

2016-09-15

The Weekly Challenger : 2016 : 09 : 15

The Weekly Challenger, et al

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/challenger>

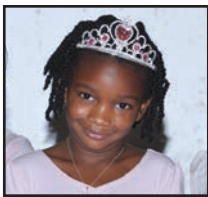
Recommended Citation

The Weekly Challenger, et al, "The Weekly Challenger : 2016 : 09 : 15" (2016). *Newspaper collection*. 401.
<https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/challenger/401>

This is brought to you for free and open access by the The Weekly Challenger at Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in Newspaper collection by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@usf.edu.



2 COMMUNITY: Matters of the Heart



4 COMMUNITY: Little Miss Pink Petals



7 COMMUNITY: Lakewood Terrace



10 COMMUNITY: Citizens United

The Weekly Challenger

We Value Diversity | We Value Education | We Value History

VOL. 49 NO. 4

SEPTEMBER 15 - SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

50¢



Log on to TheWeeklyChallenger.com

For Sports, Money Tips, Beyond the Bay, Recipes and much more!



Lester recognized as Top 40 Under 40



Bridgette Lester

BY DEXTER MCCREE
Feature Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — Bridgette Lester greets with a glowing smile as fashionable as the stylish outfits she wears. She's as fun loving as she is attractive. But, don't let the good looks fool you. When she takes the stand as a defense attorney, she's as aggressive and prepared as a hungry lioness hunting its prey.

Lester has spent the past three years stalking the law books and statutes to defend her clientele, and her actions have not gone unnoticed.

The National Trial Lawyers organization has recognized Attorney Lester as a Top 40 Under 40 Lawyer within the State of Florida. With the recognition, Lester becomes part of a professional organization composed of top trial lawyers from each state or region who are under the age of 40. This invitation-only organization recognizes attorneys based on peer reviews, reputation, influence and skill in the legal profession.

Growing up, Lester had the opportunity to see the world through her travels as her father served this country as a proud member of the United States Navy. She had the chance to travel to England, Germany, Spain,

See **TOP 40**, page 2



The Black Men and Boys Week event brought in some of the most renowned black thinkers of the modern era to address the misconceptions and stigmas surrounding young black males.

Black Men and Boys Week

BY LAURA MULROONEY
Contributor

ST. PETERSBURG — Black men and boys have been stigmatized throughout the country based off of a few facts and many preconceptions, yet a community of individuals and groups believe that black men and boys are worthy of love, support and redemption.

Dr. Christopher Warren, project coordinator

of Figuring It Out for the Child (FIOC) in the Family Study Center at the University of South Florida-St. Petersburg (USFSP) and a myriad of local and nationally recognized speakers kick-started a discussion throughout the city addressing misconceptions and stigmas surrounding young black males.

"We are doing Black Men and Boys Week because if we are going to address any of the issues that confront us, we have

to have a united understanding of what they are. We have to define our terms and be on the same page," said Warren.

The six-day event was held throughout St. Pete from Aug. 29 to Sept. 3. It served as an opportunity for concerned community members, mentoring groups and program providers to engage in strategic action and support-based workshops, lectures and roundtable discussions

on issues surrounding black men and boys.

In addition to community outreach, the week also intended to repair and strengthen inter-generational relationships between youth, parents and caregivers and to empower and educate fathers on how to develop and maintain critical fatherhood skills to include communication and discipline techniques.

The week started off

See **MEN/BOYS**, pages 8

Woodson Museum will remain open

BY RICK KRISEMAN
Mayor of St. Petersburg

ST. PETERSBURG — One of my two favorite days as mayor was the day we announced our intent to purchase the home of the Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American History Museum in order to ensure the museum's operators could continue their important work at that location. The day we raised the museum's flag high above City Hall was another one of my favorite days. History was made. While some

time has passed since those celebrations, my commitment to the museum remains as strong as ever.

This week, one of our council members introduced a new business item to negotiate the price of the Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American History Museum. As such, I have decided to pause the lease negotiations with the museum's operators until the purchase price and transfer of ownership is resolved. Regardless, the

museum will remain open and will continue to thrive.

Our negotiations with the current operators have been long, but fair. During negotiations, the City of St. Petersburg agreed to several items not usually found in other city leases, including reducing the rent from one dollar per month to one dollar per year.

We also agreed to provide landscaping assistance courtesy of our City Parks & Recreation Department, as well as



Mayor Rick Kriseman

exterior facility maintenance and the repair of major facility systems, such as the air conditioning unit and roof.

See **MUSEUM**, page 10

A unique St. Pete talent



Ladee Hubbard

BY FRANK DROUZAS
Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — Ladee Hubbard, who spent summers of her youth in St. Pete, was recently named a winner of the 2016 Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award. The award is given annually to six women writers who demonstrate excellence and promise in the early stages of their careers.

Now in its 22nd year, the Rona Jaffe Awards have helped many women build successful writing careers by offering encouragement and financial support at a critical time. The award is \$30,000 each and was presented to the six recipients on Sept. 15 in New York City.

Hubbard, who attended Lakewood High in her freshman year, was nominated anonymously for the award by members of the publishing industry. She is the winner of the Faulkner-Wisdom Short Story Award, and her stories and poems have appeared in such publications as "Prick of the Spindle," "Rhino," "Beloit Fiction Journal" and "GUD" magazine, among others.

She received her MFA in fiction at University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2014, and her forthcoming first novel, "The Talented Tenth," evolved out of her master's thesis. The book is due out in the fall of 2017.

The book's title is taken from W.E.B. DuBois' influential essay of the same name published in 1903 that refers to a leadership class of African Americans, Hubbard explained, and

See **TALENT**, page 2

48 Years of Service to the Tampa Bay Area • www.TheWeeklyChallenger.com • 727-896-2922

INDEX: COMMUNITY 2 - 11 • CHURCH NEWS 12 - 13

SMALL FIRM ATTENTION. BIG FIRM RESULTS.

Atty. Darryl Rouson 727-224-4557

Dolman Law Group

Car Accident and Personal Injury Attorneys

DARRYL ERVIN ROUSON JULIA MCGRATH ALEXANDER KNAPP MATTHEW A. DOLMAN CHRISTIAN MYER REBECCA HEIST DOLMAN

AUTO ACCIDENT & CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEYS

(813) 229-5353

Martin J. Hernandez
Daniel J. Fernandez

www.FernandezHernandezLaw.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

NAACP resurrection 2016

The St. Petersburg NAACP Branch No. 5130 was reorganized last September. Packed in the fellowship hall of McCabe United Methodist Church, community members responded to the call from the national headquarters to revive the branch by holding a special election.

Many came recognizing that there were major social justice issues that were occurring within our community that not only needed immediate attention but needed the attention that was grounded in the mission and work of the NAACP versus individual's personal agendas.

Armed with a 120-day work plan, the newly elected officers took on traditional NAACP celebrations as well as the major social issues facing our children's education and the redevelopment of our community. The work has not come without critics, but the list of accomplishments is impressive for a group of individuals, many of whom didn't know each other. Those accomplishments have included:

- Hosting a formal swearing in ceremony aimed at introducing the newly elected officers and

executive committee members to the community

- Recruited over 300 members
- Recruited six life members
- Hosted Emancipation Service

• Issued a 120-day work plan critiquing the Scale Up for Success Plan and its failed implementation for our elementary schools

• Directly advocated on behalf of five families whose children had suffered adverse situations within their perspective schools

• Advocated successfully for a disabled veteran's right to live where she chose to live;

• Hosted four well organized candidate forums and issued a report card on each of the forums to the community

• Advocated for the preservation of the Lincoln Cemetery

• Facilitated a collaborative with 10 faith based, community based and Greek organizations called VIP for the purpose of registering voters and getting out the vote;

• Began the planning for the 2017 Freedom Fund Celebration



This work has been accomplished by a group of individuals that recognize they could no longer sit idle in hopes that someone would save us!

The NAACP is currently making plans for the November elections. There has been a lot done, but there is so much more to do! Imagine our community deciding for once that we were going to not only join the NAACP, but make a commitment to work on one of the many standing committees or run for an office with the commitment to do the work.

Please join us for our September general membership meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at 6:30p.m. to renew your membership in preparation for the upcoming November election!

9th annual Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway

ST. PETERSBURG — Matters of the Heart Radio Ministry, a non-profit organization, will be hosting their 9th annual Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway and Health Awareness event Saturday, Nov. 12 at the Pinellas Technical College from 11a.m. - 2 p.m., located at 901 34th St. S, St. Petersburg.

The ministry's goal and mission is to bless 300 or more families in the community with turkeys and grocery store gift cards from Publix, Walmart and Winn Dixie.

Currently they are looking for business owners, nonprofits, ministries, entrepreneurs and individuals that want to partner with their humanitarian endeavors by donating turkeys and gift cards to bless families in our community.

The ministry is also looking for vendors and health professionals to participate. Vendor booths are \$20.

Contact Princess Denise Wright for additional information on donations and sponsorships at 727-488-8818 or princessdenise.8818@yahoo.com.



Writer with St. Pete background wins award

From **TALENT**, page 1

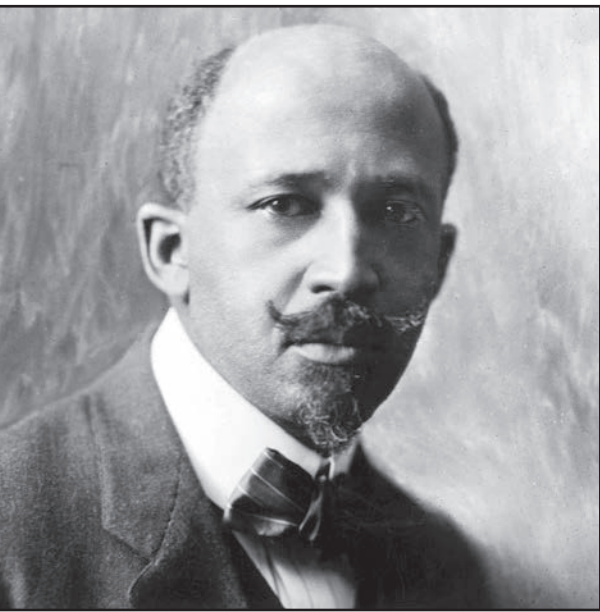
centers around a family whose members all have unique abilities.

