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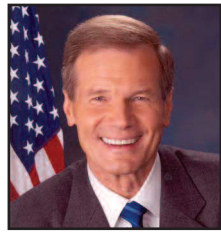
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VOLUME 43 NUMBER 25

FEBRUARY 17 - FEBRUARY 23, 2011

ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

BLACK HISTORY MONTH SPECIAL EDITION

Mordecai Walker, Teacher For Life



Mordecai Walker and his African-American Wheel of History

BY HARRY L. HARVEY
SPECIAL TO THE
CHALLENGER

ST. PETERSBURG - Mordecai Walker retired from teaching in 1987. However, he has never stopped demonstrating his zeal and love of teaching. Without putting forth a great deal of effort, you can find him teaching during the "Great American Teach In" at Melrose Elementary or demonstrating how to propagate plants to members of the Pathfinders, a group of students mentored by his Fraternity. Recently, Walker was observed teaching students of the Yvonne C. Reed Christian School located at Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church. There he displayed his famous and informative African-American wheel of History. A chosen student would spin the wheel and if they successfully provide some valuable information about the person that was selected by the wheel an award of fifty cents was given. The students really paid attention during the entire session as the legendary teacher, Yvonne Reed, looked on with an approving smile.

Yvonne C. Reed School

offers an excellent education for those that are serious about learning. They use the A Beka Curriculum which provides quality education that incorporates ethical behavior from a Christian perspective.

Mordecai Walker, a native of Citrus Park, FL received his early education in Citrus Park and Tampa. He enrolled at Tennessee A&I State College and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture Education in 1951. Walker also received a Master's Degree in Agriculture Education from Florida A&M University in 1970 and a guidance endorsement from the University of South Florida in 1982.

Walker served in the United States Army prior to entering Tennessee A&I State College. His numerous affiliations include Omega Psi Phi Fraternity; NAACP; Phi Delta Kappa; National Council for Therapy and Rehabilitation through Horticulture; American Horticulture Society; and the American Hibiscus Society. He was also one of the organizers of the TSU Alumni Chapter in Tampa and is a member of the Saint Augustine Episcopal Church.

Charles Bolden's Story: 'From The Segregated South To Low Earth Orbit'

Publisher's Note: This post is a part of the Celebrating Black History Month series, which highlight the work of African Americans who are contributing to the President's goals for winning the future.

BY CHARLES BOLDEN

WASHINGTON - It's a long way from the segregated south to low Earth orbit. But I am fortunate to have made the journey and to have had many opportunities to serve my nation in a 34-year career with the U.S. Marine Corps and in many roles at NASA, currently as head of the nation's space program.

When I was a young man, my service as NASA's first African-American Administrator under the Nation's first black president would have been nearly unthinkable. But through the efforts of many people of all races, our nation has changed. And, thanks to the Space Shuttle Program, and NASA's cross-disciplinary exploration missions, African-Americans and many others have had access to space and also to science and technological careers. The shuttle was really instrumental in breaking the color barrier for African-Americans in space, and it all happened without a single law being passed.

Today, African-Americans

are scientists, engineers, and astronauts. They're developing instruments for spacecraft to peer beyond the edge of our solar system and opening solar arrays on the International Space Station with just a tether holding them to a vehicle moving nearly 17,000 miles per hour. NASA is reinvigorating its focus on research and development to develop technologies that don't exist today. We will send humans farther and faster into space. We'll visit places we've never been, with people and robots, launch science missions to uncover unfathomable secrets of the universe, and make air travel safer and cleaner here on the home front. African-Americans have been, and will continue to be, key to all of these efforts.

I might never have had a chance in space were it not for the late great Ron McNair, another African-American pioneer in exploration who encouraged me to apply to the astronaut corps. I was being a naysayer, thinking there was no way I would be accepted. But Ron persisted, and I am grateful to him to this day and for all of the life and professional learning he shared with me in his too-short time before he was lost in the Space Shuttle Challenger tragedy. Ron was my "Sputnik moment."

Since America's "Sputnik



Charles Bolden

moment," when the nation stood up and took notice, and made a decision to commit to exploration and the technology development and innovation that would be required, many

African-Americans have given their heart and soul to the space program. The list is long at

BOLDEN

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Quantum Opportunities Local Teens Win Medals

ST. PETERSBURG - A recent bonanza of prizes were won by sophomores from St. Petersburg and Gibbs High Schools who are "Associates" in the Quantum Opportunities after-school intervention program, run by a visionary local non-profit corporation, the Center for Community and Economic Justice, Inc. (CCEJ). CCEJ -Quantum coached two separate teams of 7 Quantum Program participants, who show-cased their computer technology skills and American history knowledge to win bronze medals, sophisticated electronic devices and even a new lap-top computer.

The competition in which Quantum's students won their electronic prizes and lap-top was the Technology Bowl, held on the Brandon campus of Hillsborough Community

College and sponsored by Computer Mentors Group, Inc. The Bronze Medals for third place were won at the Brain Bowl Challenge Race to Excellence, held on the Gibbs campus of St. Petersburg College and sponsored by the Florida Education Fund's History and Culture initiative.

The Quantum Opportunities Program has been operating at the CCEJ Headquarters at 2730 Central Avenue in St. Petersburg, for about one year.

According to Quantum's Executive Director, Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich, 30 students from Gibbs and St. Petersburg High Schools, were randomly selected for membership in Quantum, which boasts, "Once in Quantum, always in Quantum" as its motto. Financial support for the four-year long academic excellence,

civic responsibility and cultural enrichment program is being provided by the Washington, DC - based Milton S. Eisenhower Foundation, a national operating foundation, with a grant from the United States Department of Justice's "Office of Justice Programs." Additional community support includes funding and in-kind contributions from Wal-Mart, Thompson Goodis law firm, CCEJ, Inc and other anonymous private sources.

A rich program of critical thinking, individual tutoring, specialized field trips to regional museums, active participation as Quantum and scholarship members of the YMCA and attendance at local theater productions, is augmented by internships at such institutions as St.



Dr. Yvonne Scruggs-Leftwich

Petersburg's Little Theater and the Boys and Girls Club. One-on-one mentoring, both virtual and in person, is assigned to each Associate. Guest presenters at the CCEJ-Quantum Center have included a successful Columbia Records musician; a senior research engineer from McDonald Douglas and Boeing Aircraft, inc.; a mentor from the local law

QUANTUM

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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

Celebrating Black History Month 2011



BY DR. BENJAMIN F. CHAVIS, JR.
NNPA COLUMNIST

The importance of knowing history is to learn from it. We remember to thank historian Carter G. Woodson for first establishing Black History Week as a “celebration” of African-American achievement back in 1926. During the years we have come to celebrate Black History Month in the month of February not only in America, but also throughout the world.

Black people are often, in too many instances, the object of daily racial stereotypes and negative cynicism in the mainstream media. The month of February each year, at least for the majority of African-Americans and others who have a sense of the value of diversity and inclusiveness, is the time for reflection and celebration of the progress and achievements that African people have made in the United States and across the globe. Black History Month, therefore, is an annual time when there is a more visible, positive energy, and consciousness about African-American progress.

Of course, we all know that our struggle for freedom, justice,

and equality continues even while we recognize our achievements. It is also most important that we take the time to share the teachings and learning from our history with the children of our communities. African-American youth will be proud of our history to the extent to which we will take more time to tell it, explain it and to make sure that our youth will understand and appreciate it. Again, this is why the African-American press is important in all of its multiple media formats. The good news is there is a hunger and thirst by millions of young people in our communities for more awareness and knowledge about African-American and African history.

The historic transformation of Egypt during this Black History Month observance is noteworthy. Egypt is one of the oldest nations in the world. Sixty percent of the population in Egypt is under the age of 30. The dramatic changes in Egypt that were led by the youth of that African nation should serve as a global reminder that the future destiny of the world is not in the hands of those who live vicariously in the past blindly with no vision, hope or plan to make social, economic, political and cultural progress. The future is in

the hands of young people who know their history and take their responsibility for freedom and progress seriously.

February 11, 2011 was the day of transformation in Egypt. But, we also should remember and continue to celebrate that February 11, 1990 was the day that Nelson Mandela was finally released from prison in South Africa after spending 27 years in prison unjustly as a political prisoner held by the apartheid regime. Mandela stated, “Our march to freedom is irreversible”

Here in the United States, one of the most significant recent historical moments was the election of President Barack H. Obama in November of 2008. Not surprisingly, the U.S. Census Bureau is now reporting the voter “turnout rate” in the 2008 national elections was the highest for black Americans (65 percent) as compared to all other racial groups identified by the U.S. Census Bureau. We all should know that the age group within the African-American community that had the largest percent increase in voter turnout from 2004 to 2008 was the “18- to 24-year-old citizen black population.” Now, between Black History Month 2011 and 2012, we

got some homework to do to make sure that this trend in black American civic participation and historic voter turnout continues.

