids who act out. They can't read either. Because no one can read and no one discusses that they can't read, they end up becoming part of gangs and everyone there is there for the same reason... But there is always someone in the gang who can read, and those who can't end up becoming their tools."

I remember growing up in the 1940s and 1950s in the South—an inquisitive young girl barred from the public library, the public pool, and other public facilities because of my race. Our segregated and unequally funded school and school library had hand-me-down, out-of-date books from white schools. The external world put a lot of obstacles in my way and told me I wasn't as valuable as white children, but I didn't believe it because my parents and teachers

**OPPORTUNITY**  
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## Challenges To Quality Education Vary According To Retired Educators



Wengay Newton, Sr.



Mary Clowers



Dr. David Welch

BY JEANIE BLUE  
SPECIAL TO THE  
CHALLENGER

ST. PETERSBURG - Parents preparing their children to attend school in Pinellas County are doing so under a wave of controversy about student achievement and behavioral performance. Recent reports from the Pinellas County School District indicate that eight of their elementary schools have received D and F grades from FCAT testing results released by the Florida Department of Education. This rating influences how students, teachers and faculty will be assigned to schools. In this city, Lakewood, Woodlawn and Fairmount Park

earned F's. The Imagine Charter School, received another F grade for its second year in a row. Maximo and New Heights each received D grades. The other D-grade elementary schools are located in Gulfport, Pinellas Park and Clearwater.

In addition to the dismal test results, discipline problems are still high and there is some movement to look at expansion of the Fundamental School concept to include more schools. The Pinellas County School Board has a scheduled workshop planned for Aug. 17, to discuss the possibility of establishing more fundamental high schools. The fundamental concept requires that enrolled students maintain good disci-

pline and that parents be involved or risk the students dismissal from the school. The only Fundamental High School in the county is Osceola High in Seminole, but Boca Ciega in Gulfport has applied to become one. Boca Ciega is a D-rated school and in St. Petersburg, Gibbs High and Dixie Hollins High are also D-rated.

Neighborhood and civic groups are concerned about the state of education in this county and are working with the district to try and bring about positive change. Some among these groups include the Concerned Organizations for Quality Education for Black Students and the NAACP. Another statewide group, calling itself the Children's

Movement of Florida, kicked off its "Milk Party" campaign Monday, Aug. 9, citing its purpose of encouraging business leaders and politicians to promote issues such as quality children's health and parent education. They also plan to raise awareness about improving access to education for special needs children, such as educational opportunities for children who may be diagnosed with learning or physical disabilities.

Some individuals who are currently involved with education or have a long history of working in the field, weighed in on the discussion

**EDUCATION**  
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## Local Youth Group Attends National Conference

BY MICHAEL BOYKINS, SR.  
SPECIAL TO THE  
CHALLENGER

ST. PETERSBURG -The Pinellas County Urban League's National Urban League Incentives To Excel and Succeed (NULITES) teen leadership program attended the 21st Annual NULITES Youth Leadership Summit in Washington, DC, July 28-31 on the campus of the University of Maryland, College Park. The summit was held in conjunction with the 2010 National Urban League Conference as it celebrated its 100th year anniversary. The theme for this year's summit was, "Dedicated, Determined, Destined, We Are Empowered!"

The NULITES youth summit provides young people with an opportunity to be exposed to a positive social network of peers and professionals while enhancing their social, character building and leadership skills. Each day of the summit the youth were engaged in numerous exciting activities, which included; fun and fitness challenge, talent camps and professional development workshops. During the Youth Leadership Awards Breakfast, the students were given the opportunity to sit with; doctors,



**YOUTH**

*continued on pg. 6*

Group from the Pinellas County Urban League's National Urban League Incentives To Excel and Success (NULITES) visit Washington, DC





*I grew up on the Gulf Coast. I know these waters. And I'm doing everything I can to clean them up.*  
- Fred Lemond, BP Cleanup Operations

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- Environmental Restoration
- Health and Safety
- Wildlife

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# The Weekly Challenger Newspaper

## We Value *Diversity*. We Value *Education*. We Value *History*.

- A knowledge of history brings a feeling of fellowship that runs through the ages — be it a territory, a village, a district, or a nation.
- To live without history is likened to living without a form of memory.
- To be without history is to live without roots or a past, with the present having no real foundation, and very little meaning for the future.
- To know the events of our past (can help us) to know what future events can be.
- *The Weekly Challenger* is committed to featuring articles of all ethnic cultures for the reading enjoyment of both the young and old generations.

# OPINION

## Five Years After The Levees Broke



BY JULIANNE  
MALVEAUX  
NNPA COLUMNIST

(NNPA) - On August 29, we will commemorate five years since Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, and since subsequently levees broke, drowning the city in feet of water. Five years ago our nation exhibited some of the most profound indifference to human beings as thousands of New Orleanians were stuck without food, water, or sanitation in the Super Dome.

In the aftermath of those five years, those divisions of race and class have determined which individuals have recovered from Katrina and who has not. Five years after the levees broke, the City of New Orleans is still bruised from the tragedy of a natural disaster, a man-made disaster, and an indifferent government.

Bill Quigley, Legal Director of the Center for Constitutional Rights, Loyola University law professors Bill and Davida Finger, and Tulane University researcher Lance Hill have compiled a “Pain Index” for New Orleans in 2010. They make the case that too many people have been permanently displace, the infrastructure remains badly frayed, and that

there is insufficient affordable housing. They note that while some say the median income in New Orleans has risen since Katrina, that income has only risen because so many poor people can’t come back.

There are at least 100,000 fewer people in New Orleans today than five years ago. One in four residential addresses are vacant or blighted. Nearly 20,000 people are still waiting for money from the Road Home program to rebuild their homes. Meanwhile, rents have spiraled, and 5000 people are waiting for public housing; another 28,000 or so are waiting for housing vouchers. The public school system has been decimated, and it is unclear whether charter education has been an improvement.

In 2005, a New Orleans businessman promised the Wall Street Journal that the business community would use Katrina to reconfigure New Orleans politically, demographically and economically. With the city now being represented by a Vietnamese American Republican, and with a major demographic shift in the City Council, one might say that the businessman kept his promise. Whether benignly or deliberately, poor people have gotten the word – they are unwelcome in New

Orleans.

Data tell one story, but it is souls and spirits that tell another. I’ve been to New Orleans twice this year, first for the Essence Music Festival, then for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority’s 50th Convention. The events were great, as events go, with highlights, challenges, and plenty of crowding. The best part of going to New Orleans these days, though, is talking to the people who live there about their thoughts and feelings about “recovery”.

“I wouldn’t live anywhere else,” the brother said. His voice has the thickness of gumbo, the jazzed nuance of many New Orleanian voices. The second time he picks me up to take me from one place to another, we get to talking and he tells me his story. He is 68, former military, and a retiree when Katrina hit. But he and his wife had to start all over because they lost everything. So instead of enjoying retirement, he drives three days a week, and does “odd jobs” to make ends meet. When I ask about federal government help, he grunts, utters an expletive, and then says, “I told you we had to start over.”

The housekeeper at the Hilton is a sweet chatterbox. When she brings extra tea bags, she natters on about why she prefers coffee to tea. When I

ask her how she managed after Katrina, though, she grows silent and her countenance takes on sadness.

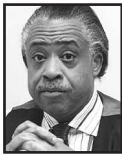
“I lost my mother two years ago. I really think that storm killed her.” She tells me a harrowing evacuation story that landed part of her family in Atlanta and part in Houston. Three of her five children chose to stay in Atlanta, feeling that starting over was too much.

“I miss them and I miss my grands, but I have two others here,” she said. She speaks of Sunday dinners past with a wistfulness in her voice. “It is as if our family has been broken in half”. People visit, she allowed. But it’s just not the same. And, she says she is grateful for what she does have, including her health, her home, and good relationships.

Langston Hughes called stories like these “the sweet flypaper of life”.

Not enough to write a research paper on, just enough to get some flavor for. That flypaper isn’t as sweet for many New Orleanians as it was five years ago, and material conditions have worsened as well. When we turn the lens on New Orleans in a couple of weeks to commemorate the five years since Katrina, what can we say about the possibility that this city and its residents will ever be made whole?.

## Let's Reclaim The Dream On August 28th



BY REV. AL  
SHARPTON  
NNPA COLUMNIST

(NNPA) - Forty-seven years ago, our nation was in the midst of uncertainty, trepidation, fear, frustration, anger and unrest. Forty-seven years ago, we were simultaneously hopeful, dedicated, ambitious, determined and resilient.

Forty-seven years ago, people of all races gathered on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. to urge their federal government to live up to the standards and ethos embodied in our Constitution. Forty-seven years ago, we demanded equal access to education, voting rights, desegregation across the board, just employment opportunities and equanimity in society.

And forty-seven years ago, men and women from all walks of life, and from all ethnic persuasions rallied and marched for a larger federal government to intervene because states were failing to ensure our basic human civil rights. It was on Aug. 28th, 1963, that the great Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. unequivocally summarized the sentiments of the over 250,000 attendees and millions across the country at home

when he delivered his ‘I Have a Dream Speech’. Now forty-seven years later, it is time to Reclaim that Dream.

National Action Network and I invite you to join us on Aug. 28th in Washington, D.C as we mobilize along with other progressive leaders, clergy, activists and dream keepers to unanimously Reclaim The Dream. We will meet at 11 AM at Dunbar High School and then march forward in the same peaceful manner as Dr. King did on that historic day.

When most people reflect on August 28th, 1963, they often forget the premise of why Dr. King and other leaders organized such a massive congregation to begin with. Billed as the ‘March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom’, the Aug. 28th rally pushed for the federal government to take more direct action in enforcing laws and policies that would end institutional racism and create a level playing field for all people despite race, color or creed. The three-hour long program at the Lincoln Memorial united civil rights leaders like John Lewis and Dr. King himself to present a unified front in the quest for justice. And the following year, the success of that day and Dr. King’s relentless work were realized when Congress passed the

Civil Rights Act, and one year later passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Dr. King undoubtedly understood the necessity of immediacy. He knew that despite the emancipation of slavery, ‘One hundred years later, the Negro is still not free’, and that ‘One hundred years later, the Negro lives on a lonely island of poverty in the midst of a vast ocean of material prosperity’. Today, with incomprehensible unemployment rates as high as 50 percent in places like NY, unequal access to decent education and housing, astronomical arrest and imprisonment rates, skyrocketing foreclosures and remaining strongholds of racial injustice, African-Americans are still vying to fully realize Dr. King’s dream.

With ridiculous state laws like Arizona’s anti-immigration SB 1070 bill, Latinos and other minorities are welcoming federal intervention to fully realize Dr. King’s dream. And as women still fight for higher wages and an end to discriminatory policies, the dream must still be fully realized.

Join us at Dunbar High School at 11 AM as we mobilize once again those that refuse to settle for injustice and inequality. In honor of Dr. King, we will again march in the country’s capital as we call on our federal gov-

ernment to ensure our inalienable rights when states sometimes fail to do so. But we will in no way be deterred by those dividers like Glenn Beck and other Tea Party members who are attempting to tarnish the legacy of this historic day and our impeccable leader. We will not allow them to hijack the dream, nor destroy Dr. King’s mission.

And we will not give credence to this disturbance, and distraction - for that is all that it is. In true non-violent Dr. King fashion, we will not be silenced.

We again are living in tumultuous, volatile times, but we again remain hopeful and vigilant that change is just around the corner. It begins with laws and policies that create opportunity and impartiality. And it begins with each one of us.

On Aug. 28th, 1963, Dr. King famously stated: “I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: ‘We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.’”

Let everyone who believes in justice join us in Washington on the 28th as we RECLAIM THE DREAM.