"It sort of literalizes it [the essay] in that the characters have actual talents," Hubbard said. "The whole book is playing with ideas that have to do with the need for a black leadership."

"The Talented Tenth" is structured as a road novel that combines elements of the picaresque and the noble quest, and tells the story of the Ribbins family, each member of which is born with a unique talent: one can see in the dark, one can pick any lock and another can make intricate maps from memory of anything he sees.

"It's become slightly surrealistic," she said, "but it's a literal plot, it takes place in the real world," adding that the family members try to figure out what to do with these gifts they've been given.

Hubbard already has other books in the works including a historical novel set in 1918 Chicago and a collection of linked short stories set in the 1980s. She said that much of her short fiction is set in the contemporary



Ladee Hubbard's book title "The Talented Tenth" was taken from W.E.B. DuBois' influential essay of the same name published in 1903 that refers to a leadership class of African Americans.

South and admitted that when composing many of these, she's actually thinking of St. Pete, where she would spend entire summers visiting her grandparents. Hubbard's mother now makes her home in St. Pete.

"I have a lot of fond memories of St. Petersburg," said Hubbard, who is a mother of three and now resides in New Orleans, where she has

taught at Tulane University.

Growing up, the Hubbard family was very mobile and lived in such varied locales as California, the Virgin Islands and Ft. Myers.

"The real homecoming for me was always St. Petersburg," she said, "because I spent every summer with my grandparents."

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERSISERS

The Weekly Challenger

Home Delivery to South St. Petersburg for \$50 yearly

First Class Mail Subscription Cost: \$80 yearly

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone No: _____

Email Address: _____

New Subscription _____ (or) Renewal _____

Date: _____ Amount Paid: \$ _____ Cash _____ Check _____

Comments: _____

Make Checks Payable to: The Weekly Challenger

Mail this form & payment to: The Weekly Challenger, P.O. Box 35130, St. Petersburg, FL 33705

Email: editor@theweeklychallenger.com • Phone: (727) 896-2922 • Fax (727) 823-2568

RATE
REDUCTION
SPECIAL!

The Weekly Challenger

is distributed in the following cities:
**St. Petersburg ■ Clearwater ■ Largo
Tarpon Springs ■ Dunedin ■ Safety Harbor**

Ethel L. Johnson
CEO/Publisher Emerita

Lyn Johnson
Publisher/General Manager

Irene Johnson-Pridden
Advertising Dept. 727-642-3499
advertising@theweeklychallenger.com

Lorrie Bellinger
Art Director

PUBLISHED WEEKLY
on Thursdays

READERSHIP
100,000 monthly

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
\$50 for 1 year (local only)

SINGLE COPY 50 cents

ATTN. POSTMASTER:
Send all address changes to:
The Weekly Challenger
P.O. Box 35130
St. Petersburg, FL 33705

NO PAPER?
If you have not received your paper during delivery, call (727) 896-2922

DEADLINES

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

COLUMNIST'S DISCLAIMER
The views expressed by The Weekly Challenger columnists/ advice columnists do not necessarily reflect the views of The Weekly Challenger. By publishing such columns, The Challenger is not advocating the following of any advice or suggestion expressed.

SUBMISSIONS POLICY
Submissions to The Weekly Challenger may be edited for reasons of space, clarity or for considerations of liability. All submissions become the sole property of The Weekly Challenger. The Weekly Challenger reserves the right to run all or part of any submission at a later time. Some submissions may take precedence due to timeliness or newsworthiness.

THE BLACK PRESS
believes that America can

P.O. Box 35130, St. Petersburg, FL 33705
Phone: (727) 896-2922
Fax: (727) 823-2568
Email: editor@theweeklychallenger.com
www.theweeklychallenger.com

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.

**Volume 49 ■ Number 4
Published Thursday,
September 15, 2016
14 pages ■ 1 section**

© The Weekly Challenger

All rights reserved. No portions of this periodical may be reproduced without expressed consent.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Where is the nutritious food and who accepts your money

BY LAURA MULROONEY
Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG — She opened the door and walked through the aisles walking over the cracked and worn, decades old linoleum. Brightly colored, brand name salty and sweet snacks adorned the entryway. Her items were chosen quickly from the shelves of packaged treats, Sour Cream and Onion Lays potato chips, Smart-food White Cheddar popcorn and several bags of candy. Her total: \$3.00. Her payment method: EBT.

Destiny Cameron, a Midtown resident, turned 18 this summer and received her own EBT card just one month after her birthday. Cameron is no stranger to the world of food stamps. She and her 22-year-old sister receive benefits monthly for food assistance from the federally funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps.

SNAP households are expected to spend about 30 percent of their resources on food according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Cameron receives \$194 a month for food assistance. This is her only budget for food. She admits that she's looking for a job, but is afraid that once she does start working her allotment for food will decrease.

She has learned from past experiences and family members how to stretch her food budget; canned foods and meat are purchased when the allotment is disbursed on the 21st of the month. Then she purchases snacks for the remainder of the month to make her allotment last.

That \$3.00 bought her approximately 1200 calories.

ries.

According to the Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2010, sedentary teen girls between the ages of 13 and 18 need 1,600 to 1,800 calories per day, while active girls require 2,200 to 2,400 calories each day.

Calories from snacks have made up more than 75 percent of Cameron's suggested daily caloric intake on this particular summer day.

The USDA defines SNAP as a program that "puts healthy food on the table for millions of low income Americans every month." The program works by supplementing the budgets of families and individuals with an amount determined by income and household size and is restricted to use at pre-approved retailers, for predetermined food products.

In 2015, the City of St. Petersburg reported 3,777 households, 11 percent of the population within the Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) that includes Midtown, utilize SNAP, while the citywide percentage is 5.5 percent.

In the 33712 zip code, an area of south St. Petersburg bordered by Central Avenue to the north, 54th Avenue to the south, and US 19 and 16th Street, to the east and west respectively, 23 businesses accept SNAP/EBT benefits.

Out of those 23 retailers, Walmart Neighborhood Market at 1794 22nd St. S and Publix on 3030 54th Ave are the only full service grocery stores. They are three miles away from each other.

The remaining 21 stores are convenience stores that make more money from snacks than groceries.

To make it blatantly clear, Midtown is a food desert. Despite the abundant list of approved EBT

retailers, a few of which do offer limited fruits, vegetables and protein sources, the distance and lack of nutritional options available for purchase forces Midtown to maintain its food desert status established by the USDA.

According to the Center for Disease Control, scientific studies have suggested that food deserts may negatively affect health outcomes and that lower income families are at higher risk for health issues like obesity, diabetes and heart problems because of lack of options.

In addition to availability of nutritious food, food deserts are further defined by information collected by the U.S. Census Bureau. Numbers concerning the availability of transportation per household, the distance between food sources and the type of food available at each retailer enables researchers to label unhealthy neighborhoods as such.

This debilitating issue has been on the City of St. Petersburg political agenda since the mid-1990s and has been reported on by all major news publications in the area.

According to research done at the University of South, St. Petersburg, Midtown residents suffer from economic and social isolation, causing significant barriers when accessing high quality, affordable food.

Sweetbay Supermarket opened in 2005, followed by Walmart Neighborhood Market in early 2014. Residents and local business owners have felt the ups and downs of the opening and closing of these two businesses.

Naim "Mike" Mubarak, owner of South City Market, admits that 60-70 percent of his business



ness comes from EBT transactions and that most of the items purchased with SNAP benefits are snacks and soda.

"We go through a lot of soda," remarked Mubarak. "A lot of soda and a lot of chips, too many chips."

"Without EBT, you cannot make a business like this," explained Mubarak. "Four years ago in June, I wasn't able to renew my EBT license because I was out the country; I lost 30-40 percent of my business' income that month."

Mubarak laments about the changes his business has seen over the last 10 years. "Since Walmart opened and Sweetbay before that, my meat business and grocery sales have dropped drastically."

Mubarak's store isn't as limited as other convenience stores in the area. A deli case lines the back of the store filled with meats such as chicken, oxtail, pork chops and ground beef from local wholesalers. He has a freezer packed with frozen vegetables and meal items. Eggs, cheese and milk are also available.

But, Mubarak acknowledges that he cannot sell these items as cheaply as Walmart can. A half-gallon of full fat Save-A-Lot brand milk at his store will cost \$3.49, at Walmart, a gallon of full fat Great Value brand currently costs \$3.36.

To cut costs Mubarak offers brand name snacks and off brand food items. Great Value beans stay untouched on the shelf instead of Goya, while Oreos are emptied from their boxes instead of the lesser-known chocolate sandwich cookies.

On the average convenience stores offer overly processed, high in sugar, salt, fat and carbohydrates, while falling short on protein and essential vitamins.

Roy Henry, a semi-retired senior citizen, works part-time as a cashier for Annie's Beauty Supply in Midtown doesn't see a problem walking a mile down the street for healthy food. But in Cameron's case walking that mile to a full service grocery store isn't feasible.

A healthy community, as described by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Healthy People 2010 report, is "one that continuously creates and improves both its physical and social environments, helping people to support one another in aspects of daily life and to develop to their fullest potential. Healthy places are those designed and built to improve the quality of life for all people who live, work, worship, learn, and play within their borders — where every person is free to make choices amid a variety of healthy, available, accessible, and affordable options."

Beth Houghton, the executive director of St. Petersburg Free Clinic acknowledges that a healthy community depends on the quality of food available to residents.

She has seen an increase of perishable items, such as frozen meats and produce donated to the food bank over the last few years, which she considers a positive change for those who utilize the clinic's food services.

Although the food bank has seen an increase of healthy food donations, not everyone who needs food assistance gets it.