Let’s make sure here in the United States that our march to freedom is also “irreversible.” Once again, the history of voting and the blood-soaked price that African-Americans, in particular, had to pay to get the right to vote should never be forgotten or taken for granted. Yes, we have a lot to celebrate. There has been progress. But, we also have a lot to be sober about: high unemployment, imprisonment, high school dropout rate, poverty, and too many in a state of disillusionment. But, we must not be cynical and self-destructive. There are solutions to all these problems. If “Black History” has taught us anything that we should always remember, it is that our struggle for freedom is protracted. We will have victories and we will have defeats, but through it all we must never let our spirit be broken. Trials and tribulations should strengthen us, not weaken us. We have come too far to let new winds of oppression blow us off course. Let’s raise up a new generation of freedom fighters.

Embracing Black Economic History



BY JULIANNE MALVEAUX
NNPA COLUMNIST

I was doing my thing a week or so ago, on another HBCU campus, supporting Brother President and the students who’d earned honors at the school. I was delighted to be there, as I always learn when I visit other campuses. Delighted and yet astonished when a young man, a senior, stepped up to me to ask if I really thought Black History Month was still relevant. Thoughtful, pointed, and articulate, the young man told me that in this “post-racial” era we should not settle for February. He fussed that we segregate ourselves by embracing a month for Black History. He said he would rather see our accomplishments and facts peppered through the year. And, then he stomped his foot and said he found Black History Month irrelevant.

Can I share that I was stunned? Dr. Carter G. Woodson founded Negro History week, which blossomed into Black History

Month because there was scant attention paid to the accomplishments of people of African descent in our country and in our culture. He picked the second week of February, the week that encompasses both the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (Feb. 12) and the self-proclaimed birthday of Frederick Douglass (Feb. 14, remembering that the birthdays of enslaved people were often not recorded). The Association for the Study of African-American Life and Heritage (ASALAH) has been the organization to set, each year, a theme for Black History Month. They’ve reminded us of the many ways that African-American people have been contributors to our nation’s work.

Now we have come so far, it seems, that a student at an HBCU is critically thinking that we don’t need to celebrate us anymore. Give me a break! I do not think that we have yet embraced the greatness of our people of our history, of our journey. I do not think that we understand how well we play a game that is stacked against us. We play and sometime

we win.

I think of Elizabeth Keckley, the seamstress who supported the “white folks” who owned her when they fell on hard times. Eventually, she paid them for her freedom, made her way to Washington, D.C. and was the tailor for First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln. I wonder, often, what kind of temperament allows someone to purchase herself, as opposed to simply running away? I relish and revel in the absolute temerity of a sister who would be free, no matter what. If we decide that we won’t celebrate Black History Month, where do we put Elizabeth Keckley’s story? Is it simply a story of courage and entrepreneurship? Or, must it be located in a month and a moment that celebrates the tenacity, the audacity of a people whose thirst for freedom could not be quenched?

For every name we know, every Elizabeth Keckley, there are names that history swallowed because there were stories that many chose not to record. There were men and women who set

aside pennies each week to self-emancipate, and then there are the stories of those who ran away, self-emancipating in a different manner. Slavery required black and white people to suspend faith and rationality, to warp reason and integrity. People of African descent cut and pasted their reason and their consciousness to manage a system that was nothing less than evil. And, too many whites knew it was wrong, but went along to get along, preserving in the case of President John Adams, evil in the name of keeping the union together.

And, a young brother at an HBCU, undoubtedly not the only young man or woman, says he thinks we should not “do” black history anymore. We are past that. Not really. We must embrace this history that is ours because it is a history that inspires and empowers. Our economic history, much as the rest of our history, reminds us that we are a mighty people. We have survived. We have thrived. We continue to sometimes win a game that is totally rigged against us.

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Mathis' Mind

Save Ex-Inmate Programs

BY JUDGE GREG MATHIS
NNPA COLUMNIST

One of the first places state and federal governments look to make cutbacks in an attempt to balance their ballooning budgets is in the penal system. As a result, ex-offender re-entry programs that help rehabilitate those who are at risk for returning to prison are on the chopping block. Sure, cutting funding to these programs may help balance budgets in the short term. But, as ex-offenders become repeat offenders and return to jail or prison, we end up shelling out more money in the long run to incarcerate them. Additionally, communities and individuals will continue to be victimized by crime and trapped in a seemingly never-ending cycle.

Recently, USA Today reported on these cutbacks and the impact they could have on states across the country. Florida, for example, saw a small decrease in the number of ex-offenders who committed a new felony while on probation. Instead of looking at the bigger picture and continuing to invest in programs designed to reduce recidivism, Florida, in an attempt to get its fiscal house in order, plans to cut such programs. Other states are also weighing significant budget cuts to all parts of their criminal justice systems.

This is just bad business. In many states,

the number of ex-offenders committing new crimes has increased, partly because of cuts to programs that help them transform their lives and stay out of prison.

Any state considering such cuts should look to Michigan for guidance. Budget gaps and increasingly high unemployment rates have lead lawmakers there to address both problems with a novel plan: help ex-offenders find and keep jobs that will keep them out of prison. According to a report by the Institute for Research on Poverty, Michigan has used job placement programs to cut the prison population by about 15 percent during the last four years and has saved more than \$200 million each year.

Here's hoping other locals will follow Michigan's lead. With your help, maybe they can. Call or write your county, state, and federal legislators and demand they not be so short sighted; ask that they avoid making budget cuts to prison re-entry programs at all costs.

In these difficult economic times, it is only reasonable that lawmakers conserve resources where they can. The criminal justice system, particularly ex-offender re-entry programs, is not the place to make these cuts. Our lawmakers must think about the effect these budget reductions will have on our overall safety and the economic impact they will have on taxpayers down the road.

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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2010-2011 Marks A Year Of 'Firsts' At Imagine School At St Petersburg

ST PETERSBURG - Although the Imagine School at St Petersburg (ISSP) is in its third year of operation, the 2010-2011 school year marks a year of many "firsts" for the charter school. One of the most important additions to the school has been the middle school sports program which includes boys' and girls' basketball, as well as cheerleading, and will add boys' and girls' track & field, and boys' baseball for the 2011-12 school year. "The sports program has been a tremendous addition to the school", says Terrence Tomlin, ISSP's Marketing & Enrollment Coordinator. "It's given our middle school students a real sense of pride to be able to compete against other schools in the county, and it's also given the entire school something to rally around and support. Being able to offer a competitive sports program also increases the draw of our school in terms of attracting new students, so we're very pleased with what we've accomplished thus far."

In addition to its sports programs, this is also the first year that Imagine has offered a full-time music class, which focuses on singing for KG through 2nd grades, recorders for 3rd through 5th grades, and percussion instruments for the middle school students. There

is also a school choir that has performed at numerous community events including the annual tree lighting ceremony at the Carter G. Woodson Museum, and sang carols at the Tyrone Square Mall.

There have also been a number of clubs and organizations started at ISSP this year which include the "Imagine Men", a mentoring group for middle school boys which meets each Wednesday, and "I Can See Paris From Midtown", a book club for a select number of third grade girls. "I've seen a huge difference in my son since he started attending the Imagine Men meetings on Wednesdays", says Cherryann Traylor, mother of Seth Burgess, a seventh grade student at the school. "All he wanted for his birthday was a new suit so that he could be dressed for success on Wednesdays, and he often comes home and tells me about the things they talk about during their meetings." The third grade book club was created in the memory of Paris Whitehead-Hamilton, a former student of Imagine who was tragically lost to random violence two years ago. She had a passion for reading, and the ISSP staff felt that the best way to honor her memory was to start a book club in her name as well as dedicate the school's media center to her.

The book club meets once a month at the Carter G. Woodson Museum where they discuss the book of the month, have a catered lunch together, and are taught proper etiquette and manners.

Perhaps the biggest addition of the year is the newly laid turf field, and playground area, which provides the students with a grassy play area for the first time in the school's brief history. "It's been one of our most pressing needs", says ISSP's PE Coach, Elin Bolin. "It makes a significant difference in our ability to safely conduct PE for the kids, as well as offer the same type of amenities at our school that many take for granted. The kids are absolutely thrilled to have grass here, and it's even more rewarding to know that the staff, parents, and students laid the turf with their own hands."

With all that has been accomplished this year, there are still many more "firsts" to come, and the ISSP family is determined to keep the positive momentum flowing through this year, and into the next.

Imagine School at St. Petersburg is located at 1950 1st Avenue North, St. Petersburg, Florida. To enroll, or for more information, call 727-821-7100, or visit us online at imagineschoolstpetersburg.com.

PUBLIC NOTICE * PUBLIC NOTICE * PUBLIC NOTICE * Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program Wait List Opening



Please Read Carefully

The St. Petersburg Housing Authority will accept applications for the HCV Program **VIA U.S. MAIL ONLY** beginning February 25, 2011.