## The Weekly Challenger

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## The Alumni Singers Celebrate 30 Years



ST. PETERSBURG - The Alumni Singers of St. Petersburg in celebration of its 30th Year of “Singing In Love And Harmony”, is sponsoring “An Exploration of the African-American Spiritual” choral workshop Fri., Aug. 20, 5:30 - 9 p.m. and Sat. 21, 8:30 - 4:30 p.m., at Eckerd College, Roberts Music Center, 4200 54th Avenue S., St. Petersburg. A Choral Observation in

Wireman Chapel will follow at the conclusion of the workshop. The workshop is free and open to the public from 3:30-4:30 p.m. Our clinician is Dr. Marion Smith, professor of music and director of choral music at Eckerd College. Professor Smith has lead Winter Term Abroad classes in Vienna, Prague, Salberg, Italy, (Rome, Florence and Venice) and will

lead a group in January 2011 in London and Paris. He will bring a broad and diverse experience to this workshop. Singers and directors throughout the Bay Area are invited to participate in this musical exploration. The registration deadline is Aug. 13. For information and question, please contact Carolyn Hobbs 727-323-7004 or Connie Clendening at 867-3828.

## Adult League Flag Football, Kickball And Softball Registration

ST. PETERSBURG - The City of St. Petersburg adult flag football, kickball and softball leagues begin the week of Mon., Aug. 23. General registration is

at the Parks and Recreation Athletic office, 1400 19th Street N., Bldg. A, for all teams wanting to join a league. Registration is 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Monday through Friday until Aug. 13. For additional information, call Angela Farber or Tracy Roy at 727-892-5223.

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## Kendrick MEEK for U.S. Senate

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## Gulf Coast Health Information Exchange Announces New Board Member, Former Commissioner Patricia Glass

BRADENTON - The Gulf Coast Health Information Exchange is proud to announce the newest member of its board, Former Commissioner Patricia Glass. Glass is just as committed to her civic responsibilities as she is to health care ease of accessibility — with experience in organizations that range from Manatee County Children’s Council to a Board Membership on the American Red Cross. Former Commissioner Glass is sure to facilitate constructive development for the Gulf Coast Health Information Exchange (HIE).

HIE is an advanced communication system that cooperates between participating physicians. It accounts for a smooth progress of secured medical documents to offices within its network, and helps patients by providing a safe and reliable means of transmission for their private medical information. In Manatee County, there are

currently over 275 users in their system that account for 63 physicians and about 110,000 lives. “It gives us an audit trail for our referrals,” says Anne Sirois, office manager of a Dr. Carlos Arias medical practice. “Nothing gets lost in translation, and there’s no middle man, the patient has more control. The investment is well worth what we have gotten out of it.

Former Commissioner Glass has high hopes for her role in the HIE’s future. “There are still volumes to be learned, and this is just one element that needs to be taken into the bigger picture,” she says, referencing HIE’s role in the future of health care as a whole. “I think it’s the age-old thing in communication — the ability to hang-on to your own records. It streamlines the efforts to take care of patients properly,” Glass adds.

As far as her contribution, the former commissioner

anticipates flexible efforts to accommodate the varying levels of involvement from the people of Manatee County. Currently, she is “getting a feel for how people will react to new efforts put forth in misinformation assistance,” and Glass has all citizens in mind when she considers her new role. “I’ve been involved in health care in political ways, trying to ensure that the county can support indigent care,” she explains.

Glass is more than happy to advocate for physicians and patients in Manatee County; with her newest role, she’s making use of her past civic experience to better collaborate with healthcare organizations to “make sure that hospitals are run by people who know how to run them.” Glass also accepts her position bearing in mind that our society is highly mobile, and that HIE could have a great impact on health and wellness programs.

## Leadership St. Pete Seeking Requests For Proposals For Class Project

ST. PETERSBURG -The St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce is now accepting Requests for Proposals for its 2011 Leadership St. Pete Class Project. RFPs are available for download at [www.stpete.com](http://www.stpete.com). Each class of Leadership St. Pete (LSP), a program of the St. Petersburg Chamber Foundation, is responsible for making a difference in our

community by working with a local nonprofit organization to further its goals in St. Petersburg. The Class Project is intended to be a team building activity among class members and as such, it must involve the entire class and provide opportunities for all to contribute to its success. The Class Project involves planning and fund-raising

activities, and always culminates on Class Project Day, a single day on which the entire class gathers to complete the work. Nonprofits interested in being considered for the 2011 Class Project should review and complete the Request For Proposal located at [www.stpete.com](http://www.stpete.com).

## Dog Swim Day

ST. PETERSBURG - The end of swim season for humans marks a day of fun just for our canine friends. Bring your dog for a day of leash-free swim and play in the pool Sat., Aug. 28 at Fossil Park Pool, 6739 Martin Luther King Jr. St. N. Choose from these swim sessions: 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.;

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 1 to 2:30 p.m. Register at start time with proof of dog(s) current vaccination. Donations of dry foods or Science Diet dog food, clean towels, nylabones, bleach, dish soap, blankets, trash bags, and newspapers will be accepted on behalf of the S.P.C.A. Admission: \$5 per

dog, per session (humans free). This event is sponsored by the city of St. Petersburg Recreation Department. For further information call 893-7732. No humans permitted in pool. Fossil Park Pool will be closed for the season and maintenance following Dog Swim Day.

## DIMMITT LUXURY PREOWNED

2001 Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder GT White/Blk, Auto, Leather, 47K mi. <b>\$9,995</b>	2002 Chrysler Sebring Limited Beige/Tan, Leather, Chrome wheels, 55K mi. <b>\$10,995</b>	2003 Cadillac CTS White/Tan, Auto, Leather, Alloys, 43K mi. <b>\$13,995</b>	2007 Chevy Equinox LS Burg/ Gray, Auto, Full Power, Alloy Wheels, 30K mi. <b>\$15,995</b>	2004 Cadillac CTS Silver/Gray, V-6, Auto, Alloys, Leather, 50K mi. <b>\$15,995</b>
2006 Ford Freestyle Limited V6 Burg/Gray, Leather, Alloys, 3rd row, 41K mi. <b>\$16,995</b>	2008 Mazda Miata MX-5 GT White/Saddle, Auto, Leather, 17" Wheels, Paddle Shift, 49K <b>\$16,995</b>	2005 Cadillac CTS Blue/Tan, Auto, Leather, 18" Wheels, Spoiler, 49K mi. <b>\$17,995</b>	2010 Chevy Malibu LT Beige/Tan, Auto, Full Power, Chrome Wheels, 16K mi. <b>\$17,995</b>	2009 Nissan Cube Krome Auto, Full Power, Rockford Fosgate Stereo, 4,817 miles <b>\$18,995</b>
2007 Cadillac CTS V6, Auto, Leather, Low Miles, 6 in stock, from <b>\$19,995</b>	2007 Chevy Silverado LT1500 Extended cab 4x4, V8, Chrome wheels, sliding rear window, 34K mi. <b>\$19,995</b>	2008 Ford Mustang GT Coupe Red/Blk, Auto, Leather, Chrome Wheels, 18K mi. <b>\$21,995</b>	2007 Cadillac SRX V-6 Auto, Leather, Alloys, 3 in stock, Cert from <b>\$22,995</b>	2007 Toyota Sequoia 2 WD, V8, SR5, Silver/Gray, 3rd Row 43K mi. <b>\$23,995</b>
2006 Lexus RX330 Beige/Tan, Leather, Sunroof, Alloys, 43K mi. Like New. <b>\$23,995</b>	2007 SAAB 9.3 Aero Conv. Smoke/Gray, Auto, Chrome Wheels, 38K mi. cert. <b>\$24,995</b>	2008 Volvo V-70 Wagon, 3.2 Beige/Tan, Leather, Alloys, Auto, 40K mi. Like New. <b>\$24,995</b>	2008 Cadillac CTS Beige/Tan, Leather, Sunroof, 20" Wheels, NAVI, Cert. <b>\$28,995</b>	2008 Cadillac DTS Performance Luxury, Sunroof, NAVI, 20" Chrome Wheels 35K mi. cert. <b>\$35,995</b>

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## My Story - April Sheffield

SPECIAL TO THE CHALLENGER

SARASOTA - As a lifelong Democrat, I believe that we have an obligation to help those who can not help themselves. For most of my professional career, I have chosen to work in social services for that very same reason. I intend to advocate for my constituents with the same intensity as I do for my clients; I do not intend to shy away from adversity.

During most of my career, I have worked more than one job — some in retail store management but most in social services. I never had any trouble with any governmental body or any government officials until after my first adventure in politics. That began in 2007 when I ran for City Commissioner for the City of Sarasota in District 1. I lost by 197 votes. Following that race, I experienced a number of incidents which resulted in my false arrest and a number of other false accusations and racist utterances.

Now a judge has cleared me of all charges that resulted from the series of incidents beginning in June, 2008. While I feel vindicated, I still do not have the one thing I want — an apology.

The first incident occurred June 13, 2008, when one of my tenants told me that he believed that the doghouse had been stolen. As a result, I made a routine phone call to report the incident to police. Officers Lake and Tschetter responded. After the tenant's story was explained, they found nothing on which to base further action. However, as they got into their cars, the officers told me they ran my tags and informed me that my license was suspended. What piqued my concern was a statement they made that they could seize my car. When I called the DMV, I was told my license was not suspended. That news left me even more curious. So, I made inquiries as to the procedure and protocol for running someone's tags and was told that even if the officers had reason to run the

tags, they had no business giving false information as to the status of my driver's license. As a consequence, I filed a complaint.

While I did not hear about the alleged license suspension again, July 25, 2008, the same two officers — Lake and Tschetter, responded to a Tenant/Landlord dispute. On this occasion, the officers called me a "Newtown nigger" in front of my four-year-old son. As an African-American, I am no stranger to the many forms of racism. However, this is 2010, and our law enforcement officers should have enough training and experience to know that racism has no business in their business especially when their epitaphs are voiced in front of a four-year-old child. Again, I called the supervisor's office where I was told how to file a complaint. It is my understanding that Officer Stockton, the Internal Affairs officer, told Officers Lake and Tschetter not to have any further contacts with me.

On September 2, 2008, the police were called in another dispute in which I was a participant. This time I was arrested by the same officers, Lake, Tschetter, and Reed for trespassing on my own property. When I made a phone call to Chief Abbott's office, Officer Reed came to me and said, "Call your buddy, Chief Abbott, he may be your buddy, but he is not our buddy." Officer Tschetter acted very agitated when he asked, "Do we arrest or don't we?" Officer Reed came to me and said, "Ms. Sheffield you are under arrest." Because of my prior experience with these officers, I did not try to resist arrest. In spite of that, I was subjected to being jerked, grabbed, lifted, dragged, and pushed. When I fell, Officer Lake said, "You know what your problem is? You want control, and you don't have any control today. Guess what, I have the power today." Reed radioed for backup, he knelt down in front of me and said, "Look at you Ms. April, you need to get up with some dignity, you see this can of mace?" During the car ride,

officers did not say anything, except for Officer Tschetter who asked me how much I weighed. Upon arrival at the police precinct, I was sent to see a nurse, who informed me I had a fever of 104 degrees. I didn't know about the fever; all I felt was physical pain.

After the arrest, I hired an attorney from Morgan & Morgan. Not only did I need treatment for my injuries, I wanted an apology!

What I got was a 'deal' that my attorney negotiated behind my back. He told me I would be awarded \$125,000 but that there would be no trial and no apology. My attorney put it to me this way, "April, if you don't back away from them, they will stack the deck against you." I told him that was for me to decide and told him, "Let's take it to trial." The reason I refused this offer is because I do not want to teach my son that we must submit to any injustice that is committed without an apology; I do not want to teach my son that we must walk away when wronged simply because we were offered money.

While my attorney gave me bad advice, he was right about one thing: "they will try to stack the deck against you." On November 7, 2008, while I was picking up my son, seven police officers came to my house. I was told that an undercover police officer had come to my door, and I was now being charged with exploitation of the elderly. There were three police cars, a crime scene unit, a paddy wagon, and two unmarked cars. They remained there for an hour. I went to the precinct like I was told with a bail bondsman. I was told I had to be processed without questioning. I was placed among inmates only to find out later that the warrant was for a probable cause and that no judge had signed the warrant.

After being released from jail, I called my attorney, he told me to leave town for a few days so that he could investigate what was happening. Again, I refused because I have absolutely



April Sheffield

nothing to hide. He then simply said, "I told you, you should have taken the money, welcome to the land of politics!"

