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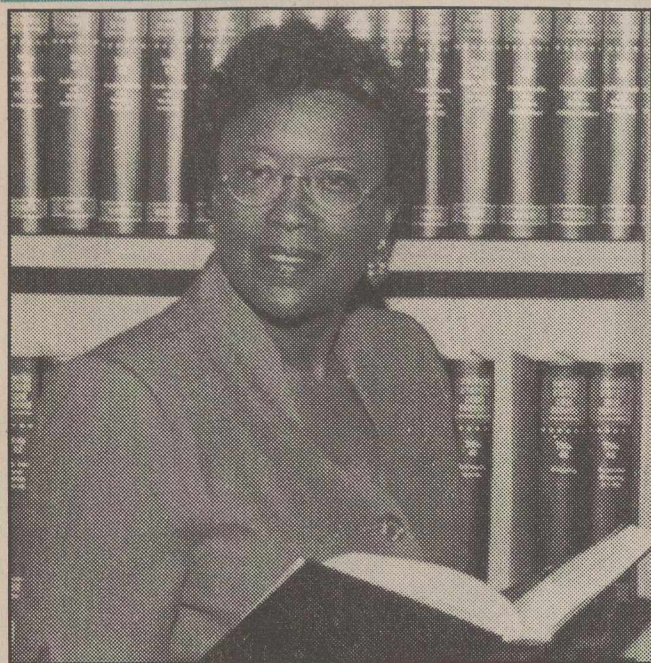
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UL Kicks Off 75th Anniversary

Coalition And Mayor Meet



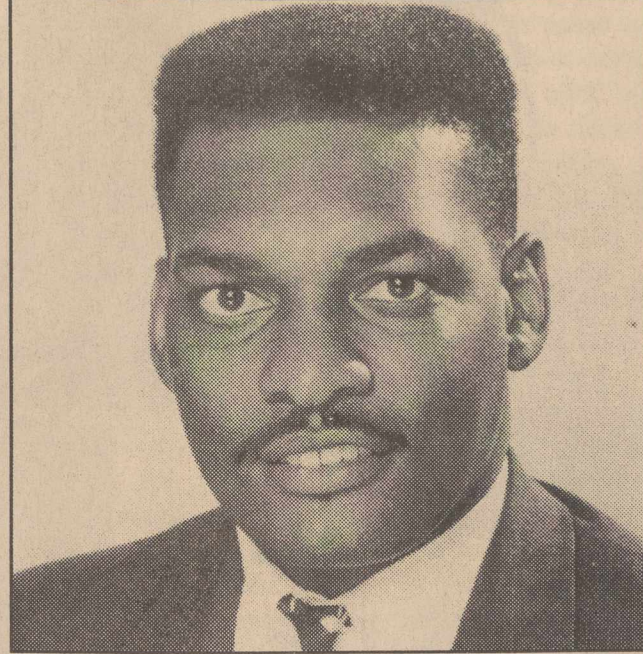
Kaydell Wright Douglas

TAMPA — The Tampa Hillsborough Urban League will kick off the celebration of its 75th anniversary at a luncheon on Saturday, April 12 at the Sheraton in Tampa and conference center.

The luncheon is slated to honor founders of the Urban League and their contributions to the league's legacy of excellence. The theme for this banner year celebration is "Building on a Legacy of Excellence: Revitalizing People, Revitalizing Communities." In addition to celebrating the league's founders, the luncheon will also provide the forum for the annual membership meeting, the annual report, including the report of board chair Attor-

ney Kaydell Wright-Douglas and the report of treasurer Sarah Wilhite. Joanna N. Tokley, league president, will also report on the league's programs, services and general state of affairs, confirmation of new Urban League members and installation of officers of the board of directors will also be conducted. Outgoing board chair Douglas will pass the gavel to newly elected board chair Thomas Huggins, president of the Ariel Group.

Individual tickets for the luncheon are \$20 each. Tables of 10 are \$250 each. The public is invited to attend. For more information, call Anna Robinson Gardner at 229-8117.



Thomas Huggins, III

ST. PETERSBURG — The Coalition of African-American Leadership met Thursday afternoon with re-elected Mayor David Fischer and his staff to review the city's spending plans for black neighborhoods.

The meeting was one of the first in a series of steps the coalition is taking toward implementing the black agenda adopted by over 400 city residents during the coalition's political convention in February.

It was held less than 48 hours after US Housing Secretary Andrew Cuomo and other federal officials announced approval of several grants targeted for low-

income neighborhoods.

"What we hope to accomplish during meetings with the mayor and his staff is a clear understanding of the city's current and proposed spending plans for our constituents' neighborhoods," said Rev. Manuel Sykes, coalition chair.

Grady Terrell III, chair of the coalition's economic development committee, said the organization's executive committee was authorized by the convention to launch a comprehensive effort at finding out what the city's budget-making plans are for black neighborhoods.

"We want to mold and shape our plans and proposals

Please see pg. 4

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The Weekly Challenger

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VOLUME 29 NUMBER 31

25¢

ST. PETERSBURG/TAMPA

APRIL 12, 1997



Present at the Color Me Human Proclamation Event are L-R: Henry Darling, Alberta Bird, Ellen Serrano, Mayor David J. Fischer, Barbara Jackson, Barbara McCord, Elaine Cloud Goller, Bernice Darling, Angel Rosado, Parissa Fitz-Henley and Christine Darling.

Color Me Human Week

ST. PETERSBURG — A community-wide effort designed to provide a forum in which to recognize the beauty of all humanity and the great needs we all as a people share, returned in full force within St. Petersburg on April 3. The Color Me Human events unfolded one after another throughout the second annual Color Me Human Week, beginning with the formal proclamation before the St. Petersburg City Council on Thursday, April 3. Bernice Darling, president of the Lake Maggiore Shores Neighborhood Association; Barbara McCord, member of the Color Me Human committee; and Angel Rosado, cultural diversity trainer from St. Petersburg Junior College Allstate Center, were among the presenters. The Color Me Human committee, a grass roots group that is always pleased to accept the participation of interested parties, presented a wide range of events open to the public and sponsored by many Tampa Bay organizations. These organizations are working together to promote the nobility of all humanity while encouraging the appreciation of our many differences.

The first public event of the week was held on Friday evening, featuring local jazz musician Fred Johnson in a Sound Sculpture Concert. A capacity crowd at the auditorium of the SPJC Allstate building enjoyed his exciting improvisational performance and the style of his great back-up band.

Lakeview Park on the northern shores of Lake Maggiore was the site of a picnic gathering which included A Human Race and a dedication program for beautiful new playground equipment which had been recently installed by the city of St. Petersburg. Runners and walkers enjoyed the mile-long course that had been created for the event. The program included delightful musical performances from a number of musically talented local children. That evening yet another event took place, this time on the Eckerd College campus where those in attendance became involved in a dramatic participate event called Culture Clash, followed by a drumming circle around a creatively-designed "bonfire."

