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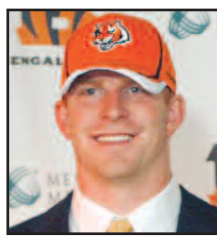
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VOLUME 43 NUMBER 41

JUNE 9 - JUNE 15, 2011

ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

The Blu Vu Delivers Florida Politics From The Inside Out



Blue Vu group

TALLAHASSEE - The real impact of capitol politics is a little easier to navigate, thanks to The Blu Vu. Thebluvu.com is the brain child of Executive Producer Gayle Andrews, a former capitol reporter turned executive legislative staffer, turned political consultant, who thought it was time for a new perspective on Republican dominance in Florida.

"I thought it was going to be bad, but not this bad. Some of these folks have almost total control of every aspect our lives. People need a news show that won't hold back and will talk about what is really going on," Andrews said. Thebluvu.com is described by viewers as edgy and honest.

Andrews realized she was on the right track when the Florida Conference of Black State Legislators made their annual January sojourns at the Governor's Mansion to discuss legislative issues with Governor Rick Scott. The black lawmakers were stunned by his reaction to their concerns and questions. Scott was very matter of fact when

he said he would not stop calling the federal healthcare plan "Obamacare." When asked why there were no blacks on his executive staff, he pointed to Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll. His presumptuous comment that he was just like the Caucus members because, "He grew up in the projects too and his father only had a 6th grade education." The insult was beyond explanation. Andrews said she checked with two lawmakers and an executive staffer who was present because she did not believe it was true. "We had a crew there because we knew it was going to be weird. I just couldn't believe that a governor would say anything that patronizing. We knew then that we had many backstories to tell."

The Blu Vu stories are archived on the site dating back to the March 7th premiere. It specializes in summarizing the week's political events that most Floridians miss. Andrews said

BLU VU
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Gibbs High School Graduation Celebrates School's Turn-Around



Left to right, Pinellas County School Superintendent Julie Janssen, School Board member Lewis Williams, St. Petersburg College representative Watson Haynes and Gibbs High School Principal Kevin Gordon.



Left to right, St. Petersburg College representative Watson Haynes, Gibbs High School Asst. Principal for the BETA Program Ija Hawthorne, School Board member Lewis Williams and Gibbs High School Asst. Principal Nicole Johnson.

SPECIAL TO THE CHALLENGER

ST. PETERSBURG - They were all there... the School Superintendent, a school board member, two Regional Superintendents and a representative of the partnership between St. Petersburg College and Gibbs High School.

As Joel Scott stood in line, waiting his turn to hear his name called to walk across the stage to receive his diploma, he struggled to keep the tears back. "Man, I

can't believe I made it," he said over and over to other seniors standing with him.

Scott and more than 300 other members of The Gibbs High School class of 2011 graduated Saturday at Tropicana Field in St. Petersburg. Filled with pomp and circumstance, the graduation was highlighted by speeches celebrating Gibbs' turnaround from an "F" grade to six points away from a "B."

"The truth is," said Principal Kevin Gordon, "Gibbs High School graduates more students

than many other similar high schools, and we increased the graduation rate by 9 percent this year." Behind this 'G' is the greatness that Gladiators have known and exemplified for 84 years. The Gladiator greatness is alive. It is well. It is omnipresent!"

"This year has been rife with doubt and disbelief from both external and internal forces, but did we let that stop us?" asked valedictorian Chloe Kessock. "It wasn't easy, but graduating from Gibbs High School will give us new and exciting options that no

one else will have the chance to take.

Salutatorian Kelsey Conley thanked the class for having risen above the challenges and for displaying their achievements with pride. "Despite the negative attention Gibbs has received in the past, it is through persistence, dedication and determination that we have [thankfully] overcome the misplaced perceptions about our

GIBBS
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Michael B. Singleton Jr. Lakewood High Salutatorian

BY TERRI P. MURPH
SPECIAL TO THE CHALLENGER

ST. PETERSBURG - According to a national study, Pinellas County's African-American males graduate at a lower rate than any other large school district in the nation. This fact has been disputed by school administrators, but bearing this in mind, Michael B. Singleton Jr. is a breath of fresh air. No, he is more than that, he is a cool breeze. Thursday, June 9, he will take his place as Lakewood High School's Salutatorian, graduating second in his class from Lakewood's CAT (Center for Advanced Technologies) Program, a Pinellas County School District magnet. Mike, as he prefers to

be called, ranks number two overall among all of Lakewood's approximately 331 graduating seniors, magnet and non-magnet.

This is one of the highest honors a student can achieve in high school, but if you left it to Mike to tell it, you might not ever find out. In addition to being exceptionally smart, he is extremely humble. He is never ever boastful about his accomplishments but rather very low key and mature for an 18 year-old. When asked about how he felt when he found out he was going to be the salutatorian he calmly explained, "I was happy but I wasn't surprised. I had a feeling...." He said his class-

SINGLETON
continued on pg. 6



Michael B. Singleton Jr.

Celebrating The Class Of 2011



KHANA A. RILEY

Graduated on May 21 from The University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, with a Masters of Elementary. Khana is a 2005 graduate of Shorecrest Preparatory, St. Petersburg, FL, and a 2009 graduate of Connecticut College, New London, CT. She is the daughter of Deondra Riley-Sanchez and the granddaughter of The Weekly Challenger’s Publisher/General Manager, Dianne Speights. Pictured above from left to right, Khana Riley and Dr. Wanda Mitchell.



SADE SMITH

Sade Smith recently graduated from Howard University with a Masters of Education in Guidance and Counseling. She completed her undergraduate degree at USF in December 2008 where she recieved her BA in Interdisciplinary Social Science. She graduated in 2004 from Armwood High School in Tampa, FL. Sade is the granddaughter of Emma Cavin, St. Petersburg, FL



JARRET T. ROBERTS

Jarret T. Roberts graduated, Cum Laude, on April 30 from Florida A & M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics. While attending Florida A & M, Jarret was inducted into the Psi Sigma Theta National Honor Society and served as the President of the FAMU Economics Club. Jarret is the son of Leonard Roberts, Sr. and Judy Baker-Roberts of St. Petersburg, FL.



KARMEN RENE SMITH

Karmen Rene Smith graduated from the University of South Florida, August 6, with a Masters of Arts in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling with a concentration in Marriage and Family Therapy. She is the daughter of Michelle Pearson (George).



DALYNN DORIS GAMMONS

Dalynn Doris Gammons graduated from Clearwater High School, June 9, Brighthouse Field. She is the daughter of Bufus and Janet Gammons.



JAE SILAS BAKER

Jae Silas Baker graduated from Nina Harris School, June 6. He is the son of Carla Baker and J. E. Baker.



GRACEN CLEM

Gracen Clem graduated on May 26 from Trinity Lutheran’s Middle School, Joppa, MD. He was the recipient of 9 awards including the Award of Excellence signed by President Obama. Gracen is the son of Kerry and Gracie Victor Clem, of Bel Air, MD and the grandson of Rev. and Mrs. Gustave Victor, of St. Petersburg, FL.



Older African-Americans could face Medicare cuts

By Jeff Johnson

Some older African-Americans may have been alarmed to hear that a report on Social Security and Medicare projected lower “lifespans” for these programs due to a bad economy. Yet if readers knew what was really being debated in Congress, they might be even more alarmed.

The fact is, some in Congress want to impose harmful cuts on Medicare and Social Security as part of a political deal to pay Washington’s bills. These cuts could end up shifting the spiraling cost of health care onto older people and even put Social Security benefits at risk.

This news is especially important for older African-Americans. Nationally, about 29 percent of African-Americans and about 26 percent of Hispanics relied on Social Security for 90 percent of their incomes, compared to 22.8 percent of whites.

Here’s what you may already know: Recently, the U.S. House voted for a plan by Rep. Paul Ryan, R-WI, to turn Medicare into a private insurance program. Americans younger than 55 would receive limited government “premium support” to help pay premiums – but the proposed “support” would not keep pace with health costs, shifting heavy costs from the government to you.

Here’s what you may not have yet heard about: Under suggestions for arbitrary budget limits proposed by both Democrats and Republicans, if federal spending exceed a fixed limit, the government would impose across-the-board cuts that would include Medicare. Some plans even would target Social Security.

Would these plans only affect people 55 and younger? No! They’d affect each and every Medicare beneficiary, of whatever age.

For example, under some plans under discussion in Washington, Medicare doctor and hospital reimbursements could face across-the-board cuts if the arbitrary budget limit is reached.

It may be hard for you to believe your doctor would ever turn you away. But he or she may not have a choice. Cuts to doctor and hospital reimbursements may mean your physician may simply not be financially able to treat you if such cuts go into effect. And if you’re ill, you need to be able to see your doctor – not be forced to scramble for alternatives because Washington can’t wring the waste out of federal spending.

But that’s not all. If Washington moves ahead with the political deal under discussion, you could even see your Social Security check shrink – again, because Congress can’t wring waste, fraud and abuse out of federal spending.

No one disputes that we’ve got to get rising federal debt under control. But some in Congress think this debate is about charts, graphs and fiscal projections. At AARP, we know it must also be about real people – about how these proposals would affect older people who’ve worked a lifetime to build this nation. AARP believes Congress should start by cutting budget waste and closing tax loopholes before cutting benefits that today’s seniors have worked hard for.