I fired that attorney and hired a new lawyer.

For two years, I have been facing people and explaining these false accusations. The gentlemen who I was accused of exploiting continued to live in my home until his death. Thanks to my new attorney, every charge has been dropped and no charges remain against me. My case against the police officers is one of the top three cases pending resolution by the City of Sarasota. I expect to get that apology!

I proudly run for State House District 55 with a clear conscience. My district has a high unemployment rate, public schools need funding, public pools still may be at risk of closing, foreclosures are happening left and right, and people are struggling. My main concern is to stay focused on these very important issues. If anyone has concerns about my case, please ask. I am not afraid to speak the truth, just like I wasn't afraid to stand up against an injustice. The experience was traumatic for me, my son, and my family, but I was reminded of Dr. King, my hero, who faced false charges many times and each time overcame adversity.

The lawyer I fired was Darryl Rouson.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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**Thursday, Aug. 12** - Mayor's Night Out. 7-9 p.m. in District 5, Lake Vista Center, 1401 62nd Ave. S., St. Petersburg. Visit [www.stpete.org](http://www.stpete.org) or call 727-893-7465. A program for residents to have the opportunity to have face-to-face access with the mayor and public officials in their own neighborhoods.

**Friday through Sunday, Aug. 13-15** -The Florida Sales Tax Holiday, providing tax savings on certain books, clothing and school supplies and accessories.

**Friday and Saturday, Aug. 13-14** - St. Petersburg Weed & Seed 10th Annual Mental Health Training and Community Forum Childs Park YMCA, 691 43rd Street South, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Community forum will present a panel discussion on several topics. Two days of information and training from experts in the fields of social work, law enforcement, education, mental health and other social services to encourage using positive messaging with our youth. FREE! Visit [http://www.stpete.org/midtown/weed\\_and\\_seed.asp](http://www.stpete.org/midtown/weed_and_seed.asp) or call 727-892-5087.

### Public Notice

#### Solicitation of Certified MBC and WBE Subcontractors

Moretrench Environmental Services, Inc., is soliciting quotes from MBE/WBE subcontractors, for the SWFWMD RFB 1009, "Sawgrass Lake Restoration Project." Quotes for dredging, traffic control, erosion control, clearing and grubbing, earthwork, trucking, fencing, sodding, hyroseeded, mitigation plantings, inlets, box culverts, metal fabrications, concrete work, aggregate supply, equipment rentals, fuel delivery, geotextile fabrics and office trailers, may be submitted, no later than August 27, 2010, to James Witherington ([jwitherington@mtacfl.com](mailto:jwitherington@mtacfl.com)), Moretrench Environmental Services, Inc., P.O. Box 70, Gibsonton, FL 33534, Phone 813-741-0256, Fax 813-672-4754.

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Promise Neighborhood Initiative - A New Approach To Student Success

ST. PETERSBURG - The Office of Strategic Partnerships, in conjunction with the Juvenile Welfare Board (JWB) of Pinellas County and the City of St. Petersburg, introduced the Promise Neighborhood Initiative for Fairmount Park Elementary to the community at an informational meeting Wed., Aug. 11 at the St. Petersburg Coliseum.

The purpose of the Initiative is to enhance the educational experience for Pre-k through second grade students, at Fairmount Park Elementary by providing early intervention and prevention services, social services, and community resources for

students and their families. The initiative is modeled after the nationally recognized Harlem Children's Zone, this community-driven approach is designed to build the capacity of the Fairmount Park neighborhood and empower the residents to become "Champions" in their schools, families, communities and eventually the work force. Ultimately, it will change the way students are educated.

The partnership between the City of St. Petersburg, JWB and Pinellas County Schools is a critical element of the Promise Neighborhood Initiative and its goal to reduce poverty and increase

literacy through change. The partnership developed the initiative based on the following assumptions: 1) the basic infrastructure of highly distressed communities must be rebuilt; 2) education must be valued as a means of upward mobility; and 3) parents must be engaged, involved, and empowered to ensure their children's safety and family stability. After successful implementation of the pilot program at Fairmount Elementary, the concept will hopefully expand to other neighborhoods and schools.

For more information, contact Dr. Valerie Brimm, director, strategic partnerships, (727) 588-6405.

## A Celebration of Life Vinson Nathaniel Arnold

March 25, 1933-August 6, 2010

A Celebration of Life Service will be held at St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral Saturday August 14 at 1:00 p.m. for Vinson Nathaniel (Bicky) Arnold who wished to be known as a happy go lucky, helpful person, and who passed in peace at home August 6. Dean Stephen Morris will officiate.

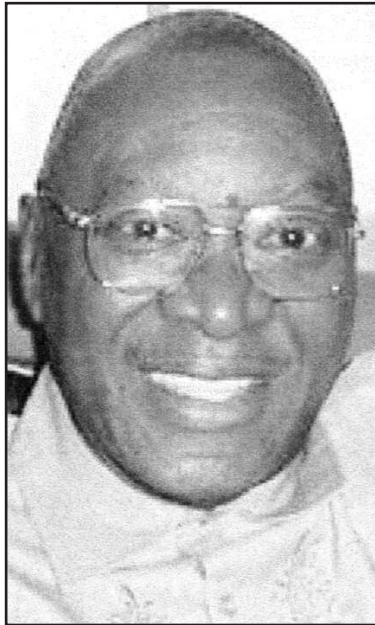
Arnold graduated from Middleton High School in Tampa and was a "four letter man" in band, football, basketball and baseball. He loved music, and played the coronet and trumpet. He enjoyed tennis, bowling, and reading.

Arnold enlisted in the Air Force and served his country in the Korean Conflict during which he received many commendations. His sense of adventure and duty lead to residences in many cities — East Orange and Newark New Jersey; Oberlin, Elyria and Mentor, Ohio; and Philadelphia Pennsylvania before returning to St. Petersburg Florida.

Arnold enrolled in the New Jersey Institute of Technology (formerly NCE) and earned a Diploma and title of Associate Engineer (1960), and a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering (1963). Arnold earned a Master's Degree in Education from Temple University in Philadelphia (1995).

Arnold was one of the first African-Americans employed as a research and development scientist by the B.F. Goodrich Company where he developed patented processes and products. His over 30 year career as a Chemical Engineer included positions with the Lubrizol Corporation and Harshaw-Filtrol in Ohio.

Young people were a central theme in his life. Arnold was known as a community development activist through his presidency of the NAACP, of Lorain County, Ohio; for developing collaborations between local youth and college students; by volunteering with Junior Achievement, Science Days at Elyria Catholic and Elyria High



School. Arnold tutored and mentored youth in the preparation for the PSAT and the SAT. This program became the TransSessions and Project Excellence Program at Oberlin College.

Arnold was active in Christ Episcopal Church of Oberlin. He was a member of the Vestry, a Deacon, a lay-reader and a Sunday school teacher. His marriage to Anita Pernell-Arnold was consecrated at this church by the Right Rev. Peter Beebe.

Arnold's passion for educating youth led him to teach science to high school

students at Simon Gratz High School in Philadelphia and St. Petersburg High School. He thrived on guiding young people to develop a method for using "the knowledge you know to get, to get the knowledge you do not know". He earned high praise from both students and colleagues for his loving support and dedication.

Arnold was deeply loved by family. He spent many hours counseling and inspiring harmony and achievement.

Arnold was preceded in death by his parents, Vincent Arnold and Irene Kelly Arnold; sister Gladys Hayes, brother Robert Arnold. He is survived by his wife of 34 years Anita Pernell-Arnold; three daughters Mercia Arnold, Regina Mullen and Christina Arnold from his previous marriage; grandchildren Cottia, William and Christina-Aaliyah; his brother Cambell Gonzalez and his wife Juanita; their children Amy, Anita, John and their families. He will be mourned by his family, students and many friends.

The family wishes for donations to be given to Ebony Scholars Academic Club, Post Office Box 11431, St. Petersburg, FL 33733. Flowers may be sent to St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral.

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Please send your comments and well-wishes to celebrate@vinsonarnoldmemorial.com

## GRANT FUNDS available for education projects that help protect WATER RESOURCES

The Southwest Florida Water Management District is offering Community Education Grants up to \$5,000 each to individuals, groups and governments to provide innovative and cost-effective education projects about any of the following subjects:

- Watersheds
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- Water conservation
- Natural systems
- Flood protection

Applications are due August 20, 2010.

Projects must occur between March 1 and July 31, 2011.

To discuss project ideas and grant guidelines, call 1-800-423-1476 (FL only) or (352) 796-7211, ext. 4779, or email [WaterEducation@WaterMatters.org](mailto:WaterEducation@WaterMatters.org).

Applications are available online at [WaterMatters.org/communitygrants](http://WaterMatters.org/communitygrants)

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## YOUTH

*continued front front page*

lawyers and engineers that encouraged them to be positive leaders in their communities, schools and in their everyday life. On Thursday morning, during the plenary session, the youths received a special treat; President Barack Obama. The

presidents speech addressed one of the most important and controversial issues of his presidency - improving American education, increasing graduation rates, lifting up failing schools and closing the achievement gap that is leaving too many students of color behind.

At the conclusion of the presidents address, seventeen-

year-old, Tanesha Newsome (NULITES member) said, "The president made some important points in his speech. I'm glad that he cares about our future."

If you would like more information about the NULITES Teen Leadership Program, you can contact the Pinellas County Urban League at 727-327-2081.



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# School Registration Information

If you have a child entering a Pinellas County public school for the first time, here's what you need to do to register for a school assignment. Simply follow the steps below.

New students (grades kindergarten, sixth or ninth) enrolling in Pinellas County Schools will be assigned to their zoned school. All other new students will be assigned to their zoned schools on a space-available basis. A zoned school is the school that has been designated for each student based on such factors as proximity, program capacity and feeder patterns from one school level to another.

**STEP 1: Find Your Zoned School**

Parents will first need to find their child's zoned school by using the Zoned School Locator on the district website, [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org). If you need assistance, call your child's school or Student Assignment, (727) 588-6210.

**STEP 2: Reserve a Seat**

To reserve a seat at the zoned school, parents will use the online Student Reservation System (SRS) located on the district website, [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org). To use the SRS system, they will need a PCS Portal User ID and password. Families who already have a User ID and password (under the former ParentConnect system) do not have to get a new password or User ID. Those who need a new PCS Portal User ID and password, should visit the

nearest school with a valid ID (Driver's License, State ID card, Passport/Visa, Military ID, Green Card).

**STEP 3: Register**

The final step for parents to enroll their child in school is to visit the assigned school and deliver the required documents.

**Required Documents**

- Birth certificate or other proof of identity/age.

Students must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1 to attend kindergarten. Students must be 6 years old on or before Sept. 1 and have completed kindergarten to attend first grade. All students new to Pinellas County Schools must present proof of identity/age. For other items that may be accepted as legal evidence of birth, call your child's assigned school.

- Proof of residency. Present one of the following items: utility bill for power, water, cable, sewer or land-based telephone (not cellular); rental agreement or lease; closing document; Pinellas County tax statement with homestead exemption. The item must be recent and have the name of the parent/guardian and service address on it. If you do not have one of these items in the name of the parent or guardian, you must complete an Affidavit of Residency. This document is available at schools or the district website at [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org). It must be

completed, notarized 39 8/2/10 on both sides and submitted with one of the items listed in the previous paragraph in the name of the person with whom you reside and who is listed on the affidavit.

- Child's Social Security number.

School system personnel are required to ask for this, but the child is not required to have one.

- Child's most recent report card.

This is for students entering grades 1-12. The report card, if available, should include the school's address and phone number.

- Florida Certificate of Immunization.

All new students entering school in Florida for the first time must have a completed Florida Certificate of Immunization (DOH 680) appropriate for their grade level.

- Physical examination certificate.

All new students entering school in Florida for the first time must have a school health examination certificate signed by a licensed examiner (certificate must have been issued within 12 months prior to enrollment/registration).

- A recent Individual Education Plan (IEP).

If the student participates in exceptional student education, he or she must have an IEP.