"Maintaining a healthy diet on a limited income with dietary restrictions is particularly hard, it can be difficult, but it can be done," stated Houghton.

She continues to see the clinic's medical patients, particularly diabetics, facing the most difficulty putting together a healthy diet, adding an extra challenge to already difficult dietary challenge.


There are 11 food pantries within the south St. Petersburg area, two of which are in Midtown; five are within considerable walking distance of Midtown depending on health and physical condition.

Limited availability to transportation and location of healthy food sources continue to perpetuate Midtown's status as a food desert.

WE ENCOURAGE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



ST. PETERSBURG LIBRARY SYSTEM



Renters Rights

Have questions about your legal rights when dealing with a landlord?

*Come to this **free** event to learn more.*

*You may even receive **one-on-one** time with an Attorney.*

When: Tuesday, September 20, 2016

5:30 - 7:30 pm



Where: South Community Library


2300 Roy Hanna Drive South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33712

RSVP at: <https://www.facebook.com/events/223937381339503/>



Call Community Law Program at 727-582-7480 or sign at the library circulation desk.


Sponsored by:






In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Florida Law, it is the policy of the City of St. Petersburg to offer its public programs, services and meetings in a manner that is readily accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities. If you are a person with a disability and require information or materials in an appropriate alternative format; or if you require any other accommodation, please contact us at 727-893-7724; 72 hours in advance of the event. Advance notification within this guideline will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility.





Lutheran Services Florida Pinellas County Request for Bid HEAD START/EARLY HEAD START



Scope of Work: This request for bid is to solicit high quality janitorial services for 14 Child Care Centers in Pinellas County. All vendors must be licensed, bonded, insured and have at least one year of experience in a child care setting.

All interested vendors must attend a pre-bid meeting to be held on September 29, 2016 at 10:00 am at our Head Start facility located at 2210 Tall Pines Dr, Largo, FL. A visit of all sites will be required. Any vendor interested in submitting a proposal must attend.

Please email your request for a RFQ to laurie.kowalski@lsfnet.org. All proposals will be due by 5pm on October 21.


CONNECT WITH US!





PHSC

Pinellas-Hernando State College
Instructor, Mathematics
(Job #0619)
Emergency opening.
Need immediate placement
for our Spring Hill Campus.
Pinellas-Hernando State College (PHSC) is now accepting applications. For more information and to apply online visit our website at www.phsc.edu/jobs. Position is open until filled. EOE/ADA Compliance
Jessie B. Adams




PICK OF THE WEEK!

15 20 44

CASH 3

490 723 167

DOG DAYS



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

COMMUNITY NEWS

Little Miss Pink Petals dance with fathers at Princess Tea Party

ST. PETERSBURG - The ladies of Zeta Upsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. held its Little Miss Pink Petals "Tiaras and Tutus Princess Tea Party" last Sunday, Sept. 11 at the Garden Club of St. Petersburg.

Nearly 100 guests were in attendance for the occasion. Dressed in sparkling tiaras and pink tutus, pageant participants made a grand entrance as they were accompanied into the room by little gentleman escorts.

The Princess Tea Party is part of a series of pageant activities that span a period of 12 weeks and targets young girls 5-10 years of age. The goal is to positively develop young girls in the community and give them confidence and skills to achieve academic excellence.

During the program, attendees enjoyed entertainment and a pink and green candy bar buffet. Guest speaker for the occasion was Alpha Kappa Alpha member

Evyan Gordon, who shared a heartfelt message about the strength of families in creating a positive roadmap for children to follow.

Other program highlights included an interpretive dance by Jordon Moore and a poem recited by Mykenzie Davis-Cowart. The 2013 Little Miss Pink Petals winner, Denia Averette, also welcomed the new participants and shared her positive experience as a previous winner.

The affair concluded with fathers dancing and twirling their little princesses with the music "Isn't She Lovely" by Stevie Wonder playing in the background.

The pageant will culminate at 6 p.m. Oct. 22 at Lakewood High School Auditorium, 1400 54 Ave. S. Admission to the event is \$10. Proceeds will benefit the chapter's charitable and local community donations.

For more information, visit www.zuochapter.org or call 727-637-8738.





**SICKLE CELL
DISEASE ASSOCIATION
ST. PETERSBURG CHAPTER, INC.**

BENEFIT DINNER AND EXTRAVAGANZA

Saturday, September 17, 2016

5:00pm-9:00pm ** Dinner Served 6:00pm-7:00pm **

Magnuson Hotel Marina Cove
6800 Sunshine Skyway Lane South - St. Petersburg, Florida

Live Music Featuring
"Bus Stop Band"



Donation \$50.00 Tables of 10 Available
(proceeds benefit client programs/services)
Call (727) 896-2355 for Tickets

**The Art of Donation
2016 Holiday Card
Art Contest**



Entry Due Date
November 14, 2016

Student Prizes
A total of five student winners will be announced.

1st Place: \$400 Visa gift card
2nd Place: \$300 Visa gift card
3rd Place: \$200 Visa gift card

Community Choice:
\$100 Visa gift card
Facebook Fave:
\$100 Visa gift card

* Teachers of students with winning entries will receive a \$50 Visa gift card
** Teachers will also receive a \$20 Walmart gift card for every 10 pieces of artwork submitted by their students.

Visit LifeLinkFoundation.org for more information.

Leadership & Administration
Ministry Business 101
Funding, Grants & Sponsorships
The Music Industry & Business
Choir Directing & Control
Decorum & Presentations
Rehearsal Techniques & New Songs
Recruiting, Retention & Refocusing
The P/W Team Development & Conditioning
Vocal Health, Coaching & Strengthening
SongWriting, Copyrighting & Publishing
Producing, Recording, Technology & Management
The Musician, Band & Musicianship
Ministry, Mime & Movement
Ministry Dance & Delivery

**RELEVANT
CONFERENCE**

MUSIC • PERFORMING ARTS • CHOIRS & LEADERSHIP

EPHESIANS 4:12

Florida

The "HOW TO" Conference

September 24, 2016

St. Petersburg College/Gibbs Campus
6605 5th Avenue North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33710

Oh Yes! IT'S FREE

REGISTER NOW!.....www.megampac.com
or (202) 679-1374



Meachum L. Clarke



Zack McKay



Cepeda McKay



Lecresia Campbell

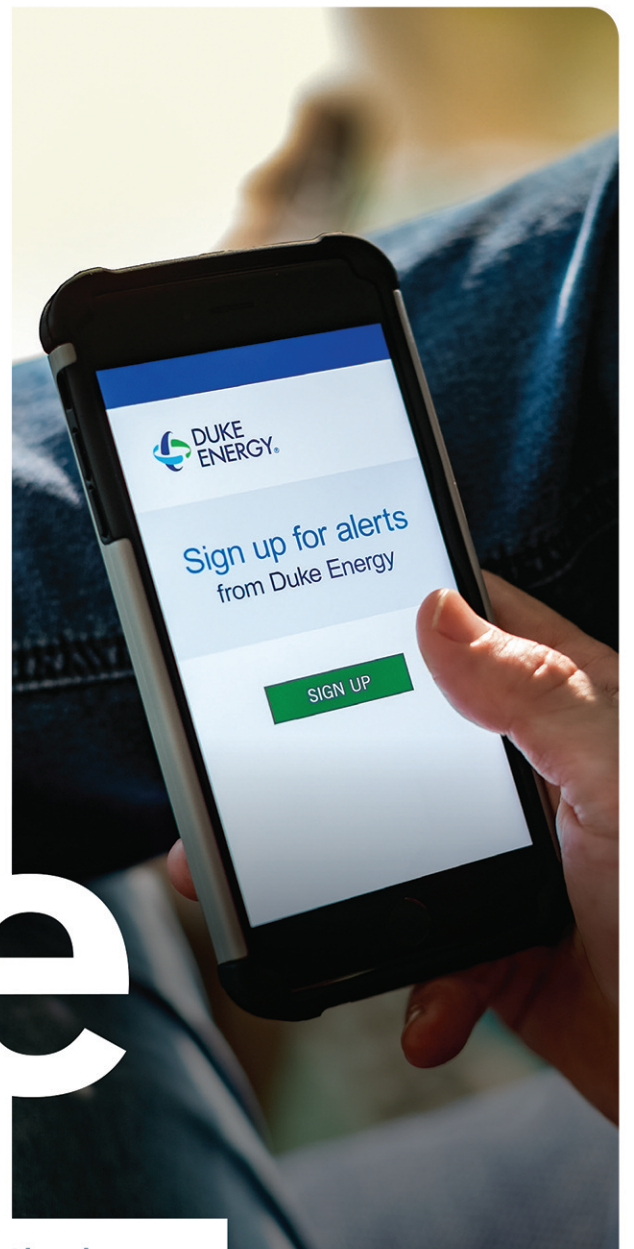


**Encouraged
JUSTIN SAVAGE**






COMMUNITY NEWS



change

Giving you new ways to control your energy use and stay in the know.

In today's world, change is a constant. At Duke Energy, we're changing too. We're developing new ways to help you control your energy use and stay in the know. Because no matter how things change, we're always here... with power for your life.

 Since 2015, 1 million+ customers enrolled in our new, two-way text messaging for power outage reporting and real-time restoration information.



   
www.duke-energy.com/Change

Message paid for by Duke Energy shareholders

COMMUNITY NEWS

"Order my steps..."



PSALM 119:133

Friday 9/30/2016
6 p.m.
St. Petersburg Sunshine Center
330 5th St N, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Please join us in recognizing and celebrating our
Heart Attack & Stroke Survivors
Come hear from a medical expert on the warning signs and symptoms of heart attacks and stroke.
No cost. Donations only. All proceeds will go to the American Heart Association.