Your voice is vital to this debate. Call 1-888-722-8514 toll-free to urge your U.S. Senator to protect Medicare and Social Security.

Older Floridians earned their benefits under Social Security and Medicare. They deserve to be able to count on them.

Jeff Johnson is AARP Florida interim state director.

“Call Congress toll-free at 888-722-8514 and tell them no cuts to Medicare and Social Security”

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Weekly Challenger Newspaper
We Value Diversity. We Value Education. We Value History.

- Acknowledge 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

Separate And Unequal Once More



BY REV. JESSE L. JACKSON SR.

May 17 marked the anniversary of the landmark 1954 Supreme Court decision in *Brown vs. Board of Education*, which outlawed racially segregated schools as “inherently unequal,” and a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment of the US Constitution.

Now over half a century later, America’s schools are being re-segregated. The NAACP states that “schools around the country are, in essence, returning to Jim Crow-era patterns of segregation.”

The figures are stark. A 2009 Civil Rights report published by UCLA reports that African Americans attend schools more segregated today than they did on the day Dr. Martin Luther King was killed. The average white child in America attends a school that is 77 percent white, with 32 percent of the student body living in poverty. The average black child attends a school that is only 29 percent white, with 59 percent poor. The typical Latino kid is similarly segregated, with schools that are 27 percent white and 57 percent poor. Overall, a third of all black and Latino children sit every day in classrooms that are 90 to 100 percent black and Latino.

Ironically, the most severe segregation in public schools is not in the South, but in the big cities of the Midwest and in Western states, including California.

The Supreme Court decision that separate public schools were inherently unequal put the Court in the center of America’s fierce racial debate. A year after *Brown*, the Supreme Court ruled that desegregation could take place with “all deliberate speed,” which helped fuel the massive resistance to change throughout the South. Ambitious politicians like George Wallace and Orville Faubus “stood in the school house door,” trying to block black students from entering. It took a Civil Rights movement, constant litigation, and federal intervention to make progress.

School integration reached its all time high in 1988, with almost 45 percent of Black students in the US attending majority white schools. But as whites fled to the suburbs, the backlash to busing grew. Nixon perfected the strategy of playing on

those racial divides. Segregated housing patterns produced schools divided along racial and class lines. In a series of decisions, the Supreme Court retreated from supporting extensive court-ordered desegregation plans, culminating with a conservative majority of a badly split Court invoking *Brown* as authority for overturning even voluntary desegregation plans.

But schools aren’t simply inherently unequal, despite equal resources and facilities. At the time of *Brown*, they suffered — and suffer to this day — what Jonathan Kozol described as “savage inequality.” Most school funding comes from local taxes; the most affluent districts support the best provisioned schools. They get the best teachers, the most modern laboratories and equipment, and the most modern textbooks. Those districts tend to be disproportionately white. The poorest districts — particularly urban districts — end up with the worst schools. The kids with the most need, in too many cases, get the least skilled teachers and the worst facilities.

The bulk of education funding from the federal government and — after extensive litigation — a portion of state funding goes to schools with poorer children, seeking to reduce the advantage enjoyed by the affluent. If living patterns lead to racially segregated schools, and the courts are retreating from trying to counter that, then at least the savage inequality of funding could be reduced.

But now, in the wake of the Great Recession, federal and state education budgets are on the chopping block. The harsh cuts in education spending on the drawing board in Washington and in states across the country will have ruinous effects on the most vulnerable students — and the poorest schools.

In 1954, a unanimous Supreme Court called on America to fulfill the promise of equal opportunity by ending segregated schools. Now segregation by law — racial apartheid — has been replaced with segregation in fact. In this increasingly diverse nation, our schools have become less diverse and more separate. And now they are headed to becoming even more unequal. In 1954, the Supreme Court helped to spark a renewed Civil Rights movement. Now a half century later, we need a new civil rights movement to demand once more equal protection under the law.



Community Spotlight

By Emma Cavin • Special to the Challenger

George And Ruby Cooney

ST. PETERSBURG - Beginning in 1969, the A & S Drive-in Restaurant served up smiles, advice, and a scrumptious lunch to any workers who could get to 10th Ave. and 16th St. each day between 11:00 a.m. and 3 p.m. Owners, George and Ruby Cooney, enjoyed serving the people as much as the people enjoyed being served. Whether it was a hamburger, a chicken dinner, a fish sandwich or a basket of shrimp with fries, a friendly conversation, a big smile and a discussion of the scriptures were offered to everyone who drove up to the windows.

George Cooney enjoyed talking about his years as a businessman on 16th Street. He also fondly spoke about other jobs, his marriage, the children, and Southside Tabernacle Baptist, the church where he is an elder. Often, he is relied on to make important decisions and to provide advice to other members.

According to Cooney, he had absolutely no interest in becoming a restaurant owner when he came to St. Petersburg. He met Glenn and Margie Parcell while working at Seminole Gardens, however. Parcell had just retired from the restaurant business and offered the Cooneys an opportunity that was too good to ignore. “We bought a building, moved in, and started cooking. It was an apartment building so we were in violation of several codes. That meant that we had to find another building. Fortunately for us, there was an extra lot right next to the building. We met with an architect and made plans to build. Special arrangements were made with various companies to get the construction started and to let us pay the money as we earned it. They were all eager to help us. They saw us trying to do something positive in the community.”

The restaurant was open for more than 13 years. It was a family run business with occasional help from teens from their church or their neighborhood, family friends, and two adult employees. The main help came from the Cooney children — Anthony, Sherry, and Chris, for whom the drive-in was named. It was called A&S Drive-in until Chris, the youngest, realized that there was no “C” on the sign for his name. That is when the name was changed to A&SC. All of the Cooney children worked in the restaurant until they went away to college.

When families were hungry, they could always get a meal at A&SC, whether they had money or not. The restaurant was a livelihood for the Cooneys, but it was also their ministry when others were having hard times. They never forgot the help they received when they were getting started. Therefore, they fed the community whenever there was a need.

Once the lunch crowd had been served each day, the after work and after school crowd converged on the business for French fries and ice cream cones. No matter what hour they were there, it was a special experience, one to remember.

Other enterprises the family developed



were R&G Courier Service, and R&G Janitorial Services. Started in 1982, these businesses continued through 1995. Cooney also spent 13 years in maintenance at St. Petersburg Junior College. He is now retired, but still sought after for special jobs.

Ruby Cooney, meanwhile, spent the past 25 years as a pre-school teacher at Southside Christian Academy. Her work was with 2 and 3 year olds until 2010. She now continues her work with women at Southside Tabernacle Baptist Church through the Jail Ministry, Growth in Faith Ministry and the Women’s Leadership Corps. She is also a volunteer at the Next STEPP Center. There, she gives counsel to women who are pregnant or experiencing a number of difficult situations. “My work,” she says, “is all for the purpose of sharing the gospel for the glory of God.”

The Cooneys met at a church in Boston, MA when they were 16 and 18 years old. They dated for three years before getting married. She attended Ft. Valley State College and studied Early Childhood Education while he worked in the construction industry in Clearwater. When asked what kept them together for such a long, long time, Cooney answered, “God is the glue that has kept us together. I am just like any other person, so God has been a mighty force in our lives.” On May 10, they celebrated 53 years of marriage.



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COMMUNITY NEWS



Caring for the Soul

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

As the end of another school year approaches, I reflect on the hope I have for our future. When I recently attended the Mayor’s Youth Showcase of Achievement, I realized that contrary to the beliefs of some, our children will be okay. I am optimistic about our future because our children will become adults who will ensure a bright future for us all.

As in every generation, there will be leaders. There will be innovators. There will be teachers, physicians, lawyers, dancers, musicians, and every profession we can imagine. There will also be careers in fields we have not yet discovered. Our children will rise to the occasion and perhaps become better stewards of the environment than we are. They will succeed in the future because they are already succeeding.

Our job is to prepare them as best we can for a world we do not yet know. How might

we do that? We can encourage their creativity today. We can explore their world with them as much as we can and allow them to make new discoveries. We can also reassure them when they are unsure about where they are headed. We might even let them know that we are not always sure about where we are headed. Moreover, we must let them know that we are confident that wherever we go, God is already there.

Beyond everything I just stated, we must make sure our children know we believe in them. Of course they will experience failure in life. However, failure cannot prevent anyone from trying again — unless one allows it to do so. As the summer approaches, encourage children you know to try new experiences and learn as much as they can. If they fail, tell them to try again until they succeed. Our future depends on it.



They Are Women Hear Them Roar!

The famed song “I am Woman” was a number number one hit song by Australian singer Helen Reddy. The lyrics say, “I am woman, hear me roar. I am too big to ignore, and I know too much to go back and pretend.” Hundreds of distinguished women and guest roared aloud at the recent Hillsborough County Women’s Hall Of Fame Induction Luncheon coordinated by The Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women.

