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## The Weekly Challenger : 2011 : 02 : 03

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# The Weekly Challenger

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

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VOLUME 43 NUMBER 23

FEBRUARY 3 - FEBRUARY 9, 2011

ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

## The Universoul Circus Opens With Shyann Roberts



Shyann Roberts

BY LEILA WISON  
SPECIAL TO THE  
CHALLENGER

ST. PETERSBURG - Shyann Roberts' smoldering vocals are unmistakable and her vibrato alone can stop traffic. This R&B/pop singer-song writer and actress has been singing since age two. At 14-years-old, she is quickly becoming a local teen celebrity performing and opening to sold-out shows for the likes of Boys II Men, Mary Mary, L.L. Cool J., and most recently, the Universoul Circus. In 2011, Shyann's main focus is to release her most anticipated new singles entitled, "Fearless" and "I Love You." With the success of these projects, she hopes to gain the attention of major

record labels and begin negotiating for a viable recording contract. When asked about her hobbies, she cited dancing, singing, interacting with her friends, and shopping as her favorite things to do in her spare time. As a freshman in high school with so much notoriety, Shyann remains very humble and friendly with her peers. Although her family calls her "Shy" (short for Shyann), she is anything but that. When this talented, gifted young lady graces the stage and turns on her mic, by the end of her performance there are lines of children and adults scrambling to get her autograph and an opportunity to take photos with her.

**ROBERTS**  
*continued on pg. 6*

## The Weekly Challenger Celebrates E-Digitized Newspaper During Black History Month



Dianne Speights, Publisher  
and General Manager of  
The Weekly Challenger

ST. PETERSBURG - During February The Weekly Challenger has launched a month long celebration to introduce its new electronic edition of the weekly publication.

The new electronic version of The Weekly Challenger is available on-line each Saturday. "Our mission is to continually strive to offer a complete package of journalism excellence and market advertising while providing the very highest quality of, news and information to the African-American communities of Tampa Bay," says Publisher Dianne Speights who took leadership of the



paper as general manager in 2006. Our mission statement states that you are the focus of our daily work. This is our latest initiative to make The Weekly Challenger more accessible to busy professionals who are getting more of their news from the web."

"The Weekly Challenger newspaper has been a thriving business for nearly 44 years,

serving the Tampa Bay Community. Through the years, despite market fluctuations, The Weekly Challenger has prevailed. Many of its readers and affiliates have been with the paper for all 43 years.

In 2005 the paper partnered with the University of South Florida School of Journalism making improvements and adjustment in layout and design,

printing and production of the newspaper. The newspaper was revamped sectionalizing news stories, making them more reader friendly. Several features were added to enhance the importance of our publication in the community. More emphasis was placed on aesthetics, as the

**HISTORY**  
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## New Leadership Tapped For St. Petersburg AKA Chapter

ST. PETERSBURG - As 2011 gets off to a rolling start, the Zeta Upsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated kicked off its year with new leadership at the helm in the form of Crystal Lilly-Pruitt. Pruitt, a communications manager by day was ushered in as the chapter's new president in its end of the year elections.

Pruitt, a seven-year member, but by no means inexperienced, brings with her sunny and warm disposition a wealth of excitement and fresh ideas. "I am so excited and blessed to not only be a part of this great sisterhood, but I am deeply humbled by this opportunity." Pruitt has already proven herself on many levels within the AKA hierarchy – locally, regionally and nationally. Her past appointments have included: Ivy Leaf Reporter, 1st Vice-President,

South Atlantic Regional Cluster Two Coordinator, South Atlantic Regional Conference Publicity Chair, and she has participated on the National Convention's Media Team since 2008.

Pruitt says she hopes to take the chapter to the next level; her chapter members are eager to support her. The recent elections also included the following new or continuing officers: vice president, Cassandra Williams; corresponding secretary, Faya Forde; recording secretary, Shauna McCallister; asst. recording secretary, Loretta Gilstrap; treasurer, Debora Dandridge; asst. treasurer, Deborah Figgs-Sanders; financial secretary - Latonya Alexander; asst. financial secretary, Joyce Bell; historian, Myrtle Williams; curator, Inez Ford; Ivy Leaf reporter, Terri P. Murph; hostess



Crystal Lilly-Pruitt

(of courtesies), Mary Stephens; asst. hostess, Yolanda Fintak; chaplain, Geraldine Gray; parliamentarian, Betty Jo Gaston;

sergeant at arms, Denise Smith. For more information, contact Terri P. Murph at (727) 424-8904.



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

In This Black History Month:  
Remember The Prices Of Hate Speech



BY REV. JESSE JACKSON  
TRICE EDNEY  
WIRE.COM

Let us continue to pray for the grieving families in Tucson and for Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, targeted for assassination by a clearly unbalanced young man. Rep. Giffords was shot as she made herself available to citizens exercising the most basic of rights: “to peaceably assemble” and petition their representative.

The heinous act has generated a good and ongoing debate about the connection between the rhetoric of violence and violence itself. During this Black History Month, this incident reminds me not just of Dr. King’s assassination, but also of his response to the violence wreaked upon black citizens in the south seeking to assemble peaceably.

In Alabama, for example, Gov. George Wallace cynically fanned racist fires with his rhetoric and actions, denouncing outside agitators, calling on Alabamans to “stand up for segregation” and decrying the “frightful example of oppression of the rights, privileges and sovereignty of this state by . . . the federal government.”

Civil rights leaders warned that Wallace’s rhetoric was like fuel poured upon the kindling of anger and fear caused by blacks demanding their rights. Three months after he stood in the door at the University of Alabama, a bomb planted by Klansmen at Birmingham’s 16th Street Baptist Church killed four children. One day later, King stated the simple truth: “The governor said things and did things which caused these people to feel that they were aided and abetted by the highest officer in the state. The murders of yesterday stand as blood on the hands of Gov. Wallace.”

It wasn’t that Wallace condoned violence, and he surely did not want the lives of four little girls snuffed out. But King argued that you can’t simply walk away from the consequences of your actions. Wallace’s inflammatory rhetoric and reckless actions fanned the flames of anger and fear of the back-alley racists.

There is no evidence that Jared Loughner, the alleged gunman in Tucson, was a member of a right-wing hate group. He was clearly a young man whose mind was unraveling. But it is exactly the mentally unstable who are most likely to be influenced by an atmosphere filled

with hate and murderous rhetoric. In Arizona, the kindling was there. The economy has been hit hard by the financial collapse, with employment opportunities for young people particularly limited. With families losing jobs or homes, fear and depression are inevitable. Add to this a venomous, racially charged debate on immigration and health care reform, as well as some of the worst gun-control laws in the country.

Arizona’s conservative governor and legislature made it legal for anyone over 21 to carry a concealed weapon without a permit. After an instant background check, Loughner was able to buy over the counter a semiautomatic Glock 9mm gun with a 30 bullet magazine.

As Pima County Sheriff Clarence W. Dupnik stated, Arizona has become “a Mecca for prejudice and bigotry,” a cauldron of Tea Party anger, right-wing hate groups and anti-immigrant posturing.

Giffords’ life was threatened, her office vandalized. Her Tea Party Republican opponent had invited supporters to “remove her from office” and “shoot a fully automatic M16” with him at a campaign rally.

Giffords was demonized as a

traitor, a communist, a fascist, a job killer. The congresswoman was distressed when Sarah Palin’s PAC targeted her district by putting it in the crosshairs of a gun site on Palin’s web page. In next-door Nevada, Republican Senate candidate Sharron Angle suggested that frustrated voters might have to take up “Second Amendment remedies.”

Extreme statements are, as many have stated, as protected under the First Amendment as any speech. And vitriolic rhetoric in American politics can be traced back to the earliest days of the republic. But that doesn’t mean there are no consequences.

With rights come responsibilities. In Alabama, King stated what everyone knew to be true: that the extreme rhetoric and actions of Wallace were like setting the woods on fire.

Let us defend every person’s right to speech, to fierce and independent expression. But let us not fail to challenge those who exercise those rights irresponsibly, particularly those with megaphones like public leaders or media stars. In the hotbed of politics, we expect them to set an example, not to light a match.

The President’s Marching Orders  
For Saving The Union



BY DR. E. FAYE WILLIAMS, ESQ.  
TRICE EDNEY  
WIRE.COM

President Barack Obama delivered the message in his State of the Union address that the people needed to hear. In sports vernacular, he hit another homerun; he made a touchdown; he gave us a three pointer!

He gave us our marching orders for what we all must do further to save the Union. The President inherited a country that was rapidly sliding down hill for poor people, jobless people, people suffering from discrimination, and those who were just hanging on already. He inherited a huge debt, and had to hit the ground running before he was sworn in. He truly has worked to put our union back on track. When he took office, America was in such a deep hole that all of his energy was spent trying to fix what

his predecessors broke. In other words, he had to work to get us on level ground before he could begin to move us from the ground up. That’s happening now.