GALLERIE 909
presents



Darwin Leon, Artist
"Fish out of Water"

Opening Reception
Saturday, October 8, 2016
5PM — 9PM | Artist Talk 7PM
Music | Refreshments

Regular Gallery Hours
Sat & Sun 1pm — 6PM
Also by Appointment
Carla Bristol, Gallerist
727-565-3930
909 22nd Street S
Saint Petersburg, FL

The St. Petersburg Branch of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Inc. (ASALH) celebrates the Life and Genius of noted African American Historian, **Dr. John Hope Franklin.**



"We knew him, we admired him, we respected his genius, and we loved him."
"The proper choice for the American Negro scholar is to use his history and ingenuity, his resources and talents, to combat the forces that isolate him and his people and, like the true patriot that he is, to contribute to the solution of the problems that all Americans face in common." ~Dr. John Hope Franklin

WHEN: October 8 at 10:00 AM
WHERE: Dr. Carter G. Woodson African American History Museum
9th Avenue and 22nd Street South
WHAT: A documentary film on his life and a seminar on his major accomplishments

Come see the film and participate in the seminar discussion led by Dr. Ray Arsenault, Ms. Yvonne Alsup, Dr. Ronald Sheehy, Ms. Jennifer Gamble and others who knew him.
DR. FRANKLIN IS THE PRE-EMINENT AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIAN OF OUR GENERATION.
LET US HONOR HIM!

REEVES BUILDING, PLUMBING & ROOFING CONTRACTOR
Over 37 Years in Tampa Bay



Specializing In:
Painting • Drywall • Flooring • Plumbing • Windows
Roofing • Soffit & Fascia Cabinets • Kitchen & Bath
Garage & Porch Rehabilitation • Custom Home Remodeling

Approved Rehabilitation Contractor for: City of Tampa, Hillsborough County, City of St. Petersburg, Pinellas County and Polk County

Call MICHAEL REEVES - Phone/Fax 813-238-6197
Email: reevesbuilding@verizon.net • www.ReevesBuilding.com

Licenses: CFC025588 CCC1326860 CBC1251478



Henry Porter
Sign Me Up

SAVE THE DATE! YOU'RE INVITED TO JOIN US!
Dr. Henry L. Porter, (The Poet, The Prophet, & The Psalmist), will be the Keynote Speaker at the following event:
Sept. 24: Westcoast Center for Human Development, CI., Pastor's Anniversary @ 4pm
(1100 N. MLK Jr. Ave., Clearwater, FL. 33755)
COME ON EVERYBODY, LET'S SHAKE THE HOUSE!
For more information, call:
Ms. Ashley Boyington @ #: 727-452-5794 or Elder Regina Butler @ #: 941-504-2981

McB's
Mens Fashion and Clothing

1045 Central Ave
St. Petersburg, FL 33705

727-258-4932

Shear Essence Hair Salon



GET A JUMP START ON A NEW LOOK!

Nail Tech Wanted!

3425 22nd Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL
(727) 328-7189

COMMUNITY NEWS

Lakewood Terrace ends summer with a bang!

ST. PETERSBURG – The Lakewood Terrace Neighborhood Association hosted their inaugural “Summer Sizzle” last month, sending the neighborhood kids back-to-school with a bang! The picnic was held at the adjacent Lakewood Terrace Neighborhood Park, which was in part a by-product of former neighborhood association president Anne Drakeford.

Drakeford and other members of the board of directors thought it was too dangerous for children to have to cross busy Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street South just to get to nearby Lake Maggiore Park. In an effort to ensure the safety of local youth, she and many others urged the City of St. Petersburg to establish a new park where the children of Lakewood Terrace could play without concern.

The Summer Sizzle was open to Lakewood Terrace residents and its neighboring communities.

“Our neighborhood is about being inclusive, not exclusive. We want our renters to be just as proud about living in this neighborhood as the homeowners are,” resident Edna Barnes emphasized.

About 40 neighbors participated in the community picnic, something the association hopes will turn into a yearly event. The

end of the summer bash was sponsored by donations from residents and funds from the Mayor’s Mini Grant, which aims to engage residents, mobilize members, encourage resident interactions and build relationships.

“The best use of this money is to help each person, not just one block,” said Lakewood Terrace Neighborhood Association President Corey Givens, Jr.

Hamburgers and hot dogs sizzled on the grill, kids played happily in the inflatable jump house and the neighbors mingled amongst one another while playing a fun game of spades, all for free.

“Neighborhoods shouldn’t be burdened with finding solutions to problems where there’s a quick fix. We, as neighbors, should be dialoguing with each other about projects residents want to see in the near future. We owe it to our kids to find activities that will keep them out of trouble,” Givens, Jr. added.

Of course the 2016 Summer Sizzle would not have been complete if there were no special surprises for guests. The local fire station (#8) was on site to provide the kids with a hands-on tour of one of their newest trucks.

“One of the most special parts of the job is going out into the community and letting the young

people see exactly what the job entails,” said Fireman Hendri Robinson.

Two-dozen kids and even a few senior residents had an opportunity to sit in the fire truck and try on some of the equipment.

Three Community Service Officers from the St. Petersburg Police Department stopped by at the request of Officer Meghan Rulison. Perhaps the most poignant moment of their visit was when the officers began helping the children assemble a field goal for a game of soccer.

The event concluded with the Lakewood Terrace board of directors distributing school supplies to students in attendance.

The neighborhood association, which has seen membership double over the past year, plans to establish a community garden, host a crime watch kick-off, and sponsor neighborhood cleanups, Givens, Jr. said.

“We all want to work together to see that our neighborhood is just as good as any other neighborhood in the city.”

The Lakewood Terrace Neighborhood Association meets every third Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Coquina Key Clubhouse. Neighborhood Boundaries: 34th Ave. S to Bayou Blvd. S., between 6th & MLK St. S.



Pink Petals Pageant 2016

Presented by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
Zeta Upsilon Omega Chapter

Saturday, October 22, 2016
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Lakewood High School Auditorium
1400 54th Ave. S. St. Pete, FL

General Admission: \$10

“LORD, Rekindle My Fire”

Found, Forgiven, and Favored Single Ladies In Waiting Prayer Breakfast

Theme Scripture: Psalm 73:26

Keynote Speaker
Brittany Peterson
“LEAP Into Destiny Ministry”

Date: 10/1/16
Address: 4000 5th Avenue S.
St. Petersburg, FL 33711
Doors Open: 8:30 am
Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Admission: Free

There will be door prizes!

We're collecting bibles OR toiletry/sanitary item(s): soap, washcloths, deodorant, pads, tampons, lotion, toothpaste, toothbrush, brush, comb, shampoo/conditioner, hair grease, gel, hair scrunchies and hand sanitizer. Items will be donated to girls in foster care, prostitutes and homeless women.

RSVP: Kristina_Hollingsworth@aol.com or text 727-768-3700

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Deannie K's Beauty Salon

Beauty is more than skin deep.

Call TODAY for an appointment

Phone: 727-894-1734

2500 9th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33705

B. Brinson Insurance Agency

Auto, Life, Health and Home Owners
brinsoninsagy@yahoo.com

Bennie Brinson
1830 49th St. So.
St. Petersburg, FL 33707
Tel: 727-328-9878
Cell: 727-215-3048
Fax: 727-328-9545

ARE YOU HAVING TROUBLE CONTROLLING THE WAY YOU EAT?

CALL FOR HELP
727-724-6292 (PAT)

FOOD ADDICTS IN RECOVERY
ANONYMOUS OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.foodaddicts.org

SYLVIA J. TAYLOR P.A.
ATTORNEY & COUNSELOR AT LAW
Specializing In Real Estate Closings, Refi's and Probate

1900 Main Street, Suite 750
Sarasota, FL 34238
(941) 309-5188
Fax (941) 309-5201
sylviajtaylorpa@cs.com

HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE
Cancelled or Non-Renewed??

WE CAN HELP!!!
727-393-4617

Larry Eugene Walker • Insurance
Great Automobile Rates • Over 20 Years of Experience

Make \$\$\$
as a certified braiding stylist!!!

16 hr Hair braid Certification
Get your share of the Multi-billion dollar Hair industry now!!

1-855-427-4849
www.hairitizsalon.com

Heritage Presbyterian Housing
“An Affordable Senior Housing Community”

Low income rental apartments for Seniors.

Phone: (727) 393-3477
Fax: (727) 399-0214
TTY Callers: 1-800-955-8771

Les Slone
les1heritage@aol.com

10200 122nd Ave
Largo, FL 33773

CONNECT WITH US! **YouTube**

facebook
twitter

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

COMMUNITY NEWS

Black Men and Boys Week: Worthy of love, support & redemption

From **MEN/BOYS**, page 1

at Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church with a discussion entitled “The Faith Community Role in Education,” by Rev. Dr. Alfonso Wyatt.

Historically, a critical role of the African-American church has been that of a home and safe haven for both faith-based and secular education to the youth. Wyatt discussed how the faith community in St. Pete is engaging in this work, and how the community can generate greater collaboration for widespread impact.

Wyatt is a thought leader for New York’s faith-based and secular nonprofit sectors, and has worked with three generations of young people as an educator, counselor, program developer, administrator, mentor and advocate.

The Enoch Davis Recreational Center hosted Dr. Willie J. Kimmons for his discussion entitled “Save Children, Save Schools: Education Resources for Parents” Wednesday night.

Kimmons is one of America’s leading authorities on education, leadership, parental involvement, and health related issues. He believes that children are our greatest resource and an extension of us.

His interactive workshop intended to assist parents and others who are involved in the important job in helping to raise and educate children.

More Than a Statistic: The Plight of Black Men & Boys in St. Pete

BY SHAWN LEUNG KIU FOK
Neighborhood News Bureau

Tuesday’s night program was a community discussion held at USFSP entitled “More Than a Statistic: The Plight of Black Men & Boys.”

The presentation discussed the issues regarding black men and boys in relation to conscious and unconscious biases within learning and employment opportunities and ways in which the community can change the situation.

Four-panel members, Javaris Green, Kasamba Kokahyi, Kim Townsend and Roderick Cunningham shared the struggles and hardships that they are facing and witnessing as African-American men and



Roderick Cunningham (second left), an empowerment coach, shared his experience in helping people overcome emotional distress.



