

2015-03-19

The Weekly Challenger : 2015 : 03 : 19

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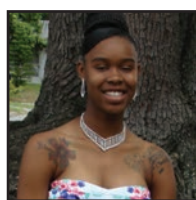
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The Weekly Challenger

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VOL. 47 NO. 30

MARCH 19 - MARCH 25, 2015

50¢



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A 'Thirty-One' woman



Kimberly Cason-Madgwick

BY DEXTER MCCREE
Feature Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — Kimberly Cason-Madgwick is a Thirty-One woman, that virtuous Proverbs woman who has her own business and is highly spoken of. Her soft smile draws the affection of people and her innovativeness places her amongst driven entrepreneurs.

Her husband, Doug, calls her blessed. Her seven-year-old son calls her 31 times a day for everything he wants. She'll have it no other way. Thirty-One is Cason-Madgwick journey, and she shared her dream with other ladies at an open invitation party.

"When I first heard about the party, I didn't understand what products were available and what all the excitement was about until coming to party," said Tamisha Darling-Roberson, her best friend. "Once I got here, I was absolutely amazed at the quality of the products and the variety of organizers, purses, tote bags and specialty items. To be honest, I only came to support my friend. But

See **31**, page 6



Teresa Clove, left, and Barbara Burnett head the St. Pete arm of the Thaise Educational and Exposure Tours housed at the Enoch Davis Center.

Working with at-risk youth and their families

BY PUNEET SANDHU
Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — Thaise Educational and Exposure Tours (TEET) is a Children in Need of Services (CINS) and Families in Need of Services (FINS) program that services at-risk youth ages six to 17 and their families.

The program runs in St. Petersburg, Orlando, Jacksonville and Sarasota and aims to keep at-risk youth in school and off the streets.

TEET got its humble beginnings in Sarasota some 20 years ago when Executive Director Teresa Clove witnessed a lot of children falling through

the cracks. She gathered professional and lay people and formed an organization to help underserved area youth.

"We try to show them a better way of life, get them off the streets, out of drugs and away from prison. Showing them that they can have a good life by staying in school and

continuing their education," Clove said.

Program Manager Barbara Burnett said TEET is in part a referral service. Students who are referred to the program sometimes by teachers or truancy counselors, have the option to sit down with

See **TEET**, pages 11

Sax on the street

BY FRANK DROUZAS
Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — Cutting through the cacophony of thunderous bus engines, chattering pedestrians, angry car horns and other white city noise, Timothy Turner's spiraling saxophone notes soar up into the brilliant March sky, providing downtown with a jazzy soundtrack.

From his spot on the corner of Central Ave. and Third St., the street musician colors the clamorous city soundscape

with his vibrant flourishes and fluid musical brushstrokes, as he churns out the melodic riffs of the soul classic "September" by Earth, Wind & Fire on his trusty horn.

Turner, who also plays drums and keyboards, has played the sax for 20 years but has only been performing on street corners and outside venues for about six years. Originally from Virginia, he has lived in Miami and now finds himself in St. Pete.

"The first time I came to Tampa was 2009," he said, "for the Super Bowl, and I made a lot of money from that game. Then they had the Gasparilla parade that weekend, so that made for a really good week!"

With his open instrument case serving as a tip jar, the 33 year old plays about four days a week and not only makes enough money to cover the bills, but believes he often makes more than many paid pro-

See **SAX**, page 6



Timothy Turner

Surgical Technology at PTC



Peggy Gould

BY FRANK DROUZAS
Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — Doctors and surgeons save lives, but often do not do it alone. Assisting them at important procedures and critical operations, a surgical technologist requires poise, steadiness and perhaps above all — preparation.

"You're right in there with the surgeon," said Peggy Gould, director of the Surgical Technology program offered at the St. Pete campus of Pinellas Technical College (PTC). "It's more than just passing instruments, you have to be responsible for every supply that you need in each case with that particular patient and doctor."

The program takes about 15 1/2 months to complete, as students typically put in about 25 hours per week. Initially students take the Basic Healthcare Worker course, which covers medical terminology, communication with employers and coworkers and safety procedures, among other rudimentary topics. It is in the Central Supply Assistant (CSA) course that students get to put in hours at actual Bay area hospitals, including All Children's, St. Anthony's, Morton Plant and Mease Countryside.

"It consists of 210 hours and 66 hours of it they are physically in a central

See **PTC**, page 10

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Breaking the Cycle

REV. DR. ROBERT L. HARRISON, PH.D.
Men of S.T.E.E.L. Ministries
www.menofsteelministries.com

Lovers of money

Praise the Lord Saints. Again, Oh My God.

Just when we had gotten over one well-known spiritual leader saying God was going to kill him if we didn't give him \$8 million, another one says they collected \$75 million and spent the same \$75 million all in that same year. Then, these so-called pastors from "Preachers of L.A." and "Preachers of Detroit" are telling us that they were not going apologize for owning Bentleys, sporting multiple high-end time pieces (if its more than \$10,000 I'm sorry it's no longer a watch), living in multi-room estates and now we have one asking his congregation for \$65 million to buy a new luxury personal jet!

He said just like a carpenter needs a \$5 hammer, he needs a \$65 million jet to do his work.

I am through. These affluent lifestyles are a travesty and must stop. At least someone gave Dr. Price his.

At a time when the whole country is fighting

so many cultural changing issues that are to shape the future of the country for the next 20-50 years, this.

If you read my article last week, number three comes to mind.

There is absolutely no way you can convince me that every saint in that congregation has no financial issues. Oh, my bad, like they said, the church is not a welfare office.

So I guess the Atlanta area has completely fixed all its societal issues and is so on point spiritually that he needs a \$65 million jet to travel, hmm. I just can't seem to wrap my head around this and this is one of the major issues in the church that causes saints to decide not to join, come to services or leave before the multiple offerings. They are tired of hearing that they will be cursed they don't give until it hurts.

Malachi was a prophet and a member of the children of Israel, not the body of Christ. Yes, there is a huge difference. There are Jews and gentiles plain

and simple. There are two testaments, old which was established for the children of Israel and the new testament, given to the Gentiles and spawned the Apostle Paul's ministry on the Damascus road after his conversion from persecutor to preacher, prophet, and protector of the gentiles.

This issue of money, tithes and offerings and giving in the church is one that has been tearing up the church for ages and it doesn't seem to get any better. The church should not be divided with the haves and the have nots.

Acts 2:44-45 English Standard Version (ESV)

44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

Acts 4:32-35 King James Version (KJV)

32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul:

neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold, 35 And laid them down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.

Giving is essential in order for a church to function in its natural capacity of preaching and teaching the principles and standards of Jesus but when you decide that you are gonna use scriptures as a form of scare tactics to make saints feel that God's wrath is gonna come down on them if they don't give ten percent every time they give, it's just wrong

and not scripturally based unless they are Jews.

Before God placed a purpose into each of us, He prepared provisions for us to ensure His purpose would be fulfilled when we accepted our calling.

Luke 6:38 English Standard Version (ESV)

38 give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you."

2 Corinthians 9:6-7 English Standard Version (ESV)

6 The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully[a] will also reap bountifully. 7 Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Galatians 6:10 English Standard Version (ESV)

10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially

to those who are of the household of faith.

Proverbs 22:9 English Standard Version (ESV)

9 Whoever has a bountiful[a] eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor.

These scriptures say nothing about having to give a certain percentage or you will be cursed, but they do make it clear in order for you to be blessed you must give something.

Neither does it say that the church is to give only; it just speaks about what does happen if one gives.

Casio, Timex and Seiko are still quality watch brands, and so Cadillac, Lexus, Buick and Lincoln for automobiles.

Till next week, God Bless.

Rev. Dr. Rob Harrison, PhD – pastorrobharrison@gmail.com, @drrobharrison

Chaplain - Southern Christian Leadership Conference of Pinellas

Open Door Church of God & True Holiness - 2800 41st Ave. N., St. Pete

Let the work begin: The rebuilding of the Woodson Museum

Dear Editor,

I would like to join Dr. Davis and the many community stakeholders who were able to attend the press conference in giving kudos to Mayor Richard Kriseman on his recent decision for the City of St. Petersburg to purchase the Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American History Museum.

I would also like to thank the person or persons from HUD that reminded us that the Hope VI Supportive Services Plan specified the public use of that building, which was the vision of the Jordan Park residents and other community stakeholders who thought it noteworthy to memorialize the many significant accomplishments

that African Americans made in St. Petersburg.