Because of actions he took early, the stock market is steadily up. Corporations are beginning to hire. The Affordable Health Care Act is making a difference in the lives of people. Many students can now remain on their parents’ health care plan while they are in college. He’s brought a lot of troops home from Iraq. He’s gotten us past “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”. He’s given us a Women and Girls’ Council. He’s signed the Violence Against Women Act. He gave us the Lily Ledbetter Act his first week in office. He’s gotten us the START Treaty. He encouraged the Republicans to move off their “no, no, no” act. He got a tax cut for us. He got unemployment insurance extended for those who need it. People are feeling the hope again.

He’s defied the pundits who never seem to think anything the President does is as good as what Ronald Reagan or Bill Clinton did. Many of them are the same ones who didn’t think much of either of them while they were in office. Funny how history seems to have absolved those two of their sins!

President Obama won an election because he was brilliant, because he touched people. He brought people out to vote who never voted before—white people, black people, Asians, Native Americans, and Hispanics. He brought us admiration and credibility around the world. He made us extra proud of our nation and we believed for a minute our nation had, for the most part, gotten past race. It sounds silly now, but just for a minute some of us believed that.

This President has accomplished so much, but still it’s not enough for most of the pundits who think they are smarter than

this President! Some of them just can’t get ready for brilliance, and can’t get over the fact that Barack Obama knows what he is doing! They’ve never heard of the critic not counting. They actually think they are smarter than the President who is steadily getting American back on the right track after many before him played a part in derailing us or keeping us from being all that America can be.

No American president has ever had to deal with the disrespectful way the opposition treats this president. Yes, opposition includes some otherwise yellow dog Democrats. We hear them every day. We have too many politicians, pundits and comedians trying hard to bring the country down because the President refuses to dumb down to please those who aren’t as smart as he is. They’re afraid that unless they say something silly about the President, they won’t get on the nightly news!

The Weekly Challenger

Ethel L. Johnson . . . . . CEO/Publisher Emeritus  
L. Dianne Speights . . . . . Publisher/General Manager  
Lorrie Bellinger . . . . . Art Director

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THE BLACK PRESS believes that America can best lead the world from racial antagonism when it accords to every man, regardless of race, creed or color, his human and legal rights. Hating no man, fearing no man... the Black Press strives to help every man in the firm belief that all men are hurt as long as anyone is held back.



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All news items, advertising copy and related art  
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*The Weekly Challenger* reserves the right to run  
all or part of any submission at a later time.  
Some submissions may take precedence due to  
timeliness or newsworthiness.

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The Weekly Challenger

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Every Girl Scout Cookie Has A Mission

TAMPA – As part of the 2011 Girl Scout Cookie Program, Girl Scouts of West Central Florida (GSWCF) offers the community the opportunity to donate to U.S. military troops serving overseas through its Cookies from Home program.

Cookies from Home is a unique way for Girl Scouts to give back to their communities: donations of cookies through the program will be sent directly to our military troops serving in combat zones overseas through a partnership with Support Our Troops.

“Life is good when you get Girl Scout Cookies,” said Steve Carney, reporter/anchor with 970 WFLA and served in Afghanistan in the U.S. Navy.

In addition to enjoying the cookies themselves, military troops also use them to build relationships with local children.

“Generally, we have been

[giving] the cookies and sweets to the children that we meet out on mission,” wrote a soldier serving with the United States Army Corps of Engineers in Tikrit, Iraq.

“...thank you for allowing my team to give out your cookies to the needy families in Iraq. Without your help, my job would be considerably harder,” wrote a soldier serving on a reconstruction liaison team in Baghdad.

In 2010, 45,000 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies were donated to U.S. military troops through the Cookies from Home program.

Donations to the Cookies from Home Program may be made in person through a Girl Scout – booth sales begin Feb. 25 – or online at [www.gswcf.org](http://www.gswcf.org) at anytime during the Girl Scout Cookie Program, through March 20.

Send a taste of home in the form of Thin Mints, Do-Si-Dos,

Dulce de Leche, Lemon Chalet Cremes, Samoas®, Tagalongs®, Thank You Berry Munch, or Trefoils.

For more information regarding purchasing Girl Scout Cookies and supporting Girl Scouting in your area, visit [www.gswcf.org](http://www.gswcf.org), or call (800) 881-4475, ext. 1838.

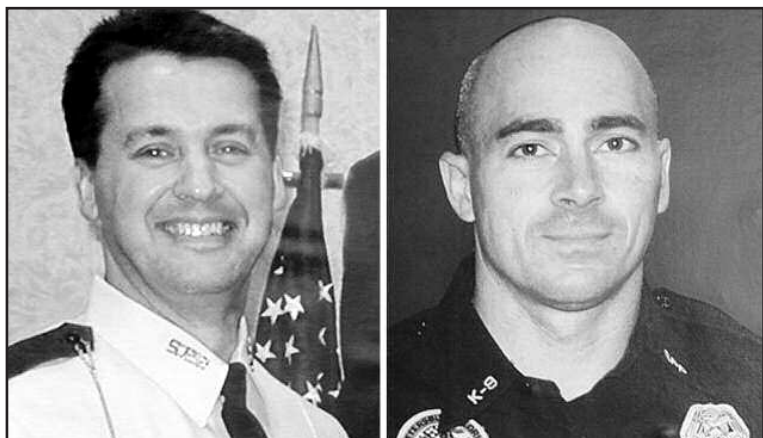
Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. Girl Scouts of West Central Florida serves nearly 24,000 girls in Citrus, Hernando, Hillsborough, Marion, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Sumter counties. Did you know that more than 53 percent of all women business owners are Girl Scout alumnae? For more information on how to join, volunteer, reconnect or donate to Girl Scouts of West Central Florida, visit [www.gswcf.org](http://www.gswcf.org) or call (800) 881-4475.

## City Mourns Deaths Of Police Personnel

ST. PETERSBURG - Sergeant Thomas J. Baitinger and Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz of the St Petersburg Police Department (SPPD) both lost their lives performing in the line of duty, when they became victims of a shooting that occurred on Monday, Jan. 24, 2011. The Weekly Challenger community expresses deepest regrets.

According to SPPD Assistant Chief Cedric Gordon the support expressed by the community has been overwhelming.

“We appreciate the whole community because all differences were set aside for this occasion of memorializing our fallen soldiers,” Gordon said during a weekly broadcast that he hosts on Tuesdays on WRXB 1590 AM radio. “This has been a trying time for the



Left, Sergeant Thomas J. Baitinger and right, Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz

police department and the community. We all came together for a common cause and provided a meaningful home going for both officers,” Gordon added.

If members of the community want to continue to support the slain officers families they can do so in several ways. One is to make a

donation to the Suncoast Law Enforcement Charity by calling 727-532-1722; another is to purchase memorial t-shirts at the Police Headquarters located at 1300 1st Avenue North; lastly make a financial donation to the Baitinger and Yaslowitz memorial fund set up at any local Wachovia Bank.

## How To Be Successful In Turbulent Times

(STATEPOINT) Navigating your career in today’s crazy business environment is difficult. Regardless, you can learn to be prepared for turbulence and navigate yourself to success.

Whether you’re looking for a new career, trying to build your own business or working in a large corporation, it’s all about managing the crazy pace of change.

“The key to managing change in these uncertain times is to have a good grasp of your strengths and weaknesses — whether you’re an individual or major corporation,” says Terry Doerscher, co-author with Pat Durbin of the new book “Taming Change with Portfolio Management,” which shows corporations how to systematically manage change.

For career professionals, being prepared to adjust your course can help you avoid being laid off, say experts. When companies downsize and try to stay afloat during turbulent times, there will naturally be shifts in priorities and responsibilities. The successful employee embraces these adjustments and pitches in. He or she may even consider going back to school for some

additional training.

In business, keeping such turbulence under control comes down to setting goals and monitoring them. This can involve your small business marketing plan or your financial statements, but goal-setting is vital to success.

“Setting goals allows you to see the bigger picture and course-correct when needed,” says Durbin. “And it allows you to see

how people, work, and money can all serve one another.”

It also helps if you put systems in place that automate change management. For example, e-mail alerts can keep you in the loop about new jobs and developments in your field. And businesses can benefit from software that helps them manage assets and investment portfolios.

“The key to managing

change events is to understand them,” says Doerscher. “You can then make good decisions about how to use your capacities to the benefit of your organization.”

For more tips on how to be successful in tough times, check out “Taming Change with Portfolio Management” or visit [tamingchange.com](http://tamingchange.com).

Stay flexible and success may soon be yours!



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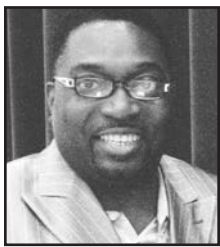
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# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Having Church In The Park! (6th Annual Gospel fest Kicks off at end of this month)

This week kicks off Black History Month, and black history would not be complete with out gospel music. Gospel is defined as good news. Gospel has been around for a many years, but can be significantly noted during slavery time, where gospel music really inspired and gave those who were in physical and sometimes mental bondage a since of hope and encouragement.