The Hillsborough County Women’s Hall of Fame was created by the Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women to honor women who, through their lives and efforts, have made significant contributions to the improvement of life for women and for all citizens of Hillsborough County. The Commission maintains and facilitates the permanent Women’s Hall of Fame display. There was definitely an air of appreciation for success and accomplishment that reeked through the crowd as county and city officials, families, and guest witnessed this historically momentous occasion. Charter Inductees were Mary Cash, the First Florida registered nurse of African American heritage; Elizabeth “Betty” Castor, the first woman elected to the Hillsborough County Commission, the Florida State Cabinet and the First Woman President of USF, Helen Gordon Davis, the First woman elected to Florida House of Representatives, Cecile Waterman Sprig, the First woman elected to Hillsborough County School Board, Pat Collier Frank, the County Commissioner, Legislator, Clerk of Court; Sandra W. Freedman, the First woman Mayor of City of Tampa; Clara Frye Founder of the first Negro Hospital in

Hillsborough County; Adela Hernandez Gonzmart, the Co-founder of The Columbia Restaurant and Ballet Folklorico of Ybor; Sylvia Rodriguez Kimball the first African-American woman elected to Hillsborough County Commission; Sadye Martin, an educator and the first woman Mayor of Plant City.

The inductees accepted these prestigious awards and stirring speeches were given by them, their family members, or representatives. The Hillsborough County Commission on the Status of Women was created April 16, 2003 to advise the Board of County Commissioners, County administration, and all agencies and persons in Hillsborough County with respect to all matters pertaining to the status of women including but not limited to, discrimination against women; employment of women; education of women; establishment of day care centers in the community; attitudes towards women in the community; and to make periodic reports and recommendations to these bodies in respect to such matters.

What would the world do without women? They are our mothers, wives, sisters, aunts and significant contributors to our history. Cudos to Hillsborough County Commissioners, County administrators and all other agencies and persons in Hillsborough County who recognized this need and are holding fast to its mission. I had an absolutely wonderful time learning and being a part of this rich history, and I admonish all to learn to appreciate these women. As Helen Reddy says, they are strong, invincible, and are women!

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

GIBBS continued from front page

school,” declared Conley.

Senior class president Keona Welch stood, and amidst constant applauding and “Amen’s”, acknowledged the comeback of Gibbs High School. “Long hours, dedication, discipline, and a whole lot of faith helped to restore the face of Gibbs back to the proud, historical, high school it once was. Countless athletic accomplishments; moving the school grade from an ‘F’ to a ‘B’ [yeah, that’s

right, a ‘B’]; higher FCAT scores; more parent participation; and improved magnet programs. All of these accomplishments are a product of the distinguished Gibbs High School.”

After acknowledging that her class beat statistics that would have rendered them dead due to gang activity, pregnant before tenth grade, imprisoned, or school drop-outs, Welch concluded that her class was on the brink of greatness.

“It’s up to you to go into the world, make a difference, and

bring your experiences back home to share with those who helped shape you into the success that you will become. Please remember, it’s not where you start, but where you finish that counts.”

“Walking across the stage and getting my diploma was okay”, one student was heard to comment to another after the ceremony, “but my favorite part of the whole thing was when Mr. Gordon said, ‘Please move your tassel from right to left.’

Now that’s what I’m talking about.”

Pinellas County Urban League To Host Elder Security Forum

ST. PETERSBURG - The Pinellas County Urban League’s Black-On-Black Crime Prevention Program will be hosting two 90-minute forums for seniors 50+ to obtain critical information on evolving subjects such as financial security, crime prevention, personal safety, continuing education and health care options. The Pinellas County Urban League is proud to present this forum which will be held at the Enoch Davis Center, 1111 18th Avenue South in St. Petersburg. Some of the businesses that will help bring subject matter expertise to the event are 5/3 Bank and

WellCare. Other partners will include the City of Saint Petersburg and the Academy of Senior Professionals, which is located at Eckerd College. The League’s Career Connection Center, an employment placement program will be available to assist participants. Activities will take place from 11:00 am until 12:30 pm on June 14 and 21, 2011 with light refreshments served.

Founded in 1977, the Pinellas County Urban League is the premier social service and civil rights organization in Pinellas County. We are one of the National Urban League’s network of non-profit,

community-based affiliates located throughout the united states. The Urban League is a member agency of United Way since 1981. The League operates social service programs throughout Pinellas County and serves those in need of career development, education, employment services, tutoring, energy assistance, crime prevention services, health screening and education services and housing weatherization. For more information about the Urban League, please visit our website, www.pcul.org or by calling (727) 327-2081.

Pinellas County Utilities Cautions About Water Scams

Free water testing offer again targeting consumers

Pinellas County Utilities is cautioning customers to beware of companies recommending that a water test be conducted in your home. Such companies often use scare tactics and misrepresentation to sell a water treatment product and Utilities has learned that customers are again being approached about having their water tested. At least one company is calling it a “public awareness program.” It is important to remember that Utilities performed over 50,000 analyses in the past year to assure that our water meets or exceeds all federal and state standards for safe drinking water.

Companies offering to test your water are not endorsed by, or affiliated with, any government agency. In addition, employees of Pinellas County Utilities will never attempt to sell an “upgrade” to your home’s plumbing system. Utilities employees concentrate their efforts on maintaining our infra-

structure, not inspecting or selling home fixtures.

Utilities urges customers to be cautious of individuals and businesses claiming they can improve the quality and safety of your water through the purchase of a water treatment system. It’s true that the taste of water may vary regionally, but your water’s quality is at or above the industry standard. Don’t let fear motivate a purchase.

Every year, as mandated by the Federal government, Pinellas County Utilities issues a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for both potable and reclaimed water. This publication is a detailed report of your water’s chemistry. All levels are strictly controlled and monitored for your safety. The most recent CCR has been mailed to customers and can be found at http://www.pinellascounty.org/utilities/documents/CCR_2010.pdf.

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Following:

1. Unexpected visits and “free” gifts from water companies.
2. A salesperson who adds a coagulant (a thickening agent) to your water to solidify harmless minerals.
3. Expensive prices and scare tactics.

Remember:

All news of temporary precautions associated with your drinking water will come from a respected news source, or directly from your water provider. If you are approached about water quality and would like information from us, please call (727) 464-4000.

To investigate a company’s past business history or performance, call the Pinellas County Department of Consumer Protection at (727) 464-6200 or check out the company on the Web at www.pinellascounty.org/consumer and click on “Check a business.”

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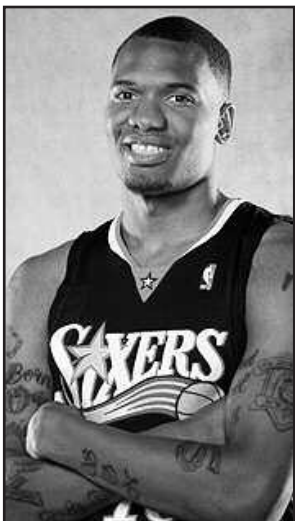
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Seniors Honored At Annual Hall Of Fame

BY JEANIE BLUE
SPECIAL TO THE
CHALLENGER

ST. PETERSBURG - A host of family and friends came to the Sunshine Center to support their nominees at the 28th Annual Senior Hall of Fame Awards program that was held May 25. Mayor William “Bill” Foster welcomed everyone and congratulated the nominees and the inductees.

“The Hall of Fame means the best of the best in the city, your chosen profession and in your extra curricular activities,” Mayor Foster said.

“You’ve made an impact, made a difference, in the lives of the citizens and the visitors of this city,” he added.

Ninety-one year old Mansfield Johnson was among the group honored. At 91, he still volunteers to transport his elderly neighbors and friends to their medical and social appointments. He was among 20-citizens nominated to be added to the City’s Office on Aging’s Senior Hall of Fame, where the names of this year’s inductees will be posted on a wall inside the center’s auditorium with previously selected Hall of Fame members. Over the years, the list has included doctors, lawyers, entrepreneurs, community activists, spiritual leaders, journalists, coaches, police officers, grandmothers and grandfathers. According to the master of ceremonies, Jay Morgan, manager of



2011 Senior Hall of Fame inductees, Mayor Foster and event officials

the Office on Aging, more than 271 awards have been issued since the program began in 1983.

“Your total value is priceless,” Morgan expressed. “In 1983 we started with only 10-awards which recognized the valuable contributions of the 65 and older St. Petersburg residents.”

All nominees received a certificate and a rose. The other citizens nominated were Dorothy Admire, Elaine Bardsley, William Brown, Norma Card, Judy Ellis, Evelyn Gardner, Jean Glick, Elias Hasbun, Roger Jackle, Dee Kaufman, Dorothy Longstaff, Sylvester Manning, Marion

Nadon, Millie Reynolds, Phyllis Roemer, Mack Scott, Wendy Siedlecki, Helen Torres, Clara White. This years inductees includes William Brown, Evelyn Gardner, Roger Jackle, Helen Torres and Clara White.

Johnson was not an inductee, but was nominated because of the ways he continues to serve other senior citizens at 91. Born in St. Petersburg, herved four years in the United States Army (1941-1945) and ranked as a Sergeant serving with the 96th Engineer Battalion-Company B. During the Pacific War, his unit (which was segregated) was the first American unit to go to new Guinea. After the military, he

returned to St. Petersburg and took flight training. This opportunity was granted to “Negro” veterans at the first accredited GI flying school for Negroes on the Florida West Coast. Johnson, who flew “solo” once, was one of forty-five veterans who enrolled at St. Petersburg’s Aero Tech-Pinellas International Airport. Johnson was married to Adeline Roberts, now deceased. Johnson is the father of 2 daughters, a grandfather, a great grandfather, a great-great grandfather and a great-great-great grandfather.