Applications must be mailed to:

St. Petersburg Housing Authority, P.O. Box 12849, St. Petersburg, FL 33733

All applications must be postmarked by March 5, 2011.

Applications postmarked after March 5, 2011 WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IN PERSON.

Applications will be available for one day only at www.stpeteha.org on February 25, 2011 and for pick up ONLY from 9AM – 4PM at the following locations:

- Enoch Davis Center, 1111 – 18th Avenue S., St. Petersburg, FL 33705
- Mirror Lake Library, 280 – 5th Street N., St. Petersburg, FL 33701
- North Branch Library, 861 – 70th Avenue N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702

Handicapped and/or disabled applications ONLY: If you are unable to pick up an application at one of the locations above, you may call (727) 323-3171 ext. 230 on February 24th and 25th to request that an application be mailed to you. **Applications MUST be postmarked by March 5, 2011.** Applications received through this process from NON disabled/handicapped applicants will be disqualified.



SPHA Proudly Celebrates Black History Month

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"In fact, the confidence of the people is worth more than money."
- Dr. Carter G. Woodson

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Also, SPHA is a proud supporter of the preservation of the historic voice of our community at the Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American Museum.

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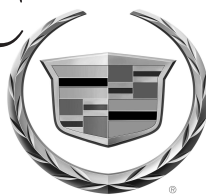
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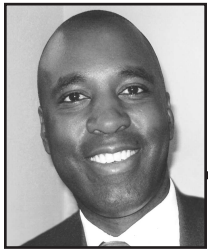
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COMMUNITY NEWS



THE WINNING EDGE

BY ALAN MCBRIDE

Vision. On February 17, 1941, Joe Louis stepped into the ring in Philadelphia in order to defend his Heavyweight Championship Boxing title. By 1 minute and 30 seconds into the second round, Gus Dorazio lost the fight in a knock-out. Given that over the course of his career Joe Louis would end 55 of total 68 fights in a knock-out, there wasn't anything particularly special about this one. What was special, was the man behind the gloves.

When he died in 1981, Joe Louis was said to be one of the greatest prizefighters of all times. After receiving a waiver of eligibility requirements, he was buried in Arlington Cemetery in April of that year. In 1982, he was approved for a Congressional Gold Medal, putting him in the company of other greats as Marian Anderson ('77), Jesse Owens ('88), Rosa Parks ('99), and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King (2004). In 1986, the city of Detroit erected a statue in his honor. And, as late as 2009, honors were still

being bestowed as the PGA granted him a posthumous honorary membership.

To bring it full circle, I ask, what do you want your life to mean? Certainly Joe Louis never envisioned the honors that came to him later in life, but he did live a life that deserved to be honored. This week, take some time to create a vision board. Using the simple tools of a poster board, scissors, pictures and glue-craft the type of life you would like to live. Use images to describe what things you would like to be, do, and have over the course of your life (and after).

The brain, it seems, responds to pictures. It is a direct way of communicating your desires. The brain perceives and processes imagery in a different way than it does words. Sports psychologists have long known the effectiveness of creating pictures for the brain. Then like a heat-seeking missile, or a prizefighter in the ring, the brain orientates in that direction.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY

Nicole Lamb-Hale's Story: Manufacturing In Motor City

Publisher's Note: This post is a part of the Celebrating Black History Month series, which highlight the work of African Americans who are contributing to the President's goals for winning the future.

BY NICOLE LAMB-HALE

I was born in Detroit, Michigan to a loving mother and father who moved to Detroit from Arkansas upon their matriculation from college in the mid-1960s. At that time Detroit, the international hub of the automotive industry, was a wonderful and vibrant place. My father, Rawleigh Glendale Lamb, was an executive at Chrysler Corporation until his death in 1990, and my mother, Zinnette McRae Lamb, was one of the brightest and best English teachers in the Detroit Public Schools until she retired. My parents instilled in me a strong work ethic and a sense of pride. They also inspired me to believe that anything I set my mind to do was possible. The confidence that my parents instilled in me allowed me to succeed at the University of Michigan and then at Harvard Law School, where I had the opportunity to first get to know a fellow law student by the name of Barack Obama.

Upon graduation from Harvard Law School, I returned to Detroit. Many were surprised that I did not begin my law practice in a major market like the majority of my classmates who were from Michigan and beyond. However, I wanted to use my skills to make a difference in Detroit—to be part of its renaissance. Upon my return, I immediately became active in community and political affairs. I had the privilege as a very young lawyer to serve as the legal advisor to the City of Detroit, during Mayor Dennis Archer's administration, on its successful Empowerment Zone application. That experience was extremely fulfilling as it immersed me into the Detroit community. I interacted with everyone from corporate chieftains to community organizers and my love for the City and my hopes

for its renaissance intensified. While still employed by my law firm at the time, I also had the honor of serving as Mayor Archer's chief fundraiser and campaign finance chair. My love of politics was solidified by that experience.

My community involvement over the years included serving as a member of the Detroit Housing Commission; as a board member of Delta Manor, a senior citizens' complex; as vice-chair of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Land Bank Fast Track Authority, by appointment of Michigan Governor Jennifer M. Granholm; as the legal advisor to H.O.P.E., Inc. a 501(c)(3) entity associated with my church, Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church; and as a board member of Dennis W. Archer Foundation. I also served as a member of the Board of Trustees of Leadership Detroit; and as a member of the Board of Trustees for the Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts. Since joining the Obama administration, I have maintained my membership in Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., the Links Incorporated and Jack and Jill of America, Inc. I am also a member of the historic Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

Above all, my greatest accomplishments are being the wife of John Hale, III, who is also a member of the Obama administration serving as the Deputy Associate Administrator for Capital Access in the Small Business Administration and the mother of two beautiful children, John Hobart Hale, IV (14) and Ashleigh Nicole Hale (10).

Each of my experiences described above have enriched my life in ways that could not be derived from focusing on my profession alone. My advice to young people is to avoid the sidelines and jump into your communities with both feet. You can make a difference!

As a Michigan native, I have seen the highs and lows of U.S. manufacturing. I have witnessed the positive impact of a vibrant manufacturing sector in our communities when, among other things, companies have the means to



Nicole Lamb-Hale

support the arts and other important causes. Sadly, I have also witnessed the negative impact of job losses in the manufacturing sector in our communities. This experience causes me to be passionate about preserving manufacturing and the services that support it in our country. It is this passion that I bring to my current role as Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Manufacturing and Services in the International Trade Administration.

As the Assistant Secretary, I have the opportunity to help the international competitiveness of U.S. industries through the development and execution of trade policy and promotion strategies that help to increase the exports of U.S. industries. I interact on almost a daily basis with businesses large and small that seek opportunities in international trade. Promoting the exports of U.S. industries will help America "win the future" as it showcases America's global leadership in innovation and technology. It will also help to create the jobs that our country needs. I am proud to have the privilege to serve our country in this role.

Black History Month is a special time of reflection for me on the struggles, triumphs and contributions of African-Americans. However, I believe that such reflection should not be limited to one month out of every year. Day in and day out, African-Americans in all facets of our society make significant contributions to our country that should be celebrated throughout the year.

Nicole Lamb-Hale is the Assistant Secretary for Manufacturing and Services at the Department of Commerce.

SPHA Moves Residents Into Pinellas Hope II

ST. PETERSBURG – On Tuesday, February 8, eight residents moved into Pinellas Hope II and began a new chapter of their lives, thanks to the partnership between the St. Petersburg Housing Authority (SPHA) and the Catholic Charities Diocese of St. Petersburg.

Each of the eight residents received a project-based housing voucher from SPHA, which subsidizes a portion of the monthly rent for an apartment at Pinellas Hope II based on the tenant's income. SPHA is offering a total of 40 vouchers to eligible residents of the 80-unit transitional housing facility, which is equivalent to approximately \$280,000 per year of on-going

funding for Catholic Charities.

Dr. Arnett Smith, SPHA board chairman, said, "We are proud to be community partners in the fight against homelessness, and we remain committed to finding more affordable housing options throughout our jurisdiction to help keep people off of the streets. By providing the funding for these vouchers, SPHA is able to give much needed support to Catholic Charities and those that they serve in a very meaningful and sustainable way."

Shelia Lopez, Catholic Charities chief operating officer, said, "We are proud of our residents that have achieved self-sufficiency and can live in safe and affordable housing."

The housing vouchers are

made possible through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Project-Based Voucher program. The goal of the HUD program is to expand the availability of higher quality affordable housing units to the elderly, disabled individuals and homeless military veterans.

Under this program, housing authorities may choose to provide subsidy to selected privately-owned properties through the Request for Proposals (RFP) process. SPHA's contract with Catholic Charities for Pinellas Hope II is a direct result of a RFP issued by the housing authority in June 2008 to find interested developers and property owners.