In a February 1 letter to the editor, I urged the Woodson Museum Board to take heed that in times of limited public resources and increased public need, three words reign supreme: Accountability, collaboration and inclusion!

While some took pot shots and hurled insults at City Councilman Wengay Newton and Housing Authority board members, we must be reminded that these individuals are elected and appointed to be stewards of our public resources and that as taxpayers we should hold them accountable.

If for some reason they believe public funds are not being managed in the man-

ner in which they should be, it is their responsibility to due diligence and ask the tough questions. If for some reason public officials err in their decision about the level of accountability, it is the responsibility of those entities in question to present sound evidence through appropriate documentation that can withstand public scrutiny and to not interpret the inquiry as an assault.

Then and only then if presented with the appropriate documentation that can withstand public scrutiny and public officials choose to yield to a political agenda as opposed to taking actions that are in the best interest of the public, then and only then do those of us who vote have a responsibility to hold them ac-

countable by voting them out of office.

Once again I am going to point to the leadership competency of emotional intelligence. We call on our leaders to lead. In the decision to purchase the Woodson Museum, Mayor Kriseman exemplified the actions of a leader who when faced with a decision that would significantly impact the City of St. Petersburg, Pinellas County and the State of Florida, he put politics aside, and instead made a decision that would serve the public's interest not anyone's political interest.

It is this type of leadership that we should all follow. The Carter G. Woodson Museum sparked emotions that drew many to

City Council meetings, housing authority meetings and press conferences, which is good, however, if we are to build a museum that the State of Florida, Pinellas County and the City of St. Petersburg can be proud of we must put aside the emotions that drive wedges as opposed to building bridges.

Museum planner Mark Walhimer, in his book Museums 101 listed 10 basic steps individuals interested in starting a museum should consider prior to starting a museum. Make no mistake; the 10 steps listed are embedded in tasks that are framed within strategic planning. The building of an institution that memorializes the accomplishments of African



Americans will take planning, innovation, inclusion, transparency, strategic partnerships, money and more money. As one of many community stakeholders, I am excited to see the work begin!

Maria A. L. Scruggs

WE ENCOURAGE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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All news items, advertising copy and related art submitted for publication on Thursday must be received no later than 4 p.m. Monday.

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



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Alumni singers present a spiritual festival



ST. PETERSBURG — The Alumni Singer, Inc. of St. Petersburg as part of the celebration of their 35th year of “Singing with Love and Harmony” proudly present “A Spiritual Festival: The Negro Spiritual in Prose and Song.”

Join the singers as they perform the culturally rich melodious sounds of the “Negro Spiritual” Sun., March 22 at 4 p.m. at Lakewood United Methodist Church, 5995 MLK St. S. in St. Petersburg.

Accompanying the singers as narrators are Pinellas County School Board member, Rene Flowers and Alumni Singers alto, Lynnette Hardy.

The event is free and open to the public. A love offering is requested. Proceed will benefit The Robert “Bobby” Anders Scholarship Fund, which awards funds to local college bound or college students majoring in vocal or instrumental music.

The Alumni Singers of St. Petersburg, Inc. is a 501C3 organization.

Education forum on adopting, fostering and mentoring children

ST. PETERSBURG — On any given day, approximately 800 children in Florida’s foster care system are waiting to be adopted. One Church One Child of Florida, a statewide, faith-based, non-profit organization, has partnered with the Department of Children and Families, churches, community based care lead agencies, businesses, organizations and individuals to help find loving forever homes for children throughout the state of Florida.

Their mission is to help ensure that every waiting child has a permanent family and a home to call their own. They work hard to find at least one family in each church to adopt, foster or mentor at least one child.

One Church One Child of Florida is having an Education Forum Fri., March 20 from 6 - 7 p.m. at Annie’s Beauty Supply, located at 2104 34th St. S. in St. Petersburg.


The community is invited to attend and learn more about adopting, fostering, mentoring, volunteering or partnering. There will be refreshments and gift giveaways.

Please RSVP to LaKay Fayson, Recruitment Coordinator, at (813) 985-7831 or lakay_fayson@ococfl.org.



For more information, please log on to www.ococfl.org

One Church One Child was founded in 1980 to help the State of Illinois address the disproportionate number of African-American children languishing in their foster care system. The program was successful and was implemented in Florida in March of 1988 to address its overrepresentation problem.



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More importantly each session will include an informational question and answer period.

All Sessions are held at
Pinellas County Urban League
331-31st Street N., St. Petersburg, FL 33713
Date: 3rd Thursday of Each Month
Time: 6-7pm (light refreshments served at 5:30pm)
To Register: Call Wendy Lane @ 727-327-3568 or email wlane@pcul.org

Monthly Topics

February 19, 2015 - Probate & Estate Planning (Wills)
March 19, 2015 - Family Law (Divorce, Child Custody/Support)
April 16, 2015 - Employment Law/Worker's Comp.
May 21, 2015 - Criminal Law (DUI/ Unfair Arrests)
June 18, 2015 - Probate/ Elder Law
July 16, 2015 - Bankruptcy / Credit Issues





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Tuesdays, March 24 at 10:00 am to 11:30 am
Instructor: Doug Valverde, RN

Please call (727) 321-4141 to register.
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For more information call 727.342.2235 or send your emails to kevinjohnson5370@yahoo.com

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Supporting children after a homicide or murder

BY YOLANDA COWART
Springtime Club Founder & CEO

CLEARWATER — One of the most amazing things that we have experienced while working with the families of cold cases is their incredible strength and resilience in the face of their tragedies, and the remarkable connections and bonds that resulted from their shared lost, grief and pain. None is more beautiful than the bond among Tyra Bolden and her mother Andrea, and the connection and attachment that they both share to her surrogate father Adrian “Chat” Jackson.

Jackson was Tyra’s father, Clarence Bolden’s, best friend. In fact, Bolden was playing cards in his house on the evening that he was shot and killed, while Jackson was away from the home. He is the man that Tyra has called dad for the last 13 years and he has served as her surrogate father trying to fill the void in her heart, heal the hurt from the pain of her father’s death and warm the chill in her bones from the cold of his case - an unsolved murder in the Clearwater community.

Surrogate fathers have become increasingly more important in the African-American culture. The breakdown of the nuclear family, the impact of black on black crime and the inequities of a penal system that results in a revolving door and longer prison sentences for our men, all have resulted in the ever increasing number of black homes in which the biological father is absent. This absence has overwrought our communities, stressed our children and strained our families.

According to a wide body of research, including research summarized by the National Fatherhood Initiative, children in homes with absent fathers suffer a variety of consequences, including financial distress, poor school performance, low esteem, behavior problems and greater

risk for depression and other psychiatric problems. When a child has lost that father to murder the emotional trauma is even more complex.

Until recently, few studies have examined the impact of this type of loss relative to the age of the child and the quality of parenting that the child received after the loss. The high quality of Tyra’s parenting in her untraditional family is evident in the bond between Tyra, Jackson and her mother. There connection is like the twine of a cord that cannot be untangled and the knot of a long rope that can never ever be unraveled.

Bolden’s death was the first time his generation and peers experienced the loss of a life to murder through black on black crime. A tight knit community, that type of senseless violence was something that happened in the surrounding cities. His death was unexpected and sudden and the murder left family, friends and an entire community shattered, feeling helpless and not knowing what to do.

But when children like Tyra experiences the death of a parent, the emotional distress is even more overwhelming and devastating. Tyra was only five years old when her father was killed, and she will attest that it continues to be the most difficult thing that she has had to cope with in her childhood, through her experiences as a teen and now as a young adult.

When someone loses a loved one to murder, many family members and friends can’t get the images of the violence out of their heads. However, when a child loses a parent to murder, many of them talk about visualizing the act step by step in their heads. It does not matter whether they saw it happen or not. For some, it is like living every day in a horror movie, while others dream about such images each night, and usually what they imagine is often far worse than the actual crime that

took place.

Today, many men in our community have experienced tragedies such as the Bolden family, the kind of situations that separate the real men from the boys. And all too often our African-American children and women has either witnessed it or experienced it. How your son’s crew forsaken him at the first sign of trouble and abandoned him in a dark, cold and lonely alley. How your brother gave his homeboys the shirt off his back only to have them turn their backs on him when he fell on hard times and was down on his luck. How your husband’s best friend fell out of touch after his tragic death and lost contact with his family following his senseless murder.