The next afternoon the Color Me Human committee

returned to Eckerd College where it hosted a national issues forum opportunity for structured dialogue, facilitated by Norm Brown and Eric Rubin. Three classrooms were filled during the break-out discussion times and the group returned to the main auditorium and agreed upon some basic tenets. Racial prejudice is a social disease that hurts all of us; a public acknowledgement of the great wrong perpetrated upon African Americans and their descendants was long overdue and the injustices inherent in the social fabric of the US still need to be addressed by affirmative action.

Three other events are scheduled including a cultural diversity workshop for professionals, a banquet honoring the teachers who provide support for the multicultural clubs in the Pinellas County schools at Saffrons and an interfaith panel discussion coordinated by the National Conference with a dinner at Atwater's. Those interested in finding out more about this community-based effort can call the Color Me Human hotline at 526-2318.

Please see pg. 7

Close To Your Heart

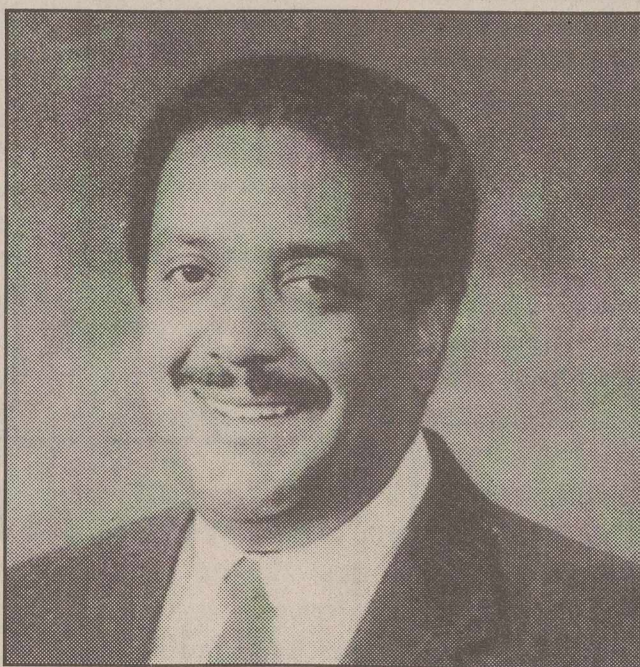
ST. PETERSBURG — The Suncoast Pharmacy Alumni Council of Florida A&M University in conjunction with Palms of Pasadena Hospital presents Close to your Heart, a free educational program designed for the community that will focus on how to control high blood pressure and diabetes. The event will take place on Saturday, April 19 from 10 am to 2 pm at Bethel Community Baptist Church, 1045 16th Street S.

Classes will be held for the following groups:

- Insulin dependent diabetic
- Diabetics who use tablets
- Persons with high blood pressure
- Persons with high cholesterol

There will be free gifts, screenings and referrals for blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, free brochures, free cookbooks, free over-the-counter products and free consultations. Lunch will be served.

NationsBank Promotes Milton Jones



Milton H. Jones, Jr.

CHARLOTTE, NC — NationsBank has named Milton H. Jones Jr. president of its dealer financial services group based on Greensboro, NC. Jones begins his duties immediately.

"We are extremely pleased that Milton has decided to lead our dealer finance group," said Pat Phillips, president of financial products for NationsBank.

"A great deal of change is taking place in this industry. Milton is a person who can deal effectively with this shifting marketplace and move our dealer finance group, already one of the nation's largest bank providers of retail financing for automobile buyers, to an even higher level of customer-centered

sales and service," Phillips said.

Jones replaces John P. Abadie, who has decided to pursue other employment opportunities.

Jones has built a 20-year career with NationsBank in Atlanta. For the last three years, he served as finance executive for NationsBank Services, Inc. Prior to that, he was finance executive for the General Bank of NationsBank.

"Milton has brought the best of financial practices to the services company through the enabling tools he has given us," said James D. Dixon, president of NationsBank Services, Inc. "He has been a great teammate and

Please see pg. 4

Federal Task Force Progress Report

ST. PETERSBURG — At a press conference on Tuesday, April 8, at the Enoch Davis Center, Housing Secretary Andrew Cuomo, by telephone, announced nearly \$2.7 million in new federal assistance and approval for the use of \$914,000 in existing federal funds to groups in St. Petersburg.

More assistance will follow in the months ahead from the Federal Interagency Task Force on St. Petersburg, which is chaired by Cuomo. The task force is overseen by the Community Empowerment Board chaired by the Vice President.

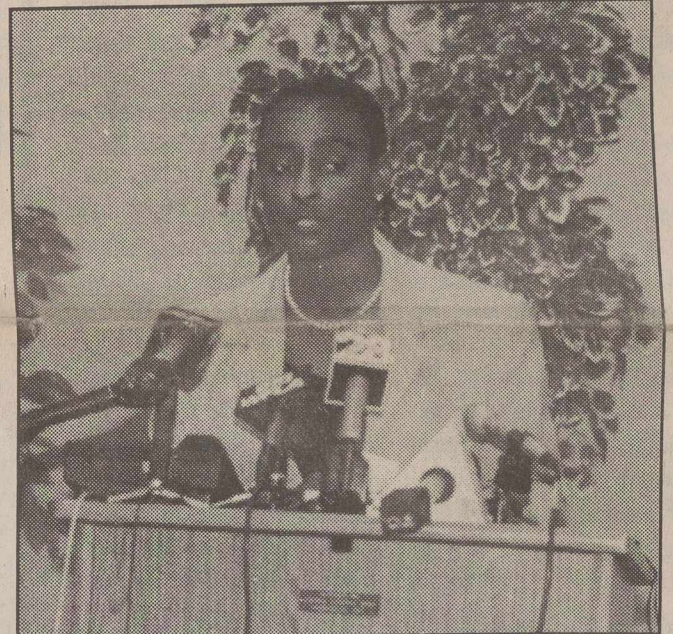
President Clinton created the task force last November after St. Petersburg Mayor David Fischer asked for federal assistance to address racial divisions that sparked civil unrest in October and November.

Other federal agencies on the task force are: Department of Health and Human Service, Environmental Protection Agency, Labor Department, Small Business Administration, Commerce Department, Education Department and Justice Department.

"In St. Petersburg, we have formed an effective partnership for progress that can serve as a national model," Vice President Gore said. "Federal agencies, city and state officials, members of Florida's congressional delegation and all parts of the community are working together for the common good to make St. Petersburg a better place for all its citizens."

"President Clinton and Vice President Gore focused a federal effort on St. Petersburg to help heal the racial and economic divisions that weakened and polarized this city," Cuomo said. "We know we can't solve all the city's problems from Washington, but we can help the many people of good will who have been working for years in St. Petersburg to improve their community."

"Now as never before, the citizens of St. Petersburg have united to plant the seeds of trust, tolerance and cooperation," Cuomo said. "These seeds will bear fruit and will benefit every segment of the community."