# How Your Kids Can Get More Out Of The Classroom

STATEPOINT - Getting kids to do well in school is about more than just the right teachers, books and study habits.

Many other factors come into play in helping children perform better at school — such as bright colors, fun seating like bean bag chairs, computer stations, natural lighting and better ventilation.

Recent studies indicate that schools which shy away from traditional classroom design and favor learning styles that incorporate sustainable elements, can positively impact student life. These schools are marked by higher student achievement, lower operating costs and increased engagement from administrators and teachers.

Implementing these design practices as part of new school buildings or retrofitting existing schools is on the rise, according to the American Institute of Architects (AIA). These "new" schools can result in lower absenteeism for teachers and students, along with improved learning and higher test scores.

It's critical schools accommodate how students really learn, say experts.

"Research shows learning is most effective when students are provided a variety of ways to participate in the process," says

John Weekes, Chairman of the AIA's Committee on Architecture for Education. "Variety, agility comfort and efficiency are important design considerations.

Therefore, the places in which students learn and the furniture in those spaces should support that."

"We're also learning that student test scores are higher at schools that are naturally lit, provided with fresh air, contain natural materials and consume limited energy. They're also more economical to operate," he adds.

Here are several things to consider:

- Daylighting: Controlling natural light by way of windows, skylights, reflective surfaces and automatic dimmers can increase student productivity while reducing energy costs.

- Ventilation: Better ventilation increases student comfort, lowers heating and cooling bills, and improves air quality.

- Atmosphere: Brightly-colored paint, non-traditional seating, interactive computer stations, and lower teacher-student ratios all improve the classroom experience.

- Flexible Space: A school is more than classrooms. Its corridors, cafeterias and gymna-

siums also play important parts in daily student life. Arranging these to meet student needs, brightening them with sunlight and improving cross-ventilation can create a better school.

"As true learning communities composed of social and physical environments, schools have an opportunity to embrace cutting edge thinking on sustainable design for developing learners for the coming decades," suggests Peter C. Lippman, Educational Resource Planner for JCJ Architecture. "Even if you aren't a teacher or a member of the PTA, advocating for your local school to be sustainable is an investment in the future of your community."

Schools like this are becoming more mainstream and even have been recognized for innovative design. In fact, two schools were named to the AIA's 2010 Committee on the Environment top 10 green projects list, not just for green attributes but for rejecting the "one size fits all" approach to learning and design.

To find an architect to help determine best strategies for your local school to improve its design or adopt sustainable practices, visit [architectfinder.aia.org](http://architectfinder.aia.org).

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\*Your child may qualify for free tutoring if your child is eligible for free or reduced price lunch AND attends an eligible Title I school. If parental requests for free tutoring exceed the amount of funding available, the School District will serve the students with the greatest need. Neither the Florida Department of Education nor the School District promote or endorse any particular supplemental educational services (SES) provider.





# Computer Safety Tips For Kids

STATEPOINT - As more kids than ever, at younger and younger ages, use the family computer for homework and play, it's important for parents to teach their kids about Internet safety and security.

Even if you think your kids know how to behave online, chances are they've been exposed to objectionable content while using the Internet. According to a new study, "The Secret Lives of Online Teens" conducted by McAfee, 42 percent of teens reported exposure to inappropriate content. What's worse is that 63 percent of kids say they know how to hide what they're doing on the Internet from their parents.

"As the mother of three children, I know how overwhelming it can be as a parent to keep up with what my kids are doing online, but it can be done" says Tracy Mooney, Chief Cyber Security Mom who blogs about computer safety at mcafee.com/family.

According to Mooney, there are five computer safety tips every parent should know:

1) Don't Talk to Strangers: Grandma's sage advice works online too. Teach kids to ignore emails and instant messages from people they don't know. And don't tell strangers where you live! This means making sure your child hasn't updated his or her social networking profile with a home or school address, phone number or even e-mail address (cyber stalkers can pretend to be friends by sending a personal message).

2) Protect Your Family's Personal Info: Families today need comprehensive security protection, including anti-virus and firewall software. You can purchase this protection separately, or if you buy a computer from a major computer manufacturer, such as Dell, it comes pre-installed.

3) Hall Monitors are Needed: Parents should always monitor their child's use of the Internet. Consider also using family protection software, which lets adults say "yes" to their child's online interests. It keeps children of all ages safe from exposure to inappropriate content, social network-

ing risks, strangers and other online threats.


4) Get Kid-Customized: Use free kid-friendly software and Web sites. Browsers for children, such as Kidzui and kid-oriented search engines, such as Yahoo!igans! (yahoo!igans.com), Ask Jeeves Kids (ajkids.com) and Kids Click! (kidsclick.org) help direct kids to appropriate sites and make your job easier.

5) Encourage Show and Tell: Since 87 percent of teens go online someplace other than home, it's important to educate kids about online dangers to help prevent risky situations and to encourage them to talk about bad experiences or if something makes them feel uncomfortable. With this in mind, the experts at Dell are offering free tips and advice at <http://dell.to/dCCZ3V>, Dell's online Family Security Learning Center.


"Also, tell your kids to ask your permission before downloading anything," says Mooney. "The last thing you want on the family PC is pirated or infected materials."

# 2010-11 Back-to-School Nights/Open House

All Elementary Schools (except Partnership) .....	Monday, Aug. 23
.....	Wednesday, Aug. 25
.....	Tuesday, Aug. 31
.....	Wednesday, Sept. 1
Off-site Partnership Schools .....	Thursday, Sept. 16
Middle Schools .....	Tuesday, Sept. 7
.....	Tuesday, Sept. 21
Fundamental Middle and Intermediate Schools .....	Monday, Sept. 13
.....	Monday, Sept. 27
High Schools .....	Monday, Aug. 30
ESE Centers .....	Wednesday, Sept. 15
Seminole Vo-Ed Center .....	Monday, Sept. 20



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# Pinellas County Schools 2010-11 Student Calendar

Tuesday, Aug. 24 .....	Schools open – classes begin
Thursday, Aug. 26 .....	Countywide graduation
Monday, Sept. 6 .....	Labor Day – schools closed
Friday, Oct. 15 .....	Professional development day – schools closed for students
Monday, Nov. 22 – Friday, Nov. 26 .....	Thanksgiving holidays – schools closed for students
Monday, Dec. 20 – Friday, Dec., 31 .....	Winter holidays – schools closed for students
Monday, Jan. 3, 2011 .....	Schools reopen
Monday, Jan. 17 .....	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – schools closed
Friday, Jan. 21 .....	Professional development day – schools closed for students
Friday, Jan. 21 .....	First Semester ends
Monday, Jan. 24 .....	Second Semester begins
Monday, Feb. 14 .....	Professional development day – schools closed for students
Monday, March 28 – Friday, April 1 .....	Spring Break – school closed for students
Monday, April 4 .....	School reopens
Monday, April 25 .....	Professional development day – schools closed for students
Monday, May 30 .....	Memorial Day holiday – schools closed for students
Wednesday, June 8 .....	Last day of school. Second semester

# How To Make Back-To-School Easier On The Whole Family

STATEPOINT - The start of a new school year is a hectic time for families. Between shopping for clothes and supplies, doctor appointments and adjusting to new schedules, parents and children can feel frazzled and frayed.

Here are some ways to beat back the chaos and ease your family's transition:

## Establish a Routine

Set a wake-up time and decide whether to serve kids breakfast before or after getting ready. After school, let kids decompress alone or by playing with friends. But set a time when all entertainment stops and studying begins.

Make sure to take into consideration all those standing appointments and pre-scheduled activities.

## Go Digital

Families traditionally turned to pen, paper and the refrigerator to coordinate calendars, schedules, shopping lists, and other to-dos — but nowadays, this is often inefficient. Go digital instead, so your schedule comes to you and you can coordinate from your computers and cell phones.

Consider one of the free

Web services available that brings families together online, such as Cozi.com, which allows you to create a calendar, coordinate schedules, and send text or e-mail reminders to family members about appointments and errands. You can even sync your Cozi calendar and shopping lists with your cell phones and mobile devices, so nobody has an excuse for missing that soccer game!

## Create a Studying Space

Create a quiet place for schoolwork, making sure it's well-lit and stocked with supplies, like highlighters, calculators, and a computer. It's best if it's not the kitchen table, where noise and dinner can interrupt concentration.

The breakfast and dinner table, however, is a great place to discuss your family's schedules and to-do lists.

## Relax

Scheduling recreation is as important as scheduling homework. By asking kids what their favorite activities are and making time for them to do things they like, you can teach your kids balance. Pre-scheduling recreation, like a family game or movie night,

can show kids that relaxation time is important.

## Check it Off

Creating checklists can keep things straight. Ironing outfits and packing gym clothes at night avoids morning bedlam. Packing lunch the night before also saves time and you're more likely to provide healthful foods, instead of slapping something together last minute.

Checklists also ensure no one forgets to pack the day's essentials. Introducing lists the whole family can access will also eliminate nagging and teach kids responsibility and independence. Most importantly, keep them short and manageable.

"Given today's fast pace, most families have to multitask to survive. With good common sense and the latest free online tools, it's easier to get parents and kids on the same page and make a busy life into a better life," says Robbie Cape, CEO of Cozi.com.

Good coordination can save more than time — it can improve family communications, bringing everyone closer.

# Help Your Kids Boost Their Test Scores

STATEPOINT - Kids today are under more pressure than ever to perform well at school. Each year seems to bring more tests than the last — from quizzes, midterms and finals to standardized exams like the SAT.

The difference of just a few points on a major test score might even dictate whether a student gets into a dream college or resorts to a safety school at the bottom of his list.

"To give your child that extra edge, it helps to complement daily classroom work with good home-studying habits and extracurricular help," says John Stuppy, Ph.D. of TutorVista.com, an online tutoring service for children in grades K-12. "It also helps if parents and children work together to identify weak spots where kids need supplemental help in different subjects."

Here are some easy, cost-effective ways to help children boost their test scores:

- Create a realistic schedule: While kids understand they need to study in advance of tests, they usually think this means the night before. But research has shown small chunks of studying over a longer period of time help students retain information better. Consult your child's test schedule and work backward to figure out when he or she should start studying.

- Be class smart: Not all teachers test the same way. Encourage children to ask early in the semester whether exams will emphasize class lectures or textbooks. If it's the former, paying extra attention in class and taking copious notes will serve your child well. More thorough review of supporting materials will help students more on textbook-based exams.

- Get help: While in-person tutoring and test preparation can be expensive, more families are turning to the Internet, where help is more affordable and available whenever children need it. Look for a service offering monthly plans instead of pay-by-the-minute options, and you'll likely save even more. Services like TutorVista.com give children 24/7 access to tutors and such interactive features as voice and text chat and virtual white board. Because of increased affordability, more

parents are using such services proactively, instead of as last resorts after kids perform poorly.

- Keep them company: In addition to designating a space and time for children to study, it helps if you enable them by keeping them company, even if you're not in the same room. Reading, knitting, or doing your own research while your child studies — instead of watching TV or chatting with friends — can go a long way in making your child feel supported in academic pursuits.

- Get to know the counselor: Research has shown children who are in touch with school counselors do better in school. Just three meetings, at the beginning, middle, and end of the year, can help your child identify weak spots and address them pro-actively with a tutor or extra help.

For more information on helping children with tests, visit [www.tutorvista.com](http://www.tutorvista.com).

Don't be afraid to reach out for more help by visiting parent resources, like online message boards and chat rooms. You're not alone in trying to ensure your child's success.

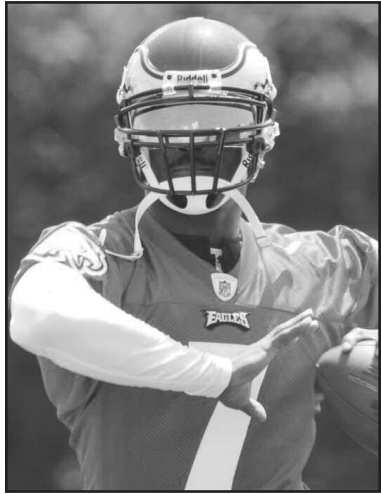






# CHALLENGER SPORTS

## Tony Dungy: Michael Vick Is On Straight Path



Michael Vick

BY GEORGE HENRY

ATLANTA (AP) - Tony Dungy believes in mentoring and says it puts people on the right path - including his most famous pupil, Philadelphia quarterback Michael Vick.