But, Andrea and Tyra Bolden will attest that none of those men or these scenarios can be used to characterize Jackson. “Chat was Clarence’s best friend and he is his brother’s keeper, said Andrea.

From the day that the Springtime Club began to work with Andrea and Tyra regarding Clarence’s case, Jackson has not missed one activity. He can be found at every candlelight vigil, standing beside them at every press conference and participating in each balloon release and anti-crime march. He has also participated in every other event related to the Springtime Club’s crime prevention program and cold case initiative, in honor of the life and memory of his best friend.

Andrea said that support

does not begin to reflect the support that he has given Tyra financially, emotionally and spiritually. In fact, Jackson is as dedicated to Tyra and in some cases probably even more engaged than many parents. As Tara’s nurturer, he has made several appeals during the course of the last 13 years to employ someone with information to come forward, challenge the code of silence in our community and advocate justice for both Tyra and Andrea.

We were amazed at how close and involved he was in Tyra’s day to day life as we watched her send him home to change his white memorial t-shirt to a black one identical to hers, it soon became evident that there wasn’t anything that he would not do for Tyra. But despite Jackson’s remarkable commitment, Andrea is continuously reminded that nothing and no one can take the place of Tyra’s Father.

“Chat has been such a blessing to her, but the one thing that he can’t give Tyra is closure,” said Andrea. “Tyra and I need someone to do the right thing, we need answers and it’s time to talk,” she added.

The Springtime Club has been waiting a while to tell Jackson’s amazing story. We were trying to find the right moment in time, the right ankle to generate human interest, the right voice to carry its message and the right context to encourage someone to speak up and spark a movement for change.

We wanted to adequately represent the beauty of



Tyra’s and Jackson’s relationship. We wanted to showcase the love that he shares for his best friend Clarence, and we thought it was important to spotlight a black man that is making the difference in the day and the life of a child that has lost a father to senseless violence.

But through the eyes of a child that has spent almost her entire life dealing with not only the murder but the realities of an unsolved crime, Tyra so genuinely reminds us that there is nothing beautiful about murder. For children like Tyra, the murder of her father is a lost that influences every single day of her life. A storm that is calmed by the love that she shares with Jackson for her father Clarence, and a blow that is tempered by the love that she has from his best friend, her dad Chat.

“Never before has our culture been so dangerous for girls and young women, and, therefore, never before have girls so needed good, strong and protective fathers in their lives,” said Andrea. “I am so thankful to God for the difference that Chat has



National Council of Negro Women, Inc. Presents:

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Oratorical contest

CLEARWATER — The Sunshine City Elks Lodge #255 and Temple #168 held their Annual Oratorical contest on Sat., March 14.

The Lodge and Temple is headed by PGER Roy Williams and PGDR Mae Butler. Also in attendance was Fla. State Director PGER Joseph McFadden.

The Improved Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the World (IBPOE of W) is the largest predominately black fraternal organization the world. The 90th Annual Florida State Convention will be held in Tampa May 14 – 20.

The Elks sponsor extensive educational scholarship programs to assist in the development of our youth.

Winner Vivica Roberson will compete in the district contest April 12. The winner will advance to state contest and have a chance to reach the regional and national. The grand prize to the winner will be a \$10,000 college scholarship.

A special thanks and appreciations go out to the community attendees and individuals serving as officials, judges and timekeepers.



Pictured is local contest winner Vivica Roberson (center) Director and Directress Richard Roberson and Sr. Loucille Williams



Labor of love

BY DEXTER MCCREE
Feature Writer

Some 40 years ago, James and Nettie McIntosh instilled in their children that family is all that you have in this world. They said friends will come and go and acquaintances will pass you by! You can chose anybody that you want to be with, but you can't choose your family. That message has rang loud and clear, even to this day. So what do you do with people that you had no decision in being connected to? You love them to pieces!

"I absolutely love my sisters," said Monica McIntosh, one of five girls. "We hang out, go shopping, do things with the kids and of course, have cookouts.

(Right) Renee, Monica (sitting) and Almeta (Missing in the photo are sisters, Laura and Wanda)



For the McIntosh family, holidays are synonymous with family gatherings. For birthdays? Family gatherings! Achievements and accomplishments? Family gatherings! It doesn't take much to entice this labor of love to be on display.

And now, there's a new generation who is learning the "we are one" family message. Almeta Bowers, the senior of the McIntosh sisters, heads a four generation legacy at the gatherings. Mom and Pop McIntosh was stern but loving. They were direct, but understanding. The thing that was demanded of the McIntosh family was that they stuck together and displayed a labor of love.



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Entrepreneurial woman

From **31** page 1



I'm impressed and thankful that I came. I'm proud of my friend.”
Cason-Madgwick, an independent consultant with Thirty-One, launched her business because she believes in celebrating, encouraging and rewarding others for who they are. Quoting the President and CEO of Thirty-One she said, “Through God’s strength, Thirty-One has built a family of individuals who feel women deserve to treat themselves and

those around them to something special.” Their commitment is to provide women with a fulfilling, enjoyable and rewarding experience one person at a time.
“It has been fun meeting so many people, being able to be an encourager and even more amazing having the turnout at my first party,” said Cason-Madgwick. “I love purses, bags and personalized gifts and that’s what I share. When you can help

someone put a smile on their love ones face, it puts a smile on everyone.”
She wears the banner as the Thirty-One woman who is putting smiles on the faces of all who cares to party with her. Not only does her husband call her blessed, but so did the people who attended the party.
Cason-Madgwick can be reached at mythirtyone.com/KimMadgwick or kmadgwick@yahoo.com

Street performer Timothy Turner

From **SAX** page 1

fessional gigs can offer him.
“Most pro gigs aren’t going to pay more than I would make outside the Mahaffey Theater,” he said matter-of-factly. “In general you can make more out here than most of the bars will pay. Maybe not private parties and stuff like that—which I do, too—but I’m not waiting for gigs to pay my bills.”

Street performing comes with perks besides money, Turner confided.
“You’ll be playing outside a Katy Perry concert, and some girls will come out and say, ‘Oh, my God, you’re playing Katy Perry songs!’ and you might leave with a phone number,” he said, grinning.
A typical day will see Turner performing for up to five hours, but if he plans to supply his impromptu band of entertainment outside a venue on the day of a show, he’ll put in extra hours to learn the particular band’s songs.
“If there’s a concert then I might spend most of my day learning the music,” Turner explained, “then I’ll go play an hour before the concert and an hour after.”
On days when he feels



free to play whatever grabs him, his arsenal is expansive and impressive as he can fire off hits by such diverse artists as Britney Spears, the Beatles, Usher and even Nirvana, among many others.
“I learned to play through jazz, you know, Cannonball and Coltrane,” he said, “but I play everything!”
He calls street performing part of his overall plan, in which he hopes to attract a clientele and perhaps take his art to another level, perhaps with a band. But above all he loves connecting on an immediate and personal level with passersby in the street, whether they’re walking back to the office, running an errand or simply taking a stroll to no place in partic-

ular.
“If you can make somebody smile—face to face—you can feel that. And sometimes they forget to put the money in, but that’s all right too, as long as they’re smiling and snapping, we’re good!” he said, laughing.
At home in the open air and sunshine, Turner loves to jazz up people’s days by supplying background music for all to enjoy, and his philosophy is fairly straightforward: “I’ve got to wake up and do what I can for my health, whether it’s exercise or you know, for my mental health, which is practicing or whatnot. Other than that, as long as you provide a service, everything else will take care of itself.”

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Newton motivates the youth

BY PUNEET SANDHU
Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — Councilman Wengay Newton stopped by the Enoch Davis Center to speak to the Thaise Educational and Exposure Tours (TEET) students. His speech was motivational as he urged the students to stay in school, stay out of trouble and make good decisions for a better life.

Newton started off by telling the kids that he was born and raised here in St. Petersburg, not too far from the recreation center. His father left when he was eight years old and his mother had to raise nine children by herself with the help of food stamps, welfare and free lunch.

“So it was a lot of meager things that we didn’t have, but we did have each other. How many people saw that movie ‘The Help,’ he asked room. “Well that’s pretty much what my mom did; she cooked and cleaned for white people and their kids. Having an eighth-grade education and so many kids, it was really tough for her to get any other job.”