Health And Safety Fair

LARGO - "Educate the Mind, Empower the Body, Enlighten the Heart," is the theme for the 2nd annual Pinellas County Council PTA/Parent Teacher Student Association Health and Safety Fair to be held Saturday, Feb. 19, at Largo Central Park, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Families can visit the Pinellas County Schools' Safety

Bus, participate in the Bike Safety Rodeo, and take advantage of free health screenings. There will be games, crafts and activities along with free gift bags for the first 100 people to visit the PCCPTA table. Enjoy refreshments and giveaways throughout the day.

Participating organizations include Largo Fire Department, American Red Cross, Florida

KidCare/Healthy Start, Molina Healthcare, Poison Control, Coordinated Child Care, Family Resources and Philip A. Bryant Melanoma Foundation.

This free event is designed to help promote and educate attendees about health, safety and wellness. For more information, contact Michelle Alfred, 727-584-8180.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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Tuesday, Feb. 22 - The next meeting of the Pinellas County School Board will be at 5 p.m. in the conference hall of the administration building, 301 Fourth St. SW, Largo. Citizens may speak about any item on the agenda not involving a hearing on employee discipline, by registering before the item is introduced. Presentations from the audience regarding items not on the agenda may be made at the end of the meeting.

Wednesday, Feb. 23 - Come Celebrate African-American History month with one of your own at St. Petersburg College Midtown Campus, 5-6:45 p.m. Prof. Ernisa Barnwell will be lecturing on the topic "The History of Hair Braiding." This is a special event and it will be catered.



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Pasco-Hernando Community College (PHCC) is accepting applications for full-time, faculty. Anticipated starting date is August 16, 2011. Salary range is \$37,829 - \$52,455.60 (two terms). The maximum salary is based on advanced degrees and appropriate work and/or full-time teaching experience.

Instructor, Biological Science (Job #0085)

Required: Master's degree in biology or a Master's degree with at least 18 graduate semester hours in qualifying field; teaching responsibility will include anatomy and physiology in addition to other biological sciences; satisfactory criminal history background check; must be able to work evening hours and split schedule. Degrees and course hours must be from regionally accredited institutions. Applicants who claim a right of veteran's preference must email, fax, or mail documentation of eligibility at the time of application.

Instructor, Mathematics (Job #0086) - 2 POSITIONS

Required: Master's degree in mathematics or a Master's degree with at least 18 graduate semester hours in qualifying field; satisfactory criminal history background check; must be able to work evening hours and split schedule. Degrees and course hours must be from regionally accredited institutions. Applicants who claim a right of veteran's preference must email, fax, or mail documentation of eligibility at the time of application.

THE COLLEGE IS CLOSED FEBRUARY 28 THROUGH MARCH 6 FOR SPRING BREAK.

APPLY ONLINE no later than the March 21 application deadline at www.phcc.edu/jobs **AND** email, fax or mail a letter of interest, resume, official transcripts, and an original statement (this is a separate document that you will compose, to describe briefly some aspect of your overall educational philosophy), by midnight of the application deadline date, to:

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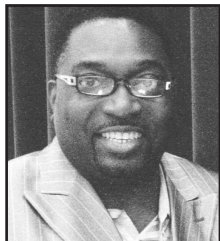
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COMMUNITY NEWS



‘Churchin’ In The Park: You Still Have Time!

6th Annual Gospel fest Kicks off next weekend

On the calendar, black history month ends at the end of February. We all know that black history is continuous and pertinent to history. Gospel music is a staple of black history and one of the foundations for strength, support, and sometimes survival historically and presently. Gospel is defined as good news.

Thousands of people will 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 next Saturday, Feb. 26, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Heritage Village in Largo, FL. The event is free. The event is open to any group/choir. First place is a \$1,000 cash prize. Second Place is \$750.00, and Third place is \$500.00. 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, creati-

ty, intonation, enthusiasm, 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 where people have church in the park! To register for event, participants can download application from www.pinellascounty.org/unity.htm and click on the gospel fest registration tab. Applications can be emailed to 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.

You still have time. If you know of a good choir or group who would benefit, get applications in as soon as possible. Space is very limited. You don’t want to miss this day of spirit filled hand clapping, feet stomping and singing songs of inspirations

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

BLACK HISTORY

“Celebrating Our History Is An Everyday Thing”

Source: Wikipedia Free Library

Little Known Stories Of Blacks And The Civil War

**Black Union Soldiers Were the First to Triumphantly Enter
Richmond, April 3, 1865 By A. Peter Bailey**

When I accepted, in 1986, the Sports Information Director position at Virginia Union University, a historically black institution in Richmond, Virginia, I was not aware of the black history gold mine located in the former capital of the Confederacy.

For me, the most notable nugget was Thomas Morris Chester, the only black Civil War correspondent. From August 1864 through June 1865, Chester covered black Union troops for a newspaper called The Philadelphia Press. From his book, “Thomas Morris Chester, black Civil War Correspondent”, I first became aware that black Union soldiers, Monday, April 3, 1865, were the first to enter into a defeated Richmond, which had been hurriedly evacuated by Confederate government officials the day before.

Those warriors must have been bursting with pride as they marched victoriously into the capital of the enslavers, a place from which some of them had been sold as children and teenagers. I was mesmerized when reading Chester’s vivid and detailed account of that historic occasion. Excerpts from his dispatches are as follows:

“Brevet Brigadier General Draper’s brigade of colored troops, Brevet Major General Kautz’s division, were the first infantry to enter Richmond. The gallant 36th U.S. Colored Troops, under Lieutenant Colonel B.F. Pratt, has the honor of being the first regiment. Captain Bienneff’s company has the pride of leading the advance...In passing over the rebel works, we moved very cautiously in single file, for fear of

exploding the innumerable torpedoes which were planted in front. So far as I can learn none has been exploded, and no one has been injured by those infernal machines. The soldiers were soon, under engineers, carefully digging them up and making the passage way beyond the fear of casualties. Along the road which the troops marched, or rather double quicked, batches of negroes were gathered together testifying by unmistakable signs their delight at our coming. Rebel soldiers who had hid themselves when their army moved came out of the bushes, and gave themselves up as disgusted with the service....For marching or fighting Draper’s 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 25th Corps, is not to be surpassed in the service, and the General honors it with a pride and a consciousness which aspire him to undertake cheerfully whatever may be committed to his execution. It was his brigade that nipped the flower of the southern army, the Texas Brigade, under Gary, which never before last September knew defeat. There may be others who may claim the distinction of being the first to enter the city, but as I was ahead of every part of the force but the cavalry, which of necessity must lead the advance, I know whereof I affirm when I announce that General Draper’s brigade was the first organization to enter the city limits. According to custom, it should constitute the provost guard of Richmond.”

Chester’s total contempt for what he called “man sellers” is reflected in his observation that “There were many persons in the

better-class houses who were peeping out the windows, and whose movement indicated that they would need watching in the future. There was no mistaking the curl of their lips and the flash of their eyes. The new military Governor of Richmond will, no doubt, prove equal to such emergencies.”

It is very disturbing that the anniversary of April 3, 1865 is not a day of great celebration for black folks in this country. Those black Union soldiers, who played a key role in the defeat of the Confederacy, are the greatest war heroes in our history.

The African-American Civil War Memorial lists the names of 209,145 black Union soldiers who joined President Lincoln to save the Union and keep it united under one flag. The monument, located at the corner of 10th and U Streets NW Washington, D. C., was built by a private foundation that operates a museum, directed by Dr. Frank Smith. April 12, 2011 will mark the 150th Anniversary of the firing on Ft. Sumter and the start of the American Civil War. The African-American Civil War Memorial Foundation will commemorate the beginning of the Civil War with celebrities reading from Civil War period newspapers, speeches, and other documents announcing the coming of the war and its profound effect on the ending of slavery in America. We will also have celebrities read from selected press responses to the election of President Lincoln and the anti-slavery platform of the Republican party of 1860.

QUANTUM

continued from front page

firm of Thompson Goodis Groseclose Richardson Miller, P.A.; a young alumna of St. Pete High who enlisted in the U. S. Armed Forces; a well known local Community Development business professional; and, the technical director for stage productions at several local performance

arts venues including the Little Theater and Mahaffey Theater.

The Quantum group was formally invited and received by the St. Petersburg City Council and Mayor Bill Foster during the August 2010 regular publicly televised Council session.