Thousands of people will soon convene at Heritage Village for the 6th Annual Gospelfest. The Pinellas County Commissioners would like to invite any group or choir to participate in this spirit filled event. This is one of the many components of the Twelfth Annual African-American Heritage Celebration. The event will be held on Saturday, February 26, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Heritage Village in Largo, FL. To be eligible to participate, you must submit an application. The event is free and open to any group/choir. First place will receive a \$1,000 cash prize, second place is \$750 and third place is \$500. This is a wonderful opportunity for a group or choir to obtain money that could be used to further their career, some church project, or even studio work.

The event is open to groups and choirs around the state of Florida and has had participants from as far as Tallahassee and Miami. There have been many inquiries from groups and choir even outside of the state of Florida. Participants will be judged on their appearance, crowd, interaction, complexity of song, creativity, intonation, enthu-

siasm, vocal clarity, song selection, diction, and overall performance. The event will be hosted by WRXB's Sis. Dianne Hughes. Judges will be a panel of qualified and established musicians, choir directors, radio personalities, educational professionals, and civic representation. This event is one of the popular stages of the Florida African-American Heritage Celebration, and it's a place were people have church in the park! Again, the registration is free there is no charge to be a part of the event or to attend the event.

To register for event, participants can download application from [www.pinellascounty.org/unity.htm](http://www.pinellascounty.org/unity.htm) and click on the gospel fest registration tab. Applications can be emailed to [manonrise66@yahoo.com](mailto:manonrise66@yahoo.com) or faxed to 866-390-1262 or mail application to P. O. Box 46321 Tampa FL 33646. You may also pick up an application from WRXB office at 9721 Executive Center Dr., Ste. 200, St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

For more information regarding the gospel fest competition you may call 727-244-8119. The deadline for submitting applications is February 18, 2011. So please get applications in as soon as possible. Space is very limited. You don't want to miss this day of spirit filled clapping your hands, stomping your feet, and singing your songs of inspirations on Saturday February 26, 2011.

Thank you for reading, and I hope you have enjoyed your time OUT AND ABOUT W/Steve.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Courtesy of

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**Through Feb. 19** - My Ticket to Tomorrow: Word & Image High School Exhibition, Morean Arts Center, 719 Central Ave. Work by Pinellas County high school students is displayed in our 14th season of Word and Image exhibitions. Visit [www.moreanartscenter.org](http://www.moreanartscenter.org) or call 727-822-7872.

**Friday, Feb. 4** - First Friday St. Pete Get Downtown Music Series, 5:30 – 10:30 p.m., 250 Central Ave. btwn. 2nd and 3rd St., St. Petersburg. Get downtown and get down with the fun. Join us for great music, a lively crowd and all the fun you can handle, right in the heart of downtown. Visit [www.firstfridaystpete.com](http://www.firstfridaystpete.com), [www.breakfastoptimist.org](http://www.breakfastoptimist.org) or call 727-393-3597.

**Saturday, Feb. 5** - Annual Black History Festival, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Sweetbay, 1794 22nd St. S. St. Petersburg. Learn tips for healthy living with food samples, free health screenings, children's activities, entertainment, history exhibits and giveaways. Meet Raymond and the Rays Street Team! Free! Call 727-820-9014.

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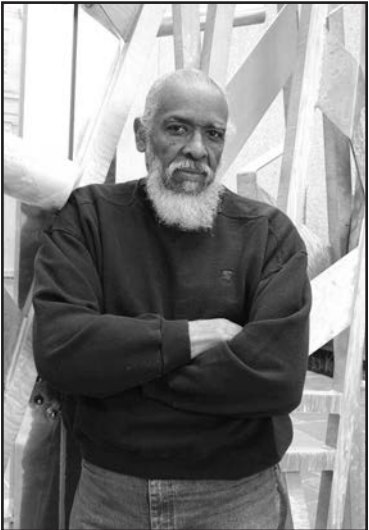


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This program is cooperatively funded by the City of St. Petersburg and the Pinellas-Anclote River Basin Board of the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

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We encourage you to write a Letter to the Publisher regarding the President's State of the Union speech. Your letter might be published in a February edition of *The Weekly Challenger* as we celebrate Black History Month. Email: [publisher@theweeklychallenger.com](mailto:publisher@theweeklychallenger.com)

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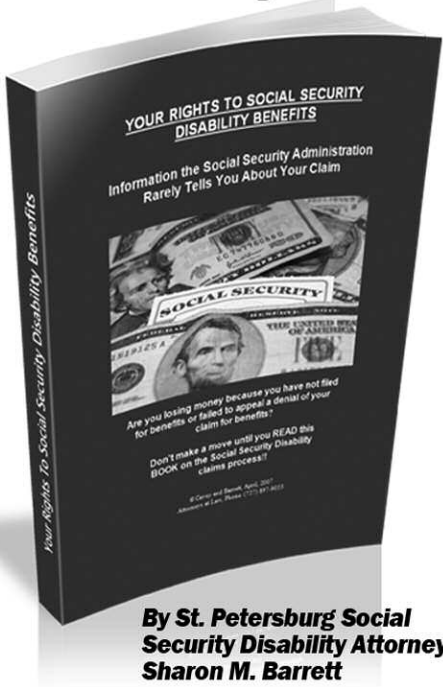
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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Tampa Bay Goes Red To Raise Awareness

*Feb. 4 is National Wear Red Day and February is American Heart Month*

ST. PETERSBURG — Buildings, businesses and babies are “Going Red” across Tampa Bay to remind everyone that heart disease is still the No. 1 killer of women age 20 and over, killing approximately one woman every minute. More women die of heart disease than the next four causes of death combined, including all forms of cancer. February is American Heart Month and Feb. 4 is National Wear Red Day, a component of the American Heart Association’s Go Red For Women campaign to make women aware of their risk of heart disease and learn how to make healthy changes. To stimulate heart disease awareness and help women take life-saving actions, the American Heart Association is organizing exciting 2011 activities. It’s easier than ever to make it your mission to fight heart disease in women.

### Sport YourHeart Score on Wear Red Day

The American Heart Association is partnering with Tampa Bay fire stations and first responders on Wear Red Day, Friday, Feb. 4, in honor of women and heart disease. Men and women are invited to visit their local fire station and get their blood pressure taken. They are then encouraged to plug that number into My Life Check, a free online quiz from the American Heart Association, and receive their heart-health score. In addition to receiving a score between one and 10, you will also receive a customized plan on how to improve your score. If you’d like to have a health professional discuss your heart score and plan with you on Wear Red Day visit

Fire Station 14 located 1325 South Church Ave. in Tampa and Fire Station 9 located at 2525 W. Chestnut St. in Tampa between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. To learn your heart score, visit [Heart.org/MyLifeCheck](http://Heart.org/MyLifeCheck).

### Buildings, Beauty and Berries Go Red

Several buildings are lighting red throughout February in support of Go Red For Women including two Tampa Bay skyline icons: the SunTrust Building in downtown Tampa and The Pier in downtown St. Petersburg. The SunTrust Building goes red on Feb. 3 and will remain illuminated in red for the entire month of February. Starting Feb. 3, The Pier will be turning shades of red in honor of Go Red For Women.

Passion for the movement can also be seen at Macy’s. Stop by the department store wearing red between Feb. 2 and 6 and receive all-day savings throughout the store. Customers not wearing red can purchase a red dress pin for \$2.00 and receive the all-day savings. Macy’s will donate 100 percent of the proceeds from the sale of the pins to Go Red For Women. From Feb. 6 through Feb. 14 for every Valentine sent through Macy’s Facebook page, Macy’s will donate \$1.00 to Go Red For Women, up to \$250,000. For more ways to accentuate your life with red, visit [ShopGoRed.org](http://ShopGoRed.org).

Additionally, for every pound of strawberries sold in the month of February, Sweetbay will donate one percent of the purchase price to the American Heart Association, up to a maximum of \$10,000. To find healthy and tasty dishes you can make at home, visit [Heart.org/recipes](http://Heart.org/recipes).

### Businesses, Churches and Schools Go Red

Many businesses around Tampa Bay will participate in American Heart Month by asking employees to wear red, sharing heart health information or hosting internal fundraisers. Some businesses participating include Northside Hospital, Bank of America, Largo Medical Center, Bay Pines VA, Gerdau Ameristeel, The Nielsen Company and Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point. Churches will also inspire their congregations to take action to prevent heart disease by hosting Go Red Sundays throughout the month of February. Local schools will encourage their staff and students to participate by donning their favorite red attire. If your company, civic group or stroller club is interested in going red this month and would like to download a free toolkit, visit [GoRedforWomen.org/WearRedDay/Resources](http://GoRedforWomen.org/WearRedDay/Resources).

### Everyone Can Go Red. Yes, Even Babies.

Heart health starts from day one. On Wear Red Day, St. Petersburg General Hospital and Community Hospital babies will receive red caps from the American Heart Association. Mothers will receive information about heart disease prevention and tips to keep their hearts healthy for themselves and their families.