L-R, Javaris Gree, Roderick Cunningham, Kasamba Kokahyi and Kim Townsend

boys in Pinellas County.

“In Pinellas County, there is a special brand of oppression. It is unspoken and reflected in the school system. We share a lot of national issues, but of course, there are some issues that are special to St. Pete because of community and racial dynamic,” Warren said.

Warren also mentioned that one of the most common labels used within the school system is “at risk.” “You’ve taken an entire group of kids and told them to their faces that they don’t have a future where they are right now,” he said. “These young men don’t see themselves at risk for anything, they see themselves unsupported and unloved.”

Warren said that youth crime intervention is the ideology that becomes very

prevalent when addressing black boys. He added that there were young men telling him that they were sick and tired of being asked to be in the crime intervention program when they have never done anything wrong.

The panel said that they see how the education system is defeating African-American schoolboys. Some teachers have less academic expectations on black students, while other educators label them causing bad classroom behaviors.

“One of the reasons why African-American young male and children in general are labeled ‘at risk,’ is because people who are labeling them aren’t really with them all the time,” Kasamba Kokahyi, a 16 year-old senior at St. Petersburg Collegiate High

School, said.

“They only look at some data and correlate that a bunch of people from this neighborhood have ended up in prison.” He added that there are usually more police officers patrolling around the schools in the “at-risk” areas.

Warren said that through a critical dialogue, he really wants to make an impact. “Let’s build and let’s heal, and do what we need to do to heal our community,” he urged.

How can I be a better dad: Child engagement strategies for fathers

BY FRANK DROUZAS
Staff Writer

Kenneth Braswell, the executive director of Fathers Incorporated, an agency founded in 2004 whose mission focuses on remediating the impact of father absence, headlined Thursday night’s workshop at Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital Education and Conference.

Fathers Incorporated

was birthed out of his own personal issues that he was going through at the time when he found himself in family court for the custody of his daughter. The judge challenged him and his daughter’s mother to figure things out for themselves outside the courtroom in a week’s time, and that’s exactly what they did.

“And what she did was that she put us in this space where the two of us had to figure out how to be good parents,” he said. “My daughter is now 17 years old. We never had to go back to court.”

He added that his story is what drives him to do this work. Fatherhood is not just about being a dad, Braswell said, fatherhood is as much about being a man as about being a dad. Hallmarks of manhood include being a benchmark in life, society and family. It is part of the masculine responsibility to demonstrate strength and stability, to protect and provide those within their sphere of influence. If a person has not developed himself as a man, how can he develop himself as a father, he asked.

Concerning the image of fatherhood as it relates to many black men, it is a neg-



Javaris Green (red shirt), a local school counselor, shared his experience in counseling.



Kenneth Braswell, left, and Dr. Christopher Warren



GROW YOUR BUSINESS WITH A HANDCRAFTED SBA LOAN.

An SBA loan from USAmeriBank could be just what you need to take your business to the next level. Whether you need funds to expand facilities, buy equipment or run more efficiently, our experienced bankers have the financial tools and solutions to help every step of the way.

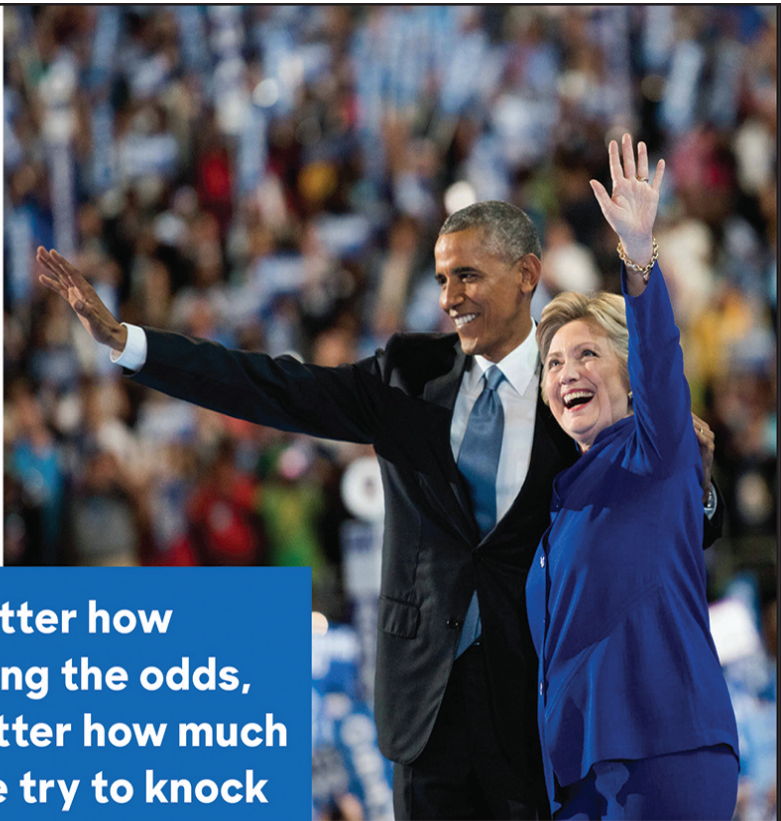
Contact USAmeriBank today to discuss how to put an SBA loan to work for your business!



usameribank.com/sba
Call 866-979-2265 or email SBAINfo@usameribank.com

Member FDIC | EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

All offers of credit are subject to approval.



“No matter how daunting the odds, no matter how much people try to knock her down, she never, ever quits. That is the Hillary I know.”

President Barack Obama

FB: Facebook.com/HillaryforFL
Twitter: @HillaryforFL
Text FL to 47246* to sign up for text message updates!

*Receive periodic messages from Hillary for America. Msg & Data Rates May Apply. Reply STOP to opt-out and HELP for help. hillaryclinton.com/privacy

Yes, we can.
Not “yes she can.”
Not “yes, I can.”
“Yes, we can.”

Paid for by Hillary for America

COMMUNITY NEWS

ative image that is difficult to overcome, he noted.

“We fight the imagery within our own selves as men,” Braswell pointed out. “We fight the imagery with respect to what it looks like to our women. We fight the imagery with respect to what it looks like to the broader society.”

Braswell pointed out the deterioration of the father figure in the TV era from capable single widowers of the 1960s like Andy Griffith to strong mentor figures like Arthur “The Fonz” Fonzarelli and Bruce Wayne (whose secret identity was Batman) all the way to inept figures like Al Bundy and ultimately cartoonish figures like Homer Simpson.

“We went from this era of fathers being really strong and loving and present an available and smart and meaningful in the lives of their children to becoming buffoonish,” he observed. “An appendage to the family, not taken seriously.”

Many times, he said, people will say people emulate media, but Braswell believes it’s the opposite. Media only shapes itself around what it sees in society and then we respond to it, he noted.

Concerning what shapes our view of family, Braswell asked: How do you expect a girl to grow up and choose the right man when her only interaction has been with boys? What would our little boys become if we told them how beautiful they are in God’s eyes, as opposed to the counter narrative that we say about our boys and our girls?

Personal history shapes our thoughts about family, he said, along with other factors such as media

and education also contribute to the ideal of what a family should be. As little boys pretending to be superheroes, Braswell observed, we all desired to save the world, while we watch our sister nurture the world by playing at motherhood with dolls.

“Somewhere along the line for little boys that changes,” Braswell said, “and we start to have less empathy for little boys. Somewhere along the line they change from our little boys to that trifling man.”

He touched upon the fear and reluctance of most men to be perceived as weak in any sense, from reluctance to taking care of themselves and making trips to the doctor all the way to something as ostensibly trivial as asking for directions. Getting men educated to get and stay healthy is key, he said, and this includes knowing what questions to ask concerning health issues and prescriptions.

“One of the reasons why we don’t talk about father absence is that there are so many emotions that swirl around it,” Braswell said.

For some odd reason when it comes to talking about fathers, he said, there are so many different emotions that pop up, whether it is from our own relationship with our father, the relationship with the fathers of our children, the relationship with the fathers of the people in our lives, the relationship with fathers in general—all of those relationships stir up some kind of emotion in people and unfortunately for the most part they tend to be negative.

“So because people don’t like pain,” he said, “because people don’t like conflict, rather than

deal with it we do what? We ignore it. And the more and more that we ignore it, the worse and worse it’s going to get.”

Anyone can be a father, he said, but the key is to get them to be responsible fathers. ***

The importance of black men mentoring

BY FRANK DROUZAS
Staff Writer

Friday night’s program, held at Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital Education and Conference, dealt with black men mentoring young boys.

Before introducing the guest speaker for the evening, Dr. Chris Warren said one of the most powerful mechanisms for healing and breaking the cycles is mentoring.

“It is absolutely imperative that we find ways to bridge these generational gaps and show these young men that they are not alone,” he said.

Executive Director Stephen Powell at Mentoring USA took charge of the rest of the evening.

Powell, who has worked in program development

and management for local and national nonprofits, talked about some important mentoring ground rules and stressed that where you stand becomes your community, adding there are no geographic boundaries for love.

He recalled while talking with a group of young men outside a church a few years ago in Oakland, Calif., he asked one of them his impression of black middle class worshippers.

“Y’all come into our hood, get your praise on and y’all bounce,” Powell said one young black man answered. He likened it to a team going into a huddle only to come out of it and sit down rather than run a play.

“So when we come together in communities like this, we have to be very intentional about running plays in our communities,” he said.

Too often we talk about mentoring as though we have to fix someone, he noted, when mentoring is a lifestyle that should exist on every level of our lives, be it professional or even spiritual mentoring. What happens when we frame mentoring as a tool to fix people, you then have parents who feel like they’re being displaced.

He explained the term ‘at-risk’ carries negative connotations when speaking of our children and when we use this moniker often enough, we’ll start to believe it. They’re not at risk, he explained but we as a country are at risk when we don’t support and encourage their “bright young minds.” Though Powell’s father passed when he was five and was raised by a single mother in East Orange, N.J., he said “by every definition” he would’ve been categorized

as being “at risk.”