Quantum also was visited by Florida’s 11th Congressional District’s Representative Kathy Castor

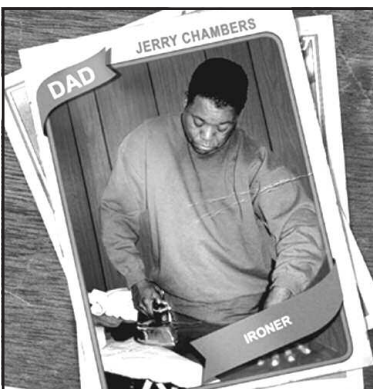
and her Staff in November, 2010 ; by Senator Bill Nelson’s staff several times during the year; and by Pinellas County Commissioner Kenneth Welch, at the CCEJ- Quantum Center on Central Avenue. Rev. Edward V. Leftwich, CCEJ’s President/CEO, also regularly provides individual life counseling and mentoring for Quantum Associates and their parents.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY

Ron Sims' Story: Providing Homes And Creating Opportunities

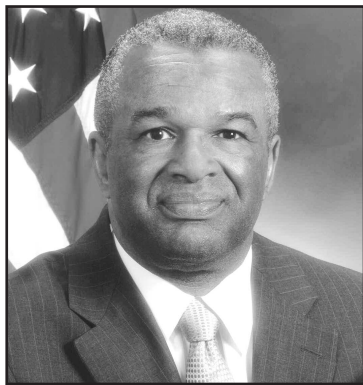
Publisher's Note: This post is a part of the Celebrating Black History Month series, which highlight the work of African Americans who are contributing to the President's goals for winning the future.

BY RON SIMS

As every American knows, who we are is deeply influenced by how we grew up – and the influences that shaped us. I grew up in Spokane, Washington, which is in the eastern part of the state, and had the opportunity to attend what is now known as Central Washington University. My parents were engaged in the community, and in the weight of things, I am James and Lydia Sims' son through and through. My values, my expressions, and what I care for are all reflective of that. I was one of those lucky children who experienced lots of love and the benefit of good parenting – and it's why I feel so strongly about giving future generations of kids the good homes and quality opportunities they need.

And at HUD, I'm in a position to help do that. As Deputy Secretary, I see myself as clearing obstacles out of the way to let our talented staff do their jobs and affect change, particularly in traditionally underserved communities. Through the Federal Housing Administration, for example, we help responsible first-time homebuyers get access to a mortgage. For families who can't afford a loan, HUD's multifamily, tenant-based programs help them rent affordable housing. Our homelessness programs provide shelter and supportive services to those who don't otherwise have a roof over their heads. A big part of our mission is helping what the Baptist tradition calls "the least, the last, and the lost."

Our employees embody that determination to make a difference. And under the leadership President Obama and Secretary Donovan, our mission has expanded still



Ron Sims

further. We're no longer just a housing agency – we're engaged in comprehensive community development to help rebuild so many areas harmed by the economic crisis.

Take the example of our Choice Neighborhoods initiative, which will transform areas of concentrated poverty into neighborhoods of choice, opportunity, and hope by linking housing to transportation, public services, and access to jobs. But the heart of restoring vitality to our communities lies in schools and unlocking the potential of our young people, and HUD's Choice Neighborhoods partnership – working with the Department of Education's Promise Neighborhoods initiative – is one way we can start to do that. Few things are more deeply linked to outcomes later in life than education, and with this partnership, we can enable young people from traditionally underserved populations to have a real opportunity at the American Dream.

Achieving that dream, and giving people from all races, backgrounds, and walks of life access to choice and opportunity, is not only what Black History Month is about – it's what America is about. To me, the celebration of Black History Month is a celebration of America as a grand experiment – how this country became the greatest in the world despite Americans sharing no common race or country of origin.

Ron Sims is the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.



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By
Cherin L. Stover

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226 – 6th Street S.
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
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Tues. 4 pm – 7 pm
Thurs. 4 pm – 7 pm
Sat. 9 am – 1 pm
Jan. 18 – April 14

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727-893-7134
Mon., Wed., Fri.
1 pm – 4 pm
Jan. 31 – April 14

GRAYDI NFC

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Largo, FL 33774
727-584-7200
Mon. & Wed. 5:30 pm – 8 pm
Tues. 10 am – 2 pm
Sat. 9 am to 1 pm
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High Point NFC

5812 – 150th Ave. N.
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727-533-0730
Tues. 5:30 pm – 8 pm
Thurs. 5:30 pm – 8 pm
Sat. 10 am – 1 pm
Jan. 18 – April 14

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St. Petersburg, FL 33712
727-321-9444
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Wed. 5 pm – 7 pm
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Jan. 18 – April 14

Lealman & Asian NFC

4255 – 56th Ave. N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33714
727-520-9820
Thurs. 5:30 pm – 8 pm
Sat. 9 am – 1 pm
Jan. 22 – April 10

Martin Luther King Jr. NFC

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Clearwater, FL 33755
727-442-5355
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Thurs. 3 pm – 7 pm
Sat. 9 am – 1 pm
Jan. 18 – April 14

Pinellas Opportunity Council

3443 – 1st Ave. N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33703
727-327-8690 x 18
Tues. 9 am – 5 pm
Thurs. 9 am – 5 pm
Jan. 18 – April 14

Safety Harbor NFC

1001 Dr. ML King Jr. St. N.
Safety Harbor, FL 34695
727-791-8255
Tues. 9 am – 12 noon
Thurs. 5 pm – 8:30 pm
Sat. 10 am – 2 pm
Jan. 18 – April 14

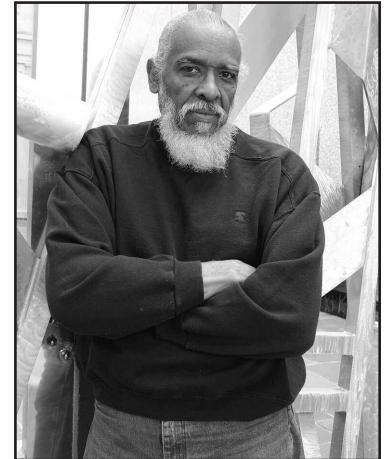
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HOROSCOPES

February 17-23, 2011

ARIES

A celebration is in store and you are the guest of honor! You've achieved something wonderful and you need to take some time to enjoy it. Let yourself enjoy the applause then move onward and upward.

TAURUS

Let someone else make a few decisions this week. Take a backseat and enjoy the respite from doing all the driving. You'll enjoy the ride more this week if you just admire the view as it goes by.

GEMINI

Sometimes you imagine that everyone needs to hear your sensible opinions on all matters of significance. And other weeks you know that you are wise and generous enough to listen to others as they share their good ideas. This week is a week for listening. You'll learn much.

CANCER

Anybody may occasionally have a week when their energy feels low. Your natural good health will see you through a possible down time if you just go with the flow and let yourself relax. Rest if you have the chance and you'll feel like your wonderful self in no time flat!

LEO

You are the center of attention this week and while you'll be very busy you'll love every moment. Enjoy your time in the spotlight! You may want to indulge yourself with some emotional theatrics this week.

VIRGO

Stay flexible this week especially where a partner is concerned. While they may be moody there's no need for you to join them in their attitude unless you really, really want to! Stay positive and go with the good vibrations that surround you.

LIBRA

Ding-dong! Destiny is at the door. Let it in and enjoy the change of pace. You'll be happy to make a few adjustments for this most welcome guest. Follow through on instincts and hunches!

SCORPIO

Stay on course with your current decisions and dreams. You may doubt your progress this week but you really are moving toward a better tomorrow with your determined attitude. Keep your emotions under control this week for sure.

SAGITTARIUS

You feel great! Your shining spirit attracts many seekers this week so let your best wisest self answer questions that are put to you by those who want advice. You'll smooth over a sticky situation at work with ease.

CAPRICORN

Busy week. You'll want to get up with the birdies and you may even want to whistle a happy little tune. You'll be very much in demand for your expertise and positive attitude. Way to go!

AQUARIUS

A quiet week will work wonders for you. Make an effort to slow your pace, both physically and mentally this week. Use your imagination to think of quiet ways to entertain yourself.

PISCES

While you may have much work facing you in the beginning of the week, a steady, patient attitude will help you accomplish a great deal this week. Be good to yourself and take things nice and slow. You'll finish what you need to.



PICK OF THE WEEK!
21 16 35

CASH 3
988
254
163

DOG DAYS



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



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CHALLENGER SPORTS

Girardi: Open Competition For 4th And 5th Starter



Joe Girardi

TAMPA (AP) - The Yankees may take a month or more to decide on the fourth and fifth starters in their very unsettled pitching rotation.

“The chances of the fourth and fifth starter roles being answered sooner than later are not very good,” manager Joe Girardi said Monday as pitchers and catchers reported for spring training. “You want to see who we feel has the best chance to help us during the course of the season.”

Candidates include Ivan Nova, Freddy Garcia, Sergio Mitre and Bartolo Colon. Girardi repeated that Joba Chamberlain is not an option, even though he lost his setup job late last season.

“We’ve seen how dominate he can be in the bullpen,” Girardi said. “Joba has a chance to be

extremely important to our bullpen, and I’m looking forward to that.”

Staff ace CC Sabathia, Phil Hughes and A.J Burnett fill the top three slots of a rotation that will be without Andy Pettitte, who retired.

“I know that’s going to be a question that I’m asked a lot about, our rotation, and I understand that,” Girardi said. “But, that question is not going to be answered, really, until we get into the middle of the season. I feel good about the guys that we have here in camp.”

Burnett struggled to a 10-15 with a 5.26 ERA last season, lost seven of his last eight regular-season decisions.