Along with the babies, the American Heart Association invites everyone to Go Red during February. Dress your dog in red, ask your neighborhood association to host a heart-healthy potluck or create a red carpet experience. Share how you are

Going Red by visiting [TampaBaysMix.com](http://TampaBaysMix.com) beginning Feb. 1 and enter the Show Us Your Red contest with the American Heart Association and Mix 100.7. After you Go Red, the American Heart Association asks you to tell five women you want them to live and share this life-saving information. Women and men can join the Go Red For Women movement and the conversation by calling 1-888-MY-HEART or visiting [GoRedForWomen.org](http://GoRedForWomen.org).

### About Go Red For Women

Go Red For Women is part of the American Heart Association’s solution to help save women’s lives. With one out of three women still dying from heart disease, we are committed to fighting this No. 1 killer, which is largely preventable. [GoRedForWomen.org](http://GoRedForWomen.org), a premiere source of information and education, connects millions of women of all ages and gives them tangible resources to turn personal choices into lifesaving actions. We encourage women and the men who love them to embrace the cause. For more information, please visit [GoRedForWomen.org](http://GoRedForWomen.org) or call 1-888-MY-HEART (1-888-694-3278). The movement is nationally sponsored by Macy’s and Merck & Co., Inc. and locally sponsored by the hospitals of HCA West Florida including Brandon Regional Hospital, Community Hospital, Edward White Hospital, Largo Medical Center, Northside Hospital, Oak Hill Hospital, Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point, South Bay Hospital and St. Petersburg General Hospital.

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## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

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# COMMUNITY NEWS



## THE WINNING EDGE

BY ALAN MCBRIDE

Happy February! Last week, we decided to look closely at our desire for more and to determine what it was we wanted more of. Why is this important? Consider for a moment that you are in the process of preparing your advertising copy for placement in next week’s newspaper. What do you want to achieve? That is what will be reflected in your ad copy. Do you want more money? Maybe you will try to get customers to buy more of a certain item. Do you want more clients? Your ad could offer a free consultation or seminar. Looking for publicity or recognition? You might place an ad that tells about an award you received recently. Different results require different methods.

Instead of the words “results” or “goals,” I have come to prefer the word “outcome.” The difference is subtle, yet vital. Outcome takes a big picture view. If I say I want more clients, but don’t want to put in the extra hours that

working with more clients will create; perhaps, it is better to say that I am looking for more profit from each client. See the difference? Subtle, yet vital. In one case, I create more people coming through my door; in the other, I design ways to get more income using what I already have available or create new sources by offering something additional. The actual outcome I wanted was more money not more clients. Conversely, if I am just starting out and don’t have a book of business, my outcome probably is more clients.

Put this idea into action. Write a list of the things you want more of, and then examine them. What is your outcome for each? What is it that you really want to achieve at the end? Write this down for each item.

If you are not sure about the difference between results and outcomes, write me at SalesDR@theweeklychallenger.com.

## HISTORY

*continued from front page*

uniformity of fonts and sizes were established. A “style guide” was created, which provides the typographical guidelines of the appearance of the newspaper today,” Speights said.

“During the 43 years, we have had satellite offices in Tampa, Ocala and Sarasota,” CEO Ethel Johnson said. “The

paper has proven to be the training ground for many talented reporters, and photographers. The Weekly Challenger, is a voice for the African-American community, a proud paper for a proud community.”

During Black History Month get your free (6 months) digitized e-Edition subscription to The Weekly Challenger.

To see The Weekly Challenger’s new electronic

version, visit [www.theweeklychallengernewspaper.com](http://www.theweeklychallengernewspaper.com). Media partners Baynews 9, The Power Broker magazine and WRXB radio are supporting the move by hosting The Weekly Challenger’s electronic version on their web sites as well.

For details about The Weekly Challenger’s digitized e-Edition contact sales director, Alan McBride at 727-238-6766 or 727-896-2922.

## ROBERTS

*continued from front page*

Shyann has performed for the Honorable Judge Mablean Ephraim of Divorce Court and was the first person to ever open for the St. Petersburg’s annual

“Dr. Martin Luther King’s Battle of the Bands”. When she sang for the City of Pinellas Park’s Mayor, William “Bill” Mischler, she received rave reviews. With her faith in a higher power, Shyann hopes to one day become ranked with the

best of the best as she already is gaining more popularity throughout the State of Florida. Shyann Roberts is a young woman destined for success whose star continues to burn quite brightly!

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## COMMUNITY BLACK HISTORY MONTH BANQUET

**Saturday, February 19, 2011 • 5:00 p.m.**

“Our Youth Overcoming Challenges Through Education”

Speaker: Dr. Ken Atwater, President, Hillsborough Community College

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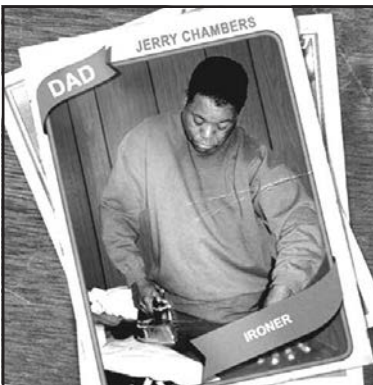
Tickets available at College Hill Pharmacy, 3503 N. 22nd St. and at the H.O.P.E. Center.  
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# COMMUNITY NEWS



## Caring for the Soul

BY VIKKI T. GASKIN-BUTLER, M.DIV., PH.D.

I believe our children are a window into the soul of our community. Children act out our hopes, dreams, frustrations, and struggles. If we want to see into the soul of our community, we might consider measuring the life satisfaction of our children.

As I sit writing today, I am aware of a young couple playing with their daughter in the park. Both parents found the time to bring their young child to the park to play on the jungle gym and swing. Both parents talked and played with her as she enjoyed her time in the park. As I observed, the little girl seemed happy, satisfied and full of life. I am also aware of a dedicated Tae Kwon Do instructor who is taking time out of his Sunday afternoon to provide additional instruction for a pre-teen boy who is preparing for his second degree black belt. The instructor is offering much more than black belt preparation. He is offering a positive image of African-American men who care about the souls of children who are not his own. These are shining examples of what is best about our community — parents and other adults who take the time to care for and nurture our children.

Last year, Dr. Crystal Kuykendall told members of the St. Petersburg Community about a greeting she learned in an African community she visited. She noted that in this particular village a person does not ask, "How are you?" Rather, one asks, "How are the

children?" This greeting may seem strange in our cultural context. However, I wonder whether it is precisely the greeting we should use. If we begin to use this greeting, we might remind ourselves of our responsibility to care for and nurture our children into the persons they are intended to be.

Growing up in a community in which I felt loved by my family, church members, and many members of the community at large, I believed I could achieve anything. So, on those occasions when I was confronted by those who were less than hospitable to me, I knew I had a family, church, and community on which I could depend to give me the extra fortitude I needed to be able to stand in the face of opposition.

Today, I wonder whether we are providing the same kind of community support for our children. Are we providing them with the tools they need to succeed? Do we all feel a sense of responsibility for meeting the physical, spiritual, social, and psychological needs of all of our children — not just our own? If our children are a window into the soul of our community, then what do we see? How will we respond when the question is asked, "How are the children in St. Petersburg, Florida?" Hopefully, we will one day offer the response, "The children are well because we have done our very best to care for them."

## Supervisor Of Elections Begins Mailing Domestic Ballots For March 8 Elections

Pinellas County Supervisor of Elections Deborah Clark mailed 21,402 ballots to domestic voters on February 1 for the March 8th Municipal Elections as follows:

Belleair Beach: .....524  
Gulfport: .....2,617  
Kenneth City: .....944  
Madeira Beach: .....1,087  
Seminole: .....5,014

South Pasadena: .....1,423  
St. Pete Beach: .....2,518  
Tarpon Springs: .....5,617  
Treasure Island: .....1,658  
Eighty-seven ballots have been mailed to military and overseas voters to date.

Military voters include all active-duty military, their spouses and dependents, both domestic and overseas. Domestic voters are voters residing within

the United States.

Additional mail ballot requests will be fulfilled daily as received. To request a mail ballot, visit [www.voteinellas.com](http://www.voteinellas.com), call (727) 464-6788, or email [absentee@voteinellas.com](mailto:absentee@voteinellas.com).

Daily ballot requests and ballot mailing updates are posted to the Supervisor of Elections Web site, [www.voteinellas.com](http://www.voteinellas.com), under the Current Elections tab.

## BLACK HISTORY

"Celebrating Our History Is An Everyday Thing"

Source: Wikipedia Free Library

### Granville T. Woods



Granville T. Woods, April 23, 1856 – January 30, 1910, was an African American inventor. He was born in Columbus, Ohio and died in New York.

Granville T. Woods literally learned his skills on the job. He attended school in Columbus until age ten when he then went to work with his father. They worked in a machine shop that made speed equipment for carriages and repaired railroad equipment and machinery. Woods studied other machine workers in different pieces of equipment and was said to have paid workers to teach him electrical concepts.