Stephanie A. Owens

Responding to the federal announcement, Florida Gov. Lawton Chiles said: "To truly rebuild St. Petersburg, we must provide jobs and opportunities for all of its citizens. Today's announcement puts St. Petersburg on the right track."

Mayor Fischer said: "Since the disturbance last fall, our community has come together like never before. We're working to get to the root of the causal factors that contributed to the disturbances and formulate a plan to move St. Petersburg forward. These partnerships that were formed within our community and its local government—and now with state and federal agencies—will continue the healing process that is essential to the future vitality of our community."

The Rev. Manuel Sykes, member of the St. Petersburg Citizens Advisory Committee and president of the Coalition for African-American Leadership, said: "The federal effort has created a forum which is inclusive of all the community and its resources. Together, these groups are forging long-term solutions and building long-term relationships that create balance, harmony and equality throughout the city."

•HUD—\$250,000 to the Pinellas Workforce Development Board to help residents of the Jordan Park public housing development get job training, education, child care services and job placement to help them move from welfare to work. In

addition, approval was given to use \$614,000 in previously allocated funds to renovate and remove lead paint from apartments at Jordan Park. Another \$300,000 in previously allocated funds will be used for site and building improvements at the Graham Park and James Park public housing developments.

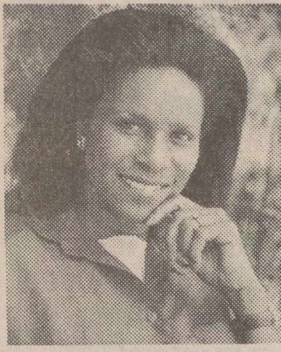
•EPA—\$100,000 to help assess brownfields, sites that are environmentally contaminated, so the sites can later be cleaned up and used productively. \$200,000 in grants to plan future uses of brownfields properties and to develop ways to attract businesses to locate at the sites. \$200,000 in grants to work with St. Petersburg Junior College in partnership with the Pinellas County public schools to provide environmental job training for 100 residents of south St. Petersburg over two years.

•SBA—\$1.55 million in low interest loans that have been approved for businesses and residents that suffered property damage in the community disturbances.

•Justice—\$385,000 in Weed and Seed program grants to St. Petersburg and community organizations to reduce crime and drug abuse; strengthen police-community relations and create recreational, social and economic development programs that will positively influence young people.

Please see pg. 7

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CLEARWATER HEADLINES

by
Marilyn Buckner

An African proverb states: "It takes a village to raise a child." What is too often ignored is what it takes people to make a village. On Saturday, April 15, two "villages" come together to rear their children.

Ervin's All American Youth Club recently acquired a facility now known as Ujamaa Village (pronounced ou-ja-ma), opened its doors at 1104 N Greenwood Avenue for a preview. The name of the "village" is derived from one of the Kwanzaa principles—co-operative economics. Ujamaa Village will offer dynamic training and entrepreneurial programs to youth and their families; all of which will empower the community to greater accomplishments.

Festivities were plentiful—from African drumming and dancing to tribal ceremonies and vendors, 75-plus "villagers" gathered for the celebration. Dr. Gordon Johnson, president of Hull House in Chicago, was the guest speaker for this event. He brought greetings from Vice President Al Gore and basketball great Michael Jordan.

Johnson, who oversees a budget of \$35 million, gave the history of Hull House origin, beginning with its founder Jane Addams, in the late 1800s; whose motto was "neighbor helping neighbor." Her innovative ideas for community projects earned her a Nobel Peace Prize for her accomplishments. Johnson stressed that this facility "is not here for today, but for tomorrow." Ujamaa Village is one of 32 national facilities, sponsored in part by the Kellogg's Foundation.

Executive director Aseelah Babalola stressed that this

facility was brought to the "heart" of North Greenwood in order to create opportunity, unity and collaboration. He and his wife E. Ajamu thanked all supporters, staff, volunteers and sponsors for helping to make phase one of Ujamaa Village a success.

Mind, body, spirit—Greenwood Avenue has a new vision.

A neighboring "village" Sgt. Allen Moore Community Partnership staged an anti-drug, anti-substance march to commemorate the official opening of its partnership intervention/prevention center.

Two "villages" came together with the mission of rearing its children. We are not our brothers and sisters keepers—we are brothers and sisters in a rainbow of colors, creeds and religions united together for the purpose of oneness.

Community Calendar
April 18, Upper Pinellas Clearwater NAACP Freedom Fund banquet. Call Cherry Harris at 442-6877 for ticket information.

April 19, North Greenwood community music festival, Jack Russell Stadium Field, 11 am to 5:30 pm. Free admission.

April 25, St. Matthews First MB Church, 703 Seminole Street, Clearwater. The trustees will sponsor a Men and Women in Red and Black program at 7:30 pm. Call Ann Mallard at 799-3918.

Send your community "headlines" to be at PO Box 6941, Clearwater 34618. This includes the Largo and Tarpon Springs communities.

The Weekly Challenger is now available at Rainbow Food Market, 1929 N Highland Avenue.



HEALTHY MEDICINE

by: Dr. Aderiane
Hames-Crawford,
Clinical Pharmacist

High Blood Pressure: The Silent Killer

Each month a medical topic which affects the African-American community will appear in The Weekly Challenger. This article will be written by Aderiane R. Hames-Crawford, Pharm. D, R.Ph. Dr. Hames-Crawford received her doctor of pharmacy degree from Florida A&M University College of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. She is a native of St. Petersburg and graduated from Pinellas Park High School. Currently, she is a clinical pharmacist at Olsten Health Services.

Introduction
High blood pressure, also known as hypertension, affects one in every four Americans.

More than 90% of people with high blood pressure have primary hypertension, now known cause for their disease. However, people with primary hypertension tend to have a family history of the disease and their blood pressure typically will increase with age. The other 10% of people with high blood pressure have secondary hypertension, which is the result of another disease or a side effect of medication.

Symptoms
Unfortunately, high blood pressure does not have any symptoms. In fact, it is often called the "silent killer." Regular blood pressure checks are the only way a person

would know they have high blood pressure. These checks may be done at the doctor's office, local pharmacies or home blood pressure machines. Many pharmacies have high blood pressure machines which will provide blood pressure and pulse for free. High blood pressure is a blood pressure greater than 120/80 for adults or 140/85 for elderly people. There is no cure for high blood pressure, however, medication, moderate exercise and certain changes in lifestyle will help to keep high blood pressure under control.

Medications
Some people do not require medication to keep their high blood pressure under control. Often medical doctors will initially treat this disease by decreasing the patient to a low salt diet, reducing stress, weight loss if overweight, moderate exercise and suggesting little to no alcohol or smoking. Once seen by a doctor on a follow-up visit, if the blood pressure is not under control, prescription medication may be ordered. It is very important that the medication is taken exactly as directed. At no time should the medication be stopped on a continuous basis without talking to your

medical doctor. If you forgot to take your medication, do not have refills on your medicine or have any questions about any of your prescriptions, call your pharmacist.