On a national tour to promote his new book on mentoring, Dungy told The Associated Press Monday that Vick still has a lot to learn about his image.

Dungy says even if Vick

isn't doing something illegal, he still can make better decisions to stay out of harm's way.

Vick hosted a birthday party that ended with a shooting June 25 in Virginia Beach, Va.

"The first thing people have to realize is that probation officers detail everything, and if he is off track even a little, they're going to come down," Dungy said. "They reviewed the situation that went on and moved forward. The NFL did and moved forward. Michael would like to have all the negative publicity back, but it really wasn't the type of thing that people have blown it into. But that's the lesson for him."

Vick is on probation after serving an 18-month federal prison sentence that ended in May 2009 for dogfighting.

According to police in Virginia Beach, Vick was not present when a person was shot. Vick's attorney, Larry Woodward, identified the victim as Quanis Phillips, a co-defendant in the dogfighting ring.

"Tony Dungy can go somewhere and if something happens, I'm not going to get singled out," Dungy said. "Michael Vick goes some place and the same thing happens, and you're the center of attention. You're the focus. Now is it fair? Who knows?"

"But that's the bed you've made and you've got to sleep in it and be prepared for that. That's the lesson he's learned."

Dungy shares life lessons in his new book, "The Mentor Leader." It went on sale last week, and Dungy spoke at the national offices of the Boys & Girls Clubs of America in midtown Atlanta. He will also make stops during the promotional tour this week in Central and South Florida.

Dungy writes at length about his work with Vick.

"Whether Michael manages to regain the status he once had in the league is not nearly as important as the kind of man he becomes," Dungy said. That's what I wrote about him in the

book."

During Vick's imprisonment in Leavenworth Kan., Dungy visited with the former Atlanta Falcons star. Since Vick's release in May 2009, Dungy has stayed in contact with him regularly and talks occasionally with NFL commissioner Roger Goodell and Eagles coach Andy Reid to ensure Vick is making good decisions off the field.

"He didn't do anything other than maybe put himself in a place where he shouldn't have been," Dungy said. "But people will look at that one incident and forget about the other 364 days and a lot of the good things that have gone on."

Vick is Philadelphia's No. 2 quarterback behind starter Kevin Kolb. Last week at Eagles training camp, Goodell met with Vick - who does not face any disciplinary actions from the NFL as a result of the birthday bash shooting.

Dungy coached the Indianapolis Colts to the 2006 Super Bowl title.

## Mangini Cautions Browns About Social Networking

BY TOM WITHERS

BEREA, OH (AP) - The only loud tweets Browns coach Eric Mangini wants to hear about are the ones coming out of his whistle.

Mangini talked to Cleveland's players on Monday about the pitfalls of social media sites after Browns cornerback Brandon McDonald recently posted a vulgar message directed at Cincinnati wide receiver Terrell Owens on his Twitter account.

McDonald posted his trash-talking tweet shortly after Owens signed with the Bengals. He said he regrets sending it on the site, which has become popular with pro athletes.

"It started out as a joke and it escalated to what it is now," McDonald said. "I really didn't mean anything by it. It was a bad decision on my part to put that up. One of the things I don't want to do is cause a distraction to this team. The way it's being taken is not how it was meant. I didn't mean to disrespect anyone or cause a distraction to this team. That's the last thing I wanted to do right now."

McDonald's posting to Owens has been removed from his Twitter page.

Owens was asked if he knew about McDonald's message Sunday before the Bengals played the Dallas Cowboys in the Hall of Fame game.

"Who?" Owens said. "I don't even know who he is. Ronald McDonald?"

McDonald said he only knows Owens "on the field. I don't know him personally."

The Browns will host the Bengals Oct. 3 and visit Cincinnati Dec. 19.

Mangini will not ask his players to discontinue using sites like Twitter, Facebook or YouTube. Boise State coach Chris Petersen has banned players from posting on Twitter for the duration of the season so as not to cause a distraction in the Broncos' national title chase.

Mangini appreciates how the social networking sites can be valuable communication pipelines between players, teams and fans. However, he cautioned his players to watch what they say, to represent the organization in a professional manner, and make sure they think twice before striking the "send" key.

"With social media, it's a great way to connect to the fans," Mangini said. "They (players) have a responsibility to do that in a way that represents the organization in the right way and that's their responsibility and they are accountable for it."

"If they don't do it, there are consequences to those actions."

Mangini said McDonald likely will be disciplined.

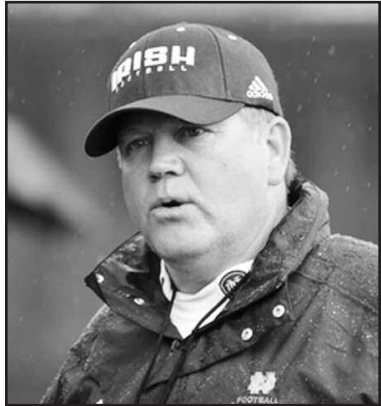
The Browns have at least 17 players who frequently use Twitter, none more so than Pro Bowl return specialist Josh Cribbs, who keeps his more than 33,000 followers updated with daily observations and his whereabouts off the field.

Not all the players ceded Mangini's warning.

Rookie cornerback Joe Haden tweeted after practice that Mangini fined a player during a meeting simply because his cell phone rang.

"These fines ain't no joke!" Haden wrote. "Somebody phone alarm went off in the meeting and all Coach Mangini said was that will b \$1760!"

## Notre Dame Finally Catches The Rising Star



Brian Kelly

BY RALPH D. RUSSO

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) -- This is all you really need to know about new Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly: His football teams win.

They win far more than they lose. They win more than they did before he arrived. They win championships.

The secret, if there is one, is this: Kelly is a smart and charismatic leader with an almost mystical ability to make any quarterback he touches play like an All-American.

But why get bogged down in the details? What truly separates Kelly from the last three Notre Dame coaches (four, if you count George O'Leary) is this number: .747. That's Kelly's winning percentage in 19 seasons as a college football coach.

For all those who have reveled in Notre Dame's misery as the Fighting Irish suffered through 13 mostly mediocre seasons under Bob Davie, Tyrone Willingham and Charlie Weis, the party just might be over.

It looks as if Notre Dame got it right this time.

"We need to start holding up our end," Kelly said in an interview with the AP just a few hours before Notre Dame's first preseason practice. "I kind of empathize with the sentiment out there that, you know what, there is no reason why Notre Dame football can't be among the elite programs. We have all the things we need. Let's go do it."

Not since Lou Holtz replaced Gerry Faust in 1986 have the Fighting Irish hired a coach as accomplished as Kelly.

And history shows some of Notre Dame's best runs have come with coaches who were proven winners before they got to South Bend.

Neither Davie nor Weis had been a head coach before taking over at Notre Dame. As for Willingham, he had three losing seasons in seven years at Stanford before becoming the head man at Notre Dame in 2002. Willingham's best records on the Farm were 9-3 and 8-4.

Kelly has had one losing season as a head coach (4-7 in 2004, his first season at Central Michigan). He won two Division II national championships at Grand Valley State. Central Michigan had won 12 games in four seasons before he arrived. It took Kelly three seasons to win the Mid-American Conference with the Chippewas.

Then it was off to Cincinnati. With the Bearcats, Kelly went 34-6 in three seasons with two Big East titles and two BCS appearances. If he can turn Cincinnati, with its disinterested fans and rundown stadium, into a national title contender, just think what Kelly can do when he's got Touchdown Jesus and the Golden Dome on his side.

"What Notre Dame needed was a program changer and a coach who had a proven resume of doing such," said former Fighting Irish offensive lineman Aaron Taylor, who works as an analyst for CBS College Sports Network.

"Brian Kelly is on par with the Nick Sabans and the Urban Meyers of the world: A proven program builder at every level he has been at."

In the last 13 years, Notre Dame is 91-67. Purdue went 92-69 during that same period. Essentially, the only thing separating the Fighting Irish and a middling Big Ten program has been a network television deal.

Taylor said Notre Dame has suffered from a lack of leadership more than a lack of talent.

"Kelly has identified the sense of entitlement that had encroached the Notre Dame program," he said. "It became OK to be a me guy."

Kelly knows he needs to get

the Irish rolling in a hurry - a "five-minute plan" he has called it.

He's accelerated the learning process with this team mentally and physically.

"It put a lot of pressure on guys to spend the time away from here to learn the offense, to learn the scheme, but there was never an issue of buying in or not buying in with these guys," new starting quarterback Dayne Crist said.

Notre Dame's first practice - which began under a blue-gray sky if you're looking for positive omens, Irish fans - could be summed up in three words: fast and loud. The players run to where they need to be and when coaches need to get a point across, it's often shouted from afar - no time to walk across the field to correct a mistake.

"I need to get to Year 2 in Year 1," Kelly said.

The Notre Dame brand still opens doors, but as Kelly put it, "the clock is ticking."

"Up to this point, I can get in the game with the players I need throughout the country that can make us a championship football team," he said. "But we got to win."

The table is set for Kelly to do just that.

For all the talk about how Notre Dame's academic standards and location have stacked the deck against an Irish return to glory, Holtz believes Notre Dame is in better position to compete for championships now than during his years.

Back then, Notre Dame's facilities were woeful compared to other top programs. Now they are on par.

Notre Dame is also playing a schedule more in line with what national powers do. The 2010 slate is indicative of what a typical Notre Dame schedule will look like from now on: seven home games, one neutral site game and some, let's say manageable, nontraditional opponents (Tulsa and Western Michigan).

Kelly could also benefit from his rivals problems.

Michigan has spent two years foundering under Rich

Rodriguez and NCAA sanctions could be coming the Wolverines way, too. Who knows when Michigan will be Michigan again?

Then there is Southern California, Notre Dame's No. 1 rival. The Trojans have dominated the Irish in recent years, winning eight straight meetings and providing an annual reminder of just how far away Notre Dame is from being an elite team.

Well, the dynasty days are over at USC. Pete Carroll is gone, Lane Kiffin is in and the NCAA hammer has dealt a potentially devastating blow to the Trojans. Suddenly, those USC games don't look quite so daunting for the Irish.

The ramifications of Notre Dame renaissance reach beyond South Bend.

If Notre Dame is routinely winning 10 games, the Irish can bank on a BCS bid (worth \$4.5 million). Their current NBC deal runs through 2015 and makes Notre Dame an estimated \$15 million per year. More Notre Dame wins generally equals higher ratings for NBC, which leads to more money in the Irish coffers.

All that talk about Notre Dame giving up its football independence and joining a conference could go away if the Irish are playing as they did in the good ol' days.

Kelly has been lauded by Taylor and other former Fighting Irish coaches and players for trying to reconnect the current Notre Dame players with the school's glorious past.

Kelly showed his players a highlight reel filled with former Notre Dame greats and flipped out when he found out one of his guys could not identify Jerome Bettis.

"We did some history lessons," Kelly said. "Nobody knew some of the real traditions of Notre Dame football."

There's only one tradition that really matters at Notre Dame, and Kelly's track record shows he is capable of restoring it.

"I've got to bring the winning back."

## Cowboys TE Phillips Out For Season With Torn ACL

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS

IRVING, TX (AP) - The Dallas Cowboys are going to need to find some more tight ends - and fast.

John Phillips, the No. 3 tight end last season as a rookie, is out for the season after tests Monday confirmed that he tore the ACL in his right knee in the preseason opener.

Both tight ends that came in after Phillips also got banged up. Kevin Brock has a sprained left ankle and Scott Sisko has a concussion.

"We've got to get some tight ends in here," coach Wade Phillips said. "We have several of them that can't play this week."

With the three youngsters getting hurt in Sunday night's 16-7 win over Cincinnati, the Cowboys have no healthy tight ends behind Pro Bowl starter Jason Witten. And they play their second game in five nights Thursday at home against Oakland.