Woods dedicated his life to developing a variety of improvements relating to the railroad industry.

Unfortunately, despite his high aptitude and valuable education and expertise, Woods was denied opportunities and promotions because of the color of his skin. Out of frustration and a desire to promote his abilities, Woods, along with his brother Lyates,

formed the Woods Railway Telegraph company in 1884. The company manufactured and sold telephone, telegraph and electrical equipment.

To some Woods was known as the "Black Edison," both great inventors of their time. Woods invented more than a dozen devices to improve electric railway cars and many more for controlling the flow of electricity. His most noted invention was a system for letting the engineer of a train know how close his train was to others. This device helped cut down accidents and collisions between trains.

In 1872, Woods obtained a job as a fireman on the Danville and Southern railroad in Missouri, eventually becoming an engineer. He invested his spare time in studying electronics. In 1874, Granville Woods moved to Springfield, Illinois, and worked in a rolling mill. In 1878, he took a job aboard the Ironsides, a British steamer, and, within two years, became chief engineer of the steamer. Finally, his travels and experiences led him to settle in Cincinnati, where he became the person most responsible for modernizing the railroad.

In 1888, Granville T. Woods developed a system for overhead electric conducting lines for railroads, which aided in the development of the overhead railroad system found in cities such as Chicago, St. Louis, and New York City. In his early

thirties, he became interested in thermal power and steam-driven engines. And, in 1889, he filed his first patent for an improved steam-boiler furnace. In 1892, a complete Electric Railway System was operated at Coney Island, NY. In 1887, he patented the Synchronous Multiplex Railway Telegraph, which allowed communications between train stations from moving trains. Woods' invention made it possible for trains to communicate with the station and with other trains so they knew exactly where they were at all times.

Alexander Graham Bell's company purchased the rights to Woods' "telephony," enabling him to become a full-time inventor. Among his other top inventions were a steam boiler furnace and an automatic air brake used to slow or stop trains. Wood's electric car was powered by overhead wires. It was the third rail system to keep cars running on the right track.

Success led to law suits filed by Thomas Edison who sued Granville Woods claiming that he was the first inventor of the multiplex telegraph. Woods eventually won, but Edison didn't give up easily when he wanted something. Trying to win Woods over, and his inventions, Edison offered Woods a prominent position in the engineering department of Edison Electric Light Company in New York. Woods, preferring his independence, declined.

## WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

[WWW.THEWEEKLYCHALLENGER.COM](http://WWW.THEWEEKLYCHALLENGER.COM)

## HOROSCOPES

February 3-9, 2011

### ARIES

You don't have to worry about being alone in the journey that you have undertaken. You are on this path because someone guided you. Take the memory of their guidance as comfort and keep on trucking.

### TAURUS

Commit to a way this week, lucky archers! You are developing your craft by practice and more practice. Accept recognition gracefully, and keep on task. You are investing in your art this week.

### GEMINI

Your word this week is "Persistence." Keep at the task of persuading others that your idea or vision is as remarkable as you know it is. You just need to get the word out, and you need to be persistent in your efforts. Make a game out of it and have fun!

### CANCER

Results that seemed like they would never show up may arrive this week, and it will make you very happy. Keep the feeling this week in mind so that you'll remember and benefit from it next time you are impatiently waiting for an outcome. Everything is working to your good.

### LEO

Your exciting and adventurous self will want to come out and play. You'll be happiest if you are exploring something, and then topping it off with a visit to a restaurant that serves something you've never tried before. Live it up at the banquet of life this week!

### VIRGO

Watch for that item you've been wanting to be on sale at a good price this week. While you are feeling pretty confident with money, you don't want to splurge or overspend just yet. Keep your eye out for bargains for a little while longer!

### LIBRA

It's easy to take it easy! Just slow down and let each moment arrive at its own speed. You'll get a lot done this week if you get in tune with the rhythm of the week. Each moment has its own beat. Stay with it.

### SCORPIO

Change is near, and it's going to be good. Clear your desk of pesky tasks this week and get your mind free to receive what life brings. Positive results help you feel even more positive.

### SAGITTARIUS

You are the boss of your week this week, so act like the leader you are and let the week follow you around. Your creativity is soaring; schedule enough time to get some of your brilliant ideas on paper.

### CAPRICORN

A steady stream of opportunities is beaming your way, lucky you and they contain endless variations of possibilities. Wear your instincts like a rainbow colored coat this week and gather the good resources that you need.

### AQUARIUS

Some down time will work wonders for you this week. You've been running fast with your projects, and now it's time to slow it down. Try to spend time outdoors and with nature. Enjoy!

### PISCES

You'll have lots of contact with folks you wanted to hear from this week. Your telephone is your best tool, and you'll enjoy talking and listening to many supportive and loving friends. A letter may arrive with an invitation.



PICK OF THE WEEK!  
37 52 10

CASH 3  
602  
189  
355

DOG DAYS



5-7 1-8  
4-5 6-3  
3-2 7-6



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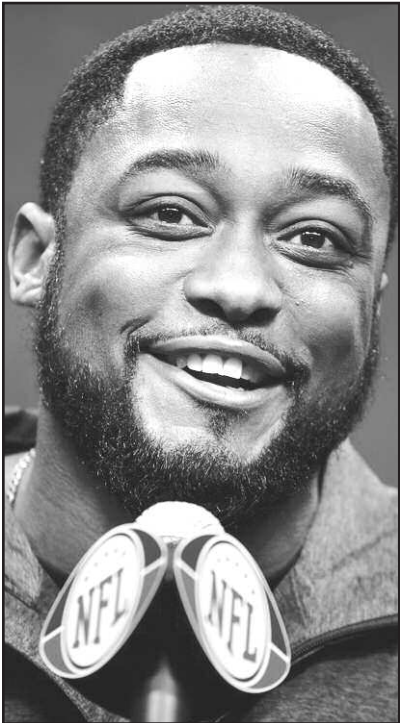
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# CHALLENGER SPORTS

## Steelers Arrive In Big D, Ready For Super Business



**Coach Mike Tomlin**  
BY DENNIS WASZAK JR.

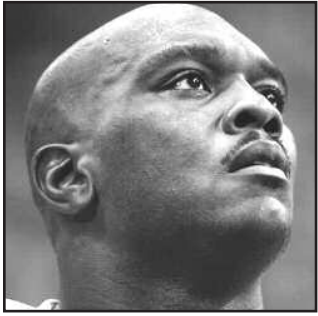
FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) - Howdy, Hines. Welcome to Big D. Hines Ward was ready for a rodeo of a week leading up to the Super Bowl as he stepped off the Pittsburgh Steelers' charter flight when the team arrived in Dallas. Pittsburgh's star wide receiver, who embraces his reputation as one of the league's most aggressive — and some say, dirtiest players, was decked out in a big black cowboy hat, a black sequined Western-style shirt, blue jeans, boots and a Texas-sized silver belt buckle. "I'm in Dallas, Texas," Ward said, smiling. "I wanted to put on my whole cowboy outfit and enjoy it. No nerves." He sure looked loose, and almost like a native Texan. Not bad for a guy born in South Korea who grew up in Georgia and has

played in Pittsburgh for 13 years. "Where'd I find all this stuff?" an amused Ward asked, repeating a reporter's question. "A little place in Monroeville (Pa.). It's my little diamond in the rough there." Ward and the rest of these Steelers are no strangers to the NFL's biggest stage, making their third Super Bowl trip in six years. "We're enjoying this," Ward said. "We know right now that there are a lot of guys who would love to have this opportunity. Being here, there's a comfort level. We kind of know what to expect." And, in Pittsburgh, titles are expected. The Steelers are looking to win the franchise's seventh league championship Sunday, when they take on Aaron Rodgers and the Green Bay Packers. "Just like last time when we were in this game, it's our intention to enjoy all of the elements that this week has in store for us and not fight against it," said Mike Tomlin, looking for his second ring as the Steelers' coach. "Part of you is somewhat resistant to some of the things, but we're not going to make a negative out of what a wonderful week that we have awaiting us. We are going to embrace it all." That includes all the hoopla that goes along with being one of the teams playing in the Super Bowl. "You step off the plane and you've got helicopters, you've got police, media and then this," quarterback Ben Roethlisberger said. "If you're not used to it, it could be overwhelming."