Despite a hectic family life, Newton said he took advantage of every opportunity he was offered. His father was absent most of his life and his elder brothers were often in jail. Newton became a father at 15 years old, but he was determined “not to let my son come up the way I came up.” He made sure he was always working to provide opportunities for his son and said that working jobs saved him from falling into a life of crime.

“I love speaking to young people because I know what’s out there,” Newton said. “I know where the traps are at, I’ve been there, done that,

bought the T-shirt and the hat. It ain’t nothing new.”

His advice touched on everything from school, to friendships, to avoiding conflict.

For one, he told the students present to be careful what they post on social media sites such as Facebook. “In the city of St. Petersburg, when you’re looking for a job, the first thing that the human resource department does is Google you,” Newton said. “They want to see your Facebook, Myspace, LinkedIn and Instagram because you represent them, so they wanna see what you’ve put up there. It will come back to haunt you.”

He urged younger students not to think of their freshman year in high school as a throwaway year of no importance. “While you’re in 12th grade applying to get into college, the colleges are looking at your ninth, 10th and 11th grade GPAs. So if you mess up ninth grade, that’s going to mess up that GPA. Freshman year is an important year.”

Students, he said, should be careful not to waste their time in school with meaningless activities. “Today is the first day of the rest of your life. Everybody in this room gets 24 hours. Time is the most valuable commodity that you have. You can get anything back in this world, except time. So be shrewd with your time.”

He also warned students not to be afraid to ask for help in any areas they struggle with. “Some people never want to ask for help because they think, ‘I know it all and if I ask somebody for help, I’m going to look stupid.’ Well, you’re in school to learn, that’s why you’re there. If you don’t learn something,



then you’re stupid. The only dumb question is the one you didn’t ask.”

One subject Newton spoke heavily on was juvenile arrests. He said that when he was growing up, he and his friends did the same things as children do today, but they weren’t arrested for juvenile crimes the way today’s children are.

“It’s all about cash for kids,” Newton said, saying that the government makes money off children’s mistakes. He told the students present not to fall into that system and allow officials to profit off them.

“The state of Florida’s 2014 budget was \$185 million for juvenile jail beds,” Newton said. “They already have the money approved in the budget, so it’s not about if you’re coming, it’s when—they know you’re coming. For this year, the 2015 budget is \$196 million, so they’re expecting more kids. You’re worth about \$196 million to them. If you graduate and go off to college and get a good job, then they don’t make money. See how that works? So they’re rooting for you to get in trouble.”

The system, he said, is self-perpetuating. “Last year, we arrested 2,400 juveniles from 11 to 17 years old and you fall right in

that age demographic. The hardest part is trying to stay out of the system, because if you go out there and get a record for doing something stupid, that record will follow you for the rest of your life.”

He let the kids know that when they get arrested, they won’t be able to find a decent job because employers do background checks.

“You can’t go to the army, and you can’t get scholarships. So you can’t work, can’t go to college, can’t go to the military. Now what are you going to do? All that’s left is hanging around corners, robbing people. Which means more jail and they make more money. That’s the way it works. But you can change that,” he said.

He ended by telling the children that they have a choice not to get caught up in the justice system.

“Life is all about choices. You have to choose, and you have to be smart. So if you don’t like someone, you don’t have to fight them. You can forgive them for you, so that you can go out and live your life. Remember, it’s not what they call you, it’s what you answer to,” he finished.

After his speech, Newton fielded questions from the students.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Surgical Technology: A cut above the rest

From **PTC**, page 1

supply department in a hospital,” Gould said of the CSA course. “They have to learn the instruments and they have to learn the sterility of instruments. We also offer them a chance to take the central supply certification technician test.”

Gould, who along with clinical coordinator Jen Lowe, serves as course instructor, added that students aren’t required to take that particular exam and get certified, but it’s to their advantage. If they opt to take it, students do so in the second month of the program. Gould added that only after they graduate do students take the surgical technology certification.

The final segments of the program are the three Surgical Technology courses. Here students will cover anatomy, basic physiology, microbiology and biomedical sciences. They’ll move on to operating room theory, proper use of surgical instruments, sutures and needles, techniques associated with the surgical technologist’s role, and a review of anatomy and various spe-

cialties. Legal and ethical responsibilities are also covered.

Even when students are not putting in time at a hospital, the hospital can come to them, so to speak.

“We have a full lab presented like a regular operating room,” Gould asserted. This spacious lab comes complete with an operating table and life-like mannequin for a patient to give students a hands-on experience even on campus.

And to make learning about anatomy and other specialties more enticing and interesting, the instructors use games as a fun teaching tool.

“When we get to specialties we do different lectures on each specialty,” Gould stated. “And we do fun things like Jeopardy! for almost every specialty.”

Students range from ages 18 to 58, Gould said, affirming that often many people will turn to surgical technology as a second career. Once they graduate, students with hopes of finding a job in the medical field can get help with their resumes from the college.

Gould stressed that time spent in the actual hospitals can go a long way in determining if they can secure a job after graduation.

“We tell them from the very beginning — even when they go to Central Supply — they’re on a job interview immediately,” she said. “You don’t know who you’re going to run into in the hallway, so if they like you and you go there, they will be willing to put the time in and train you. Just because you graduate and you get your certification, doesn’t mean you’re done with your training. You have another six months at the hospital to be trained in different specialties and things like that.”

Gould noted that of the seven students that graduated in January, all seven of them found work. And since there are always people in need of medical attention, she said, there is always a demand for these crucial skills.

“With the economy, people got tired of being laid off,” she averred. “And in the medical field, you won’t get laid off.”

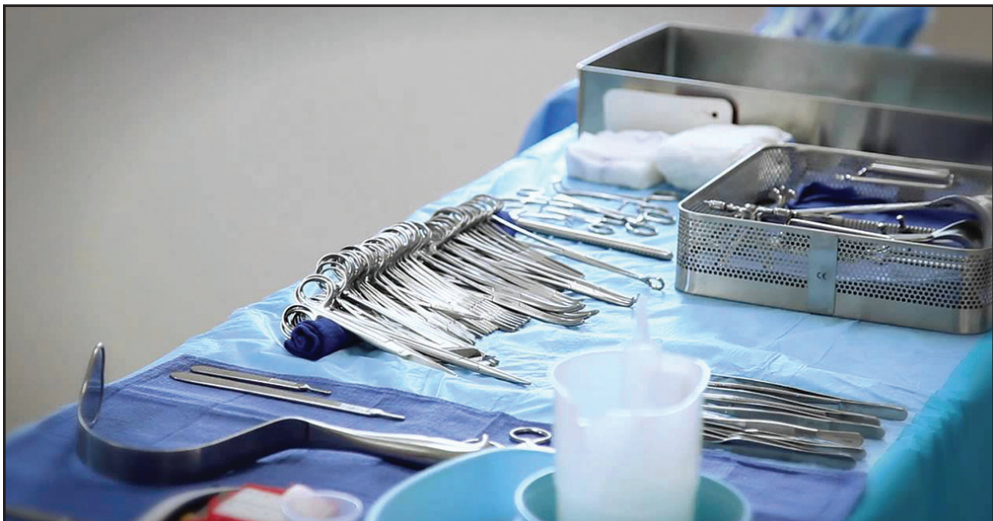
If students want to be-

come surgical technologists as a second job, they can often find the hours — whether it’s morning, afternoon or even graveyard shifts — that work best for them.

“You always can supplement your income,” Gould pointed out, “because you can work as much as you want!”

If you’re interested in exploring this career path, please visit myptec.org or call 727-893-2500. Financial aid is available. See ad below.

To reach Frank Drouzas, email fdrouzas@theweekly-challenger.com



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Thaise Educational and Exposure Tours

From **TEET**, page 1

TEET counselors for an assessment to develop a service plan. Based on any individual's needs, the counselors can refer children and their families to additional services that can aid them. Partners include various schools, drug and alcohol programs, such as The Boys and Girls Club.

Housed in the Enoch Davis Center, 1111 18th Ave. S., the organization is free for all participants and is sponsored by The Department of Juvenile Justice and the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services.

Individual counseling is a large part of a TEET service plan. The program offers in-school and at-home counseling. The St. Petersburg arm offers mental health counseling and case management services. They work with not only the child but the entire family. One-on-one sessions are conducted once a week usually at the child's school.