Caution

If the medication for high blood pressure that you are currently taking costs too much and you have stopped taking it as a result:

•Ask the pharmacist if a generic is available (generic prescriptions contain the same medication as the brand name but cost less).

•If no generic is available or you already have the generic, ask your medical doctor if there is another medication that is similar to your current medication, which may be cheaper.

Conclusion

Remember, high blood pressure is called the "silent killer." Blood pressure should be checked on a regular basis. Untreated high blood pressure may lead to a heart attack, stroke, kidney failure and death. Although you may be taking one medication to control high blood pressure, a second or third medication may be needed.

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Small Business Of The Year Finalists

ST. PETERSBURG—The Small Business Council of the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce announces the 1997 Small Business of the Year finalists.

Titles will be awarded to three locally owned and managed businesses that best represent entrepreneurship in Pinellas County in the following categories: (1) businesses with one to 25 employees; (2) businesses with 26-100 employees and (3) businesses with 110-500 employees.

The finalists are (in alphabetical order by category):
1. Ferg's Sports Bar, 1320 Central Ave. St. Petersburg
Mastry Engine Center, 2895 46th Ave N, St. Petersburg

Saffron's, 1700 Park Street N, St. Petersburg
2. Mill-Rite Woodworking Co, 6401 47th Street N, Pinellas Park
RoyalAire Mechanical Inc, 8585 115th Ave. N, Largo
SunTime Enterprises Inc, 4800 126th Ave N, Clearwater

3. Crown Marketing Group, 17755 US Hwy 19 N, Clearwater
Fletcher Music Centers, 3966 Airway Circle, Clearwater
Knight Enterprises, 6056 Ulmerton Rd, Clearwater

The winner in each category will be announced at the main event, the Small Business of the Year awards gala on the evening of Thursday, May 15 at the St. Petersburg Bayfront Hilton.

NEWS DEADLINE
IS 4 PM MONDAY

Bay Area Credit Unions Host Home Buyers Fair

TAMPA—Bay area credit unions are hosting the 3rd annual Home Buyers Fair 1997 on Saturday, April 12 from 9 am to noon at the USF Special Events Center in Tampa. Doors open at 8:30 am. This free workshop open

to the public is designed to take the mystery out of the home buying process. Home buying doesn't need to be a frightening experience yet often is. Free day care provided for children over three years old.

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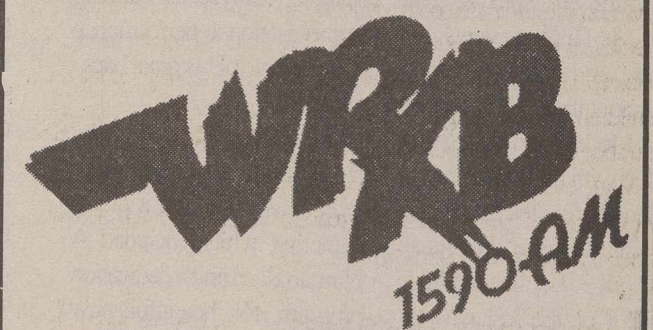
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THE BLACK PRESS believes that America can best lead the world from racial antagonism when it accords to every man, regardless of race, creed or color, his human and legal rights. Hating no man, fearing no man... the Black Press strives to help every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

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NNPA FEATURE CHILD WATCH

BY
MARIAN WRIGHT
EDELMAN

A Portrait of Inequality

Although the US is the richest, most technologically advanced nation in the world, far too many American children: black, white and Hispanic are struggling to live, learn, thrive and contribute in America. But black children, despite significant progress since legal segregation began to crumble, still fare worse than other children in America. For example:

- 78% of white children live with both parents, but only 39% of black children do.
- 63% of white children live in homes their parents own, but only 28% of black children do.
- 23% of white children have both a father at work and a mother at home, but only 8% of black children do.
- 30% of white children have a parent who completed college, but only 13% of black children do.
- 71% of white children are covered by private health insurance, but only 44% of black children are.
- 16% of white children are poor, but more than 41% of black children are.
- 19% of white children live in central cities, but more than 48% of black children do.
- 7 of every 1,000 white infants die in the first year of life, but 16 of every 1,000 black infants do.
- 6% of white infants are born at low birthweight, but 13% of black infants are.

Even when black children play by the rules, stay in school and graduate, they cannot earn on an equal par with whites. A black high school graduate is nearly one and a half times more likely to be unemployed than a white high school dropout and a black college graduate is more likely to be unemployed than a white high school graduate with no college. And if a black adult does find work, he or she brings home \$168 a week less.

The black community cannot wait for anyone to solve its problems. We must all get involved to improve the life chances for black children. For example, pregnant women can help reduce infant mortality and the number of black low birthweight babies by getting early pre-natal care and not smoking, drinking alcohol or taking drugs during pregnancy. Parents can get guns out of their homes or at least lock them up and unload them; read to their children; worship with their children and see that their children are vaccinated against preventable childhood diseases. Voting age adults can urge lawmakers to ensure health care coverage for all children. I want every reader to write their senator and representative and urge them to co-sponsor and vote for the bi-partisan child health coverage bill introduced by Sens. Ted Kennedy and Orrin Hatch. And all of us can lead by example, remembering that our children are watching how we resolve our conflicts, take care of our bodies and our souls and reach out to help others.

With so many challenges confronting our children, no one can rightly say, "I can't make a difference." We can all make a difference and the time to start is now.

Urgent Action Needed

A lack of facilities and equipment will make it impossible for many African-American students to gain access to the treasures of the information superhighway, according to presenters during a recent teleconference in San Francisco. Sen. Carol Mosley-Braun (D-IL) pointed out that many schools do not even have the electrical circuits to support computer terminals. Mosley-Braun was there seeking support for her new bill to bring \$5 billion in federal funds for the necessary school renovations, with half of the funds targeted for the 100 school districts with the highest percentage of poor children. "Computers are now the equivalent of what books were in my generation," she said. Jeanne Hayes, president of Quality Education Data Inc. of Denver, presented findings on the disparity of technology resources at the 4,700 schools with 75% or more African-American students. She noted a 14% higher computers to students ratio than the general school population and that a third of the schools have no media specialist. Michael "Chappie" Grice, president of the National Council for Educating Black Children, and James McGhee, president of the African-American Parents Coalition, urged parents to insist that their students get the latest technology or otherwise they will be completely left out of the 21st century. Books 'n Bytes, the technology alliance for African-American students, is seeking thousands of volunteers to wire targeted schools on NetDay 200 Saturday, April 19 and to be ongoing advocates for technological and library improvements for their students.

Increasing Achievement of Black Students

Below are excerpts from a letter sent to John W. Bowen, attorney for the Pinellas County School Board, from Enrique Escarraz III, attorney for the NAACP Legal Defense Fund.