“But nobody in my community who ever stood up for me ever framed me in that manner,” he said. “The men in my life stood in the gap, so I never felt like I didn’t have anything.”

So instead of being at risk, talk about our children being “at promise” or “on the brink of success,” he said.

Powell warned against “drive-by” initiatives, stating that we need sustainable programs but the only way to achieve that is through a shift in consciousness. There’s an old saying he said, that goes, “women build relationships and do things, while men do things then build relationships.” So when we talk about programs, he explained, it’s important to have activities for male mentors in which to engage for the ultimate benefit of the boys.

Mentoring USA programs have helped increase the literacy rate among young black men, of which a disproportionate amount are not reading at their grade level. High school graduation rates have also increased through their programs as well, and they are committed to helping young men get enrolled in colleges and vocational schools.

“The job of a mentor is to find out what our young people want to do and be the wind beneath their wings,” he said. “There are a lot of unhappy adults in this world because they are living someone else’s dream.”

When our boys are mentored well, Powell said 98 percent stay in school, 98 percent do not become teen parents, 85 percent do not use drugs and 98 percent avoid gang participation.

Before he discusses

mentor training with a recruit, Powell said he needs to understand who they are, where they come from and what they’ve overcome. A good place to start is teaching a mentor the timeline of trauma experienced in the United States. Mentors need to understand these traumatic events to understand themselves and the legacy of pain this country has left for black people.

- 1619 is the year given to mark the beginning of slavery in the United States. We see the slave trade and how it impacted the country.

- When we talk about policing in our country now we see cops killing black men, but this all started with slave patrolling. From its inception, policing in the United States has always been about the monitor and control of black bodies in support of the enslaver, slave labor, chain gangs and prison labor.

- The Emancipation Proclamation basically ended slavery in the 19th century, but then the Black Codes began, drastically restricting the rights of newly freed slaves. Vagrancy laws were central to the Black Codes when states classified not working as criminal behavior and allowing convict leasing where state prisons hired out convicted people for labor. Chain gangs are born and become what we call the Prison Industrial Complex.

- Decades of widespread lynching and domestic terrorism by whites begin in the 1890s.

- In the 20th century, Jim Crow was in full swing and kept black people from voting, owning property, working and living as full citizens. Prosperous black communities were attacked

See **MEN/BOYS**, pages 11



We are here to help you experience a lifetime of good health.

Bayfront Health Medical Group has dedicated primary care providers located throughout the community. For your convenience, these physicians make same-day appointments available, and many accept walk-ins. All are currently accepting new patients.

To schedule an appointment, call **844-4BH-BHMG (844-424-2464)**.

Marijo S. De La Cruz, D.O.
Shari Anthony, M.D.
Family and Internal Medicine
8730 4th St. North
Irina Scutaru, M.D.
Internal Medicine
461 7th Ave. South

Karen Joseph, M.D.
Daniel Eckstein, M.D.
Family Medicine
603 7th St. South, Suite 400
Katherine Wojnowich, M.D.
Sports Medicine
603 7th St. South, Suite 440

 **Bayfront Health Medical Group**
BayfrontDoctors.com
Members of the Medical Staff at Bayfront Health St. Petersburg

COMMUNITY NEWS

Woodson Museum will remain open

From **MUSEUM** page 1

Numerous accommodations were included. It's a friendly agreement because the museum's stability is so important to our community.

St. Petersburg's African-American history is rich and deserves a special home. I am thankful for the stewardship provided by the current operators and I am confident in the future.

Thank you for allowing me to update you as we make progress towards this important goal.



St. Pete, let's take a bite out of Citizens United

BY COUNCILMEMBER
**LISA WHEELER-BROWN
AND
KAREN LIEBERMAN**

Money in politics—who doesn't want to get money out of politics? Too many good people do not run for office because it costs so much. Others become candidates only to be left in the dust because they don't have enough money to run a decent campaign. Since 2010, when the U.S. Supreme Court decided Citizens United, money has flooded our elections.

As a result, the average person does not feel that his or her needs are being met. This is no surprise because the U.S. Congress is, more than ever, made up of millionaires and is being bought and sold by billionaires. Amending the Constitution is one way to try to get money out of politics, and there is a movement in the country trying to do just that.

But the push for change can happen on a local level, too. There is an old expression: You can't fight city hall. But, sometimes you can. Recently American Promise ~ Tampa Bay (AP-TB), a non-partisan organization, along with the League of Women Voters St. Pete (LWVSP) and other local groups, went to St. Pete City Hall to try to be a force for change.

On July 21st, Darden Rice, St. Pete City Council Vice-Chair, proposed a new ordinance—the first of its kind in the nation—that would establish limits on contributions to super PACs (a super PAC is separate from a conventional PAC in that it can accept and spend unlimited amounts of money). The Protect Our Democracy ordinance would abolish super PACs in St. Pete elections. It would also require corporations that spend \$5,000 or more on St. Pete elections to certify they are not owned or controlled by foreign entities.

The ordinance was de-



Lisa Wheeler-Brown

veloped with input from Free Speech For People (FSFP), a national non-partisan, non-profit organization. FSFP is advising and representing the locals (gratis) with the assistance and advice of Prof. Laurence Tribe, who was President Obama's constitutional law professor at Harvard Law School. Other experts in both constitutional and election law from around the country also had input and continue to assist.

If the ordinance is approved by the St. Pete City Council, it would mark the first time any city council has ever taken on super PAC and foreign corporate spending. If the law is challenged in court, it could even make its way to the U.S. Supreme Court. There, the justices could decide to overturn the lower court decision that created super PACs, SpeechNow v. FEC, and could even issue a decision that takes a bite out of Citizens United itself.

City Hall was packed on the day the ordinance was introduced. Speakers expressed an assortment of ideas: Many spoke out against the National Rifle Association, the Koch Brothers, and ride-hailing service Uber (which is now five percent owned by the Saudi government), among others. However, throughout everything, there was

one common thread: Get money out of our politics. Whether it is foreign money or super PACs—we don't want money playing such a large part in our elections.

The St. Petersburg City Council voted six to one to consider the ordinance further. (There are eight members on the city council, but one councilmember left early, prior to the vote.)

The next time the Council will meet to discuss the ordinance is Thursday, Oct. 27 at 2 p.m. Known as a Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting, this hearing will allow the full City Council to discuss this issue, and lawyers from FSFP along with other election experts will be present. The public is invited to attend.

If you want more information on the ordinance, please write to Rae Claire Johnson of American Promise ~ Tampa Bay at RaeClaire@aol.com.

Lisa Wheeler-Brown is the District 7 St. Petersburg City Council member. She was also a past president of the Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA).

Karen Lieberman, Ph.D., is a retired college professor and current community activist in St. Pete. She also co-directs (with her family) The Leif Nissen Foundation, which supports local, national, and international social justice causes.

Your Family Vision Center

Dr. Deborah C. Flanagan
Optometric Physician

"A Good Education Begins With Good VISION"

DC EYE ASSOCIATES

Student Eye Exam \$65
Student ID Required. Expires 9/30/16
Excluding Insurances & other discounts.

1 FREE Box of CONTACTS
with purchase of annual contact supply.
Student ID Required. Expires 9/30/16
Excluding Insurances & other discounts.

\$109 2 Pair of Eyeglasses
SINGLE VISION, POLYCARB LENSES & FRAMES.
19+ Student ID Required. Expires 9/30/16
Excluding Insurances & other discounts.

15% Discount on Sunglasses
with purchase of complete pair of eyeglasses.
Expires 9/30/16

**Students
Professionals
Adults
Athletes**

**4940 Central Avenue
727-321-6600 x1**

Peaceful Escape Travel

Barbara Burnett
Certified Travel Agent
(727) 342-9017
travelwithbarbie@gmail.com
www.Barbie.Paycation.com

We design vacations the way you like.
Cruise. Air. Land.

PSFEC
PARENT SUPPORT FOR
EDUCATION COUNCIL, INC.
Increasing Family Engagement by
100%

Contact: Pastor Wade
727/215-0218 - 727 420 1326

PSFEC
In Partnership with
Melrose Elementary
Million Father March National Men Take Their Children to School Day

Friday,
September 23, 2016 – 7:30am

I AM TAKING MY CHILDREN
MILLION FATHER MARCH
www.BlackStarProject.org

significant male caregivers across the United States and around the world have gathered to accompany their children to start the new school year. Each annual MFM marks the beginning of a year-long commitment by men to their children's educational success.

What is the *MILLION-FATHER March*?

The *Million Father March (MFM)* is an opportunity for men to show their commitment to the educational lives of their children on the 3RD Thursday of each day of school Starting, Friday, September 23, 2016.

Since *The March* began in 2004, fathers and other

Blacks In Government

Bay Area Chapter

Presents

2016 Youth Career Fair

Come out and join us! Learn about the knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA's) that are needed in certain professions.

The Youth Career Fair sponsored by Blacks In Government and we are here to help you.

Meet participants from various professions and learn about their career paths. Learn how to setup your USAjobs account and/how to customize it.

Attendees are eligible to enter

A drawing for a laptop computer.

COME OUT AND JOIN US

When: **Saturday, October 1, 2016**

Where: **Saint Petersburg Library
3745 9th Avenue North**

Time: **1:30 pm until 3:30 pm**

For information Contact LaVerne Feaster at (727) 278-6199

COMMUNITY NEWS

From **MEN/BOYS**, page 9

and burned to the ground all over the country.

- AFDC (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) mandated that in order for a woman to receive the supplemental financial aid needed to make up the difference between what a black man could earn and what was needed to support a family, no adult male could be present in the home.

- Black children began growing up in homes without an adult male present. The black family, which prior to this had remained in relative tact, is destroyed.

- The Reagan and Clinton administrations cut social services at the same time deindustrialization and trade deals wipe out jobs.

- The War on Drugs begins as soon as the Jim Crow ends and is essentially a war on the black community. It disproportionately targets black people and escalates in the incarceration of black men at double and triple the rates of whites, despite the fact that using and selling rates are the same across the races, with some data indicating whites use and sell at higher rates.