Congratulations to all nominees and inductees. We appreciate you and thank you for your service.

Keep Kids Reading During Summer Months

(STATEPOINT) Summer vacation is important. It gives kids a chance to learn more about themselves by attending camp, working a summer job or just diving deep into a hobby.

But it’s also important that children maintain the skills they’ve developed at school over the summer, particularly reading skills. To help, Nestlé has created “The Nestlé Share the Joy of Reading” program benefitting Reading Is Fundamental (RIF), the nation’s oldest and largest nonprofit children’s literacy organization, to ensure that low income children around the country have books to learn, grow, and develop a love of reading, even in the summer!

Here are some tips from RIF to keep your young ones excited about reading this summer:

- Make a chart to keep track of the books they read this summer. Generate excitement by competing with same-age relatives or friends to see who reads more.
- Write a letter to your favorite author. A librarian can help you find a postal or e-mail address.
- Start a journal with a friend or relative. Take turns writing in it all summer long. You can even do this by mail or e-mail, especially if a parent or relative is deployed or away on business.
- Make your own fun board game. Include game pieces, cards, and a spinner or dice.
- Collect jokes from your family and friends and make your own joke book.
- Plan an entertaining family “booknic” at your favorite

outdoor spot. Pack a lunch and plenty to read.

- Make dinnertime reading time. As family members are preparing meals or cleaning up, one person can read aloud from a favorite classic or an exciting new novel.

Enthusiastic readers can also help spread their love of the written word. And there are many things you can do to encourage reading in your community and nationwide.

For example, candy lovers can help by looking for promotional codes inside specially marked bags of Nestlé candy, such as Butterfinger and BabyRuth, and visiting www.celebrationcorner.com/RIF. Each time they enter a valid package promotion code to play an instant win game, Nestlé will donate ten cents to RIF. The

company may be donating up to \$250,000, with a minimum guarantee of \$100,000, to RIF through the Nestlé Share the Joy of Reading Program. You can also participate without purchasing anything and can view the official rules on the website.

You can find fun ways to encourage summer reading in your family by visiting www.rif.org or by visiting your local public library.

You can also tie your reading choices to family trips. Kids will enjoy reading about animals before visiting the zoo or a quick review of history before visiting a local historical site. Even keeping score at a baseball game can serve as a literacy activity.

So keep it fun and light, and keep your kids reading this summer!

Foreclosed Homes Could Mean Big Mold Problems

BY SUE YANNELLO

CLEARWATER - The glut of foreclosed homes on the market may seem like a bargain during this house-hunting season, but it could turn into a bust because of the consequences of hidden mold. Unsuspecting home buyers, thinking they have nabbed a deal from the bank, could later feel like they need to rob a bank to pay for prohibitive mold removal costs that surface months after they have closed the deal.

“There could be mold growing behind walls and underneath floors, but you can’t always see, smell or touch it,” says Jeff Dudan, CEO and founder of AdvantaClean, a national mold remediation franchise company.

“Once mold takes hold, it’s really tough to prevent it from spreading. The new buyer could spend thousands of dollars on mold remediation, an unexpected expense that can turn that bargain dream home into a nightmare.”

FORECLOSED AND FORGOTTEN: As homes are foreclosed and vacated, the power is typically turned off. In the winter month, vacant homes without heat are prime candidates for uncontrolled leaks, burst pipes and vandalism.

Within minutes of water intrusion, excessive moisture begins to cause damage to structural components and finished surfaces. Left unchecked, the moisture can quickly result in mold growth and degradation of

the quality of the indoor environment.

Heading into the summer months, temperature and humidity levels skyrocket, leading to conditions that are ripe for mold to grow unchecked.

SOLUTION: Pay for a mold inspection prior to purchasing a home by hiring an indoor air quality specialist to inspect for mold. If a problem is discovered, bring in a certified remediation company to properly remove the mold.

“You should bring in mold specialists before you buy the home to substantially reduce your risk of discovering a lingering mold problem,” says Dudan. “This small step could protect your investment.”

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Courtesy of

Publix®

Saturday, June 11 - Williams Park Summer Market. 8 a.m. to noon. There will be a summer market located in a shady portion of Williams Park. It will be smaller and simpler than a previous summer market venue. We’ll be using a portion of the park that is well shaded by trees and a neighboring office tower. The park is an entire city block bounded by 3rd & 4th Streets, and 1st and 2nd Ave N. In addition to on-street parking, there are a variety of convenient nearby garages and surface lots. For more information, visit www.saturdaymorningmarket.com for more information.

Saturday, June 11 - Young Eagles Day - Free Airplane Rides for Kids, Albert Whitted Airport, 451 8th Ave. S.E. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children, ages 8-17, have the opportunity to learn about aviation and fly in an airplane free of charge. http://www.awaps.org/young_eagles/mainyoung_eagles.asp. www.awaps.org or 727-822-1532.

Saturday, June 11 - SaturDAY Salsa. Every Saturday. Courtyard by the Bay, The Pier, 800 2nd Ave. N.E. 2 to 6 p.m. www.stpetepier.com or 727-821-6443. www.salsawithgreg.com. Music, Dancing & Socializing 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Intro to Salsa Group Class 4:30 - 5:00 p.m. Salsa, Merengue and Bachata with D.J. Greg "Muevetes" Richardson.

Sunday, June 12 - Pier Paddle Social, Spa Beach, at foot of The Pier, St. Petersburg, FL. 1 p.m. See St. Pete from the water with a Sunday paddle around The Pier, the flats, the marina and back. All paddlers invited. Rental boards will be available. Information, Jonny Reno, 727-510-1921 or LaBudeReno@aol.com or www.stpetepier.com



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Email: HR@phcc.edu - Fax #727-816-3315

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EOE/ADA Compliance - Website: www.phcc.edu/jobs

COMMUNITY NEWS

Free ‘Home Ownership For People Everywhere’ Expo 2011

ST. PETERSBURG - HOPE (Homeownership for People Everywhere) Expo 2011 will be held Saturday, June 25, at Raymond James Financial Center, 880 Carillon Parkway, Tower 4, St. Petersburg. The Expo features First Time Homebuyer workshops in English and in Spanish and over 25 housing industry related exhibitors.

The workshops run from 9:00

a.m. to 3:30 p.m., including a lunch break. Prize drawings occur throughout the day. Attendees receive a certificate of completion required by some lenders’ down payment and closing costs assistance programs. Exhibits are open from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. HOPE Expo 2011 is sponsored by the U.S. Dept. of HUD; state, local, & community-based housing agencies; Realtors, lenders, and other housing

industry professionals. Registration for the workshop is required. For more information or to register, visit our website at www.hopeexpo.org or call (727) 461-0618, ext. 3. HOPE Expo 2011 is FREE to the general public. Children will not be permitted in the seminar, and childcare will not be provided. Lunch is available on site at attendees’ expense

Girl Scouts Looking For Local Troop Leaders

TAMPA – Girl Scouts of West Central Florida (GSWCF) is seeking troop leaders, both men and women over age 18, to volunteer as positive adult role models for girls. Troop leaders facilitate activities meeting the contemporary needs of girls, and make a lasting impact by helping build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. GSWCF works in close partnership with troop leaders to deliver the information and support needed to help girls unleash their potential. As part of

its commitment, GSWCF offers a flexible schedule of in-person and online trainings for all troop leaders, assisting them in developing their skills and learning about the Girl Scout program. By completing all required training this summer, leaders can have a troop as early as this fall! In addition to troop leaders, GSWCF is seeking volunteers to fill a variety of other positions. Volunteers are needed to work behind the scenes to support troop leaders, or to train other volunteers. Volunteers are also needed to work directly with girls

as event directors or program facilitators at local Girl Scout camps. The possibilities are endless! No matter the position, Girl Scout volunteers gain valuable job experience, hone leadership skills, participate in their community and, ultimately empower and inspire girls. For more information on volunteering with GSWCF, visit www.gswcf.org. For specific questions or to learn more about the current volunteer needs in west central Florida, contact Kristie Wiley: (813) 262-1765 or volunteer@gswcf.org.