"When a child is referred to us, the child normally has some type of need, whether it's academic needs, behavioral needs, truancy, if they're ungovernable, if they're a delinquent, whatever the reason. We take students of any race or background," said Clove. It doesn't matter how much money you have or what race you are, we don't care. If a referral comes in we service everybody."

Once a referral comes in, parents will be contacted to schedule a visit to explain the program to tell them and to find out if they're interested in receiving services. Their services are strictly voluntary. TEET does not force parents or children to participate. "They must want to participate in our free service," averred Clove.

According to Clove, the program is based on "prevention and intervention," and a service plan for an individual child usually runs between two and 12 weeks. However, Burnett and Clove emphasized that as each case is different, some

children may need more time in the program. TEET also follows up with the students who complete the program.

"When we complete, we don't just drop the child, we refer them on to additional services if the need arises," Clove said.

In addition to case management and counseling, TEET offers participants enrichment courses. Burnett said the enrichment courses are usually offered once a month.

"We cover topics such as job skills, drug prevention, HIV/AIDS awareness, anger management, conflict resolution, pregnancy prevention and peer pressure," Burnett said. "The kids come out talking about how much they enjoyed the classes just as much as the adults, because we include the parents if they want to come as well."

They also have guest speakers come in and tell about their careers to give the students an idea of what kind of professions are available in the community.

TEET usually has one guest speaker per month. Past speakers have included law enforcement officials, legislatures, doctors, lawyers and teachers.

Other services include career guidance and assistance with college and financial aid applications.

Additionally, TEET arranges guided college tours for their older students. The tours are aligned with school breaks so that children do not have to miss school days.

"The colleges normally have an admissions officer speak with our students," Clove said. "They tell us about the university and requirements, and then we take a walking tour of the campus. A lot of our kids have come to our program and had no knowledge of college and no desire to attend college, but after attending our programs and going on college tours, it completely changed their mindsets."

The college tours are usually in state but can be out of state as well. Private



On a recent college tour of FAMU and FSU in Tallahassee.

donors usually help fund the field trips. For the upcoming spring break, Clove said that St. Petersburg, Jacksonville and Sarasota students would be catching a train to visit a campus in Savannah, Ga. While touring a campus, the students will also often visit nearby museums or art galleries.

TEET students give back to the community in various volunteering efforts, especially around the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

Students also have the opportunity to raise money for short field trips or cruises. Past trips have included Paris, Toronto and many different states throughout the U.S. The Bahamas cruise is popular and convenient, Clove said, and they will try to host another trip to the Bahamas this year.

"The whole purpose of it is to show them that it's a big world out there and anything you want to do, you can strive for it and you can do it with a little hard work," stated Clove.

This grassroots organization typically services 400 children per year across the four cities. In recent years, many younger students have been referred to the program. Clove said that middle



school children are having a lot of the same behavioral issues as the older children such as ungovernable conduct.

"It's often caused by dysfunction in the family," she stated. That's why we offer family counseling as well. If you don't resolve some of the issues in the home, then the child is not going to change their behavior."

TEET also offers parenting workshops that teach how to raise an ungovernable child, or any child for that matter. Clove said the program has some parents that are still in their teens and are trying to raise a baby, so they teach them how to be a parent.

After 20 years of servicing children of different

ages, Clove has gained some insight into the issues particular to each age group.

The younger children's issues usually centers on being angry because of the dysfunction in their family. "They're coming from young parents who are not being parents to the children because they're trying to still have a life," she said. "So those kids come to school with a lot of attitude and they take it out on the teachers."

The middle school aged children are also angry, "but a lot of it is they're going through that stage trying to identify themselves and separate themselves from the parents, and going through peer pressure," Clove stated.

The program sees many of the high schoolers having academic difficulty, which Clove thinks is because they didn't get what they needed in elementary and middle school.

"We have quite a few that are taking remedial courses just in order to catch up. But a lot of high schoolers are more focused now and looking to go to college, so for them we're doing a lot of prevention classes, drug prevention and pregnancy prevention, trying to keep them on track."

TEET is always enrolling. Referrals and walk-ins are welcomed. For more information on how to join the program, please call 727-482-9414 or log on to www.Thaise.org.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Art on the Deuces

BY MARCY PALMERI
Contributor

ST. PETERSBURG – The Deuces has evolved into an art haven due in part to businesswoman and gallerist, Carla Bristol, who opened Gallerie 909 almost a year ago.

Last weekend Gallerie 909 did not disappoint with Chicago artist Fanta Celah. Bristol met Celah in New York at the Harlem Fine Arts Show where she invited her to visit her gallery.

She had a fantastic showing at the gallery. She did well and the gallery did well,” said Bristol.

Painter, jewelry designer and singer, Celah displayed her creations Friday and Saturday. This multi-talented artist has travelled the globe and found inspiration and purpose along the way.

Celah has been living in Chicago since 1999 and calls it home. She considers herself to be a painter first, then a jewelry designer and singer. She displayed a range of paintings from landscapes, portraiture and three-dimensional paintings that are made from recycled objects.

“Some of the notable people are Tupac, Michael Jackson then we have some Ethiopian landscapes,” she said. Celah has travelled across the world and so she has thousands of photographs and has painted a series of landscapes from photographs that she took when driving through the mountains in Ethiopia.

She’s has also visited to Dubai, India, Ghana, London, Senegal and Egypt and pulls inspiration from wherever she visits. In November of 2011, she was featured on the Box Africa television channel and the Frameless Gallery in Lon-

don, whose mission is to promote and support the very best emerging and established contemporary artists with cutting-edge projects. She’s going back in September for an exhibition.

For over 13 years, Celah has been making a good living in the art world. She said she has been free for over 13 years and although she has been offered jobs, she couldn’t even fathom getting back “into a box.”

Being a Reiki healer, the healing properties of crystals and metals are present in her jewelry. She also uses semi-precious stones such amethyst, turquoise and Lapis lazuli.

A combination of experiences led her into the craft of jewelry making. In 2000, some friends of hers piqued her interest with crystal healing, and along the way she started taking a lapidary class, (a class that instructs students on how to form stones, minerals or gemstones into decorative items).

As a child she knew she was a painter. She was raised in a small town where the arts program had not been cut like in larger school districts. There she was able to take phenomenal college-level art and music courses. At the age of 16 she actual sold her first painting.

“By the time I got to college I had already mastered Realism so I went straight to abstract. So I was somewhat of a rebel in college,” Celah admitted.

She had such an extraordinary weekend on the Deuces. “They gallery gave me such a warm welcome,” she said. “And the ladies loved my jewelry so much that I almost sold out of everything. They also thoroughly enjoyed my three-dimensional abstract

art at that I was exhibiting, which is a part of my Nature vs. Technology collection.”

Celah also showcased her work at the Carter G. Woodson Museum on Sunday. If you missed out last weekend, don’t worry. Log on to her website at www.fantacelah.com peruse her wares.

Journeying with Celah to St. Pete was art collector and dealer Diarra Diaby originally from Mali, West Africa. He has been collecting African and African-American art for more than two decades. Art dealing is a family business learned from his uncle, who he used to travel with throughout Europe.

He primarily works with schools and museums, but also works with private collectors. His pieces are from different countries in Africa, including Nigeria, Cameroon, Mali and Ghana and African American historical art. In his unassuming white van he carried 18th century slave chains that were already sold to a museum.

Last weekend was his first time in St. Pete and he thoroughly enjoyed his stay. He said you know you’re going to do well when you meet good people.

Diaby’s specializes in museum quality wood, stone and bronze sculptures and textiles from the African continent. His personal collection consists of African-American paintings, sculptures, historic photographs and Jim Crow paraphernalia.

He preserves black history for future generations. Diaby works hand-in-hand with African-American museums, galleries and interior design studios across the nation, providing historical luxury items that are in



Fanta Celah, left, and Carla Bristol

high demand. He also curates museum exhibitions, and is familiar with the tribal origin of the artifacts.

Diaby said it took the African people a long time to come back together and it makes him want to collect. He feels that African Americans are merely Africans living in America. “The language have changed and the family structure has change, but other than that we are the same,” he averred.

You can reach Diaby at (773) 301-6279 if you are interested in owning a piece of history.



Diarra Diaby

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Decades of Day Work

ST. PETERSBURG — Your Real Stories presents “Decades of Day Work V” Fri., March 27 at freeFall Theatre, 6099 Central Ave., St Petersburg at 7 p.m.