John W. Bowen, Esquire
301 Fourth Street SW
PO Box 2942
Largo, FL 34649-2942

Re: Leon W. Bradley, et al.
v Pinellas County School Board, et al.
Case #64-98-CIV-TR-23 (B)

Dear Mr. Bowen:

This is to follow-up from our letter of Sept. 30, 1996 and our meeting of Oct. 11, 1996. In our letter of Sept. 30, 1996, we expressed concern about the quality of education being received by black children in Pinellas County and delineated areas in which we requested additional information. Your client (school board) provided us with a substantial amount of that information.

Our preliminary review of a portion of that information shows that more than 50% of the black children are not being taught to read at grade level. It also shows that more than 50% of the black middle school children are not being taught to perform at grade level in any subject

matter. The information also indicates that a greater portion of black students are assigned to classes with heightened expectations. This issue of the necessity to provide programs that contain heightened expectations is critical because of the disproportionately low or nonexistent level of participation by black students in gifted programs and national merit scholars. A district as large as Pinellas with as large a population of black students as exists here would be expected to have some black representation in both areas. The information also indicates that black students are disciplined in a substantially greater proportion than white students. We are concerned that a substantial portion of the black students are not receiving the basic fundamental education they need to compete in this world. We are further concerned that opportunities for excellence do not seem to be available for black students as readily as for white students and that black children seemed to be disciplined disproportionately. This last is particularly troublesome when it is noted that discipline for alcohol, drug and tobacco violations appear to be primarily given to white students.

We may, however, have a solution for your concerns and ours. We want the development of programs designed to provide black children with basic fundamental education so that black children are taught to be able to read at grade level and otherwise taught to perform in all subject matters at grade level. We also want the development of programs for increasing the portion of black students included in those classes with heightened expectations and decreasing the participation of black students in classes with lowered expectations. This includes the elimination of programs which utilize ability grouping as a factor in determining class placement. Finally, we would like the development of programs to eliminate the disproportionate discipline which seems to occur.

We will agree to greater flexibility in the Court ordered percentages while you develop programs to meet those goals. In considering the percentage for the maximums, we note that all schools currently are under 35%. Therefore, we feel that a temporary change in the maximums to 35% while you are developing the programs in the areas we have suggested would

be appropriate.

We note that up-county minimums are currently approximately 4% to 5% black. This means that the schools with the minimum number of black students are 95% to 96% white. There is probably not a great deal of difference statistically between a school that is 95% or 96% white and one that is 98% to 99% white. What is important is a good faith effort at desegregating and working toward a unitary school system. We would consider a commitment to developing the programs in the areas we suggested as an expression of good faith. We would be able, therefore, to agree to temporarily disregard the minimum percentages while your client develops and implements those programs.

We would want to review the progress of the development and implementation of the educational programs on a monthly basis and a review of the implementation of these programs on a six-month basis. So long as these educational programs are being developed and implemented, we would extend the flexibility with the maximum and minimum percentages. We would, of course, expect that any programs devel-

oped as a result of our agreement would be available on a non-discriminatory basis even though they may originally be designed to assist black students.

We may have additional matters to discuss concerning the other issues on which you have provided information. However, a concern for the quality of education received by black children is critical and immediate. We do not believe that the school system will ever be able to obtain unitary status until this problem is remedied.

As we stated above, we are willing to agree to immediate implementation of the temporary increased flexibility upon your commitment to develop the educational and disciplinary programs we request and would continue that increased flexibility as long as adequate progress is made in the development and implementation of those programs.

If this approach is of interest to your client, we would of course need to develop a somewhat more precise description of what is being proposed and incorporate it into an appropriate document for submission to Judge Merryday so that the existing court orders could be modified to reflect these

principles. After you have had an opportunity to review this with your client, please get back in touch with me. We look forward to hearing from you regarding these matters.

Very truly yours,
Enrique Escarraz III

Questions that deserve answers

•Will the school board and NAACP Legal Defense Fund agree on a suitable achievement program?

•What would this look like and what are the major aspects of such a program?

•When will this program begin?

•Who will monitor the progress of this program?

•How often will student data be shared with the community?

•How will the school board build trust in the Pinellas County black community?

•How much would such a program cost?

•What is the role of the black community?

•How much are the churches prepared to invest in children via the achievement program?

•What aspects of the program can be started right away?

Continued next week.

Welfare Issues Are the Next Social and Political Battleground

by Celes King III

Theodore H. White, the late great chronicler of presidential campaigns, once said that there are only three great national issues: "Bread and butter, war and peace and black and white."

The current controversy over the elimination—or at a minimum, the restructuring—of the welfare system as we know it, embodies all of White's three great issues.

Man's concern for survival in both the best and worst of times, is paramount, hence bread and

butter. The current controversy unfortunately pits the middle and upper class against the least fortunate among us: war and peace.

Finally, the debate over welfare often lapses into vitriol that sometimes points fingers between the races, thus black and white.

Aid to Families with Dependent Children was a federally prescribed welfare program developed in the 1930s to help single mothers who were widowed and those who were abandoned by their husbands. There were no work expectations of these

women and it was likely that once remarried their needs for welfare ceased. But that was then, this is now. Societal expectations and conditions are much different today, but AFDC's objectives remain fundamentally unchanged.

However, a number of steps have been taken, particularly in California, to get welfare recipients back on the employment rolls. Even with these changes, approximately 80% of the state's recipients are still not working, not even part time.

On Aug. 22, 1996 Presi-

dent Clinton signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 which has effectively eliminated the welfare program. The new federal legislation sends block grant funds to the states to provide time limited benefits to families. Unfortunately, due to the shortsightedness of many conservative legislators, their actions to throw people off the program willy nilly is making a bad situation worse. This will have a drastic effect on people who need this program the most: poor whites, undocu-

mented aliens, blacks and other minorities.

What are we going to do to help alleviate the crisis that will occur when these new welfare changes take full effect? Minority communities, in particular, have lost at least one generation by welfare coming into their communities; are we now going to lose another generation as welfare goes out of the community? The burden clearly falls on community leaders, church organizations and academics.

Small businesses, for example, need to create

new ways to do their work in a technological society where the computer reigns supreme. Then they could hire these former welfare recipients and train them where they can be truly productive. Employment in sweatshops and dead end manufacturing piecework just won't do.

As we get closer to the end of the century, we must be mindful that when the underclass suffers, the rest of us will ultimately pay the price.

Honoring Paul Robeson

by Bernice P. Jackson

April 8 is the 100th anniversary of the birth of Paul Robeson, another of our nation's nearly-unknown heroes.

Despite great obstacles and much racial prejudice, Paul Robeson entered Rutgers University in New Jersey in 1915 and graduated as a Phi Beta Kappa scholar and an All American football player for two consecutive years. He was the second African American to graduate from Columbia University Law School.

But Robeson was more than a scholar and athlete. As an actor, his portrayal of Othello on Broadway received great acclaim. His deep bass voice singing folk songs and spirituals such as "Old Man River" was known around the world. He was beloved in Russia, India, England, Japan and eastern Europe because he sang the songs of the people if the world in the lan-

guage of these people and touched their hearts. For 30 years from World War I until after World War II, Robeson's extraordinary achievements kept him in the world spotlight.