SINGLETON

continued from front page

mates had been crunching numbers about his GPA, a weighted 4.38, and that of others. They were sure he would be first or second. Their principal, Robert Vicari came over the intercom one day and confirmed his status when he made the announcement to offer congratulations to him and the valedictorian. Mike said that his whole classroom erupted into cheers. Even then, he kept his cool about it. “I only told my Mom, Dad and girlfriend about it.” His mom and dad, Felicia and Michael Singleton, Sr., confirmed that it takes a lot to excite their only child. “He has always been very laid-back and calm,” his Mom says. “He doesn’t like to draw too much attention to himself.” His Dad comments, “Lil Mike’s got cool down to a science.” Mike says he never set out to be salutatorian. “It wasn’t a goal, it just kind of happened. Education is a big deal to my parents. They motivate me a lot,” he said. He

also added that he studies hard and is always focused. Mike subscribes to the mantras ‘Only the Strong Survive’ and ‘Keep Your Eyes on the Prize.’ Believe it or not, this scholar actually found time to participate in other activities. Too numerous to name them all, his litany of accomplishments includes: being named the 2011 Prom King just a few weeks ago, National Honor Society, Ebony Scholars Program, President of the 500 Role Models, The Power Broker Magazine’s “Top 20 Under 20,” 2011 award from St. Petersburg College for outstanding academics, and he was captain of the varsity basketball team – playing the positions of point guard and shooting guard. In addition to that, he was equally active in the AAU’s Junior Division Courtside Cavaliers basketball team, where they placed among the top three in all of their tournaments. Mike received several offers and letters of interest for academic and athletic scholarships. Among interested the interested universities were

University of Miami, Columbia University, University of South Florida, WestPoint Military Academy and University of Central Florida. After doing some research, then deliberating his options with measured thought, he finally decided on USF. He wants to become a pathologist, a medical examiner to be exact. He says that USF has a very good medical school. He will begin his studies in Biology, starting the summer semester at the end of this month. He will try to walk on to their basketball team. Until then, he says he will work out, hit the courts and maybe go to a theme park or two in his shiny black two-seater that his parents bought for him as an early graduation present. Focus, focus, focus is now the name of the game for Mike Jr. He says excitement will come later. “I’ll get excited down the road – when I reach my peak in what I really want to do in life.” No doubt he will humbly reach his goals, all the while remaining cool, calm and collected.

BLACK HISTORY

“Celebrating Our History Is An Everyday Thing”

Source: Wikipedia Free Library

Patricia Roberts Harris



Patricia Roberts Harris (May 31, 1924 – March 23, 1985) served as United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and United States Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare (which office later became United States Secretary of Health and Human Services) in the administration of President Jimmy Carter. She was the first African-American woman to serve as a United States Ambassador, representing the U.S. in Luxembourg under President Lyndon B. Johnson, and the first to enter the line of succession to the Presidency.

Patricia Roberts was born in Mattoon, Illinois, and was the daughter of a railroad dining car waiter. She graduated summa cum laude from Howard University in 1945. While at Howard, she was elected Phi Beta Kappa. There she met William Beasley Harris, a member of the Howard law faculty, they were married in 1955. She did postgraduate work at the University of Chicago and at American University in 1949. Until 1953, she worked as Assistant Director of the American Council on Human Rights. She was the first national executive of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, of

which she was a member.[citation needed] Roberts later graduated from the George Washington University National Law Center in 1960. Graduating number one out of a class of 94, she was later admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. Attorney Harris worked briefly for the U.S. Department of Justice before returning, in 1961, to Howard University as an associate dean of students and law lecturer at Howard's law school. In 1963, she was elevated to a full professorship and, in 1969, she was named Dean of Howard University's School of Law.

Her first position with the U.S. government was as an attorney in the appeals and research section of the criminal division of the Department of Justice in 1960. There she met and struck up a friendship with Robert Kennedy, the new attorney general. In 1963, President John F. Kennedy appointed her co-chairman of the National Women's Committee for Civil Rights.

In 1964, Patricia Harris was elected a delegate to the Democratic National Convention from the District of Columbia. She worked in Lyndon Johnson's presidential campaign and seconded his nomination at the 1964 Democratic Convention. Soon after his victory, President Johnson appointed her Ambassador to Luxembourg from 1965 to 1967. Following her service as Dean of Howard's School of Law from 1969 to 1972, she joined one of Washington, D.C.'s most prestigious law firms.

In 1971, Harris was named a director of IBM. She continued making an impact

on the Democratic Party when, in 1972, she was appointed chairman of the credentials committee and a member-at-large of the Democratic National Committee in 1973. A testimony to her effectiveness and her commitment to excellence came when President Jimmy Carter appointed her to two cabinet-level posts during his administration.

Harris was appointed to the cabinet of President Jimmy Carter when he took office in 1977. She thus became the first African-American woman to enter the Presidential line of succession, at number 13. Between 1977 and 1979 she served as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and in 1979, she became Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare.

After the Department of Education Organization Act came into force May 4, 1980, the educations functions of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare were transferred to the Department of Education. Harris remained as Secretary of the renamed Department of Health and Human Services until Carter left office in 1981. Because the department's had merely changed names, as opposed to disbanding with new department being created, she did not face Senate confirmation again after the change.

Harris unsuccessfully ran for mayor of Washington, D.C., in 1982. That year, she was appointed a full-time professor at the George Washington National Law Center, a position she served in until her death from breast cancer on March 23, 1985, at the age of 60. She is interred at Rock Creek Cemetery in Washington,



Obituary

Pasty Williams

Pasty Williams formerly of St. Petersburg and Largo passed May 30 in Leesburg, FL.

She leaves to mourn: Stepmother, Willie Mae Williams, St. Petersburg, FL; Sisters, Darnelle Williams, Leesburg, FL, Jackie Williams Myers, Tampa, FL; Brother, Thomas Williams (Vanessa), St. Petersburg, FL and a host of nephews, nieces, other relatives and friends. Robert Cusack Funeral Home in charge of services.

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TO YOUR HEALTH

Healthy Eating: A Healthy Life, 10 Super Foods That May Help



Dr. Leonard Weather
BYDR. LEONARD WEATHER

WASHINGTON D.C. - (TriceEdneyWire.com) — When we get right down to it, reasonable people would like to be healthier, that is feel good, look good, move good, live good and to be free of pain and diseases. Obviously life does not provide a guarantee, however a better lifestyle, daily exercise, avoid smoking, refraining from abusing drugs and eating healthy foods can be rewarding.

All foods are not equal in regards to providing health benefiting essential nutrients, and disease preventing antioxidants. Needless to say some foods are better than others and some are even better. So let’s call the even better foods for your plate the Super Foods. There are as many Super Foods as there are bad foods. However we will take a look at 10 of the Super Foods.

Super Foods

Sweet Potatoes: Anutritional all-star — one of the best vegetables that you can eat. They’re loaded with carotenoids, vitamin C, potassium, and fiber. Bake and then mix in some unsweetened applesauce, cinnamon or a dash of stevia.

Mangoes: One cup of mango supplies three-quarters of a day’s

vitamin C, one-quarter of a day’s vitamin Aand a descent dose of blood-pressure lowering potassium and 3 grams of fiber. Bonus, mango is one of the fruits least likely to have harmful pesticide residue.

Broccoli: It has lots of vitamin C, carotenoids and folic acid, steam it just enough so that it’s still firm and add a sprinkle of red pepper.

Wild Salmon: The omega-3 fats in fatty fish like salmon can help reduce the risk of sudden-death by heart attacks and wild-caught salmon has less PCB and mercury contaminants then farmed salmon.

Unsweetened Yogurt: Plain yogurt has a pleasant tartness that’s a perfect partner for the natural sweetness of berries, bananas or for your favorite breakfast cereal. It has more protein, potassium, calcium, zinc and vitamins B-6 and B-12 than sweetened yogurt. That’s because it doesn’t have to share the container with the sugary preserves or the sugar that’s in many favored yogurts.

Watermelon: Watermelon is a heavyweight in the nutrient department. Astandard serving (about 2 cups) has one-third of a day’s vitamin Aand C and a nice shot of potassium for only 85 fat-free calories.

Leafy Greens: Don’t miss out on powerhouse greens like collards, spinach, turnip greens, mustard greens, kale and Swiss chard. These standout leafy greens are jam-packed with Vitamin A, C and K, folate, potassium, magnesium, calcium, iron, lutein and fiber.

Garlic: Garlic is probably nature’s most potent food and may be the reason people who eat the Mediterranean diet live such

long healthy lives. It has been shown to increase the overall antioxidant levels of the body. The sulfur compounds that give garlic its pungent flavor can also lower LDL(“bad”) cholesterol, lower blood pressure and even reduce your risk of stomach and colon cancer. A clove has about 4 calories, 0 fat and 0 fiber.

Quinoa: A powerhouse which when used regularly in your diet may help to keep you free of constipation and bloating. Unlike more common grains such as wheat, quinoa is gluten-free and can be enjoyed by people with digestive disorders. A half-cup of cooked quinoa has 5 grams of protein, more than any other grain, plus iron, riboflavin, magnesium, zinc, potassium and calcium. A half-cup has 318 calories, 5 grams of fat and 5 grams of fiber. Remember to rinse prior to cooking or it will have a bitter taste.

Eating healthy foods can be beneficial to your health. In addition Let’s Move to place a positive lifestyle in your life and place some or all of the Super Foods on your plate.

For more information about healthy eating, please visit the following websites: www.nutrition.gov; www.cdc.gov/nutrition; www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/nutrition.html; and www.aarp.org/food/healthy-eating.

Take time to take care of your health if you don’t you will have to take time to get well.

Dr. Leonard Weather Jr., President of the National Medical Association can be reached at dr_weather@msn.com or president@nmanet.org, the National Medical Association’s website is: www.nmanet.org.

Study At Howard University And Other Institutions Leads To Breakthrough In Treatment Of Sickle Cell Anemia

WASHINGTON D.C. - (TriceEdneyWire.com) — Clinical trials conducted at Howard University College of Medicine and 12 other medical institutions across the nation have discovered a treatment that dramatically reduces pain, inflammation and hospitalization time while it eases other symptoms in young children suffering from sickle cell anemia, according to a news release from Howard University:

Doctors and medical clinicians in a four-year study found that using the drug hydroxycarbamide (also called hydroxyurea) in very young children with sickle cell anemia was safe and markedly reduced episodes of pain and other problems. Hydroxycarbamide has been used in adults for several decades for a variety of cancer treatments and is approved for use in adults with sickle cell anemia.