“I know how disappointed he was about some of his starts last year,” Girardi said. “I saw how it affected him. He’s made adjustments already with (new pitching coach) Larry Rothschild. I know how much A.J. cares. I’ve just got a feeling in my gut that he’s going to have a good year.”

Sabathia, who had surgery for a small tear in his right knee last October, is 25 pounds lighter this spring training, weighing in at 290 pounds.

Cliff Lee’s decision to sign with Philadelphia instead of New York has left the Yankees scrambling.

“It’s disappointing, but you’ve got to respect him,” Yankees co-chairman Hank Steinbrenner said. “He did what he wanted to do, that’s the bottom line. We tried to get him harder than anybody. We offered him more money than anybody.”

Steinbrenner thinks the Yankees have baseball’s best bullpen following the addition of Rafael Soriano and Pedro Feliciano to go along with strong hitting and a solid defense.

“Our starting pitching, hopefully, will come around,” Steinbrenner said. “We think A.J. will turn it around. All our baseball people like Nova, so we’ll see what happens.”

“I’m not going to pick who I think will be the best teams, but I think we’re one of them,” Steinbrenner added. “There’s no use in predicting. You play the games for a reason, and you hope you don’t have injuries.”

Girardi expects shortstop Derek Jeter to improve on last season’s .270 batting average. The

team captain agreed to a \$51 million, three-year contract in December.

“We signed him to be our shortstop and we signed him to be our leadoff hitter,” Girardi said. “Will he want to prove to some people, maybe, that he’s not a .280, .290 hitter, maybe. But I think he tries to prove that every year.”

Notes: This is the first spring training since the death last July of Yankees owner George Steinbrenner. “It’s going to be weird when you’re sitting up in the box for the games,” Hank Steinbrenner said. “The toughest part was the first month after he died. It had nothing to do with baseball. It was my dad.” ... Former Yankees LHP David Wells is in camp for the first time as a spring training instructor. Lee Mazzilli is to report later to work with outfielders. ... Holdover spring instructors include Yogi Berra, Reggie Jackson, Rich Gossage and Ron Guidry... Numbers worn by Pettitte (46), Joe Torre (6), Paul O’Neill (21) and Bernie Williams (51) are not being used.

Raiders Hire Hall Of Famer Rod Woodson As Assistant



Rod Woodson

BY JOSH DUBOW

ALAMEDA, CA. (AP) - The Oakland Raiders added a Hall of Famer to their coaching staff, hiring Rod Woodson on Monday as an assistant to coach the team’s cornerbacks.

Woodson was one of the most accomplished defensive backs ever to play the game and was named to the NFL’s 75th Anniversary Team. He played the final two of his 17 seasons with the Raiders, helping the team win the 2002 AFC championship.

“It’s an honor to be back with the Raiders and be able to talk to Raider players about true football,” Woodson said. “I’m looking forward to working with the organization and the challenges of the 2011 season.”

Woodson had recently served as a television analyst at the NFL Network and Big Ten Network but decided to get into coaching.

Woodson spent the bulk of his playing career with Pittsburgh, starring for 10 seasons on the Steelers. He was named AP Defensive Player of the Year for Pittsburgh in 1993 and helped the Steelers reach the Super Bowl following the 1995 season.

He also spent one

season with the San Francisco 49ers and four with Baltimore, winning the Super Bowl with the Ravens following the 2000 season.

Woodson was named to 11 Pro Bowls, the 1990s all-decade team and was named a first-team All-Pro six times as either a cornerback, safety or kick returner.

“I’m excited that we have a Hall of Fame player who is coming back to the organization,” coach Hue Jackson said. “I was extremely impressed during the interview process with his communication skills and I’m looking forward to Rod imparting his wealth of knowledge to our players.”

Woodson’s 71 career interceptions rank third all-time in NFL history. He is the career leader in interception returns for touchdowns (12), and interception return yardage (1,483).

Woodson will work in the secondary with Kevin Ross, who is coaching the safeties. The Raiders still have not announced who their defensive coordinator will be next season. Chuck Bresnahan, who was defensive coordinator when Woodson played in Oakland, is on staff as a defensive assistant and is a likely candidate.

Marlins’ Manager Says He’s Never Felt More Ready



Edwin Rodriguez

BY TIM REYNOLDS

MIAMI (AP) - Florida manager Edwin Rodriguez cannot wait for opening day. He’s already thinking about filling out the first lineup card of the season, seeing a jampacked stadium, being part of all the pageantry.

He’ll do it all in 2011. He’d prefer to do it in 2012. And beyond.

Rodriguez is getting what essentially amounts to a one-year chance from the Marlins to prove himself as a manager, getting a contract for 2011 after Florida went 46-46 last season following the firing of Fredi Gonzalez. The Marlins have predictably high hopes this season, and Rodriguez who’ll be in charge of a spring training for the first time is eager to start trying to show he merits the job.

“I’m going into the best time in my professional career,” Rodriguez said Monday at a team luncheon. “Putting together the whole spring training along with Brandon Hyde, my bench coach, going player-by-player, analyzing player-by-player, putting together all the options, the lineup, defense ... I can’t wait to get on the field.”

The Marlins start formal workouts in Jupiter, FL. later this week. Pitchers and catchers are due to report by Friday; position players are expected by Feb. 21.

Rodriguez took over last June, and an impromptu celebration broke out about a week later before Florida played in Puerto Rico his homeland when owner Jeffrey Loria announced that he would finish the 2010 season.

Rodriguez says some of his friends in Puerto Rico are still celebrating the fact that he became their first countryman to manage in the major leagues. His players, who expect to be factors this season in the NL East race, are equally thrilled.

“He’s a really good players’ manager,” said right-hander Ricky Nolasco, who went 14-9 with a 4.51 ERA last season and was rewarded over the winter with a three-year contract. “I think

everybody’s excited for him. We want to help him out and do everything that we can to make him succeed. It’s going to be fun from the beginning and should be exciting.”

This season will be Florida’s last at Sun Life Stadium, the home for the Miami Dolphins and Miami Hurricanes football teams. Construction is ongoing at a new downtown ballpark set to open in April 2012, and where the first seat will be ceremonially installed, Tuesday.

Rodriguez’s goal is to be there for the first pitch.

It was presumed that Rodriguez would return after talks with other candidates Bobby Valentine’s name was most notably bandied about for weeks went nowhere. Marlins owner Jeffrey Loria summoned Rodriguez to New York for a meeting Nov. 2, and by Rodriguez’s recollection, it took about five minutes for Loria to tell him that his job was still his job.

“Edwin and I spoke very often during the winter,” Loria said. “And I said to him, ‘You’ve waited a long time for this opportunity. I want to give it to you. You’ve earned it. And put it together yourself.’ He has

certain ideas and it’s his club to run with, so we’re going to let him do what he wants to do. He’s been around a long time, he’s quite a professional and he deserves the opportunity.”

The Marlins understand the reality: They went 80-82 last season, 17 games behind Philadelphia which added Cliff Lee this winter to what may be the best rotation in baseball history and six games behind Atlanta.

Given that, by no means is Florida a lock for anything in 2011. Still, that didn’t stop Loria from saying Monday that he thinks Rodriguez has “a very good team” and, moments after saying he doesn’t make numerical predictions, adding that he believes Florida can win “high 80s to 90 games if we stay healthy.”

Rodriguez doesn’t mind the burden of expectations.

“We have a very young team, a very talented team,” Rodriguez said. “That gives me more excitement to go out there and see what they can do on the field. I want to be the guy, of course, and I’m so excited to be associated with such a great team, so talented. Look at the roster. We could be good for many, many years. That’s why I’m so excited about this.”

TWC SPORTS



Browns Add Ray Rhodes To Coaching Staff

CLEVELAND (AP) - Ray Rhodes has joined new Cleveland Browns coach Pat Shurmur’s staff as a defensive assistant.

Rhodes, a former NFL head coach, has spent the past three seasons with the Houston Texans. Before that, he worked in Seattle with Browns president Mike Holmgren. Rhodes brings more than 30 years of pro coaching experience to Cleveland. He was a head coach in Philadelphia and Green Bay.

Also, the team said

Keith Gilbertson will be a senior offensive assistant after serving as the Browns director of pro personnel last year.

Shurmur, who will also serve as his own offensive coordinator, has retained four position assistants who worked under Eric Mangini. The team said Monday that Gary Brown (running backs), Steve Hagen (tight ends), Jerome Henderson (defensive backs) and George Warhop (offensive line) will be back next season.

STATE & NATIONAL NEWS

Thousands March Against Resegregation In N. Carolina

BY JOI C. RIDLEY

RALEIGH, N.C. — Thousands of people from around the country gathered in North Carolina Saturday to say “no” to attempts to re-segregate schools in the state’s largest county.