But Paul Robeson was more than an outstanding scholar, athlete and performer. He was a man deeply committed to the struggle for justice and peace in the world.

However, Robeson paid a high price for his outspokenness against racism and on behalf of peace. During the 1950s he found himself a target of Joseph McCarthy and the House un-American activities committee, which declared almost anyone a communist who espoused views which they disagreed with. Robeson was never charged with a crime and never arrested or put on trial. But his love of the Russian people and their culture and his deeply-felt commitment to peace

made him a natural target.

Branded a communist, Robeson found it impossible to get work anywhere in the US and was denied a passport.

Paul Robeson was a man who bowed to no one. When summoned before the House un-American activities committee and asked why, if he liked Russia so much, he had not stayed there, he replied, "Because my father was a slave and my people died to build this country and I'm going to stay right here and have a part of it, just like you. And no fascist minded people like you will drive me from it. Is that clear?"

Because of his stand against the congressional witch hunt, Robeson became a persona non grata and his name is almost unknown to young people. But his is a name, his is a voice, both singing and speaking that the world needs to remember.

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Happy Birthday!

April 10: Paul Scott; April 11-16: Angeal Battle, Ben Neal, Yvette Battle, Eula Ford, Ashley Bryant, Lillie Stewart, Francis (Thompson) Taliaferro, Queen Ethel Williamson, Alvin Wynn Jr, Edwin (Jay) Osborne Jr, Charles Newsome, Joan Bliss, Charlotte Reid

Visitor in the City

Arriving in our Sunshine City were sisters Ervie Lee Woods of Huntington, NY and Elvina (Woods) Mormon of San Francisco. The two sisters flew in for the homegoing service of sister Larless (Woods) Cason, who departed this life March 22. A service was held in California then Elvina flew in Thursday evening and brought sister Case to be funeralized here. Ervie flew in Wednesday and houseguested with Willie and Mattie Hutley of 26th Avenue S. Elvina houseguested with brother and loving sister-in-law Richard and Pat Woods of 25th Avenue S. Vina left Tuesday noon. Safe trip, ladies!

Welcome Home

On Wednesday, April 2, Karen Jordan returned home after being away for four years. She was welcomed home by all of her family members and friends. On Saturday, April 5, the family held a block party at the 21st Avenue S home of her grandparents Cliff and Qudia Jordan. When I say block party, that's exactly what it was. The street was officially blocked off from 31st Street S to the end of the street. Karen is the daughter of Blanche and James Reedy, who has been supportive to his oldest and only dearest sister. This block party had been in the plans for months. Food was cooked and prepared by grandmother, mother, aunts, uncles, cousins and good friends. Food was top of the line with drinks galore. Disco was furnished by Julius Harris. Cliff, Qudia, Blanche and James are happy and grateful to have Karen home and for her to be able to enjoy everyone at the same time. Micah is still rejoicing to have sis h home.

Karen is gratefully blessed to be home and says she plans to stay home. The block party lasted until 7. Minnie Jewell McKay was there serving family and friends for goddaughter, who she missed very much. I have to thank Patricia and Michelle Jordan who came to get me for this fabulous occasion. Hang in there, Karen, God loves you and we do too.

Jay's Birthday Party

Last Sunday Edwin (Jay) Osborne Jr. was given a birthday party at the Calixio Way S home of his grandparents Ray and Laura Howard. Jay turned four on April 14. Due to circumstances it has been pre because the Osbornes live in Georgia and mommy Jackie is on spring break this week. There to join in this joyful occasion were Jasmine, James, Jukar, Jaquail, Worthen, Byron and Tony Woods. Tyler, Bentley, Leon (Bud) Bright Jr. Decorations were hats, balloons and gift bags for Jay's guests. Jackee Rae and Jay drove into the city Saturday night. They will leave next Saturday or Sunday. Jay's gifts were swimming pool, basketball court, clothes and quiet money.

A French bakery opened in the same building where Weight Watchers meetings were held. One day I noticed a sign in the bakery window: "Note to Weight Watchers-all cake sales confidential." Until next week, jump to it!

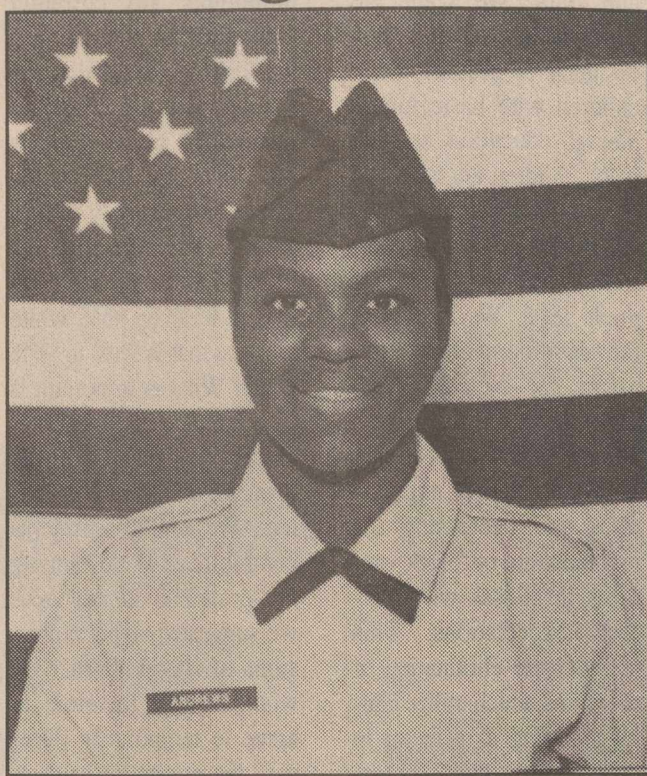
Youth 'Kick Butts' On April 10

WASHINGTON, DC — As part of the 2nd annual Kick Butts Day Thursday, thousands of youth advocates in more than 50 cities and towns across America will stand up to the tobacco industry by organizing youth rallies at their state capitols, burning brand-name tobacco merchandise, lobbying for stronger anti-tobacco measures in their schools and asking teen role models to quit smoking.

The kids won't be alone in their fight. From President

Bill Clinton, who will attend a youth rally in New York City April 15 and Vice President Al Gore, who will attend a rally at Washington, DC's Hardy Middle School on April 10, to federal, state and local legislators and small town mayors and council members, elected officials at all levels will stand up with kids to proclaim that Americans will no longer tolerate the tobacco industry's insidious efforts to addict new generations of smokers.

Basic Military Training Graduate



Angela A. Andrews

SAN ANTONIO, TX — Air Force Airman Angela A. Andrews has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, TX.

Andrews is the daughter of

Linda L. Miller of 3746 8th Street S and the granddaughter of Louise Miller of 4155 3rd Avenue S, both of St. Petersburg. She is a 1995 graduate of Pinellas Park High School.