Maybe for the Packers, playing in their first Super Bowl since a Brett Favre-led team lost to John Elway and the Denver Broncos in 1998. For the Steelers, though, this is no sweat. "I definitely think it's more a sense of calm on our side of the ball, being that we've been here," linebacker James Farrior said. "A lot of guys in this locker room have got Super Bowl experience. I think it'll help us out just dealing with everything that'll be going on this week." Roethlisberger is plenty used to this wild environment, and he has tried to take a low-key approach since winning his first ring back in his second season, when the Steelers beat the Seattle Seahawks 21-10 in 2006. It was the same three years later, when he engineered a late comeback win as Pittsburgh rallied to beat Arizona 27-23. "I'm just taking it in stride, enjoying this opportunity, regardless of what comes and the outcomes," he said. "I'm just taking it all in." And, this all comes after an offseason in which he was accused of sexual assault of a 20-year-old college student, but a prosecutor in Georgia declined to bring charges. But, Roethlisberger was still suspended by the NFL for the first four games of the season for violating the league's personal conduct policy. "We're all human," Roethlisberger said. "We all make mistakes, and it's how can you bounce back from your mistakes? Just like a football game, you throw interceptions, you lose a

game, you've got to be able to bounce back and find a way that it doesn't happen again." The Steelers are trying to focus only on the task at hand, and might have learned a few things about the Packers in their last meeting a 37-36 win in 2009 that they can make use of in this game. Not that Tomlin is giving away any secrets. "You get yourself into trouble when you try to have preconceived notions about how the game is going to unfold," he said. "That was an exciting, entertaining game we had against them a year ago. ... What happened at Heinz Field in '09 is going to have no bearing on what happens in this stadium. So many of the components of those teams are different, so it's really irrelevant." But even Tomlin acknowledged that that meeting could help ramp up the expectations for a hard-fought, close Super Bowl game. "This is going to be an execution-oriented game," Tomlin said. "The team that executes better is going to have a better chance to win. So we're going to sharpen our sword for battle with that in mind." When he took over as the Steelers coach in 2007, he set some lofty goals for himself and the franchise. And, he's one win closer to achieving the biggest of all. "It's probably about two Super Bowls short of my vision," he said. "But that's just me. I'm not in a reflection mode. I'm really not. I'm just trying to go and do it."

## Jerseys, Super Trip To Texas For Flozell Adams

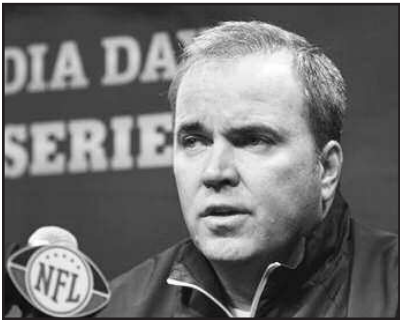


**Flozell Adams**  
BY STEPHEN HAWKINS

DALLAS (AP) - Former Cowboys and current Steelers tackle Flozell Adams got a double dose of "old home" feelings when the 13th-year pro traveled to his first Super Bowl. When Adams arrived for the team flight Monday, his fellow offensive linemen were wearing No. 76 Michigan State jerseys, a tribute to the five-time Pro Bowl tackle who played for the Spartans. "It's special to bring back the throwbacks, for all the guys to wear them," said Adams, who after the team's arrival in Texas was wearing one of the green jerseys. "I'm grateful for it. ... I had no clue until 8:30 this morning they were doing this." Adams' first Super Bowl is being played at Cowboys Stadium, home of the Dallas Cowboys. He played his first 12 seasons for Dallas before being released last April, a month before his 35th birthday.

"I lived here for 12 years, it feels like home. I've been everywhere in Dallas," Adams said. "It's only been seven or eight months. It's not like it's been a couple of years, so it's still home." The Cowboys drafted Adams in the second round of the 1998 draft, after their three Super Bowl titles in a four-year span in the first half of the 1990s. He started 178 of 182 games in Dallas and was part of only one playoff victory. He signed a six-year contract before the 2008 season when he could have been a free agent, then was cut two years later. "I wasn't crying or anything like that, or like boo-hooing," he said. "I'm like OK, well, that's it, so it's time to move on." Adams, the left tackle in Dallas, started at right tackle for Pittsburgh, who lost Willie Colon to a torn Achilles' tendon last summer. So Adams changed teams and positions. "I just asked a lot of questions ... Studied film after we had our normal sessions and went over plays, the whole shebang, like I was a rookie," he said. "I wasn't mad or anything. I just took it in stride and knew that's what I need to do to succeed in the transition."

## Packers Arrive In Texas, Put Twitter Trouble Aside



**Coach Mike McCarthy**  
BY CHRIS JENKINS

IRVING, Texas (AP) - Now that the Packers have arrived in North Texas for the Super Bowl, Aaron Rodgers has put his team's Twitter-driven mini-controversy to rest. "I think, obviously, this was made a bigger issue than it was," Rodgers said shortly after his team settled in at its hotel. "There was nothing going on in Green Bay last week, so this little thing blew up bigger than we ever thought it would." Rodgers hopes that's the last word in a week filled with bickering about hurt feelings of injured teammates who tweeted to complain when it looked like they weren't being included in this week's team photo. It's the kind of minor issue that can suddenly become a big deal when a team is

in the spotlight preparing for the Super Bowl. Packers coach Mike McCarthy will try to steer the team clear of such potential distractions the rest of the week. "Our players were really excited to get down here today, just visiting with a number of them one-on-one," McCarthy said. "They're excited about the process leading up to the game. Like a lot of us, we wish the game was already here. We don't want to take away this experience. I told them to be very realistic, be practical. Enjoy it, it's unique, an opportunity to be in front of the media every day. It will be a great experience for our players and our coaches. But at the end of the day, this is about beating the Pittsburgh Steelers." First they'll have to figure out how they want to deal with the weather. They've left Wisconsin but can't seem to shake free from winter. With icy conditions predicted in the Dallas area, McCarthy said he will consider taking the team indoors for practice but first wants to get a look at the indoor practice facility available to him. "We discussed it earlier in the

week," McCarthy said. "With the weather and the indoor facility and the surface and so forth, we'll probably make that decision sometime later tomorrow." Then they'll have to find a way to bridge their inexperience gap. While the Steelers have no shortage of Super Bowl experience, the Packers have two players who have been on losing teams, Charles Woodson and Ryan Pickett. Fullback John Kuhn earned a Super Bowl ring as a member of the Steelers' practice squad. McCarthy doesn't think experience will be a factor after the game kicks off. "The advantage Pittsburgh has over us in my opinion is today through Saturday," McCarthy said. "So we'll continue to work and educate our football team. They are a dedicated and focused bunch so I'm not really concerned about it" McCarthy has picked other coaches' brains for advice about preparing for a Super Bowl, but he can't draw on any personal experience. This will be his first trip to the game even as a spectator. McCarthy said he intentionally stayed away throughout his

coaching career, saying he'd go only when one of his teams is playing. "I'm sure I'm like every other coach in the past when your season is over, I really didn't want to be around the participation leading up to the big game," McCarthy said. "I just always waited until this moment, and I'm glad I did." McCarthy's family is coming in later this week, but it doesn't sound like the coach is planning on having much fun. "I'm going to do as little as I possibly can to enjoy myself," McCarthy said. Woodson said he managed to forget all about the pregame hype on the flight down to the Dallas area; he watched the movie "The Social Network." Then the Packers landed, and it hit him. "I really didn't think about the game 'til we landed," Woodson said. "Then you look out the window and you see all the cameras, you see all the police escorts and that sort of thing. So once we landed and I (saw) all that, then I got some chills a little bit because this is the last game."

## Browns Add 4 Assistant Coaches

BY TOM WITHERS

CLEVELAND (AP) - New Browns coach Pat Shurmur has filled out most of his staff, with one notable exception. On Monday, the team announced the hiring of former Miami offensive coordinator Mark Whipple as its quarterbacks coach as well as the additions of Dwaine Board (defensive line), Bill Davis (linebackers), and Mike Wilson (wide receivers) to Shurmur's staff. Shurmur has yet to select an offensive coordinator, and it's still not known if he intends to hire one. At his introductory news conference, Shurmur, St. Louis' offensive coordinator the past two seasons, said he plans to call plays next season. New England was the only NFL team not to have an offensive coordinator last season, and Shurmur may follow the Patriots' lead at least for now. Whipple spent the past two seasons with the Hurricanes, but was fired when the school dismissed Randy Shannon before the end of last season. Earlier this month, Whipple nearly received Connecticut's top

job, which went to former Syracuse coach Paul Pasqualoni instead. Before Miami, Whipple was an offensive assistant with the Philadelphia Eagles in 2008, working with Shurmur and Browns general manager Tom Heckert. Whipple also spent three seasons (2004-06) as quarterbacks coach of the Pittsburgh Steelers. Board was Oakland's defensive line coach in 2009 after spending six seasons with Seattle, where he worked for Browns president Mike Holmgren. Board played most of his pro career with San Francisco and broke into coaching on the 49ers' staff with Holmgren. This is Davis' second stint with the Browns. Arizona's former defensive coordinator was a defensive quality control coach in 1999 with Cleveland under Chris Palmer. Davis' father, Bill, was a former Browns director of player personnel. Wilson spent the past two seasons with Las Vegas of the UFL. He previously coached Arizona's wide receivers and tight ends. He also played for the 49ers, when Holmgren was an assistant.