The Wake County school board is now run by new Tea Party-backed school board members who have advanced an agenda of ‘neighborhood schooling’ that would drastically reduce school diversity and roll back the clock on years of progress. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan condemned the school board’s plan in January, and the state NAACP has filed a complaint with the education department’s Office for Civil Rights.

“Separate but equal was wrong then, and it is wrong now,” stated NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous. “We cannot in good moral conscience separate the struggle for diverse and superior education from the struggle for jobs and economic solutions. We have to fight for our children, for good schools, for good jobs, and for a prosperous future for all people in our nation.”

Led by a coalition of activists from the NAACP and more than 100 social justice and civil rights groups, thousands gathered for the

march to the North Carolina State Legislature building. The diverse crowd of nearly two thousand supporters met for the fifth annual HKonJ (Historic Thousands on Jones Street) and People’s Assembly Mass Demonstration and March.

The rally advanced behind a clarion call of “Forward Together, Not One Step Back” and promoted a 14-point agenda of progressive causes, including the need for better jobs and more education spending. Leaders of local chapters of larger national organizations, such as AFL-CIO, spoke to issues of economic justice, voter empowerment and immigration.

But many said they were there to protest attempts to return to the days before the landmark Brown v. Board Supreme Court decision that ruled separate schools unconstitutional.

“Our fight in Wake County against re-segregation should be our fight throughout the nation,” stated Reverend Dr. William J. Barber II, head of the North Carolina State Conference of the NAACP. “We will never back away from our struggle to ensure that every child has access to a high quality, constitutional, well-funded and diverse public education. We must also never retreat from our struggle for labor rights and a nation that keeps its

commitment to the poor, two fundamental pillars of democracy.”

Wake County is not alone in advancing backward-looking policies. School boards in New Hanover County (North Carolina) and Manatee County (Florida) have been criticized for promoting re-segregation through neighborhood schooling. In Huntsville, Alabama, the local NAACP recently released a report that found a forty-point gap between white and black students on state-administered math and reading tests.

“The term ‘neighborhood schools’, when implemented, usually means racially identifiable high poverty schools for some children and private schools with public dollars for those more affluent,” Barber said. “When you want to dismantle (the current integration policy), based on political ideology, not on educational research, we have to challenge it.”

The NAACP has pledged to mount opposition to any other re-segregation proposals in North Carolina and around the nation.

Marchers represented people from all walks of life with a heavy presence of younger activists. Besides news vans and traditional media sources, the crowd was flooded with camera phones and video cameras projecting their material to social media networks.

Bill Nelson Acknowledges Contributions Of Many African-American Floridians

BY BILL NELSON

When I read Dust Tracks on a Road: An Autobiography, by noted Florida author Zora Neale Hurston, I imagined a group of children laughing and leaping, hands outstretched toward the sun.

“Mama exhorted her children at every opportunity to jump at the sun,” Hurston wrote. “We might not land on the sun, but at least we would get off the ground.”

For such an image, a picture of hope and striving, I am thankful.

I’m thankful, too, that this famous writer from the first-half of the last century made tiny-little Eatonville, Florida, her beloved home.

In fact, when Barack Obama was still just a junior senator, I took him there for a visit.

It’s been said recently that Zora Neale Hurston helped shape America’s racial heritage, that through her own wit and wisdom she educated America’s citizens about the richness of our diversity.

“Sometimes,” she once said, “I feel discriminated against, but it does not make me angry. It merely astonishes me. “How can any deny themselves the pleasure of my company?”

Indeed, we cannot celebrate Black History Month without her – and without also acknowledging the contributions of so many other African-American Floridians.

Some of these men and women were artists, educators, sculptors, writers, actors, musicians. Others were scientists and inventors. One gave us

Lilies of the Field. Another, Famous Amos chocolate-chip cookies. Yes, Sidney Poitier was born in Miami; and, yes, Wally Amos is from Tallahassee, Florida.

Thank you, both, for your sweet contributions to our cultural heritage.

And thank you Mary McLeod Bethune, who founded one of our oldest and most prestigious black colleges, Bethune-Cookman, in Daytona Beach.

Thank you also to Judge Joseph Woodrow Hatchett, who became the first African-American elected to Florida’s Supreme Court.

And thank you James Weldon Johnson, who was a Jacksonville-born author and lyricist before becoming the first African-American executive director of the NAACP.

Thank you to Timothy Thomas Fortune, who was born and raised in Marianna, Florida, before going on to become editor and publisher of a newspaper called the New York Age, a platform for defending the civil rights of African-Americans.

And thank you Asa Philip Randolph, who was born in Crescent City, Florida, and went on to found the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the first union by and for African-Americans.

Thank you to Augusta Christine Savage, who was born in Green Cove Springs, Florida, and who later became the first director of the Harlem Community Arts Center.

And thank you General Daniel “Chappie” James Jr., of Pensacola, Florida, the first African-American four-star



Bill Nelson

general who was one of the Tuskegee airmen.

Thank you John Henry Lloyd, who was born in Palatka, Florida, and was a baseball player and manager in the Negro Leagues, and also was considered one of the greatest shortstops in the game.

Besides Lloyd, more than a dozen former Negro League baseball players call Florida home. No doubt the fans still appreciate all their contributions to America’s favorite pastime.

And no doubt our state has been enriched by the Florida Highwaymen, a group of African-American landscape painters who, like Hurston, are in the Florida Artists Hall of Fame.

Clearly the fabric of Florida’s history has been woven in part by many African-Americans. But remembering these men and women - past, present and future - shouldn’t be unique to February. We should remember and honor them every day.

As we do this, we may not be reaching the sun, but we will be getting off the ground.

The writer is Florida’s senior U.S. senator and a fifth-generation Floridian.

BOLDEN

continued from front page

NASA. Astronauts like Guion S. Bluford, Dr. Mae Jemison, Frederick D. Gregory, and Dr. Ronald McNair and Michael P. Anderson, to name just a few, pioneered a path in space. Similarly, scientists like astrochemist Dr. Emmett Chappelle, who was inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame, and Dr. George Carruthers, who helped our Apollo missions be more than just flags and footprints, and Dr. Harriett Jenkins, who helped diversify the agency as head of its Equal Employment Programs, made vital contributions to the space program. Without the historic contributions of these and many others, NASA would not be the agency it is today.

For my part, my parents were probably the biggest influences on my life. Not only growing up, but still, today, as I make decisions as a husband, grandfather, father, brother and leader. My father was a teacher, my mother a librarian. Learning was always at the forefront of our lives as well as a commitment to public service. That led me to the military and a chance to serve my country as my father and my uncles had done in World War II when blacks had to fight for the right to serve in our Armed Forces. I wanted to follow in the footsteps of so many African-Americans who had already served this country with distinction, if not always with recognition.

For me, it was an uphill battle. Because of my race, no one in my South Carolina congressional delegation would provide an appointment nor nomination to the Academy as was required for admission. I wrote President Johnson asking for help, and that’s when Congressman William

Dawson of Illinois provided me the appointment I needed to be accepted. Rep. Dawson was himself a veteran of World War I, and only the third African-American elected to Congress in the 20th century. He was the only serving black member during his first term.

Since then, I graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy, flew more than 100 combat missions over Vietnam, earned a master’s degree in systems management, flew on the Space Shuttle four times, and rose to the rank of Major General in the U.S. Marine Corps.

It has been quite a ride, but I couldn’t have done it without all those who came before. That’s why I tell today’s young people that I hope they will take the gains that previous generations have made and make their own progress. Students ask me how to become an astronaut. I tell them to pursue any of the paths in science, technology, engineering and mathematics and their chances of a strong, secure career that makes contributions to our economy and improves life for people worldwide will be possible.

When I speak to young people, I tell them, don’t waste your time trying to explain yourself or your identity to anyone or justify why you are where you are — in the workplace or anywhere else. Do your job and do it very well. Live your life according to the Golden Rule and the strong principles taught by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Always remind yourself of ‘why’ you are pursuing the things you do. Stay in touch with that answer, and don’t let others define it for you.

A touchstone of my personal philosophy is these words from Rev. Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, Dr. King’s mentor during his years of study at

Morehouse College. It is Dr. Mays who perhaps influenced Dr. King most, and whose words and thoughts we frequently heard reflected in the words of Dr. King. This is from a sermon by Dr. Mays titled “What Man Lives By:”

Man must believe that however hard the road, however difficult today, tomorrow things will be better. Tomorrow may not be better, but we must believe that it will be. Wars may never cease, but we must continue to strive to eliminate them. We may not abolish poverty, but we must believe that we can provide bread enough to spare for every living creature and that we can find the means to distribute it. We may not exterminate racism, but we must believe that different racial groups can live together in peace, and we must never cease to try to build a society in which the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man become realities.

I never really left Columbia, South Carolina behind. The family and teachers and friends that are still there remind me of who I am, where I come from, and what my ideals should be. It was a fortunate upbringing in many ways, despite the hardships. I wouldn’t change a thing. And despite what some might say, the future is bright for the young people just entering the workforce today. I hope I have had some small part in the progress this nation has made. I look forward to the space program’s continued success improving people’s lives around the world through new technologies and discoveries and showing that with innovation, creativity and passion, you can knock down any barrier of race, ethnicity, creed, or gender.