Coalition And Mayor Meet

from pg. 1

to take advantage of every city, state and federal resource coming through the city's coffers to maximize the economic benefits for all African Americans in St. Petersburg," he added.

The coalition's economic thrust includes a move toward more economic self-determination using as many government and private resources as possible, noted coalition spokesman Roger Clendening.

The coalition was created in the aftermath of rebellions by black city residents last November spawned by the police shooting death of TyRon Lewis in October 1996.

It is comprised of organizations and individuals committed to gaining and securing all of the democratic rights to which African-American citizens are entitled.

Because of Thursday's afternoon meeting with the mayor, the coalition has re-scheduled its next full membership meeting for Thursday, April 17, 7 pm at Bethel Community Baptist Church, 1045 16th St. S.

Coalition meetings are open to the public. All African-American residents are encouraged to become members so they can work to make the coalition's goals a reality. Come join us!

NationsBank Promotes

from pg. 1

has helped us broaden our views."

Jones earned a bachelor's in accounting from Notre Dame University. He and his wife Shelia have a son and a daughter.

Active in the community, Jones is treasurer and immediate past chair of the Atlanta YMCA; board chair for Techwood Park, Inc; board chair for the Atlanta Develop-

ment Corporation; a director for Meharry Medical College; a director of the Atlanta Economic Development Corporation and a director of Leadership Atlanta.

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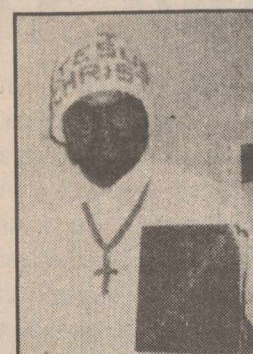
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My Testimony

by
Ronald Mathis Sr.

My name is Riley Harlington Keller III. I was born in South Carolina and raised in Georgia. I have just recently turned 32 years old. I have (also recently) accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior. I have been incarcerated for the last nine years. I was diagnosed HIV positive over eight years ago, but I never really got sick until recently.

It all started about six months ago, which is when I made my first trip to the outside hospital from here. I had the flu real bad and I could not eat or drink anything including water for four days. Everything immediately came back up. On the fourth day, the medical staff here realized I was completely dehydrated and I was taken to the hospital. I stayed there for 24 hours on IV while they ran all sorts of tests. They did not find anything unusual, so they said it was the flu and sent me back here where I stayed on IV for another 72 hours, at which point I could eat small amounts of food and drink liquids. My energy level was real low and I didn't want to do much, but I could eat, drink and function properly.

Then in the middle of January, it started happening again. I could not eat or drink anything and this time I also had the most severe headache I've ever had. After three days of this, they sent me back to the hospital. This time when they ran all their tests, they did find something. They found a growth in my brain about the size of a quarter. I was there for four days and while I was there they diagnosed the growth as one of two things—either a cancerous brain tumor or toxoplasmosis, which is an infection that people with suppressed immune systems get. The doctors said that the swelling in the brain was the reason that I was so sick. I was real sick, so sick that I don't remember everything that happened.

I do remember the doctors telling me that they were going to give me medication to treat both conditions: steroids to shrink the swelling if it was a tumor and two, antibiotics that work in conjunction to shrink the swelling if it was toxo. I asked the doctor how they would be able to tell which one it was if the medication would shrink either one. She told me that if it was a tumor that it would only shrink so much, but if it was a toxo, it would shrink with time. As I mentioned previously, I was there for four days before they brought me back to the institution. I remember being driven back here before being put in medical isolation.

The next two days I can remember only bits and pieces of what happened. Those bits and pieces are the worst mental and spiritual torment I have or ever will experience. I truly believe that I was so close to death that God let me see where I was heading. That place was hell. When this realization hit me, I was back in medical isolation gnashing on an empty milk carton. The passages for Matthew 8:12 and 24:51 which refer to gnashing of teeth come to mind. After this happened was the moment when I experienced the mental and spiritual torment that I mentioned previously. Immediately, I fell to my knees and prayed and begged to God to help me.

I've always been a down-to-earth and sane individual, but I began to hear voices when nobody was talking to me. I got completely paranoid and thought that everyone was trying to kill me and wanted me dead. I stayed in medical isolation for another four days. They were holding me there until bed space was available for me at the Springfield, MO medical center. After waiting for six days, they released me back into general population.

I immediately called my mother and told her and the rest of my family that they needed to come and see me. I still thought that I was going to die at this point. After I had explained the situation to my mother over the phone, she said that she would catch a plane and be here to see me the next day. She also said that I should see the chaplain here and tell him about my life.

Chaplain Pryor asked me what I wanted to talk about. I told him that I wanted to get saved. We discussed this for a little bit before

he led me through the sinner's prayer. I confessed my sins and professes my belief and love in Jesus and the Father. After we were done, he asked me if I would mind if he told a couple of Christian brothers here about my getting saved. Also if it would be alright if they talked to me. I told him that would be fine. That's how I met Max and Kit Plumlee.

Since I've got saved, things have been happening. Max taught me about the full Gospel which not only saved my soul but also promised me health to all my flesh. (Proverbs 4:20-22)

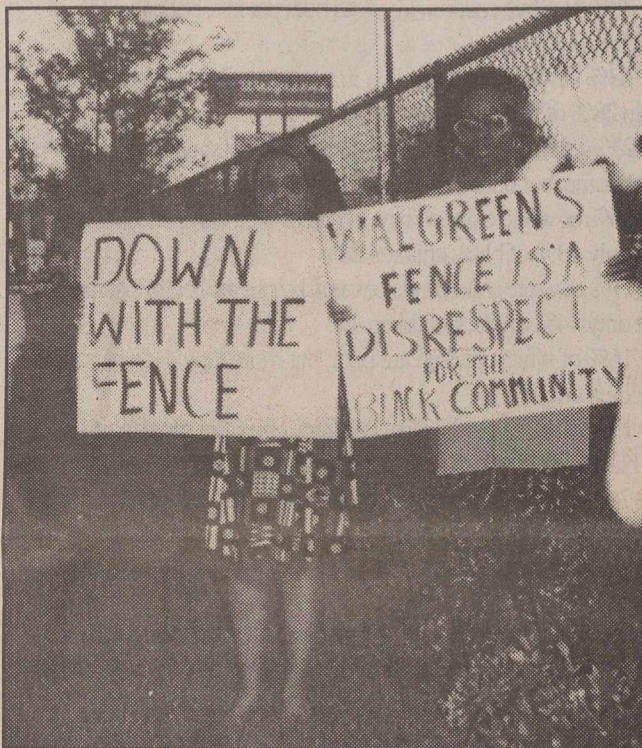
At this time, Max was at work wondering if I would live long enough to receive knowledge and faith for my healing. A voice came to him and said, "You do it. You stand on your faith for Riley's healing." Max immediately thought, "Oh, no, I can't do that. Not me. That's too much responsibility." Max told the Lord, "Lord, if you want me to do this, I must have confirmation first." He left it with the Lord and didn't think anymore about it.