“Very special and enlightening.” “Powerful... extremely well told... (an) important contribution to social healing.” That’s what audiences have said about “Decades of Day Work,” a series that uses live theatrical presentations, music, spoken word and audience discussion to tell the stories of the real life “help”—domestic day workers—the people who hired them and the authentic relationships that survived sometimes in spite of segregation, discrimination and racism.

Seventy-eight-year-old storyteller, Alonza Wade, grew up in Miami. His mother was a domestic day worker who worked for a white family on Miami Beach, but because of segregation and Jim Crow laws, she could not be on the beach unescorted.

“She had to ride in the back of the bus to the beach,” Wade said, “give the attendant her ID card, go to the next station and pick up her pass, and then

get back on the bus. At the next bus stop, the owner [of the house] had to be there to take her to work.”

Elaine Woodward shared the story of her “46 year sisterhood” with her maid, Celia Gee, who was black. Woodward, who is white, told the people assembled for Gee’s funeral: “I had always hoped she would outlive me because she was so much a part of my daily existence. I miss her now and I will think of her every day for the rest of my life.”

Your Real Stories is a non-profit organization that uses storytelling and the magic of theatre and other media to challenge people to talk and listen to each other across perceived differences of identity, experience and opinions. When the movie version of the book “The Help” was released, Your Real Stories directors decided to invite people to share their own real life stories about ‘domestic day work’.

In 2014, “Decades of Day Work IV” at freeFall Theatre featured guest storyteller Dr. My Haley, widow of author Alex Haley and collaborator

with him on the iconic book and television miniseries “Roots.” Each “Decades of Day Work” is presented in two parts: a dramatic reading of the stories by professional actors and a moderated panel discussion that includes the original storytellers and reaches out to the audience.

“Decades of Day Work V” brings us the stories of a maid who taught her daughter the value of work along with the necessity of protest; one man’s memory of his mother and the family she worked for, whom he came to consider as his own; and three sisters, who tell the story of a mother who regularly proved she was much smarter than the people who hired her.

Join us for “Decades of Day Work V” Fri., March 27 at 7 p.m. at freeFall Theatre, 6099 Central Ave., St. Petersburg.

General admission tickets are \$15 and available at the freeFall Theatre box office, by phone at (727) 498-5205 and online at freefalltheatre.com. Student tickets are \$12 with valid student ID and must be purchased at the box office.



‘So much laughter in the Burg’

BY MARCY PALMERI
Contributor

ST. PETERSBURG — Let me take you back to the mid-1990s when “Martin” was the hottest sitcom on Fox. Do you remember Bruh-man from the fifth flo? Well guess what, he and other well-known comedians will be in St. Petersburg performing at the Palladium Sat., April 4.

Ever since the Palladium Theatre was purchased from a Christian Science church in 1998, this circa 1925 Romanesque Revival style structure has played host to musicals, operas, concerts, comedians, poetry readings, one-act shows and other curtain-raising performances.

Promoter Too Smooth is known for showcasing exceedingly talented performers from the Tampa Bay area and merging them with well-known acts that take your breath away. He believes in giving local artists a step-up, and his choices pay off for the audience, as well as the performers.

Too Smooth, Inc. brings to the Palladium “So Much Laughter in the Burg” starring Reginald Ballard, also known as Bruh-man, BET comedian REDBONE and St. Pete’s own Terrell Reynolds, also known as Batman.

Reynolds has been known as Batman for the last five years, but he’s been an entertainer for as long as he can remember. When asked where comic book Batman’s sidekick Robin was, he showed he isn’t one to share the limelight.

“There’s no Robin; there never has been and never will be,” he teased.

He attended Dixie Hollins High School and played college basketball for the Cougars at Clearwater Christian College. Growing up, he was mostly a jock, but was always making people laugh.

Reynolds got his big break in comedy at the Palladium during a competition in which he won a \$1,000, and has been cracking people up ever since.



Bruh-man



REDBONE



Batman

“God has been good to me and I’m grateful,” he said.

Batman will be the first act, warming up the audience for when Bruh-man graces the stage with his presence. “Most of the people who are going to be there know me,” he said.

Reynolds has had steady work as a stand-up comedian and that includes working with Bruh-man and REDBONE at the Royal Theater in Midtown, as well as opening for other well-known comedians.

Reynolds has a wife of 23 years and four children: three boys and one girl. He said he’s a family man that

loves his kids and grandkids.

“I was brought up to know God,” he said. “The compassion in my heart I get from my momma.” Besides comedy, cooking and being with family are the two things he enjoys most.

So if you’re looking to bust a gut, the Palladium Theatre April 4 is the place to be. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. The Palladium is located on 253 5th Ave. N. in downtown St. Pete.

Tickets are on sale now at The Palladium Theatre box office. Call (727) 822-3590 or go to www.mypalladium.org. Prices range from \$20-\$40.

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BRUH MAN FROM THE 5TH FLOOR AND THE MARTIN LAWRENCE SHOW

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RED BONE BET COMEDIAN

JEFFREY NUGENT VIOLINIST

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT TOO SMOOTH
813-244-7474 / WWW.TOOSMOOTHENT.COM

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CHURCH DIRECTORY



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

Sunday Worship Services7:45 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School9:00 a.m.
Wednesday Mid-Day Bible StudyNoon - 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service.....6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

Youth Chapel Services - 921 20th Street South
2nd & 4th Sunday Worship Services.....10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer6:00 p.m.
Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.

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



Rev. Louis M. Murphy Sr.
Senior Pastor

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

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Praise Time 10:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Tuesday Night Live -
Prayer Service & Bible Study 7 p.m.

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Telephone (727) 327-0554 • Fax (727) 327-0240
E-mail: bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com Web site: www.bmmbc.org

Sunday Worship Service10:15 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”



Rev. Wallace Elliott
Sr. - Pastor

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

Sunday Worship Services 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting (Tuesday)6:00 p.m.
Bible Study (Tuesday)7:00 p.m.
Baptist Training Union (Sunday) 4:00 p.m.

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3001 18th Ave. S.
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Church 727-327-9904
Fax 727-322-0409

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

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Elder Cedric L. Williams
PASTOR



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825 20th Street South
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Home: 896-8006

Bro. Robert Smith

Sunday Morning Worship7:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Bible Class9:20 a.m.
Sunday Morning Second Worship10:40 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.

MOUNT PILGRIM MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
4000 5th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711
Telephone: 727-321-7375



Pastor Clark Hazley, Sr.

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

“God’s People Return to the Word of God”
Service Schedule
SUNDAY
Sunday School 8:45-10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Communion - 1st Sunday of each month
New Members Orientation - Sunday at 8:45 a.m.

WEDNESDAY
Tutoring offered Tuesday & Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Bible Study 11:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.
Youth Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

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



Rev. Carl Mobley, Sr.

Sunday School9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Evening Prayer6:30 p.m.
Wednesday Night Bible Study7:30 p.m.

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

Victory Christian Center Church
3012 18th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Fla. 33712
(727) 321-0911
www.victorychristiancenterchurch.org


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

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

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Claude S. Williams,
Pastor



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Rev. Sarah Edwards extends an invitation for you to join us in agreement with God our Father, the Word and one another as the Body of Christ. Since we know Jesus Christ as the Head; let us get to know our Pastors and Church leaders. Hear their personal testimony of salvation and call into ministry. Others will also share their testimonies of salvation. Join us with authentic fellowship; celebrating “koinonia” as the early Church did – until we come into the unity of the faith.

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Dr. Randy Helms, Sr. Pastor

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
3300 31st St. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(727) 906-8300 www.fmbctheship.org



Dr. John A. Evans, Pastor

WORSHIP EXPERIENCES
Sunday Worship.....7:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School.9:30 a.m.
Wednesday.....Noonday Bible Study and Bread of Life 7 p.m. Prayer and Bible Study
Thursday7 p.m. Youth Enrichment - Awana

Our Mission: Friendship Missionary Baptist Church is a family of believers in Christ, reaching out to the world, preaching the gospel to the unsaved and teaching the saved to serve by demonstrating the Love of Christ.



Pastor Shurrea Daniels

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*Mailing address: P.O. Box 35128
St. Petersburg, Florida 33705*

- “One Accord” Prayer Conference call 1-424-203-8075 access: 1044849 #
- New Partners Fellowship Sunday, 9 a.m.
- Sunday Morning Live, 10 a.m.
- Word Power Thursday, 7 p.m.