# STATE & NATIONAL NEWS

## Can Obama Win In 2012 If Unemployment Stays High

BY DR. WILMER J. LEON III

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - The most recent budget and economic forecast from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projects that unemployment will remain high for the foreseeable future. The CBO estimates that unemployment will remain above 9.0 percent through 2011 and drop to 8.2 percent in 2012. "CBO projects that the unemployment rate will gradually fall in the near term, to 9.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 2011, 8.2 percent in the fourth quarter of 2012, and 7.4 percent at the end of 2013." Unemployment is not expected to return to "normal" or around 5.3 percent until 2016.

Can President Obama win reelection in 2012 if the rate of unemployment stays above 8 percent? There are a number of social factors such as education, income, class, race, age, and gender that can predict who will turn out to vote. Other attitudinal factors such as voter's perceptions about the characteristics of the candidates, evaluations of government performance, and the condition of the economy can be effective predictors in the short-term of why individuals will support or not support a particular candidate.

There's ample polling data that can be used to support just about any position one chooses to take. Here are a few numbers that might help assess the president's chances of being re-elected:

According to the Rasmussen Daily Presidential Tracking Poll, 35% of Americans now rate their own finances as good or excellent. That's the same as when President Obama took office. Most voters (52%) continue to blame George W Bush for the nation's economic woes while just 37 percent blame President Obama. Even though his Presidential Approval Index rating is -6 (31 percent of the nation's voters Strongly Approve of the way that Barack Obama is performing his role as president while 37 percent

Strongly Disapprove), overall, 50 percent of voters say they at least somewhat approve of the president's performance. Forty-eight percent (48 percent) disapprove. History indicates that all incumbent presidents since Harry Truman who sought re-election and had an approval rating above 50% were re-elected to a second term.

As bad as the CBO estimates for unemployment are, the forecasted economic outlook is positive. "CBO expects that economic growth will remain moderate this year and next...That forecast reflects CBO's expectation of continued strong growth in business investment, improvements in both residential investment and net exports, and modest increases in consumer spending." If economic trends were the only factors being considered, this projected trend bodes well for the president's future.

The CBO report also stated, "Payroll employment, which declined by 7.3 million during the recent recession, gained a mere 70,000 jobs (or 0.06 percent), on net, between June 2009 and December 2010... As the recovery continues, the economy will add roughly 2.5 million jobs per year over the 2011-2016 period, CBO estimates." Job creation is slower than in past recessions (By contrast, in the first 18 months of past recoveries, employment rose by an average of 4.4 percent.) but again, it is trending in the positive direction.

It's also important to note that not only is unemployment trending in the right direction but, according to the Wall Street Journal, since Obama took office on Jan. 20, 2009, the Dow Jones Industrial Average is up about 48%, the S&P 500 Index is up 60% and the tech-focused Nasdaq Composite Index is up 90%. Not bad business numbers for a "socialist" leaning president.

Predicting the political future requires more than tea leaves, a

crystal ball, and good polling data. Other factors such as the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, immigration, health care, and political opponents will play an important role in the 2012 outcome.

Currently, the Republicans have no clear front runner and appear to be in disarray. According to Albert Hunt in Bloomberg Businessweek, "For more than four decades, at this stage, Republicans had either an incumbent president or an established front-runner who goes on to win the nomination...There is no such figure today, making the race more wide open." Catering to Tea Party supporters with their antipathy toward "Establishment Republicans" will also play an important role in the Republican nominating process possibly forcing the Party further to the right.

The Obama administration must take the lead and regain control of the narrative, define its focus, and address the fears and concerns of the American people. Stimulating job growth, domestic economic stability, and stability in Afghanistan should be at the top of the list. The State of the Union Address was a step in the right direction.

As it stands right now, in spite of the current unemployment rate of 9.4 percent and projections of high unemployment rates through 2012, President Obama can win re-election. Continued economic growth, slow as it may be, should push President Obama's approval numbers over 50%. Other factors being equal, if he's able to keep his approval rate above 50%, history is on his side.

*Wilmer Leon is the Producer/Host of the nationally broadcast call-in talk radio program "Inside the Issues with Wilmer Leon," and a Teaching Associate in the Department of Political Science at Howard University in Washington, D.C. Go to [www.wilmerleon.com](http://www.wilmerleon.com) or email: [wjl3us@yahoo.com](mailto:wjl3us@yahoo.com). [www.twitter.com/drwlleon](http://www.twitter.com/drwlleon).*

## Commemorating Reggie Williams

BY PHIL WILSON

SPECIAL TO THE NNPA

Monday of next week marks the 11th anniversary of Black AIDS Awareness Day, an annual commemoration that calls upon Black people to take action against HIV and AIDS.

Nobel prize winner Andre Gide once said, "Everything that needs to be said has already been said. But, since no one was listening, everything must be said again." The fact that 30 years into America's AIDS epidemic, HIV/AIDS continues to rage in black communities and families, suggests that this thought could apply here. According to a 2009 Kaiser Family Foundation study, 58 percent of black Americans know someone with HIV/AIDS, and for 38 percent of us, that "someone" is a close personal friend or family member.

But, rather than rehash statistics describing the magnitude of the epidemic and its disproportionate impact on black women, youth, injection drug users, and men who have sex with men, I'd like to ask you to think about the people in your life who are at risk of HIV, who are living with the virus or have already died of AIDS.

This week, I'm thinking about my friend Reggie

Williams, who passed away 12 years ago on the date that now marks Black AIDS Awareness Day. I used to call Reggie my "brister"—he was both brother and sister to me. He was the person I went to when I needed to talk about my life without having to explain myself. He didn't need a glossary to understand my words when I talked about the difficulty of having a partner living with HIV or the challenges of living with HIV myself because my truth was his truth.

Reggie was a remarkable leader. We co-founded the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention, and he was instrumental in not only raising awareness about the AIDS epidemic among black gay men, but in sounding the alarm on the AIDS epidemic in the black community at large. He was one of the first people who understood that if black gay men and intravenous drug users were dying from HIV, that even if we didn't know it yet, black women and black children were dying as well.

Eventually he decided that the stigma and discrimination he faced in the United States was too much, so he moved to the Netherlands instead. There, he demonstrated his skills and passion on the international

stage.

Reggie died in Amsterdam in 1999; yet I miss him every day.

I use the memories and lessons I learned from him to get started in the morning and to help me stay focused and keep my eyes on the prize: the end of the AIDS pandemic. Before he died I promised him that I would not stop until this epidemic was over.

So between now and Monday, February 7th, think about someone that you know who has been impacted by the virus—or could be. Trust me, you have a Reggie Williams in your life. There is someone in your world who would benefit by your decision to take a stand.

On the other hand, someone in your life will suffer if you do nothing. During this coming week, think about that person and do something—action is greater than apathy.

We can end the AIDS epidemic in black America. But to do so, every day needs to be National black AIDS Awareness Day.

*Phill Wilson is the President and CEO of the Black AIDS Institute, the only National HIV/AIDS think tank in the United States focused exclusively on black people. Reach him at [PhillWilson@BlackAIDS.org](mailto:PhillWilson@BlackAIDS.org).*

## Helping Your Kids Make Better Media Choices

(STATEPOINT) Today's kids are bombarded with multimedia messages — both positive and negative — and the wide and expanding variety of entertainment media can have a real impact on the physical and mental health of children.

How can parents help children navigate this new terrain to make wise media choices?

"A decade ago, most children and adolescents spent about three hours a day watching television. Today, kids are spending more than seven hours per day on entertainment media, which includes televisions, computers, phones and other electronic devices," says Dr. Victor Strasburger, a member of the Council on Communications and Media at the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

### Choose Media Wisely

To help kids make wise media choices, parents should monitor what their children watch. Parents can make use of established rating systems to avoid inappropriate content, such as violence, explicit sexual content or glorified tobacco and alcohol use.

Stick to educational, non-violent content. And by watching TV with your child you can put

any questionable content into context and let it serve as a springboard for family discussions.

Parents should also make sure their home's media room includes non-electronic media formats like books, magazines and newspapers, as well as board games. Regular trips to the library with your children to help them select books can also encourage positive media consumption.

### Limit Screen Time and Zones

The AAP recommends parents establish "screen-free" zones at home by making sure there is no TV, video games or computer in children's bedrooms. And they strongly recommend no TV during dinner.

Parents can also limit screen time by creating a weekly schedule of shows each family member wants to watch, or by providing alternatives, such as reading, after-school sports, hobbies, family activities and outdoor play. This is especially important during vulnerable times, like when kids get home from school.

For children younger than 2 years, the AAP recommends no TV at all. A child's brain develops rapidly during those first years,

and children learn best by interacting with people, not TV screens.

### Become Critics

"Studies have associated high levels of media use with problems in school, attention difficulties, sleep and eating disorders, and obesity," says Dr. Strasburger. "And the Internet and cell phones have become new platforms for illicit and risky behaviors."

In order to combat negative repercussions of such media exposure, parents should encourage children to be media critics. Ask kids questions about the attitudes and behaviors of characters in TV shows, movies and books, as well as the meaning and connotation of music lyrics, to get them thinking more critically about media and their own behavior.