- Major media labels our children as super predators and invest in international images of black children as thugs and gangsters and the problem in the world—effectively dismantling any moral authority we had in the world vis-à-vis the Civil Rights Movement.

- Black men are profiled, terrorized and murdered by police.

While teaching mentees the trauma timeline, Powell said mentors must remind young people of their power, such as consistent slave revolts and escapees, black people defying laws

against learning how to read and write, Harriet Tubman escaping slavery and going back to the South to free her family and more than 300 other people and many more examples.

Powell pointed out that you are losing if your oppressor knows your history more than you do.

We share history because our children's sense of worth has been diminished when not outright destroyed by all the killings with no accountability, under-resources schools, a spirit-draining media that tells our boys how limited their options are in life and by the lies and lies of omission about who we are, he averred.

Powell went on to speak about the sustainability of mentoring programs, saying that there is no need in starting a program that cannot continue. Giving an example of his church, he asked the pastor if a quarterly offering could be taken up to help fund his program because he knew grant funding would inevitably slow.

"We don't want to be so reliant on grant dollars because priorities shift."

He also warned against egos. Powell said he's seen movements halt because egos are not checked.

"Who's winning at this point," he asked. "Our kids our dying because you want to get more speaking time at an engagement. In order to be purposeful, sometimes we have to be egoless."

Powell went on to give advice on the best days and times for mentoring programs, the differences between mentoring and tutoring and how to inspire and recruit men to want to work with young black boys.



Raising him alone

BY RAVEN JOY SHONEL
Staff Writer

The last day of the weeklong conference was held at Childs Park YMCA, and was geared towards single mothers raising black boys alone. Author and social entrepreneur David Miller conducted a workshop based on his "Dare to be King" initiative, which has changed the landscape for providing mentoring and youth development programs by offering a structured, relevant curriculum to engage youth.

Raising strong, healthy black boys is difficult, but especially when there is no father in the household.

The U.S Census Bureau reports that 73 percent of black children live with their mothers or

grandmothers. That means that these children are being raised with only one support system.

"In many cities we're talking 85-90 percent of our children are being raised by a mother," stated Miller, noting that a lot of black people do not participate in the census so the numbers are actually higher.

To hear individual stories, Miller broke the audience out into groups where at least one male was present. He provided the men with questions to ask group members, which led to lengthy discussions.

"The goal is not to be judgmental or putting people's business out on the street, but the goal is to have a safe opportunity to talk about the issues that we are concern with as mothers and parents as it relates to raising boys."

The questions dealt with the challenges of raising a male child from teaching lessons to them

and where to get help.

Miller advised organizations to get out of the office buildings and walk the streets to see where the need is in creating programs for the youth.

"If you really want to know what to do, you need to talk to the dudes standing on the corner," he said.

His advice to parents was to monitor their children's technology.

"Your child has a Facebook page and you look at it every once in a while and it just seems that they are having conversations about school, but they may also have a Snapchat page that you know nothing about. I find this happening consistently. You think you have such a great child, but on Snapchat it's something totally different."

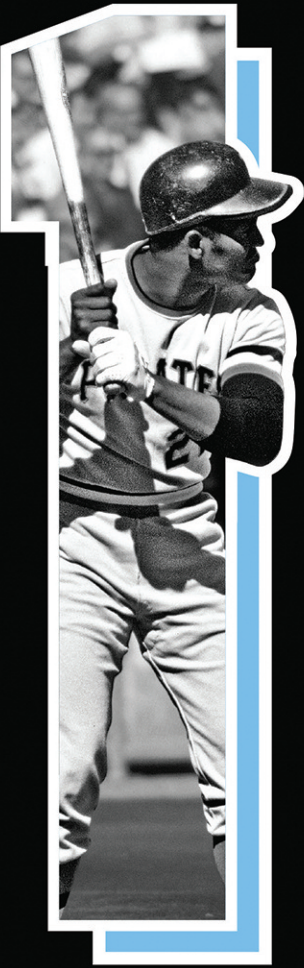
For those mothers that are raising a child and the father aren't on same page as them, he told them it will take a lot of work, but it is possible.



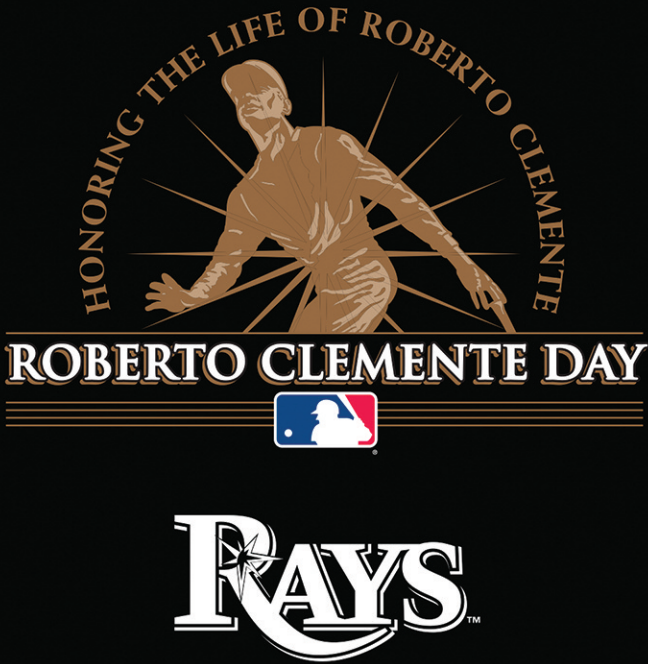
David Miller

"You aint gotta like this dude, but the reality is you liked him at some point," Miller said. "The ability to build community is predicated on adults, we have to get our stuff together. You might not need a man, but your child needs a man."

The weeklong event was sponsored in part by the University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, Johns Hopkins All Children's Healthy Start and other organizations.



"I want to be remembered as a ballplayer who gave all he had to give."



Join the Rays in celebrating the life and legacy of baseball's finest humanitarian, ROBERTO CLEMENTE.

FRI

SEPT.

23

VS



7:10 PM

2 TICKETS \$21
FOR ONLY

Bring your canned food items to receive tickets to a 2017 game!
RAYSBASEBALL.COM/CLEMENTE

CHURCH DIRECTORY



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

Sunday Worship Services.....7:45 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.
Wednesday Mid-Day Bible StudyNoon - 12:30 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Service6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study6:30 p.m.
Youth Chapel Services - 921 20th Street South
2nd & 4th Sunday Worship Services10:00 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer6:00 p.m.
Bible Study6:30 p.m.

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



Rev. Louis M. Murphy Sr.
Senior Pastor

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

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

Come Worship With the First Baptist Family



REV. DR. WAYNE G. THOMPSON,
PASTOR

BETHEL METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH
3455 - 26th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711
Telephone (727) 327-0554 • Fax (727) 327-0240
E-mail: bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com 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 To 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 School.....9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting (Tuesday)6:00 p.m.
Bible Study (Tuesday)7:00 p.m.
Baptist Training Union (Sunday) ..4:00 p.m.

“The Little Church Where Everybody Is Somebody”



Rev. Dr. Doral R. Pulley
Spiritual Leader



“Let’s G.R.O.W. Together!”
511 Prescott South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712 • (727) 898-2457
www.UNITYofMidtown.org • unityofmidtown1957@gmail.com

WEEKLY SERVICES

Sundays 9:00 am Old Testament Survey 9:45 am Meditation and Devotions & Youth Ministry 10:00 am Morning Worship	Tuesdays 6:30 pm New Testament Survey Thursdays 6:30 pm Prayer & Healing Service
---	---


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	YPWW Bible Study – 7:30 p.m.



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



“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.


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.

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)

Pastor
Claude Williams

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




GENESIS WORSHIP CENTER CHURCH
1601 49th Street South
Gulfport, FL 33707
727.898.5571
Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m.



Pastor Michael T. and
Elect Lady Sheila Culbreth

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
Thursday	7 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.

20th Street Church Of Christ
825 20th Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
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.

BETHEL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
2901 - 54th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL. 33712
(727) 866-2567



Rev. Manuel Sykes

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

Despite the tragedy... God is still working!

Turning on the news can be discouraging and sometimes upsetting as we watch our world crumbling around us. It's obvious that we need a course correction, an immediate change of direction.

St. Petersburg, September 12, 2016: Seven X 7, LLC's Revival Week will take place Monday, September 19th through Saturday, September 24th at locations throughout St. Petersburg, where as many people as possible will come together around Jesus in unified prayer, worship, and a call for catalytic change. Seven X 7, LLC is an organization of churches in partnership to carry out the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They hold nightly tent services at several locations simultaneously during Revival Week to reach people who may not otherwise hear the gospel message of Jesus Christ.

Founded in 2008 when Pastor Louis M. Murphy, Sr. was moved by seeing hundreds of people lined along MLK Street South, long after the annual MLK Parade had ended downtown! The streets were jam-packed with crowds. Due to the actions of some in the crowds, Pastor Murphy wondered if the

people were un-churched or perhaps had strayed away from church.

Pastor Murphy had the vision to bring churches together to go out to the streets to spread the word of God and carry out the Great Commission. He met with several pastors in the community and over a period of time, much prayer and planning, Seven X 7, LLC was established.

Revival Week begins with a Consecration Service on Sunday, September 18th at 6:00 p.m. at Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church located at 4000 5th Ave S, St. Petersburg, FL 33711 for church leaders and the community to come together and pray for the upcoming week.