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Pastors Dexter and Wanda McCree

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2901 - 54th Avenue South
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(727) 866-2567

SERVICES
Sunday School: 8:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m.
Bible Study: Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.




Rev. Manuel Sykes

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Rev. Frank W. Peterman, Jr., Pastor

Pastor’s Aide Ministry
Presents: *Annual Prayer Breakfast*
Scripture: Ephesians 6:18
Theme: Pray for One Another

Saturday, April 11, 2015
9:00 A.M.
ROJ Fellowship Hall
3940 18th Ave. S
St. Petersburg, FL



Donation: \$10

For more information and tickets, please contact
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or
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CHURCH DIRECTORY

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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
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.



Rev. Brian K. Brown

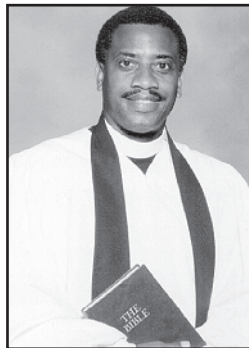
THE ROCK OF JESUS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES/WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:10 a.m. Breakfast (First Sunday only)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School (First Sunday Only)
Sunday School 9:15 a.m. / Devotion 10:15 a.m.
Praise & Worship 10:20 a.m. / Worship Services 10:30 a.m.
Saints of Prayer - Monday 12:00 noon
Weekly Bible Study - Tuesday 6:30 p.m.
Adult Choir Rehearsals - Thursday 6:30 p.m.

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

THE ROCK OF JESUS IS LOCATED AT:
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Telephone: 727-327-0015 • Fax: 727-327-0021
Email: rojmbc@knology.net
Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.



Rev. Frank W. Peterman, Jr.
Pastor

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Bishop Zema J. Florence, III, Th.D.
& Elect-Lady Shaneeta Florence

Order of Services:

Noonday Prayer.....Wednesdays at 12:30 PM
Pastoral Teaching.....Wednesdays at 7:00 PM
Evangelist Service.....4th Fridays at 7:00 PM
Sunday SchoolSundays at 9:00 AM
Morning WorshipSundays at 10:15 AM
WRXB (1590) Radio Ministry2nd and 4th Saturdays at 10:30 AM

Follow us on Social Media: Facebook Page-Holy Temple Pentecostal Assemblies of Churches, Inc/ YouTube-Bishop Zema Florence

Queen Street Church of God in Christ

Elder Willie Williamson, Pastor

First Lady, Patricia Williamson
1732 9th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
727-896-4356

SERVICES

Sunday Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.
A. M. Service – 11 a.m.
Tuesday Morning Prayer – 9 to 10 a.m.
Wednesday YPPW Bible Study – 7:30 p.m.



CHURCH NEWS

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

To the COMMUNITY AT-LARGE, ARE YOU seeking a place of refuge? The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, the Pastor, Dr. John A. Evans, Sr., Official Family and the entire Church Family extend to you a cordial invitation to join "THE SHIP" in fellowship at our 7:45 am or the 10:45 am worship service, and Sunday Church School at 9:30 am. Come join us as we take this Christian journey for it is Our Mission as a Church Family of believers in Christ, reaching out to the world, preaching the gospel to the unsaved and teaching the saved to serve by demonstrating the Love of Christ. OUR VISION 2015 – "MISSION-MESSAGE-MUSIC AND MERCY EQUALS MINISTRY."

Weekly Bible Studies and other Church activities: Wednesday, Noon Day and Prayer and Bible Study 7 pm and AWANA Youth Enrichment program, something special for every child, learning about God while having fun. The Bread of Life Ministry continues providing a needed service to our Senior and Disabled members. Please see Sister Lorraine Rogers for further information. The Clothing Pantry is

opened every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, from 9 am to noon. Continue to Pray for our Sick, Shut-in, Children, Men/Women in Uniform, and Bereaved Families.

MONTH OF MARCH: "THE MONTH OF THE WOMAN"

Mar. 21 – 10 am – Youth Usher's Ministry Worship.

Mar. 21 – 11 am - Friendship Laymen – Fellowship and Fish Fry – Further Information see Deacon Jonnie Douglas, Ministry Leader.

Mar. 22 – YOUTH DAY (COLORS GOLD AND BLACK)

Mar. 22 – 10:45 am – MARRIAGE DAY CELEBRATION – Don't forget to Register, which is located in the Atrium. COLOR(S) – "Your Wedding Colors"

Mar. 28 – 11 am – West Coast Baptist District Association Retreat held at Elizabeth Baptist Church, 100 S. Orange Ave., Arcadia, Fla., Rev. Jerry Alexander, Jr., Host Pastor. Moderator Evans has invited West Coast Churches to contact Friendship for Transportation information. Buses will leave Friendship at 9 am.

Sun., Mar. 29 – Fri., April 3 – "THE ROAD TO CALVARY" – Par-

ticipating Pastor's and Churches – Greater Mt. Zion AME Church, Dr. Clarence Williams, Pastor, First Baptist Institutional Church, Dr. Wayne G. Thompson, Pastor and Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Dr. John A. Evans, Sr., Pastor, starting Nightly at 7.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH? Call our Transportation Ministry – (727) 906-8300 and PRESS 2.

Thought for the Week: WHEN THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO EFFECT CHANGE – SIMPLE SAY "IT IS WHAT IT IS."

Don't let "THE SHIP" sail without YOU! For additional information on any of the announcements, please contact us by the following methods:

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, 3300 31st St. S. St. Petersburg, 33712

Church Office: (727) 906-8300
E-Mail: fmbc3300@verizon.net WE ARE NOW "LIVE STREAMING": Visit Our Website: www.fmbc-the-ship.net & CLICK on the PASTOR'S IMAGE at the top of the Page.

Also Visit West Coast Baptist District Association Website: www.expericencethecoast.com



Pastor's Corner

BY PASTOR SARAH EDWARDS
Visible Voices Christian
Community Association

What kind of man are you?

God is always mindful of you. What concerns you concerns God and He'll be there for you. He gives you brand new mercies everyday. He loves you so much, He paid the penalty for your sins. When you made up your mind to believe that God is who He says He is; He made you righteous just so you'll love Him back and love others as yourself. And if you love Him; you will obey Him. God is truly amazing. So the question remains: 'what kind of man are you?'

Let's see, the first man was created in His image and in His likeness. With God's nature and character. He created the male MAN and Female MAN on the same day as a spirit being, placed them inside of a body with a soul [mind, emotions and desire].

Male denotes the make up of their God given sexuality. 'Fe' is a prefix meaning 'bearer of light and iron'. God blessed them and commissioned them to subdue, dominate and replenish the earth. They blew it the same day they were created. God passed His judgment on both of them; curse Satan and cursed the ground [Genesis 3]. Then God rested. He always establishes the end of the matter before the beginning. He knew that He God was going to give His only begotten Son, Jesus as our Pastoral Lamb. His blood would

seal every man spirit who accepted Him as their Savior and LORD until the day of their redemption.

Therefore, it is vital that we understand the Bible is not written in 'broken English'. If you are to understand it; you must keep it historical, cultural and contextually correct. You must accept the reality that there are nine different meanings for the word 'MAN' in scripture. They are: HuMAN Being; ['HU'-a gender-neutral prefix i.e. Genesis 1-3]. Male Man. Female Man. Male child. Man child. Lad. Son. Husband. Warrior.

More important than what kind of man you are ; is what kind of spirit are you? We all are spirit being inside of an earth suit that our great God has chosen to live through us to proclaim the good news that Jesus saves. That God is no respecter of persons. A spirit is what a spirit does. What kind of fruit are you bearing? Jesus has taught us that we will know each other by the fruit they bear.

The first institution God ordained was the family which consists of a male man and a female man aka husband and wife. Children are God's gifts to the family. God has deposit at least one of His gifts into the spirit of each human being so that He may use as it pleases Him for His good pleasure.

The second institution God ordained was a nation of people; the Hebrew Israelites that would willingly submit to His leadership as their King and LORD God.

The third and final institution God ordained on the earth was during the feast of Pentecost. Jesus laid down his life on the cross after declaring that 'it is finished' there be no more wars. In three days, he rose from the dead it was the end of the conflict for gain or the loss of man's soul. Satan was defeated and Jesus is LORD!