The findings, published in The Lancet, the world’s leading medical journal, suggest that use of hydroxycarbamide should now be the standard of care for all children with sickle cell disease.

Dr. Sohail Rana, a professor in the Department of Pediatrics at Howard University College of Medicine and Director of Pediatric Hematology at Howard University Hospital, was one of the investigators on the study.

“This is a significant breakthrough in the treatment of this disease, particularly for our very young patients,” Rana said. “To be able to dramatically diminish the pain that these young children suffer because of this disease is truly an important step forward. We hope all clinicians will now adopt this treatment for their patients.”

Howard was one of the

leading partners in the study, which was named BABYHUG trial. The study continues to observe children for long term benefits.

Also participating in the study were Children’s National Medical Center in Washington, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, University of Mississippi Medical Center, Duke University Medical Center, University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, Medical University of South Carolina, University of Miami, Emory University School of Medicine, Children’s Hospital of Michigan, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Medical College of Georgia, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute and the Clinical Trials & Surveys Corporation.

In sickle cell anemia patients, the red blood cells develop abnormal shapes and are unable to pass through small blood vessels and cause blockage. These cells also break down faster than normal blood cells, leading to anemia. Complications include severe pain, stroke, damage to different organs of body and premature death.

The study was conducted between October 2003 and early September 2010 with 193 patients. Half of the patients, ages nine to 18 months, were given liquid hydroxycarbamide to see if it would safely prevent early organ damage, particularly the spleen and kidney. The others were assigned a placebo, and the patients’ progress was monitored for two years. Children who received the hydroxycarbamide therapy were half as likely to experience pain, five times less likely to

have painful inflammation of the hands or feet and three times less likely to experience acute chest syndrome than the children who did not. The doctors and clinicians reported some benefit for spleen, kidney and neurological function, but the results were not conclusive.

They also reported the hydroxycarbamide therapy was well tolerated, with a mild-to-moderate decrease in white cells as the only adverse effect associated with treatment. “The laboratory and clinical benefits of hydroxycarbamide for children and adolescents with sickle-cell anemia, coupled with an excellent short-term and long-term safety profile, suggest that hydroxycarbamide should become the standard treatment in young patients,” the authors said in their report. “The results of the BABY HUG study should have a major effect on guidelines for the management of children with sickle-cell anemia... Hydroxycarbamide therapy can now be considered for all very young children with sickle-cell anemia whether or not they have clinical symptoms.”

Investigators who participated in the study include the following: Dr. Sohail Rana, Dr. Winfred C. Wang, Dr. Russell E. Ware, and Dr. Scott T. Miller, Dr. Rathi V. Iyer, Dr. James F. Casella, Dr. Caterina P. Minniti, Dr. Sohail Rana, Dr. Courtney D. Thornburg, Dr. Zora R. Rogers, Dr. Ram V. Kalpathi, Dr. Julio C. Barredo, Dr. R. Clark Brown, Dr. Sharada A. Sarmaik, Dr. Thomas H. Howard, Dr. Lynn W. Wynn, M.S.N.; Dr. Abdullah Kutlar, F. Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D.; Dr. Beatrice A. Files, Dr. Jonathan C. Goldsmith, Dr. Xiangke Huang, and Bruce W. Thompson, Ph.D.

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HOROSCOPES

June 9 - June 15, 2011

ARIES

If you want to keep your positive outlook intact, avoid gossip and those who might want to just cry the blues for no good reason. You’ll be happiest this week if you keep busy and keep your opinions to yourself. However, good advice is available from an older female relative.

TAURUS

You may feel restless this week because you have an excess of mental energy. You can channel that into productivity by applying your fine mind to tasks that you have been putting off for a while. You’ll feel great at the end of the week.

GEMINI

You wake up feeling as good as you want to feel! Affirm your right to a healthy, happy, joy-filled life and that’s what you’ll find that you have this week! Lucky! Treat yourself to a lottery ticket!

CANCER

Watch for petty arguments at your workplace this week. Sail past any grumbling coworkers with a smile and think about how your soul vibration radiates your happiness. You’ll look and feel very attractive to positive vibrations.

LEO

A compromise may be in order; luckily, it’s easy for you to be flexible. That special other person will be very appreciative of your ability to go with the flow when necessary. You are truly one-of-a-kind!

VIRGO

Peace is flowing all around you this week. Soak up the harmony as if it were sunshine and smile, smile, smile. You’ll be in sync with partners, family, friends, and even co-workers. Enjoy!

LIBRA

Your multi-tasking abilities will kick into high gear this week. While it’s sometimes difficult for you to know how to handle a particular situation, this week you’ll know the perfect answer. Everything good is unfolding!

SCORPIO

Sociable, lovable you! You can have a wonderful week this week if you hook up with like-minded friends. You’ll find that many are on your wavelength this week. Appreciate your ability to bring people together.

SAGITTARIUS

Your intuition is showing, and you may surprise yourself as much as you may surprise another by making a sudden intuitive leap and saying what you feel. You may feel as if you can read a certain someone’s mind. Use your gift for good.

CAPRICORN

Happiness is where you find it this week. How hard are you looking? It’s easy for you to pull your thoughts away from any negative emotions and flow with your inner harmony. Let yourself be very happy this week.

AQUARIUS

Someone close to you may be acting up or acting out. Try to respond with patience and love. If that seems impossible, turn it over to your higher power and get on with your own joyful life.

PISCES

You look as lovely as can be this week, as you breeze through the week like a butterfly. All communications are effective, and even more to your liking, they are fun! Enjoy some verbal soul vibrations with good friends later in the week.



PICK OF THE WEEK!

46 29 33


CASH 3

653

287

174

DOG DAYS



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



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CHALLENGER SPORTS

Bengals Players Work Out Together This Week



Andy Dalton
BY JOE KAY

CINCINNATI (AP) - Bengals offensive and defensive players will work out at separate locations

in Cincinnati this week, the first time they’ve gotten together as units during the NFL’s lockout.

Tackle Andrew Whitworth said the whole offense, including rookie quarterback Andy Dalton, has been invited to workouts starting Monday on the University of Cincinnati’s practice fields. Whitworth, the team’s union representative, helped organize the get-together.

“I’ve invited the entire offense,” Whitworth said, in a phone interview while he sat behind home plate watching a Dodgers-Reds game Sunday at Great American Ball Park. “We’ll see tomorrow what guys are here. I know all the quarterbacks will be there, excluding Carson (Palmer).”

Palmer plans to retire if the Bengals refuse to trade him. So far, owner Mike Brown has said he has no intention of trading the franchise quarterback, who led the Bengals to their two winning seasons in the last 20 years.

The Bengals picked Dalton in the second round to replace Palmer. They made receiver A.J. Green their top pick, giving themselves a replacement for Chad Ochocinco, who could be released once the labor dispute is settled.

Quarterback Jordan Palmer Carson’s younger brother hosted a week of workouts for receivers, running backs and tight ends near his home in California before the draft in April.

The defense plans to work out for the next two weeks at a condi-

tioning facility north of the city. Lineman Domata Peko helped organize the workouts, which will be similar to offseason sessions at Paul Brown Stadium under the old collective bargaining agreement. Coaches aren’t allowed to have contact with players during the lockout, which the players are challenging in court.

“This is a two-week minicamp ... designed to build chemistry, cohesiveness, review the defensive playbook and to work on our strength and conditioning as a unit,” Peko said in an e-mail.

The defense plans to open the last hour of its workout on Tuesday to media coverage. The end of the offense’s workout on Wednesday will be open.

Brad Keselowski Wins Sprint Cup Race



Brad Keselowski
BY LUKE MEREDITH

KANSAS CITY, Kansas (AP) - Brad Keselowski held off Dale Earnhardt Jr to win Sunday’s NASCAR Sprint Cup race at Kansas Speedway and pick up his first victory of the year.

Keselowski led the final nine laps, conserving just enough fuel to stave off Earnhardt for his first win since taking Talladega 75 races ago.

“There are some secrets to it and I just maximized them all. I had plenty (of fuel) left,”

Keselowski said.

Earnhardt appeared set to make a late charge on Keselowski. That push never came — though Earnhardt did move up to third in the standings and is just one point behind Jimmie Johnson.

For the second week in a row in a fuel-mileage race, Earnhardt came up just short. He ran out of gas near the finish in Charlotte and wound up seventh.

“Anytime you win a fuel mileage race you’ve done something as a driver,” Earnhardt said. “We don’t know what we’re doing really trying to save gas or how much we’re saving. But (Keselowski) had a hand in it.”

Denny Hamlin was third, followed by Jeff Gordon and Carl Edwards, who holds a 40-point lead over Johnson.

Johnson fought from 31st position and finished seventh.

Polesitter Busch led 152 laps and finished third. He had to stop for gas as the leader with 10 laps left.

“I was all smiles. I felt the groove again, to lead the race. It

was great. It was solid,” Busch said. “There was always something in the back of my mind that we weren’t going to win, but I am proud Brad Keselowski did.”

Keselowski won the pole last week at Charlotte and has been on a monthlong upswing for Penske.