Learn more about NASA at NASA.gov.

Actor Danny Glover And Millionaire Network Marketer Rochelle Saulsberry Launch ‘The Movement of The Masses’

ATLANTA, GA — Actor Danny Glover and Rochelle Saulsberry have launched the Movement of the Masses, a global grassroots initiative designed to help people of all races overcome economic challenges and develop the capacity to accumulate and sustain wealth.

Saulsberry, who is Danny Glover’s “Lethal Weapon” and documented Millionaire Network Marketer, has been called a millionaire maker and she believes in helping people to get money issues out of the way.

Glover comments, “The movement will help people to become the architect of their own rescue!”

The Movement will tour and go into well thought out and

planned communities, cities, towns, and nations in order to train, educate, and motivate people about economic empowerment, personal growth and development, and business opportunities. The first stop on the tour will be in communities throughout Florida and Georgia.

Facts:

- There are approximately 14 million unemployed persons in the United States of America.

- The unemployment rates for adult women (8.1 percent), teenagers (25.4 percent), blacks (15.8 percent), and Hispanics (13.0 percent) continues to show little change.

- Experts agree something must be done to help create jobs and economic opportunities in urban communities.

Three Tampa Bay Area

Events:

Friday, February 25 6:30 p.m. Kingdom Worship Center 1102 E Fowler Ave, Tampa, FL 33612

Saturday, February 26 8:00 a.m. “Breakfast With Danny Glover” at Blues Ship/Good Luck Café, 1910 E. 7th Avenue (Ybor City) Tampa Florida,

Saturday, February 26 6:30 p.m. Safety Harbor Spa. 105 N Bayshore Dr Safety Harbor, Florida 34695

Seating is limited and RSVP is required. For details, directions and to RSVP visit www.dglover.homestead.com, email smnc08@gmail.com, or call 813-368-1628

Event planning by Caregivers Helping Hand Inc. 813-431-1814.

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

Sunday Worship Services7:45 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School9:00 a.m.
Wednesday Mid-Day Bible Study.....Noon - 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study6:30 p.m.
Youth Chapel Services - 921 20th Street South
2nd & 4th Sunday Worship Services10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer6:00 p.m.
Bible Study6:30 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 Worship7:30 a.m.
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting7:00 p.m.
Friday Prayer Meeting11:00 a.m.

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



Rev. Norris L.
Martin Sr. - Pastor



Princess Denise Wright
Radio Host /
TV Personality

If you are brokenhearted in spirit, unable to forgive, dealing with issues of love, anger, deception, betrayal, lied and cheated, and kicked to the curb. Tune into this Radio Ministry weekly for breakthru..

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Universal Christian Radio; www.universalchristianradio.com
- ◆ Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. (EST)
WXYB (1520 AM Local Radio) • www.wpsy.com (Click WXYB live radio)
- ◆ Sunday Radio Broadcasts
WFAM (Augusta , GA) 11:15 a.m.; WIJD (Mobile , AL)
6:30 p.m. (Tupelo , MS) 7:30 p.m.; WLMR (Chattanooga , TN) 12:15 p.m.

Email: princessdenise.8818@yahoo.com • 727-289-2475
www.mattersoftheheartministry.org



Rev. Wallace Elliott Sr. - Pastor

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

Sunday Worship Services8:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting (Tuesday)6:00 p.m.
Bible Study (Tuesday)7:00 p.m.
Baptist Training Union (Sunday)4:00 p.m.

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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

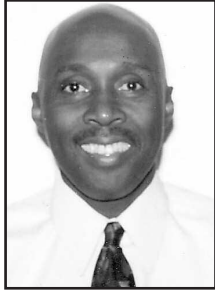
NEW MT. OLIVE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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 Worship11:00 a.m.
CommunionFirst 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 Study7:00 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 Worship11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Prayer6:30 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 Study7:00 p.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service11:00 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

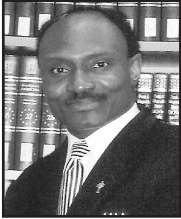


REVEREND DR. MANUEL SYKES

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




Dr. John A. Evans,
Pastor

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

Sunday7:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Worship
Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
WednesdayNoonday Bible Study and
Bread of Life; 7 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study
Thursday7 p.m. Youth Enrichment - Awana

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**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 Monday7:00 p.m.
Monday Evening Bible Class7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Morning Bible Class10:00 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.



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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

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

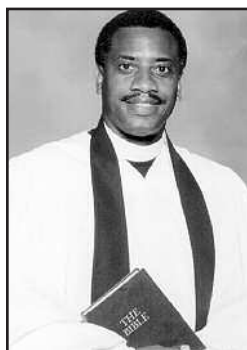
THE ROCK OF JESUS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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 Monday12:00 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 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!!!

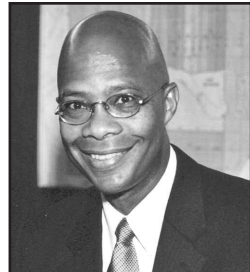
BETHEL METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH

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 School9:00 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

Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

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

In celebration of Black History Month we extend this invitation to join us for “Old Landmark Sunday” Feb. 27 during our 10 a.m. worship service. We encourage members and visitors alike to wear their vintage 1960’s and 1970’s apparel as we have a good ole’ church service.’

Although our Children and Youth Ministry (CYM) has

begun “The Armor of God Series,” it’s not too late to attend! This series is held 6:30 p.m. each Wed. through June 15. Attendees learn God’s truth of protecting them through interactive, informative and Christian life-building lessons. FMI: info@mzprogressive.org

Additionally, this ministry will conduct “Black Down Memory Lane,” a review of African-American History, 6-7:30 p.m. Wed., Feb. 23.

SAVE THE DATES! You don’t want to miss “All Hail

King Jesus 2011, The Triumphal Entry,” April 8 and 9 at Gibbs High School.

Reminder: Our C.A.R.E. Ministry Meetings are now held Fridays at 7 p.m. The location remains the same - 1906 9th Avenue South - and you need not be a member of Mt. Zion to attend.

Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, 955 20th St. S. Phone: 727-894-4311. www.mzprogressive.org.

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 Wed. evenings at 7:00.

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)

Our Black History Month celebration will culminate with African Attire Day on Sunday, Feb. 20 and our Annual Soul Food Fest on Sunday, Feb. 27 immediately following worship service.

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

Matthew 6:10
Email:bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com. Website: www.bmmbc.org

St. John Missionary Baptist Church

Saint John Missionary Baptist Church, 3100 5th Ave. S., St. Petersburg. Rev. Norris L. Martin, Sr Pastor.

Saturday, Feb. 19, at 6:30 p.m. The Youth Department of St. John Missionary Baptist Church will be host a Black History Program. The program

will include praise dancing, poems, singing and more. Come out an join us as we celebrate Black History and Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Sunday, Feb. 27, at 11:00 a.m. The Youth Department of St. John Missionary Baptist

Church will be hosting a Black History Service. Minister Jeff Tomlinson from Host Church will be the speaker.

Come out an join us as we celebrate Black History and Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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. 20 - Church outing to Galilee M. B. Church at 3:30 p.m.

Feb. 22 - Quarterly Ministry Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

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

Study Book: The Power of a Praying Woman

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 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 at 7:00 p.m.

St Mark Computer Lab and Computer Class Hours:

Computer Lab Hours:
Tuesday and Thursday only (4-6 p.m.) Saturday Mornings 10 a.m.-12 noon

Computer Class Hours:
Tuesday and Thursday only 6-7:00 p.m. Saturday Mornings 10 a.m.-12 noon

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 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 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

Hope to fellowship with you soon!

First Mt. Zion M.B. Church

First Mt. Zion M. B. Church (St. Petersburg) is seeking a pianist for its church choir. Must be able to play

both traditional and contemporary gospel music. Must be available for two services on the 1st and 2nd Sunday of

every month plus rehearsals and engagements. For more information, please call (727) 560-3358.

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

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TO TRANSFORMATION SUMMIT 2011 WEEKEND

The Weekly Challenger

The Weekly Challenger is providing an opportunity to Listen and Win! Listen to Praise 1590 WRXB Gospel radio all day Monday, February 21 and Tuesday, February 22 for a chance to win a ticket for the complete Transformation Summit 2011 Weekend being held Thursday, February 24 through Saturday, February 26. The winner will receive a full package including the Kick-Off Service on Thursday evening (7 p.m.), both morning and evening general sessions on Friday, Ministry Workshops of your choice with complimentary seat at the God's Change Agent luncheon and morning and evening general sessions on Saturday, the Saturday Breakout Sessions of your choice and complimentary seat at the Titus 2 Luncheon. Don't miss this special opportunity to call in and win! Some restrictions apply.



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