Witten's primary backup, Martellus Bennett, was held

out of the preseason opener to give him time to heal from the sprained ankle that forced him to miss the first week of training camp.

Asked if Bennett would play Thursday night, coach Phillips said, "I hope so. That was part of the plan, give him a few more days to get almost healthy."

John Phillips was the tight end last season behind Witten and Bennett. He had seven catches for the NFC East champions and the Cowboys had hoped to expand his role this season, including possibly using him in certain formations as a lead blocker out of the backfield.

Phillips will have surgery after the team returns from Oxnard, Calif., the team said. The Cowboys open the two-week West Coast portion of their training camp Saturday.

John Phillips had four catches for 60 yards against the Bengals, and apparently injured his knee when landing on one of those catches even though he stayed in the game for some time after that.



# STATE/NATIONAL NEWS

## OPPORTUNITY

*continued from front page*

said it wasn't so. My parents valued education and made sure we always had books in our home, even when we did not have a second pair of shoes. At school, our teachers did not allow us to fail. We had great teachers who knew that their job was to prepare us for the future. And there was a strong belief in our community that education was a way out that could give us the means to change the world.

But millions of children who need the same hope and way out today aren't receiving them. Legal segregation is over but inequality is alive and well. Fourteen million children in rich America live in poverty. More than 20 percent of children under age five are poor, including more than 40 percent of black children and more than 33 percent of Hispanic children. Just as was true 50 and 150 years ago, the best hope these children have of lifting themselves out of poverty is a quality education with a good job at the end of the line. As President Obama has said, education is the strongest weapon against social inequality and the best path to opportunity in America. Without a good education, millions of children will remain poor throughout their lives and many will become trapped in the cradle-to-prison pipeline that leads to dropping out of school, arrest, and incarceration.

Pervasive inequities in educational funding, resources, and opportunities have placed poor and minority children in low-performing schools with inadequate facilities and ineffective teachers.

Practices such as tracking, social promotion, and out-of-school suspensions and expulsions resulting from 'one-size-fits-all' zero tolerance discipline policies contribute to the discouragement and disengagement many poor children and children of color feel. Instead of being the 'great equalizer,' American education continues to perpetuate inequality, with the result that poor children stay poor, poorly educated, and unskilled. Rather than providing a way out of poverty and discrimination, American schools too often mimic the economic and racial disparities that poison the rest of American society, with devastating results for children and at great cost to our nation.

Sociologist Ray Rist put it powerfully forty years ago: "if one desires this society to retain its present social class configuration and the disproportional access to wealth, power, social and economic mobility, medical care, and the choice of life styles, one should not disturb the methods of education operating in America.

Is that what we really desire for our nation's and children's future? Or are we prepared to stand up, speak out, and raise a ruckus until our schools live up to the promise of educating every child? It's time for every adult to step forward and assume their responsibility of preparing children for the future. The purpose of schools is to educate children. With a majority of children of all races and income groups—and over 80 percent of black and Hispanic children—behind grade level in reading and math in 4th, 8th, and 12th grade, we are failing.

## Education Jobs And Medicaid Assistance Act

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Thousands of Florida teachers will keep their jobs, and Florida's struggling budget will receive a helpful shot in the arm because the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation that will save thousands of education jobs and avoid more drastic layoffs and cuts. Congresswoman Kathy Castor has been championing the job-saving effort for many months. The Education Jobs and Medicaid Assistance Act provides a vital lifeline to states to avoid draconian layoffs.

"As students prepare to return to the classroom, parents and educators can rest a bit easier that teachers will not be laid off due to state budget cuts," Castor said. "We will be saving jobs in education and making sure our children receive the education and vital health services they depend

upon." Florida will receive approximately \$555 million to support an estimated 9,200 education jobs. In Castor's Congressional District 11, which includes parts of Hillsborough, Pinellas and Manatee counties, schools will receive approximately \$36 million. That translates into roughly 610 saved education jobs in our elementary, middle and high schools.

The money must be used to create and save jobs. It cannot be used for general administrative expenses. "With this \$555 million boost to our schools and students, we will make sure education professionals stay in the classrooms, teaching our students, ensuring that our children get the finest quality education," Castor said. "We are saving jobs that truly matter and putting our children and educators first."

The Medicaid component of the legislation will help millions in our state. Medicaid serves about 2.7 million Floridians. The federal Medicaid match, known as the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage, or FMAP, is particularly important during an economic downturn when the state struggles to balance its budget.

Gov. Charlie Crist wrote in a letter to the Florida Congressional Delegation Monday that he urges support of this legislation. He said passing the legislation would "help address the needs of many Floridians and help us forgo any drastic reductions in Medicaid benefits."

Florida is expected to receive just under \$800 million. That's in addition to \$4.3 billion Castor previously secured for Florida under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Health care

investments create and preserve jobs in the state while ensuring that families receive affordable medical care.

"In Florida, the \$4.3 billion increase in federal Medicaid matching funds was critical to the state's ability to provide care under Medicaid to approximately 2.7 million residents, nearly half of whom are children, followed by seniors and pregnant women," Castor said. "I am pleased we are able to save jobs and provide this lifeline to our neighbors."

The bill is completely paid for, in part by closing tax loopholes that encourage businesses to ship jobs overseas. Closing these loopholes will help keep jobs in America, boosting our economy. The legislation is projected to cut the deficit by \$1.4 billion throughout the next 10 years.

## DNC Chairman Tim Kaine's Statement

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On August 6, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law. Because of that legislation, the number of Americans with access to the ballot has expanded dramatically and protections are in place to prevent discrimination in voter registration and in exercising the right to vote. In recognition of the historic achievement 45 years ago, DNC Chairman Tim Kaine issued the following statement:

"When President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act, he called it a 'triumph of freedom.' Although

the necessity of this law was born out of the dark legacy of slavery and Jim Crow laws, the Act opened the door to a brighter future for all Americans by guaranteeing — more clearly than ever before — that American citizens, regardless of race, had the fundamental right to choose their leaders and to make their voices heard in the halls of government.

"In the 45 years since the Voting Rights Act became law, America has become a more equal nation. Through the enforcement of this law and others that protect the rights of Americans and through the

striking down of laws that prevented many Americans from fully exercising their rights, we have empowered Americans of all backgrounds to more fully realize the promise of our nation.

"But as a former civil rights lawyer, I know there remains progress to be made. While our country and our government are now more diverse than ever before, we must continue to defend and protect Americans against discrimination. We must continue to vigorously protect the rights of voters to cast their ballots. And we must continue to work toward greater

freedom and equality in America.

"On the 45th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, I would like to join with President Obama and individuals across America in celebrating the progress that has been made to guarantee Americans' civil rights, in expressing my gratitude to all those Americans who put their lives on the lines to fight for those rights, and in recommitting to advocating for and defending the voting rights that make possible self governance that is at the heart of American democracy."

## BLACK HISTORY

"Celebrating Our History Is An Everyday Thing"

## From Pitcher To Negro Baseball Legend

Two commemorative stamps paying homage to the hundreds of men who played baseball in Negro Leagues were unveiled July 15 at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, MO (DAVID PULLIAM/KANSAS CITY STAR/MCT)

New stamps honor Andrew 'Rube' Foster and pioneer players

Andrew "Rube" Foster is considered by historians to be one of the best African-American pitchers of the 1900s. Some would argue that he was the best. However, he isn't usually recognized for his pitching arm but for his management skills.

Foster established the first formal Negro league, called the Negro National League. The league flourished for 10 years until his sudden death in 1930 in Illinois.

The United States Postal Service is paying tribute to Foster and other pioneer black baseball players in the leagues, which operated from 1920 to 1960.

Stamps unveiled at museum

Two 44-cent commemorative stamps were unveiled last week in ceremonies at the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City, Mo. One stamp shows an image of Foster while another depicts a player sliding into home base.

Legendary black baseball players included Satchel Paige,

Josh Gibson, James "Cool Papa" Bell, Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, Ernie Banks and Jackie Robinson, who broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball in 1947.

The postal service is issuing 80 million copies of the stamps, according to a spokesman. It previously issued stamps honoring Paige, Gibson and Robinson.

Started with Chicago franchise

A Texas native, Foster's first year in baseball was spent as a pitcher in the Chicago Union Giants franchise. He later played with the Cuban X-Giants of Philadelphia.

He began his managerial career with the Leland Giants in 1907 when Frank Leland hired Foster to play and manage with the team.

In 1910, following his playing career, he organized one of the best black teams in history, the Chicago American Giants.

In 1920, Foster, C.I. Taylor of the Indianapolis ABCs and the owners of six other midwestern clubs met in the spring to form a professional baseball circuit for African-American teams.

Foster, as president, controlled league operations, while remaining owner and manager of the American Giants.

Foster was voted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1981.

Information about ordering the stamps is available at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com).

## ENTERTAINMENT



## Local Jazz Leader, Rick Gee, Assists Poynter Library In Acquiring Materials

ST. PETERSBURG - Rick Gee, a resident of St. Petersburg, assisted the Poynter Library in acquiring a donation of materials related to the history and performance of jazz music. A longtime corporate executive, Gee has always possessed a strong interest in jazz. During the mid-1990s, while living in New Jersey, he began to sponsor gatherings known as "Jazz Jams" that attracted musicians, vocalists, and a growing number of guests. He moved to St. Petersburg seven years ago.

Since coming to the area, Gee has promoted local jazz performances. He also serves as an officer on the Board of Directors for The Jazz Club of Sarasota, an organization known as "the most active jazz club in the United States." Through his connections in the field, Rick became friends with Terence "Terry" M. Ripmaster, past president of the New Jersey Jazz Society and professor emeritus of history at William Paterson University. Ripmaster, who retired in

1997 after twenty-nine years of teaching, researched the history of jazz and focused on musicians in New Jersey. Through Gee's efforts, a variety of books related to jazz history and compact discs of notable performers were donated from Ripmaster's collection to the Poynter Library. These materials, once catalogued, will be available in the library's circulating collection for members of the University community.

"Jazz is a musical fusion

that truly represents the diversity of America," noted Jim Schnur, associate librarian at the Poynter Library. "I appreciate the efforts of Rick Gee and Dr. Malcolm B. Butler, an associate professor in USF St. Petersburg's College of Education, to make connections with our library that will benefit our students and help us document the smooth and enduring legacy of jazz as a music form enjoyed by many. My hope is that tomorrow's teachers will enjoy

these valuable resources during their educational careers so that they can share this treasure with future generations."

For more information, please contact: Jim Schnur, Associate Librarian, Special Collections and Archives, Nelson Poynter Memorial Library, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, 140 Seventh Avenue South, POY 323, St. Petersburg, FL 33701-5016. Phone: 727-873-4094.

To view schedule of events visit:  
[www.rickgeesjazzjamm.com](http://www.rickgeesjazzjamm.com)

For additional information call 727-866-1844 or email [jazzjamm@aol.com](mailto:jazzjamm@aol.com)



# CHURCH DIRECTORY



**955 20th Street South • St. Petersburg, FL 33712**  
**(727) 894-4311**  
Email: [info@mzprogressive.org](mailto:info@mzprogressive.org) Website: [www.mzprogressive.org](http://www.mzprogressive.org)

Sunday Worship Services .....7:45 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Mid-Day Bible Study.....Noon - 12:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Prayer Service.....6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study .....6:30 p.m.  
Youth Chapel Services - 921 20th Street South  
2nd & 4th Sunday Worship Services .....10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Prayer .....6:00 p.m.  
Bible Study .....6:30 p.m.

**Mission Statement:**  
*Impact the world by equipping believers  
to reach the lost with the gospel of Jesus Christ.*



Rev. Louis M. Murphy Sr.  
Senior Pastor

**First Baptist Institutional Church**  
3144 Third Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
Phone: 727-323-7518

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

Come Worship With  
the First Baptist Family



REV. DR. WAYNE G. THOMPSON,  
PASTOR

**ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
3200 Fifth Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
**(727) 327-1373**

Early Morning Worship .....7:30 a.m.  
Sunday School .....9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship .....11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting .....7:00 p.m.  
Friday Prayer Meeting .....11:00 a.m.