He seemed to come to life just as teammate Kurt Busch reached his wits end, with his displeasure culminating in an expletive-laden rant against team management.

That led to behind-the-scenes personnel changes at Penske, including the announcement that technical Tom German was leaving the team to attend a graduate program at MIT.

But Keselowski also took exception to a comment Busch made that it had been several years since he’d had a teammate capable of running the same pace as him.

Since then, Keselowski logged a third-place finish, raced his way into the All-Star race and, on Sunday, earned a win that could help him nab a wild-card spot in the Chase to the Sprint Cup championship.

“It’s because of the bad finishes and the struggles that we had to get here that I really appreciate this win,” Keselowski said. “We’re in good shape. A few more wins like this and we can make the Chase.”

The buzz before the Sprint Cup race was about the altercation between team owner Richard Childless and Kyle Busch that followed Saturday’s Trucks Series race.

NASCAR said Kyle Busch did nothing to violate his probation, clearing the driver of any fault in the incident President Mike Helton deemed “unacceptable.” Childless, though, had his track access restricted and will be subject to further penalty this week.

Kyle Busch, who led 11 laps, wound up 12th after his eventful weekend.

“It was a solid day,” he said. “Qualified up front and ran decent much of the race. We probably had a seventh or eighth-place car (Sunday) and just kind of got off fuel mileage there at the end.”

UNC Beats Madison 9-3 To Sweep NCAA Regional



Tommy Coyle
BY JOEDY MCCREARY

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) - Things seem back to normal at North Carolina. After claiming another top-eight national seed, the Tar Heels swept through their regional.

They hope another trip to Omaha is in their future.

Chaz Frank drove in three runs, and North Carolina pulled away late to beat James Madison 9-3 on Sunday night and win the Chapel Hill Regional.

Tommy Coyle and Brian Holberton added two RBIs apiece for the Tar Heels (48-14). They won three games by a combined 27-3

and will host the Fullerton Regional winner next weekend in the super regionals.

“It was tough for us to end the streak,” Frank said of North Carolina’s run of four straight College World Series appearances that was stopped last year. “We’re super-excited this year about going to the super regional.”

Jake Lowery’s two-run homer in the fifth tied it at 3 for James Madison (42-19).

The Tar Heels got things rolling an inning later. Levi Michael, hitless in 11 at-bats this weekend, doubled off the wall in left-center and came around three batters later when Coyle singled.

“I got a good pitch to hit,” Coyle said, “and I didn’t miss it.”

Jacob Stallings followed with an RBI double to make it 5-3, and they cruised from there in improving to 15-0 since 2006 in regional games at home.

“(The Tar Heels) seemed to be in the right spot all weekend,”

Dukes coach Spanky McFarland said. “The ball’d come off the bat, we’d think we have a double and somebody’s right there.”

North Carolina beat James Madison 14-0 on Saturday night, and the Dukes earned a rematch by topping Maine 5-2 in an elimination game earlier Sunday.

The Tar Heels erased their only deficit of the weekend by scoring two runs in the second. Chaz Frank’s bases-loaded double scored Ben Bunting to make it 2-1, two batters after Holberton doubled home Stallings for their first run.

After Holberton pushed the Tar Heels’ lead to 3-1 with an RBI single in the fifth, Lowery — the Colonial Athletic Association player of the year tied with his 24th homer, a towering drive that cleared the 400-foot marker in center field.

It was all Tar Heels after that.

“We made it interesting,” McFarland said. “We had a little thing called a hard-hitting start. Baseball’s the only (game) where

you can do everything right and still fail. We hit the ball hard all day right at people.”

Once, though, that wound up working to their advantage: Matt Tenaglia put the Dukes up 1-0 in the first with a line drive that drilled pitcher Chris Munnely hard off the heel of his glove, momentarily shaking up the pitcher. Johnny Bladel raced in from third to score the first run against the Tar Heels in the tournament.

North Carolina wore pink socks in honor of coach Mike Fox’s late mother, Barbara. Team officials said she died Saturday, and Fox had been away from the team all weekend.

“It was a pretty easy decision. We wanted to honor a great lady and a huge supporter of our baseball program,” said associate head coach Scott Forbes, who ran the team in Fox’s absence. “Once I got the OK from the head dog (Fox) ... He thought she would appreciate that, so we went with it.”

The Weekly Challenger

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STATE & NATIONAL NEWS

At 'America Healing' Conference, Groups Attack Racial Inequities

BY HAZEL TRICE EDNEY

WASHINGTON DC - (TriceEdneyWire.com) – Justin Flores of Asheville, N.C., no longer takes his wife to his family reunion. And many of his relatives don't even talk to him anymore, even when they see each other in grocery stores.

Flores says this backlash is because he has taken a stand. The half Caucasian, half Latino 34-year-old is married to an African-American woman. And he has decided not to tolerate racially bigoted words like "spic, wetback and nigger" – even when used in casual conversation.

"Being the way I am, I see prejudice on a daily basis," says Flores, a cab driver carrying this reporter as a passenger. "I have co-workers or other friends that I hang out with and they might use a negative word that I don't agree with and I'm not ashamed; nor do I keep my mouth shut. I speak up and I let it be known that, 'Around me, don't say those words. I don't care how you think, but I don't think like you.'"

Frankly, it's not always that simple, he said. "It's a challenge ... It's that Appalachian culture."

Ironically, structural racism in America was the focus of a national conference to which this reporter was being driven by the chatty cab driver. At the Kellogg Foundation's "America Healing Conference", Kellogg Vice President Gail Christopher was determined that even the deeply entrenched cultural racism that Flores faces on a daily basis can be reduced.

"You'll always have both. You'll always have the progress that's being made and the reality that we're working against," Christopher said in a brief interview between the daylong string of plenary and breakout sessions on everything from education to civic engagement. "The people here are from across the country. Our challenge is to keep them resourced and supported and united enough to reach a critical mass."

In what Kellogg calls "an unprecedented effort to address the devastating impact of racial



NAACP President and CEO Benjamin Todd Jealous was among leaders who convened in Asheville, N.C. to discuss racial healing.

inequities on communities across the country" it launched a five-year, \$75 million initiative – America Healing – about a year ago. It aims to build better lives for vulnerable children and their families by "promoting racial healing and eliminating barriers to opportunities".

According to Kellogg, "Children of color are over-represented among the 29 million low-income children and families in this country, particularly among families living in concentrated poverty. According to data from the National Center for Children in Poverty, about 61 percent of African American, 62 percent of Latino, 57 percent of Native American, 58 percent of children with immigrant parents, 30 percent of Asian American children and 26 percent of White children live in low-income families."

The NAACP, The National Urban League, The National Council of La Raza, the Advancement Project and the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies were among anchor community organizations.

Leaders of these groups

discussed deeply embedded race issues from their veteran perspectives.

"Those who care deeply about the education budgets understanding that in fighting for increases in state education budgets, we have to be prepared to really talk about where the cuts can come from," said Ben Jealous, president and CEO of the NAACP, suggesting that the incarceration budget is a good place to start "if you just sent more people to rehab than to prison," he said to applause.

Marc Morial, NUL president and CEO, pointed out that \$1.1 trillion a day is spent in Iraq and Afghanistan while only \$20 billion a year is the federal commitment to elementary and secondary education.

"We've got to have a difficult conversation about our priorities," Morial said.

The depth of issues discussed was pleasing to Christopher.

"This conference has exceeded my expectations," she said. "The level of engagement, the level of connecting is what we wanted. We're trying to build a national community of practice. And so, it's happening."

BLU VU

continued from front page

there was a need for this kind of political information, commentary and discussion, unusual politics and trends. And, Floridians are able to access the information all week long. "Nightly local news is on and gone. The Blu Vu is at your fingertips all week. I was surprised at how many well informed people had no idea what was going on in that 21 story building. After this last legislative session, we should now understand how important it is to know what is going on," she said.

The Blu Vu features investigative reporter and commentator Vince Evans, a FAMUan from Jacksonville. "I sat through 8 hours of committee hearings on the election law overhaul," Evans said. "I was appalled at how blatant it was. It was designed to discourage young people, people of color, and Democrats in general from voting. It is designed to keep us from re-electing Barack Obama." Evans continues his commentary on voter suppression and is featured on Youtube in a confrontational effort to gain access to the executive branch (search: Most Unpopular Rick) Anchor Ty Wold and

Alyssa Miller also work on the weekly news show providing over forty years of broadcast and political expertise. A new show is online each Friday.

Florida will be at the forefront of the 2012 Presidential campaign because of its voting strength and rich campaign contributors. This state is a huge campaign revenue source that will determine the presidency. The Blu Vu is one way to stay connected to the real stories behind Florida politics.

Send your political story ideas to politicalreality@thebluvu.com.

Rep. Charles Rangel Proposes Transition Assistance For Military Veterans

BY GREGORY DALE
SPECIAL TO THE NNPA
FROM THE AFRO-
AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON DC - With unemployment among the nation's veterans soaring, Rep. Charles Rangel (D-N.Y.) on May 24 proposed legislation to ensure military personnel a smooth transition back to civilian life after service.

The proposed measure, named the Mandatory Transition Assistance Act, would require the secretaries of Defense and Homeland Security to make participation in Transition Assistance Programs mandatory for all military personnel prior to their discharge. Veterans would also be assigned a counselor and would be taught job acquisition skills including interview techniques, résumé construction, and salary negotiations.