Large commercial tents will be setup at seven different locations throughout south St. Petersburg and the Jamestown neighborhood to hold nightly worship services simultaneously for six nights, Monday-Saturday. Tents will be located in "hot spot", areas known for illegal activities such as drugs and prostitution. These areas were identified as locations to reach out to people who may never hear the Gospel message of Jesus Christ. They include:

- Campbell Park Area, Dr. MLK Street S. & Newton Ave.
 - Child's Park Area, 49th Street S. & 13th Ave.
 - Dell Holmes Area, 2750 34th Street S.
 - Harbordale, Highland Street S. & 22nd Ave.
 - Perkins Area, 19th Street S. & 18th Ave.
 - Wildwood Area, 30th Street S. & 5th Ave.
 - Jamestown Area, Unity Park, 12th Lane & 4th Ave N
- After six nights of tent services, the final service is a Mass Baptism service to be held Sunday, September 25th at 4:00 p.m. The baptism takes place in open water at Elva Rouse Park (10th - 13th Ave. NE. & North Shore Dr.), Downtown St. Petersburg.
- With a crime rate higher than average in St. Petersburg, participants are encouraged to gather and share their thoughts on unity, community healing, faith and hope for the future of our community.
- For more information on the revival, call the 727-893-4311 or visit our website www.sevenx7llc.org/home.

Non Violence Peace Education Equality

Pinellas County

I HAVE A DREAM YOUTH COMMUNITY CHOIR & PERFORMING ARTS
Grades 4th-12th

Orientation @ 5pm
Sunday, September 25th
Mt. Zion Progressive MBC (Youth Chapel)
955 20th St. South
St. Petersburg, FL

2017 Concert
Friday, January 13th

FMI Contact Conductor Bernard (202) 679-1374



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
Wednesday 7:00 p.m.



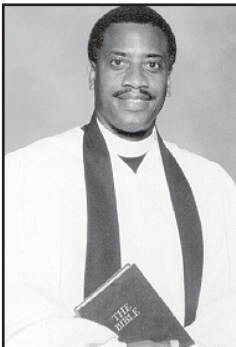
Rev. Brian K. Brown

THE ROCK OF JESUS MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES/WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

10:30 a.m. Worship Service
9:00 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:
3940 – 18th AVE. S., St. Petersburg, Florida
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

REVIVAL!
Singing! Prayer!
Preaching!
Breaking Bread!
Sept. 26, 27, 28 & 30

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 6:30 - 8:30 PM
BETHEL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH
2901 54th Ave. S., St. Petersburg
Rev. Dr. Manuel Sykes, Pastor



Without Walls International Church
Senior Pastor, Randy White
Sundays at 9:00am and 11:00am
Thursdays and 7:00pm
4414 N. Grady Ave Tampa, FL 33614
www.withoutwalls.org 813-879-HOPE

CHURCH NEWS

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, an invitation to join us for our third pre-anniversary service on Sunday, September 25 at 3:30 p.m. The guest church helping us to continue our anniversary celebration is the St. John Progressive M. B. Church of Tampa, FL where the Reverend, Dr. Bartholomew Banks is Pastor. St. Mark's Anniversary theme is: "Growing in Grace for 85 Years, Faith, Love, and Service". Our culminating anniversary celebration will occur on Sunday, October 16, 2016 during our 10:45 a.m. Worship Service. The

anniversary message will be delivered by our own Pastor, the Reverend Brian K. Brown.
Events for September
Sept 18 - Church Outing: New Mt. Olive-4 p.m.
Sept 25 - 85th Church Anniversary Pre Celebration Service-Guest Church: St. John Progressive M.B. church, Tampa, FL. Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Pastor
Sept 30 - St. Mark Business Meeting at 7 p.m.
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 Sunday: 5:00 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 6:00 p.m. Children in the community are welcomed to join us.
Mime/Praise Dance Rehearsal on Sundays: 2:00-4:00 p.m.
Sunday School Teachers' Meeting is held every Tuesday: 7:00 p.m.
Senior Hour of Power Bible Study is held every Wednesday: 9:30 a.m.
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study every Wednesday evening: 7:00 p.m.
Children Youth Ministry Bible Study 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month: 7:30 p.m.

Friendship MBC

INVITATION SUNDAY AT THE SHIP - The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, which is often referred to as "THE SHIP", will hold their regular Worship Sunday Services at 7:45 am, 10:45 am and Sunday Church School at 9:30 am. "WEDNESDAY IN THE WORD" NOON DAY FROM 12:00 NOON UNTIL 1:00 PM (THE BEST ONE HOUR OF YOUR DAY) AND "PRAYER & WEDNESDAY IN THE WORD" ALONG WITH "YOUTH ENRICHMENT" AT 7:00 PM - THE COMMUNITY IS WELCOMED TO JOIN US - YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS ANY OF OUR "WEDNESDAY IN THE WORD" STUDIES IN GOD'S WORD. The public is welcome to attend Sunday Services anytime - you will find that all services place great emphasis on our Savior Jesus Christ and His loving atonement for all mankind. 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.

September at the Ship
Sept. 19 at 7 pm - Pastor and First Family 19/39 Appreciation Celebrating Prayer and Planning Meeting, Dea. Arthur Reese, Honorary Chairperson, Dea. Earnest & Larnetta Peterson, Chairpersons and Min. Keith & Carolyn Riggins, Co-Chairpersons are asking those members desiring to be a part of this Committee to be present and on time, much to start planning for.
Sept. 14-16 at 7 pm - REVIVAL - Holy Christian Church, 4371 34th Street South, Guest Evangelist, Dr. John A. Evans, Sr., Pastor of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.
SEPTEMBER 17 at 10 AM -THIRD QUARTER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - ALL MINISTRY LEADERS ARE TO BE IN ATTENDANCE.
Sept. 18 at 4 pm - Friendship to fellowship at our Sister Church, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, 2120 19th Street South, Rev. Carlos L. Senior, Pastor, Pastor Evans is asking the following Ministries to join him, the Adult Mass Choir,

Male Chorus and Third Sunday Ushers as well as our Members to be in attendance.
OCTOBER WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE, TRIBE OF DAN, GET READY, SEE YOUR CAPTAINS: BRO. RONNIE & SIS. LISA CRUM, SIS. SANDRA MILLER, SIS. ERMA SCANTLING.
"THE SHIP" won't sail without YOU! For additional information on any of the announcements, please contact us by the following methods: Friendship Missionary Baptist Church 3300 31st Street South St. Petersburg, 33712 Church Office: (727) 906-8300 E-Mail: fmbc3300@verizon.net
NOW "LIVE STREAMING": Visit Our Website: www.fmbctheship.net Visit Our FACEBOOK PAGE Visit West Coast Baptist District Association Website: www.expericencethecoast.com
NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH? Call our Transportation Ministry - (727) 906-8300 - MONDAY - FRI. FROM 9 AM - 3 PM.



Pastor's Corner
BY REV. DR. DORAL R. PULLEY,
SPIRITUAL LEADER
Unity of Midtown
I AM Shepherd

Scripture - "I AM the Good shepherd. The Good Shepherd gives his life for the sheep (John 10:11)."
Denial: "I do not want for anything."
Affirmation - "The Lord is my shepherd and I shepherd others."
In the Old Testament, David identified God as Jehovah Rophi, which means I AM that I AM your shepherd. In the most popular psalm, Psalm 23, he painted a beautiful picture of the shepherd and sheep relationship: the still waters and the green pastures. Jesus, the Christ, who is a part of

David's lineage built on this metaphor and decrees, "I AM the Good Shepherd."
As followers of Jesus Christ, we are also called to be Good Shepherds and we answer the calls through our own declarative statements, "I AM the Good Shepherd." A Good Shepherd knows how to deal all the different type of personalities that can appear in a sheepfold: lambs, sheep, goats and wolves. There is no personality that the I AM can't handle.
Lambs are sheep that are less than one year old. As Good Shepherds, the I AM empowers us to nurture new

converts with love and care. The I AM also empowers us to feed the sheep with the principles and practices that will enable them to live holistically healthy, balanced and well-rounded lives. As Good Shepherd, the I AM empowers us to correct and redirect goats whose thoughts, words and actions are contrary to the truth. The I AM also empowers us to eradicate wolves whose motives are to tear down others and the Kingdom work.
Reflection Question - Which role of shepherd resonates most with you? Why?

BACK to CHURCH

CONNECTION WEEKEND

We are so much more than four walls!

We're Having a COOKOUT!
DELL HOLMES PARK
2741 22nd St. S.,
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Pavilion #9
Saturday, Sept. 17, 2016
@ 1:00 PM

Join us!
Our Doors Are Open!
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sunday Morning EXPERIENCE 10AM

WEEKLY SERVICES
Sundays 8:45 am Old Testament
9:45 am Praise & Worship
10 am Morning Service
Tuesdays 6:30 pm New Testament
Thursdays 6:30 pm Prayer & Healing Service

UNITY OF MIDTOWN
511 Prescott St. S, St. Petersburg, FL 33712
www.UnityOfMidtown.org

Rev. Dr. Doral R. Pulley
Spiritual Leader

Women's MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP

SEPTEMBER 25, 2016 @ 12PM

"VALUING THE Wisdom ♥ Worth ♥ Words OF OUR WOMEN!"

REV. CATHERINE & JAMES BROOKS' FELLOWSHIP HALL
511 PRESCOTT ST. NORTH
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33712
Dr. Doral R. Pulley, Spiritual Leader



Let's Get the Party Started

RIBFEST 2016



Rib Teams from Across the Nation

Ohio • South Carolina • Virginia • Georgia • Alabama • Florida

Festival Hours:

Fri. October 14th: 5pm - 10pm
Sat. October 15th: 11am - 10pm
Sun. October 16th: 12pm - 8pm

Desoto Square Mall

303 301 Blvd W
Bradenton, FL 34205

General Admission, Premium, and VIP tickets are available online at:

gulfcoastribfest.com

Friday Happy Hour

5pm-7pm

Free Admission,
Free Sides
With Meat Purchase





The official ticket outlet!

Purchase your tickets at any Sonny's BBQ Location in Manatee, Sarasota, and Charlotte Counties.




For tickets and more information call 941-773-5537 or visit:

gulfcoastribfest.com




Jaheim




Sunday - 6:30 PM

Kelly Price




Sunday - 4:30 PM

Tank




Sunday - 5:15 PM

NuJazz




Sunday - 3:00 PM

Fireworks Show by Zambelli Fireworks




Friday

Car Show



Saturday

Kidzone



All Weekend