*“Raising A Standard For God’s People In God’s Church”*




Rev. Norris L.  
Martin Sr. - Pastor

**BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
912 3rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33705  
**727-822-2089**

Sunday Church School -----9:10 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Service -----11:00 a.m.  
WMS "The Gathering"---1st Thurs. each month 11:45 a.m.

*"Come for an uplifting spiritual experience  
at historic Bethel AME,  
the oldest African-American Church in St. Pete."*



REV. RONALD E. WILLIAMS, SR.,  
PASTOR

**First Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church**  
1121 22nd Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
**(727) 327-8708**

Sunday Worship Services . . . .8:00 and 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School . . . . .9:30 a.m.  
Prayer Meeting (Tuesday) . . . . .6:00 p.m.  
Bible Study (Tuesday) . . . . .7:00 p.m.  
Baptist Training Union (Sunday) . . . . .4:00 p.m.

*“The Little Church Where Everybody Is Somebody”*



Rev. Wallace Elliott Sr. - Pastor

*Matters of the Heart Radio and Connecting Point Ministry  
Sixth Anniversary and Musical Extravaganza*

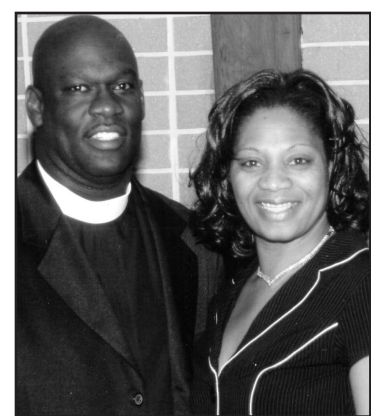
of God’s most gifted, anointed vessels in singing, instrumentals, Christian rap, mime,  
spoken word, poetry, Christian comedy, step danc, Christian artisan throughout  
the Tampa Bay area will be hosted by Radio Personality Princess Denise Wright on  
**Sunday, August 22nd at 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.**  
Glad Tidings Assembly of God, 4200 17th Ave. N., St. Petersburg  
Pastor Randy & First Lady Karen Helms  
FREE MINISTRY EVENT - Door Prizes & Refreshments  
If you would like to participate, call 727-488-8818 or email . . .

Email: [princessdenise.8818@yahoo.com](mailto:princessdenise.8818@yahoo.com) • 727-289-2475  
[www.mattersoftheheartministry.org](http://www.mattersoftheheartministry.org)



Princess Denise Wright  
Radio Host /  
TV Personality

**GENESIS  
WORSHIP  
CENTER  
CHURCH**  
1818 29th Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, Florida  
727.898.5571  
Sunday Worship  
11:30 a.m.



Pastor Michael T. and  
Elect Lady Sheila Culbreth

**NEW MT. OLIVE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
3001 18th Ave. S. St. Petersburg, Florida 33712  
Church 727-327-9904 Fax 727-322-0409

**SERVICE SCHEDULE**  
Church School 9:30 a.m. and Morning Worship 11:00a.m.  
Power hour of Prayer Wednesdays from noon to 1:00p.m.  
Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study Wednesdays 7:00p.m.— 8:30p.m.  
W.W.E. (Wednesday Worship Explosion)  
Wednesday after the 1st Sunday monthly

Need a ride? Our Transportation Ministry is available Sundays and Wednesdays

**Growing people with a passion for God's principles**




Elder Cedric L. Williams  
PASTOR

**Victory Christian Center Church**  
3012 18th Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33712  
(727) 321-0911  
[www.victorychristiancenterchurch.com](http://www.victorychristiancenterchurch.com)

**Schedule of Services**  
Sunday Worship\*  
10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study\* -7:00 p.m.  
Friday Prayer -7:00 p.m.  
Intercessory Prayer - 9:00 a.m.  
(except Wednesdays)

Victory Christian Center is a Word of Faith Church. For more information about the  
other services and ministries at Victory Christian Center, please call (727) 321-0911  
*\*Nursery and Youth Services Available*




Claude S. Williams, Pastor

**Saint John Primitive Baptist Church**  
Elder Benjamin Adams, Jr., Senior Pastor  
Church address: 1002 Palmetto Street, Clearwater, FL 33755  
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1235, Clearwater, FL 33755  
Church Phone: (727) 443-1861 • Fax: (727) 443-0431  
Email: [sjpbcc@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:sjpbcc@tampabay.rr.com)  
Radio dial: 1340 AM 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Radio internet: tantalk 1340.com

**Scheduled Services:**  
Church School .....8:00 a.m.  
Early Morning .....9:30 a.m.  
Wed. Mid-week Family Night Bible Study .....7:00 p.m.

**Theme: “Movers of the Christ Purpose”**  
*Edifying the Church; Evangelizing the Community (Acts 1:4-8)*



Elder Benjamin  
Adams, Jr.,  
Senior Pastor

**10th Street Church Of God**  
207 - 10th Street North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33705  
**(727) 898-9407**

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship .....11:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening Prayer .....6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Night Bible Study.....7:30 p.m.

*The church where  
what God’s word teaches  
is practiced!*



Rev. Ronald L. Bell  
Pastor

*United for Christ  
Freewill Baptist Church*  
4116 34th Street South  
Pinch A Penny Plaza  
St. Petersburg, Florida 33711  
**727-258-4993**

Wednesday Night Bible Study .....7:00 p.m.  
Sunday School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Service .....11:00 a.m.

*Living, Teaching and Preaching the True Gospel  
of Jesus Christ, to Save Lost Souls. Come join in with us.*



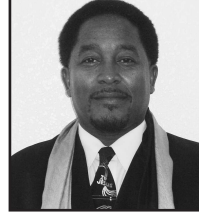
Pastor Minister Tyrone Ford  
and 1st Lady Kadell Ford

**MOUNT PILGRIM MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
4000 5th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711 Phone: (727) 321-7375  
“Returning God’s People to the Word of God”

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday General Worship .....11:00 a.m.  
Communion.....First Sunday  
Sunday New Member Orientation.....9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Prayer Meeting .....7:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study .....7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Wednesday Youth Bible Study .....7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Tutoring .....6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Pastor Clark Hazley, Sr.**

**Mission Statement**  
Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as  
our Savior; and on the profession of our faith. We the people of God returning to God’s  
Word, proclaiming, God’s Will in provoking His love among one another.



Pastor Clark  
Hazley, Sr.

 Come on and Go with Me, Come on Over to God’s Place!  
**STEWART ISOM MEMORIAL CME CHURCH**  
“WHERE GOD IS SIMPLY INCREDIBLE!”  
1820 Walton St. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
Phone (727) 327-0593

The Church in Worship  
**Sunday Worship Experience** Sunday Mornings @ 11 a.m.  
**KINGDOM KIDS’ Children’s Church**  
First through Third Sunday Mornings at 11 a.m.

The Church in Study  
**Sunday School (for All Ages)** Sunday Mornings at 9:30 a.m.  
**Thursday Night Triumph (Prayer, Praise & Power)**  
Thursday Evenings at 6:45 p.m.  
**Come Expecting to be BLESSED!**



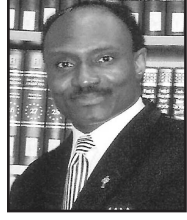
Bro. Robert Smith

**Friendship  
Missionary Baptist Church**  
3300 31st Street South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
(727) 906-8300  
[www.fmbctheship.org](http://www.fmbctheship.org)

vSunday.....7:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Worship  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Monday Morning Meditation WRXB .....6:45 a.m.  
Wednesday .....Noonday Bible Study and  
Bread of Life; 7 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study  
Thursday .....7 p.m. Youth Enrichment

Dr. John A. Evans,  
Pastor

*“Serving and Saving  
“Helping and  
Healing”  
“Inspiring and  
Instructing”  
“Praying and  
Praising”*



Dr. John A. Evans,  
Pastor

**BETHEL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
OUR PURPOSE IS THE ADVANCEMENT OF GOD’S KINGDOM AND  
PROMOTION OF THE SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC  
WELFARE OF OUR MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY

SERVICES  
SUNDAY: 8:00AM AND 10:00AM  
WEDNESDAY: 7:00PM

2901 54TH AVE. SOUTH • ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33712  
**(727) 866-2567**



REVEREND DR. MANUEL SYKES

**20th Street  
Church Of Christ**  
825 20th Street South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
Home: 896-8006

Sunday Morning Worship.....7:45 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:20 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Second Worship.....10:40 a.m.  
Ladies Bible Class Monday.....7:00 p.m.  
Monday Evening Bible Class .....7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Morning Bible Class .....10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday Evening Bible Class.....7:00 p.m.




Bro. Robert Smith

**PRAYER TOWER CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST**  
Elder Clarence Welch, Pastor  
Elder Carson Skinner, Assistant Pastor  
1137 37th Street South  
Saint Petersburg, FL 33711  
(727) 321-0670

**SERVICES**  
Sunday Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.  
A. M. Service – 11:30 a.m.  
YPWW (1st & 3rd Sunday) – 5:30 p.m.  
P.M. Service (1st & 3rd Sunday) – 6:30 p.m.  
P.M. Service (2nd & 4th Sunday) - 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday Morning Prayer – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.  
Wednesday Prayer Service – 7:30 p.m.  
Thursday Bible Study (for all ages) – 7:30 p.m.



Elder Clarence Welch, Pastor



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## ST. MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

1301 - 37th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL  
(727) 321-6631 • www.stmarkch.org

### Schedule of Services

Church School ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..... 10:45 a.m.  
Baptist Training Union ..... 5:00 p.m.  
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study  
Thursday 9:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.



Rev. Brian K. Brown

## THE ROCK OF JESUS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Church School: .....9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
Devotion: .....10:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.  
Praise and Worship: .....10:20 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship Service: .....10:30 a.m.  
Saints of Prayer each Monday .....12:00 Noon  
Bible Study each Tuesday: .....6:30 p.m.

Van service is available by calling: (727) 327-0015

**THE ROCK OF JESUS IS LOCATED AT:**  
**3940 – 18th AVENUE SOUTH**  
**St. Petersburg, Florida**

**Telephone: 727-327-0015 • Fax: 727-327-0021**  
**Office Hours: Tuesday and Friday**  
**9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**



Rev. Frank W. Peterman, Jr.  
Pastor

## By The Word of Faith Church Inc.

558 28th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712  
Phone: 727-328-0788 • Fax: 727-328-8460



Bishop Willie C. Sands  
Evangelist Patricia Sands

### Service Times and Schedules

**EVERY 4th SUNDAY COME AND  
RECEIVE A FREE BAG OF FOOD**

Wednesday Night 7:00 p.m. Empowerment Service  
3rd and 4th Sunday 9:00 a.m. New Members Class  
Sunday Morning 9:00 Sunday School  
Sunday Morning Service 10:00

Nursery Available and Children Ministry!!!

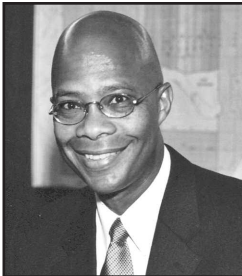
## BETHEL METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH

3455 - 26th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711

Telephone (727) 327-0554 • Fax (727) 327-0240

E-mail: bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com Web site: www.bmmbc.org

Sunday Worship Service.....10:15 a.m.  
Sunday School .....9:00 a.m.  
Teen Summit (Wednesday) .....7:00 p.m.  
Bible Study (Wednesday).....7:00 p.m.