"Our soldiers often come back from their duty with wounds, both visible and invisible," Rangel told the AFRO in an emailed statement. "In these tough economic times, they rarely have time to heal and adjust to civilian life before worrying about how to survive at home. By completing the Transition Assistance Programs upon discharge, our servicemen and women, who have already proven their competence, can be fully prepared to join the civilian



Rep. Charles Rangel

workforce."

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, roughly 25 percent of veterans under 25-years-old are currently unemployed. Additionally, returning veterans who do find jobs earn an average of \$5,736 less a year than civilians who had not served in the military. Returning soldiers with college degrees earn \$9,526 less than their non-serving counterparts.

Also, more than 15 percent of Iraq and Afghanistan dis-

charged war veterans were unemployed in January 2011, significantly exceeding the national jobless rate.

"America has lost over 6,000 lives fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan—five of these fallen heroes are from my Upper Manhattan District," Rangel said in a statement. "We owe it to our brave men and women who risk their lives every day in defense of our great nation to provide them with the necessary tools to succeed when they come home."

Study: Black Colleges Pay Off For Black Students

BY NISA ISLAM
MUHAMMAD
SPECIAL TO THE NNPA
FROM THE FINAL CALL

WASHINGTON (FinalCall.com) - To attend an Historically Black College and University (HBCU) or not is the question many Black high school students face every year.

New research from Morehouse College economist Gregory N. Price and two fellow economists from Howard University, William Spriggs and Omari H. Swinton, finds graduates of HBCUs do better in the labor market long term than non-HBCU grads.

Their report, "The Relative Returns to Graduating from a Historically Black College/University," considered the benefits of earning a baccalaureate degree from an HBCU compared to a non-HBCU for Black Americans.

"Our results lend support to the idea that HBCUs continue to have a compelling educational justification, as the labor market outcomes of their graduates are superior to what they would have been had they graduated from a non-HBCU," according to their article.

The researchers "Suggest that HBCU graduates realize higher earnings relative to non-HBCU. As such, our results lend support to the idea that HBCUs have a comparative advantage in nurturing the self-image, self-esteem and identity of graduates, which theoretically matters for labor market outcomes."

The study also challenges earlier research by Roland

Fryerand Michael Greenstone that found, "In the 1970s H.B.C.U. matriculation was associated with higher wages and an increased probability of graduation" relative to attending a non-HBCU.

"By the 1990s, however, there is a wage penalty, resulting in a 20 percent decline in the relative wages of H.B.C.U. graduates between the two decades."

The Morehouse and Howard economists' results "suggest that HBCUs afford its graduates relatively superior long-run labor market outcomes" which "stand in contrast to the recent results of Fryer and Greenstone—who find that over time the relative returns to graduating from an HBCU have become negative—and complementary to those of Mykerezi and Mills (2008) who find that HBCUs have a positive effect on the long-run labor market earnings of black males."

"Moreover, we cannot conclude, as Fryer and Greenstone (2010) do, that HBCUs retard Black progress, as our results suggest that HBCU graduates realize higher earnings relative to non-HBCU graduates. As such, our results lend support to the idea that HBCUs continue to have a compelling educational justification, as the labor market outcomes of their graduates are superior to what they would have been had they graduated from a non-HBCU."

Why HBCUs?

Since emancipation HBCUs have been among primary vehicles for social, political and economic progress for Black Americans. They've produced

some of the best and brightest in Black America. "Having the knowledge of self can't be underestimated when it comes to the learning experience and embarking on that journey of higher learning. I believe HBCUs give our children the foundation through the experience of being around their own kind, which strengthens their self-identity and knowledge of self," said Dr. Larry Muhammad, head of the Nation of Islam's Muhammad University of Islam.

"Well, I wanted to go to Morehouse, but circumstances kept me at a Big 10 school that offered a high quality education, but a seriously racist and selfish environment. I saw clearly the need for us to have our own to ensure that young people have a positive, God-centered environment that supports who they are and gives them fertile ground to grow in."

According to the report, "HBCUs have been viewed analytically as labor market interventions that impact the wages of attendees and graduates. In general, the interest has been whether or not HBCU graduates fare better or worse in the labor market relative to Black graduates of non-HBCUs."

"Working and going to school with your own peers helps to build camaraderie that is desperately needed in our community when it comes to Black business success and development. This is a big plus for Black colleges!" said Dr. Muhammad.

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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

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

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



Bro. Robert Smith

Sunday Morning Worship.....7:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:20 a.m.
Sunday Morning Second Worship.....10:40 a.m.
Ladies Bible Class Monday7:00 p.m.
Monday Evening Bible Class7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Morning Bible Class10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Class7:00 p.m.

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


SERVICES

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

Tuesday Morning Prayer – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Prayer Service – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday Bible Study (for all ages) – 7:30 p.m.



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

CHURCH DIRECTORY

ST. MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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

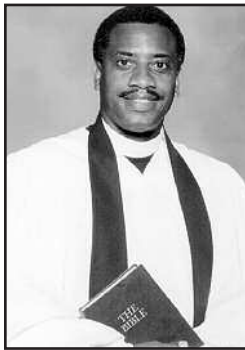
THE ROCK OF JESUS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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.”

It's that time again! Lakewood High School & St. Petersburg's own, Louis M. Murphy, Jr., Wide Receiver, Oakland Raiders, conducts his 4th Annual Football Camp, June 11th at Lakewood High School. To register your child or obtain more information, call 727.895.7204.

Join us this Sunday as we acknowledge all 2011

Graduates - high school, college, vocational, etc. - during our 10am worship services.

Breakfast with Dad, A Father's Day Celebration. Invite your dad or father-figure to breakfast 9am, Saturday, June 18th in our Fellowship Hall. Space is limited and RSVP's are required by June 15th via 894.4311, ext. 802, or email at: info@mzprogressive.org.

Who Am I? Who Does God Want Me to Be? Our One-80 Youth Ministry begins a new teen worship series 10am

Sunday, June 19th. All teens are invited to join us in our Youth Chapel, 921 20th Street South.

You don't want to miss this year's Vacation Bible School (VBS) June 20-24, 6-8:30pm. Curriculums designed for every age category. A closing ceremony will be held June 25th. FMI: visit our website at @ www.mzprogressive.org.

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

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church

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

Events for June

June 11 - Children Youth Ministry performs in State Choir Concert in Orlando, FL at 7:00 p.m.

June 12 - Rev. Brian K. Brown's 16th Anniversary Celebration during the 10:45

a.m. service. Guest Pastor for the occasion is the Rev. Donald F. Brown of the Antioch Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

June 15-17 - District Sunday School and BTU Congress, Arcadia, FL

June 18 - Father's Day Cookout sponsored by the women of St. Mark

June 19 - Father's Day, Women in Charge of Sunday School and Morning Worship

June 25 - Faith Girlz

June 26 - Celebration of High School and College Graduates

June 28 - July 2 - National Convention, Little Rock, AK.

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 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 welcome 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

Friendship has exciting developments to share about the upcoming Anniversary Celebration. In honor of our 83rd Anniversary, Friendship has several events that will take place from Sunday, June 5 through Sunday, June 12. We are cordially inviting the community family to our historic occasion.

Our theme: “The Church Walking with a Confident Foundation of Faith” – Exodus 40:34 and Hebrews 11:1-3.

We appreciate the community support and believe your participation in this event will be a truly meaningful experience. “The Ship’s” 83rd Anniversary Celebration agenda includes:

Friday, June 10, at 7 p.m. Musical Worship Concert.

Friday, June 10, check-in 5

p.m., Youth Sleepover.

Saturday, June 11, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Youth Extravaganza.

Saturday, June 11, at 7 p.m., Celebratory Banquet at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. Speaker: Moderator Patrick Miller, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Sarasota, Florida.

Sunday, June 12, at 7:45 a.m. Speaker: Pastor Clark Hazley, Sr., Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church.

Sunday, June 12, at 10:45 a.m. Speaker: Dr. Ronald Durham, Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Daytona, Florida.

Sunday, June 12, at 4 p.m. Speaker: Elder Cedric Williams, New Mt. Olive Primitive Baptist Church.

The 83rd Anniversary Committee wishes to ensure

that we reach out to as many people as possible whose lives have been touched by Friendship. If you have a friend and/or a family member who was baptized, married and/or attended Friendship, or was otherwise affiliated with the church, please advise the church office immediately: Patricia Everhart, 727-906-8300 or by email: fmhc3300@verizon.net.

We are so happy that you are a part of our faith community family and hope you plan to celebrate with us. Come one, Come all, Let's Celebrate! For more agenda information, please call 727-906-8300.

Yours in Christ, Dr. John A. Evans, Sr., Pastor and Friendship 83rd Church Anniversary Committee.

ADVERTISE YOUR CHURCH EVENT

CALL FOR A QUOTE: 727-896-2922

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

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church

1301 37th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711

*Welcomes you to join us
as we celebrate*

Our Pastor's 16th Anniversary

*Sunday, June 12, 2011
10:45 A.M.*

*Our guest speaker will be
Reverend D. Franklin Browne
Antioch Missionary Baptist Church
Hattiesburg, MS*

REVEREND BRIAN K. BROWN

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