Also, explain to children how commercials persuade people to buy items they may not necessarily need or which may not always be good for them. Consider using a DVR to minimize exposure to advertising by pre-recording shows and fast forwarding through some commercials.

For more tips on helping kids make positive media choices, visit the AAP's website, [www.healthychildren.org](http://www.healthychildren.org).

## Fight Brews Over Louisiana Governor's Proposal To Merge HBCU With Mainstream Univiersity System

SPECIAL TO THE TRICE EDNEY NEWS WIRE FROM THE AFRO AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

(TriceEdneyWire.com) - Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal's proposed merger of a historically black university into a mainstream university has come under heavy criticism. Jindal has proposed a merger between the historically black Southern University of New Orleans and the University of New Orleans.

Currently, Southern University of New Orleans is in the Southern University System, a large historically black public college system. The University of New Orleans is part of the Louisiana State University System.

In a rally held at Southern University over the proposed merger, Darryl Brown, an english professor at the school, said the school would not let the merger

happen without a fight.

"If this merger goes through, this will be the end of SUNO," Brown said according to The New Orleans Times-Picayune. "We're not going to let that happen. We are here to fight. ... We stand in vision for one goal ...to retain SUNO forever," he added.

Meanwhile, University of New Orleans students and faculty assume that the school will survive and simply absorb Southern University. In a Jan. 27 meeting at the school, State Rep. Jim Tucker (R-Algiers), a UNO alum, said the move would be positive and would allow the University of New Orleans to move out of the shadow of its big brother, Louisiana State University.

"If we can get out of the LSU System, the sky will be the limit as far as going forward is concerned," Tucker told the Times-Picayune. "LSU has held

UNO back way too long."

"A benefit of getting away from LSU is a greater opportunity to expand an institution beyond where we were before [Hurricane Katrina]," he added.

However, a fight is brewing. Lezli Baskerville, president and CEO of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education said that the Southern University of New Orleans plays an important part in the Southern University System, America's only state HBCU system. The merger of the schools might hinder the success of the other HBCUs in the state.

"Now is not the time to destroy, but rather to strengthen the Southern University System," Baskerville said in a statement. "Governor Jindal should heed the wise counsel of his Higher Education Review Commission and support the strengthening of SUNO and the Southern University System."

*We encourage you to write a Letter to the Publisher regarding the President's State of the Union speech. Your letter might be published in a February edition of The Weekly Challenger as we celebrate Black History Month. Email: [publisher@theweeklychallenger.com](mailto:publisher@theweeklychallenger.com)*



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Rev. Wallace Elliott 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”**

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CHURCH DIRECTORY  
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Pastor Michael T. and  
Elect Lady Sheila Culbreth

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



Elder Cedric L. Williams  
PASTOR


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**




Claude S. 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*

**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”



**Pastor Clark  
Hazley, Sr.**

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.

**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.

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



Rev. Ronald L. Bell  
Pastor

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!*



Pastor Minister Tyrone Ford  
and 1st Lady Kadell Ford

**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.**

**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




REVEREND DR. MANUEL SYKES

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

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

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




Dr. John A. Evans,  
Pastor

Sunday .....7:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Worship  
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.  
Wednesday .....Noonday Bible Study and  
Bread of Life; 7 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study  
Thursday .....7 p.m. Youth Enrichment - Awana

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

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CALL 727-896-2922


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



Bro. Robert Smith

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.

**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.

PLACE YOUR  
CHURCH DIRECTORY  
AD HERE!!  
CALL 727-896-2922



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## ST. MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

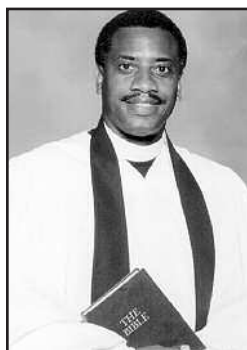
## THE ROCK OF JESUS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

## 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](mailto:bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com) Web site: [www.bmmbc.org](http://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”**

## 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 TUESDAY-THURSDAY FROM 10 AM - 2 PM**  
**COME AND GET A BAG OF FOOD ONCE A MONTH**  
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!!!

# CHURCH NEWS

## Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

*“Impact the world by equipping believers to reach the lost with the gospel of Jesus Christ.”*

Change of day for C.A.R.E. Ministry Meetings: Meetings for those in Recovery are now held 7 p.m. Fridays beginning February 4th. The location remains the same - 1906 9th Avenue South - and you need not be a member of Mt. Zion to attend.

Our Children & Youth Ministry has begun “The Armor

of God Series.” This series takes place 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday through June 15. Those who attend will learn God’s truth of protecting them through interactive, informative and Christian life-building lessons. We extend an invitation to the youth in our community to join us for this life-enriching study of God’s Word. Mt. Zion membership is not a requirement. FMI: [info@mzprogressive.org](mailto:info@mzprogressive.org) You’re invited to our

Mid-Day Bible Study each Wednesday - Noon to 12:30 p.m. - in our main sanctuary. And, join us for Wednesday evening Prayer Service at 6 p.m. and Bible Study at 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Our Senior Pastor, Louis M. Murphy, Sr., delivers an encouraging Word each Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. on WRXB, Praise 1590 AM.

Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, 955 20th St. S. Phone: 727-894-4311. [www.mzprogressive.org](http://www.mzprogressive.org).

## United for Christ FWB Church

United for Christ Freewill Baptist Church invites you to our Family and Friends day on Sunday February 13, at 11:00

a.m. Our guest speaker will be, Rev. Joseph Gordon. United for Christ is in search of a musician. Please

contact Pastor Tyrone Ford at 727-744-3589 for more information.

## Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church, “God’s House in the City,” under the leadership of Dr Rickey L. Houston extends an invitation to the community to join us as we declare the living Word of God. Join us at 9:00 a.m. for Sunday School and at 10:15 a.m. worship service. Bible Study and Teen Summit/Children Rising are held on Wednesday evening, at 7:00 p.m.

We are 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 principles results in a kaleidoscope of ministries for all ages and interests. We also encourage the community to make use of our Prayer Line. (727-321-9645) The Youth Ministry is

preparing for its Youth Revival February 13-15, 2011. Reverend Rozell White, Youth Pastor at First Baptist Church of Progress Village will bring the Word. Sunday service is Mark your calendar and join this vibrant and effective ministry in lifting and praising His name.

“Driven by God’s Faithfulness: His will done on Earth as in Heaven in 2011”

Matthew 6:10  
Email:[bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com). Website: [www.bmmbc.org](http://www.bmmbc.org)

## St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church

The St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, its pastor, the Reverend Brian K. Brown, its official staff of deacons and trustees, and the entire congregation, extends to the community at large, its wish that there would 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.

### Calendar of Events for February

Feb. 4 - Monthly Business Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Feb. 5 and 26 - Women’s Bible Study- 4:00 p.m. at St. Mark.

Book for Study: Power of a Praying Woman.

Feb. 7 - Children and Youth Easter Rehearsals begin at 6:00 p.m.

Feb. 11-12 - South Florida Progressive-Mid Winter Board Meetings- Hosted by Union M. B. Church.

Feb. 11 - St. Mark is in charge of Service beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 12 - Annual business Meeting (starts at 10:00 a.m.)

Feb. 13 - Baptist Training Union Rotation Hosted at St. Mark M. B. Church.

Feb. 27 - Children and Youth Black History Presentation: Past History/ Present History/ Prospective History.

### 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 a.m. 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 from 6:30 p.m. (Bible Study).

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 p.m.

St Mark Computer Lab and Computer Class Hours (Beginning in February)

Computer Lab Hours  
Computer Class Hours  
Tues. and Thurs. only (4-6 p.m.) Tues. and Thurs. only 6-7:00 p.m.

Saturday Mornings 10 a.m.-12 noon  
Saturday Mornings 10 a.m.-12 noon

## 20th Street Church of Christ

43rd Annual Florida State Lectureship. Is there any word from the Lord Jeremiah 37:17.

February 12-16, Song Fest Feb. 12th, 4:30 p.m.

Worship Service Feb. 13th, 10:30 p.m. Mass Worship Service 2:30 p.m.

20th Street Church of Christ, 825 20th St. S. Feb. 14-16, sessions for men and

women start at 8:40 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. each day at the Hilton, 331 1st St. S., St. Petersburg. For more information, please call 727-896-8006.

## Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

*“The Ship - One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One Church.”*

Friendship is a family of believers in Christ . . . All of God’s children are welcome to come grow with us. The Ship’s Morning Worship starts at 7:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday school begins at 9:30 a.m.

Please join us during the week for Wednesday Noonday Bible Study or Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. as we study and discuss the Book of Esther, facilitated by Dr. John A. Evans. The Youth Enrichment – Awana curriculum is held on Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. Evans, director of Youth Ministry.

FMBC certified Sunday School Teachers class every Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

We are located at 3300 31st Street South, Saint Petersburg, Florida 33712. Our telephone number is 727-906-8300. Don’t forget to visit our website:[www.fmbctheship.org](http://www.fmbctheship.org)

Hope to fellowship with you soon!

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

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