Rev. Rickey L. Houston, Pastor

**“God’s House In The City”**

# CHURCH NEWS

## Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church “God’s House in the City” under the leadership of Dr Rickey L. Houston, extend an invitation to the community to join us as we communicate Gods’ Word Sunday during our Sunday School at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. worship service. Also, Bible Study and Teen Summit/ Children Rising Wednesday evening, at 7. Bethel Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church is committed to a Christ-centered, People-centered, Team-centered and Bible-based ministry; with priorities focused on Love, Forgiveness, Unity, Peace and Growth. We celebrate in worship, we care for one another, we cultivate the fullest spiritual life

possible both individually and corporately; and we communicate God’s truth at every opportunity. Living out these priorities results in a kaleidoscope of ministries at Bethel Metropolitan for all ages and interests. We also encourage the community to make use of our Prayer Line. (727-321-9645) Our Women’s Ministry under the leadership of Althea Hudson is finalizing plans for their annual Women’s Seminar, Saturday, Aug.. 21., 9.-1 p.m. This year’s theme: “My Desire to Become a Phenomenal Woman to Serve Christ” entices you to join their Christian Sisterhood and discover the transformation of the heart to serve Christ. The Keynote Speaker

is Elonda Floyd of Columbus, GA. Local presenters are Mary Conage and Rosalind Jordan. For registration information call the church office (727-327-0554).  
**Upcoming Events**  
Aug. 21 - Women’s Ministry Seminar, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Sept. 4 - Church Anniversary Prayer Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.  
Sept. 25 - Men In Praise 4 p.m.  
Sept. 26 - Anniversary Proper, 10:15 a.m.  
“Working as God’s Chosen in 2010”  
John 15:16, Titus 2:14, I Peter 2:9  
Email: bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com. Website: www.bmmbc.org.

## Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

Dynamic Speakers Gather for Empowerment Weekend Aug. 27-29 at Bethel AME, 912 3rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida.  
The Mary Ann Jones Womens Missionary Society cordially invites you to join Bethel AME for a weekend focused on "A Faith Unwavering."  
An inspiring team of speakers will gather at Bethel A.M.E. Church for the 7th Annual Empowerment Weekend, August 27-29.  
The headliners for the conference include the Rev. Keturah Pittman, "Pastor K", of St. Mark A.M.E. Church, St. Petersburg;

The Rev. Ella Edwards of Ivey Chapel A.M.E. Church, Nocatee, FL; the Rev. Ronald E. Williams, Sr. Bethel A.M.E. Church, St. Petersburg; Retired Lieutenant Colonel Jack Packer, Published Author, Oldsmar, FL; Mr. William E. Packer, Jr. Movie Producer, Atlanta, Ga. Produced movies including, The Gospel, Stomp the Yard, and This Christmas.

The weekend begins with a Praise Concert, Friday evening at 7. Seminars for men, women, and youth are Saturday morning with a continental breakfast beginning at 8:30 and sessions begin at 9. The Torch Awards Banquet to be held Saturday evening at 6 in the fellowship hall will honor community members for service.  
Sunday Morning Worship is at 11. For more information call 727-866-2177. An inspiring, spiritual. empowering weekend will be life changing at historic Bethel AME.

## Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

“Impact the world by equipping believers to reach the lost with the gospel of Jesus Christ.”  
Calling All Singles, Divorcees, Widows & Widowers: You’re invited to join our Singles Ministry as “Tips for Dating” are discussed 7 p.m. Friday, Aug. 13. Come, join in the discussion and bring your favorite dish to share. We look forward to seeing you in our Youth Chapel’s Fellowship Hall, 921 20th Street South.  
Need a mid-day ‘pick-me-up?’

Join us for Bible Study Wednesdays, Noon to 12:30pm, in the main sanctuary.  
“Laying Aside Hindrances: Running with Freedom.” Our Women’s Ministry invites all women to join us in this biblically-based session using the study guide “Becoming a Woman of Freedom.” Date/Time: Tuesday, Aug. 24 at 6:30-8 p.m. Location: Our Youth Chapel’s Fellowship Hall, 921 20th Street South.  
We are very pleased to announce our Drumline was

selected to march in the Harram23 Shriners’ Twilight Parade, Wednesday, August 18, in Ybor City (Tampa) beginning at 6:30pm.  
Be sure to tune in to WRXB, Praise 1590AM, Saturday mornings at 7:30 to hear Pastor Murphy share a Word from the Lord.  
Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, 955 20th St. S. Phone 727-894-4311. www.mzprogressive.org.

## Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, Pastor Clark Hazley Sr., and the entire church family extend an invitation to the community to join us as we celebrate “All Servant’s Day.”  
The theme for this occasion “The Responsibilities of a Christian Servant” Luke 12: 47-48. The kick off service will be held Aug. 8 at 4:00 p.m. with

the youth ministry in charge. On Aug. 10-13 services will be beginning at 7:00 p.m. The climax of services will take place Sunday, Aug. 15 at 4:00 p.m.  
Scheduled August services: Thursday, Aug. 12, Rev. Troy Adams, New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church  
Friday, Aug. 13, Musical, Community churches

Sunday, Aug. 15, 11:00 a.m. Mo. Barbara Bonner, Greater Grand Central Missionary Baptist Church.  
At 4:00 p.m., Rev. Robert Ward, Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church.  
Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church is located at 4000 5th Ave South, St. Petersburg, Florida. Clark Hazley Sr., Pastor.

## St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church

The St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, pastor, The Reverend Brian K. Brown, Deacons, Trustees, and the entire congregation, extends to the community wishes that there be an overflowing of God’s blessings upon their lives. St. Mark is grounded in a Christ-centered doctrine that has as its central theme, a belief that we are a haven of hope, help, and healing for a world hungering for and thirsting after the enlightened word of God. At St. Mark, we are Christians willing to work and partner in unity, praising God for His awesome gift, His son, Jesus Christ.  
**August Calendar of Events**  
Aug. 14 - Men’s Clean up Day, Pastor’s Aid Meeting @ 11:00 a.m.\Young Adults Meeting from 12 -1:30 p.m. with: Boys 2 Young Men and Faithgirlz  
Aug. 15 - Right Hand of

Fellowship during Morning Worship  
Aug. 20 - Church outing- Greater Grand Central, 3901 19th Ave So  
Aug. 21 - Women’s Bible Study-Faith in Training (F.I.T.) Next Lesson on Procrastination  
Aug. 22 - Church Family invited to Olive Garden after Worship for fellowship  
Aug. 25-26 Congress No. 2 hosted by St. Mark  
Aug. 28 - Men’s Clean up day  
Aug.29 - Church outing-New Jerusalem, Lakeland, FL (Dinner served at 3:00 p.m.)  
Also at St. Mark ...  
Sunday School is held for both children and adults of all ages. Sunday School starts each Sunday morning at 9:30. All are invited to come out and join us.  
Baptist Training Union is each Sunday at 5:00 p.m. Members and

the general public are invited to come out and study the Bible with us and learn “What Baptist Believe”.  
Children and Youth Ministry Meetings are held every Monday at 6:00 p.m. Children in the community are welcomed to join us.  
Young Adult Ministry every Monday at 6:30 p.m. Topics of interest each Monday night.  
Sunday School Teachers’ Meeting is held every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.  
Senior Hour of Power Bible Study is held every Thursday at 9:30 a.m.  
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study every Thursday evening at 7:00.  
St. Mark after School Tutoring Ministry: Closed for the Summer  
DESTINATION GRADUATION Closed for the Summer.

## Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, Inc.

505 – 35th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711

Telephone: (727) 327-3186 or 327-6957 • Reverend Earnest Jones, Pastor



Reverend Earnest Jones and the members of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church cordially invite you to attend their 3RD ANNUAL TRIBE DAY celebration on Sunday, August 15, 2010. Schedule of services are as follows:  
• Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. - Guest Teachers and Superintendent  
• Morning Worship – 10:50 a.m. – Guest Speaker: Reverend Tim White, Member of Elizabeth Baptist Church, Atlanta, GA  
• Afternoon Worship at 4:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Reverend Julius L. Wynn, Pastor of Highland Missionary Baptist Church – Tampa, FL and former Assistant Principal of Gibbs High School.  
PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE THIS GREAT OCCASION.

**Church News due by 4:00 p.m.  
on Monday of each week**



EDUCATION

continued from front page

by expressing their views on the state of education in Pinellas County Schools, while offering some recommendations for improvement:

**Dr. David Welch** was in education for over 33-years as an adminstrator and helped to establish the Pinellas Vocational Center in St. Petersburg.

"I feel that education is in a poor state in this county and students are not getting the proper guidance.

Each school should have an advisory board within certain grades, from elementary to high school, to provide some consistency between progressing from one level to the other. The advisory board should consist of parents, teachers, principals and area superintendents. The focus should be to stabilize schools and give the principals more authority to run the schools. I am totally against the transfer of a principal from the school where they're being effective to a school of lesser achievement. I'd rather maintain the status quo in this instance."

**Barry Edwards**, former college instructor for Florida State University, who is currently living in St. Petersburg.

"I feel that the schools are underfunded. For one thing, the money could be used to encourage a parental partnership with the district. For example, create more after school programs. Most children come from a single parent or if two-parents, most likely they

work outside the home and may need the schools to serve as a one-stop shop for students to access health care and good nutrition during and after school. There are very few stay at home moms anymore. Also, most studies now show that having a summer off hurts our most needy students. Year round school would help needy students and working families."

**Councilman Wengay Newton, Sr.**, District 7, St. Petersburg.

"Being a graduate of the Pinellas County School system, I have observed that the general preference is to focus on individualty and use of electronic devices and vending machines. The primary focus should be on education. By allowing these concerns to take precedent over education does our children a disservice."

**Yvonne King**, former elementary teacher with Pinellas County Schools.

"We need more vocational education classes back in the schools. For example, classes like home economics and mechanics shop where students learn about cooking and repairing vehicles. This would help to improve students' lives who are impacted by the high school drop out rate and help to prepare them for a useful life."

**Rosa Nesbitt**, former elementary teacher with Pinellas County Schools.

"It seems that when I was teaching the teachers were dedicated and put forth a lot of effort to get the children to learn their lesson. I retired from the Pinellas County School District in 2000. I think that



Barry Edwards



Yvonne King



Rosa Nesbit



Rev. Martin Rainey

they have a lot of overcrowding in the classroom and teacher pay needs improvement. More dedication from the teachers to get the best from the students. Be patient with the students."

**Rev. Martin Rainey**, Minister of Outreach for Faith Memorial Baptist Church, chairman of NAACP Education Committee, and retired curriculum supervisor for Pinellas County Schools.

"We are not at the appropriate level of education in Pinellas County compared to other districts in the Tampa Bay area. We have major problems in areas of graduation rates, discipline in schools and the academic gap via the court order that states African-American students are far behind their white counterparts. In the Bradley vs Pinellas County School Board Court Order, which passed approximately 32-years-ago, the court ordered African-American

students to attend the same schools as white children in order for them to access a quality education."

**Mary Clowers**, former elementary classroom teacher and area Reading Supervisor for Pinellas County School District.

"According to what I've seen and the conversations I've had, we seem to be doing a good reading program, but we have so many children in need of more help. We need resources, trained reading teachers and a good process to identify the special needs of the students. These tools will help provide each child with an individual program in a special reading catagory. There are selective interesting books and useful machines that are very necessary in order for the special reading program to be successful. This will also serve to stimulate a child to read for enjoyment and establish a love for reading. Reading makes a

child grow in knowledge; to understand various kinds of materials, including scientific and art and to be able to read well enough to solve problems. Exploring through books and newspapers is one of the best ways to help a child's mind develop."

**Meisha Nailing**, substitute teacher for Pinellas County for past two years.

"I dont think it is the same in terms of how education instruction and discipline is performed from school to school. Some children can learn, but so many behavioral issues in the class room makes it hard. For example, my daughter goes to fundamental classes where discipline is strongly enforced. It makes it difficult when a substitute comes in and rules are not enforced across the board at all schools. My recommendation for improvement is for all employees, teachers and

administration to enforce the rules that are in place. In order to be effective I think all schools would benefit from a fundamental type school curriculum."

Everyone agrees that improvement is needed in order for the students to be successful in their pursuit of education. Access to a quality education often is the difference between being a success or failure.

*The views and opinions expressed within this article are individual in nature and are not representative of the views of the writer of the article or The Weekly Challenger. Comments may be submitted in a letter to the editor by emailing The Weekly Challenger at: editor@theweeklychallenger.com or by mail: 2500 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. S., St. Petersburg FL 33705. Letters to the editor may or may not be published in future editions of The Weekly Challenger.*

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