The only thing left for us to do is simply believe His affirmation and His promises to us. The Church/His Body was ordained. God gave unto the Church triumph gifts of people. First Apostles, Prophets, Evangelist, Teachers and Pastors as Officers in the Body. [Ephesians 5:22]. So then, from now on we do not think or know anyone from a human point of view. Even if we did think of Jesus, our Messiah from a human point of view, we don't think of him that way anymore. Because all of you are one in the Messiah Jesus, a person is no longer a Jew or a Greek, a slave or a free person, a male or a female [Galatians 3:28]

When the Church becomes the visible voice of God in the earth. We will hear a distinct sound from Heaven. Are you all in man?

Mt. Zion Progressive MBC

Reverend Louis Murphy, Sr. and the entire Mt Zion family extend an open invitation to join us not only in Sunday worship, but also throughout the week for various programs and ministries.

Wednesday Bible Study – Noonday and 6 PM.

Invite your family and friends to join us for a Resurrection Celebration Weekend. We will start with a special service on Good Friday, April 3rd at 7 pm then we will have the SpringFest 2015 on Saturday at 1 pm at Thomas "Jet" Jackson Center. Easter morning will begin with a Sun Rise Service at Lassing Park at 6:15 am followed by Worship services at 7:45 am & 10 am. Feel free to wear your Business Casual attire on Easter Sunday.

Support our Relay for Life Team Mt. Zionites! During March, Chief's Creole Café in St. Petersburg will support Relay for Life by donating 10% of your bill to benefit the American Cancer Society.

Pick up a flyer at the church to take advantage of this opportunity to save lives! If you are a cancer survivor with a story you want to share, please contact Timeka Walker at 727-560-6224.

Save the Date for our Annual "Springfest" on April 4th at Thomas "Jet" Jackson Center (formerly Wildwood). Come join us for food, fun, games and activities for the whole family. This year there will also be a Kick-ball Tournament. Once again Team Thomas will challenge Team Murphy for a friendly game of B-Ball. Tickets for the basketball game are \$3 and will be on sale starting March 22nd. This is an event you don't want to miss.

Mt Zion Christian Academy is looking for volunteers to help monitor students during testing from Monday – Fri., Mar. 23 - 27, 9 am – 1:30 pm. If you are able to help, please call 894-0140 or stop by and see Dr. Shirley.

Attention Parents! Reading and

Math Enhancement Tutoring is being provided by Certified Teachers & Paraprofessionals, Tues. and Thurs. from 5:30 - 7 pm in the Human Services Building at 945 - 20th St. S. For more information contact Doris Newton or Joel Shedrick at 727-822-0443, Extension 301.

Let's Get Connected!
Mt. Zion Progressive is now social. Checkout the latest events, ministry news, and more by following us on FACEBOOK, TWITTER and YOUTUBE (Keyword: MZPMBC). Visit our website and let's get connected today!
www.MZProgressive.org

For additional information on any of these announcements, please contact the church office.

Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church, 955 20th St. S., St. Petersburg Fla. 727-894-4311, email: info@mzprogressive.org.

Sunday: 5 p.m. Members and the general public are invited to come out to study the Bible with us, and learn "What Baptists Believe".

Children and Youth Ministry Meetings are held every Tuesday at 6 p.m. Children in the community are welcomed to join us.

Mime/Praise Dance Rehearsal on Sun. 2-4 p.m.

Sunday School Teachers' Meeting is held every Tues. 7 p.m. Senior Hour of Power Bible Study is held every Wednesday: 9:30 a.m.

Prayer Meeting and Bible Study every Wed. evening: 7.

Children Youth Ministry Bible Study 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month: 7:30 p.m.

St. Mark MBC

The St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, its pastor, the Reverend Brian K. Brown, its official staff of Deacons and Trustees, and the entire congregation, extends to the community at large, its wish that there would be an overflowing of God's blessings upon their lives. St. Mark is grounded in a Christ-centered doctrine that has as its central core, the belief that we are a haven of hope, help, and healing for a lost world hungry and thirsty for the word of God. At St. Mark, we as a body of believers are Christians willing to work and partner in unity, praising God for the awesome gift of His son, Jesus Christ.

Coming Events for the Month of March

Mar. 25-28 - Congress No. 2-St. Mark M. B. Church Hosting Wed., 25 & Thur., 26: Refreshments- 6:30 p.m., Open Session 7 p.m. Fri., 27-No Refreshments. Opening Session-7 p.m. Dinner & Business Meeting, 8:30 p.m.

Mar. 29 - Palm Sunday with Foreign Mission Emphasis: Operation Love

Weekly Scheduled Activities for St. Mark

Sunday school held for both children and adults of all ages. Sunday school starts each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. All are invited to come out and join us.

Young Adult Ministry (YAMS) Every Sunday: 9:30 a.m. Baptist Training Union is each

"REACHING GREATER HEIGHTS!"

YOUTH SUMMIT 2015

March 21, 2015
9:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Fifth Avenue Church of Christ
4200 5th Avenue South
Ages 12-19 years of age and Parents
(One parent per household)

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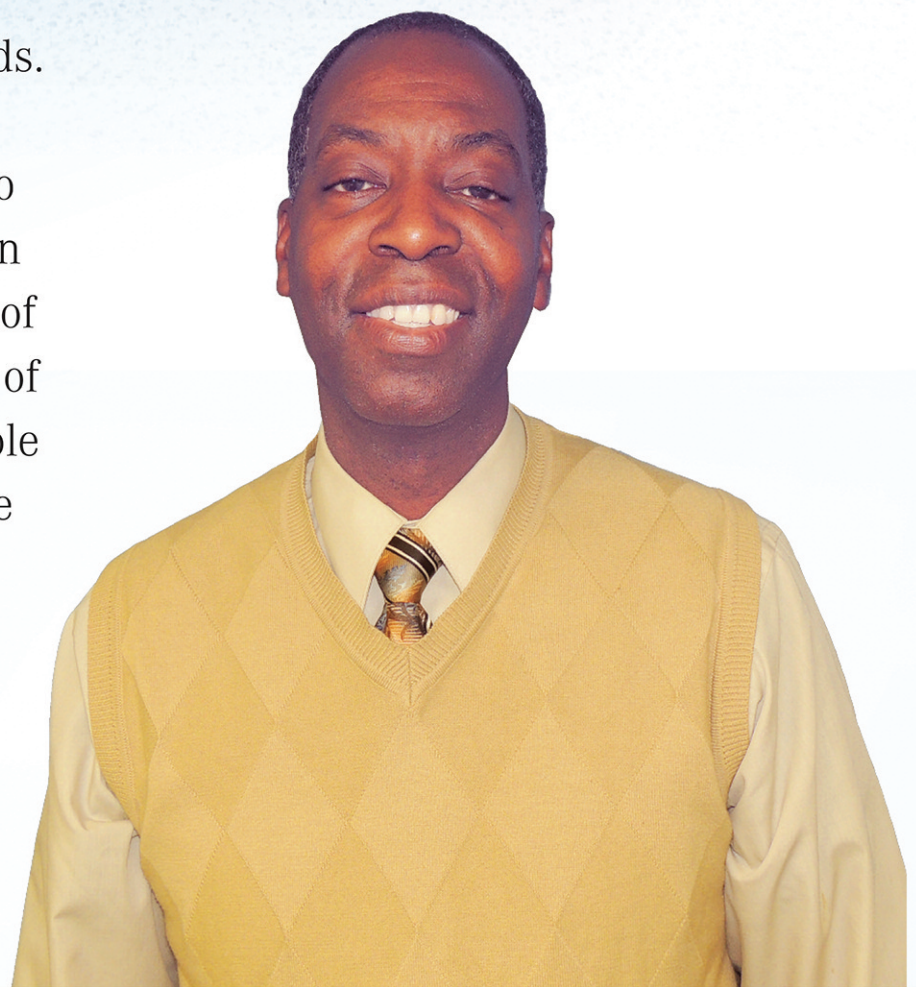


We are proud to have **Darrell Fowler** as one of our newest sales representatives.

Originally from New York City, Darrell is a 10 year resident of the Tampa Bay area. He joins us with 10 years of German automotive experience and a history of top sales awards. He and his wife of nearly 24 years have 3 children and live in Ruskin. Darrell went to the College of New Rochelle and majored in Psychology, attended the Hermetic School of Philosophy in New York City, is a member of the Masonic Lodge of New York City, Temple of King Solomon, and he and his family are members of The Crossing Church.

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