That afternoon, Brother Marx came to Max and said, "Whatever you are praying for, I've just seen you receive a big bundle of anointing oil coming down from heaven." Max remembered his prayer for confirmation and said, "Oh no! I've got to pray for Riley now and stand on my faith for his healing." At this point, I couldn't see clearly from either eye and I hadn't been able to raise my arm over my head for months.

That night, Max and I prayed for me to receive a good night's sleep. Jesus gave me a whole night's sleep which was the first time that I've slept peacefully since becoming sick.

The next night at church, Max and a few brothers anointed me with oil and laid hands on me and prayed that Jesus would heal me completely. Everyone prayed, but Max led the prayer like Jesus had told him to. He rebuked the sickness in the name of Jesus. About two weeks later, I was taken back to the hospital for more tests. A second CAT scan showed that my brain tumor had shrunk to the size of a pinhead. I also found out that the institution had failed to give me the proper medication for the tumor. The doctor was amazed and said, "There is no reason that the tumor should have shrunk without the prescribed medication. I'll be scratching my head over this one for years."

Glory be to God! I knew that I was healed the moment that I was prayed for because immediately after prayer, my vision cleared. Also I was able to raise my arm over my head. Since then, 17 days ago, I've had no headaches. I sleep peacefully at night. I've gained 25 pounds and I'm hungry all the time. I know in my heart that God has taken HIV from me. All praise and glory to God and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



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Bayfront Medical Center Mirrors Growth Of St. Petersburg

Editor's Note: This column is the first in a series of articles that will address a variety of health care issues related to Bayfront Medical Center and its mission of providing quality health care for all people.

by M. Tracey Watts

ST. PETERSBURG — Since 1906 when Bayfront Medical Center opened its doors as the St. Petersburg Sanitarium, change has been a common element to its existence. The same can be said for St. Petersburg, a city that grew from a tiny town that boasted of sunshine and good health to its present-day status as a major city in one of the most densely populated areas of Florida.

Back when wildlife flourished and the city was mostly orange groves and farms, a small group of community-minded men and women, headed by Dr. J.D. Peabody, worked to establish a hospital for the growing metropolis of nearly 2,000 people. They established the 15-bed St. Petersburg Sanitarium as the city's first hospital, located at 2nd Street and 1st Avenue N. The hospital received \$2,000 in public donations and \$1,000 from E.H. Tomlinson to equip an operating room.

Just a few years later in 1909 however, a movement to establish a public hospital was started by the Rev. J.W. Harris. E.H. Tomlinson contributed toward purchasing

the half block at 7th Street and 6th Avenue S and early in 1910, the city purchased the other half of the block where a five-room cottage stood.

Using equipment from the St. Petersburg Sanitarium, the cottage was converted into an emergency hospital called the Good Samaritan Emergency Hospital and was opened to the public in July 1910. The old St. Petersburg Sanitarium ceased operation in 1911 when the building was sold to the Elks for a clubhouse.

Once again, change was ahead. Quickly recognizing the inadequacy of the "new" Good Samaritan, the women's auxiliary pushed for the establishment of a general hospital. Thereafter, a 35-bed hospital was erected on the same property and named Augusta Memorial in honor of E.H. Tomlinson's mother, Augusta Tomlinson, who had made considerable contributions toward the hospital's construction and equipment.

Augusta Memorial Hospital was staffed by every physician in the city. But soon after, due to an unsatisfactory financial arrangement regarding charity work at the hospital, the hospital underwent yet another name change to City Hospital.

In 1923, City Hospital was renamed Mound Park Hospital after the seven Indian shell mounds on the property, which were something of a tourist attraction. In those days

of segregation, Mound Park was an all-white hospital.

Mercy Hospital, which served the black community, was built at 1344 22nd Street S in the same year. Together, the two hospitals made up the Department of Hospitals for the city and were supported by city tax dollars.

As time went on, Mound Park continued to make revisions and construct additions to accommodate the city's growing population. In 1937, a four-story B building replaced the original hospital building and transformed Mound Park into a modern 150-bed hospital. The cost to renovate was \$205,825.

Years later, black doctors in the city quietly appealed to city council and convinced them the time had come to integrate Mound Park. Though there was some vocal opposition from some of the staff and members of the community, this was accomplished and Mercy Hospital ceased operation in the mid 1960s. The Mercy Hospital staff was transferred to Mound Park.

Mound Park prospered as the city's reputation as the "Sunshine City" grew. However, as the population grew, it also spread out of the St. Petersburg area to rapidly developing areas. By the late 1960s, many of the residents had moved out of the core of St. Petersburg and several new private hospitals were

built to serve the newly populated areas.

Between 1966 and 1975, seven hospitals were built. These hospitals also attracted many of Mound Park's paying patients, leaving charity cases to the city hospital. At this time, Mound Park had enough beds for 725 patients, but as the daily census plummeted to around 3000, the hospital became seriously in debt.

Herman Goldner was the mayor in the late 1960s. He realized the challenge of running a hospital as a city department. In 1966, he appointed a hospital commission, comprised of city, medical and business leaders to study the problem. The goal was to make the hospital financially sound and eliminate the hundreds of thousands of dollars the hospital was losing each year.

The commission suggested establishing a not-for-profit corporation, which would lease and operate the hospital. The goal was to create a financially stable hospital, no longer supported by city tax dollars.

In 1968, the city agreed to lease the hospital's land and building, worth \$10 million, to a private not-for-profit corporation for \$10 a year. The lease carried a strict requirement—that the facility provide emergency care to St. Petersburg residents 24 hours a day, seven days a week regardless

of their ability to pay.

The commission decided to change the name of the hospital once more to Bayfront Medical Center, denoting its location and its new direction. The commission wanted "a name to indicate that Bayfront was going to be a center for health care, broader in its responsibilities and its forward look than just a hospital," said Robert T. Sheen, who headed the commission and was Bayfront's board of trustees first chairman.

Bayfront kept the name Mound Park until January 1970, even though the new name was immediately adopted in October 1968. The hospital continued to lose money until Kenneth Swanson, Bayfront's president in the 1970s, employed innovative ways to attract new patients and turn the financial picture around.

Today, two decades later, the hospital is hardly recognizable from its early days as a city-run facility. Look for Bayfront's present-day history in the next article in the series.

M. Tracey Watts is a student at the University of South Florida Bayboro campus for her master's of journalism degree. She is a native of New Orleans.

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L-R: Nobedine Packer, Julia Lattimore, Elder Martin Rainey, Doretha Jackson and Ada Ward-Simmons.

PABSE Elects New Officers

ST. PETERSBURG — The Pinellas Alliance of Black School Educators (PABSE) recently elected new officers.

Chartered on December 4, 1998, PABSE is an affiliate of the National Alliance of Black School Educators, which was

founded by Dr. Charles D. Moody in November 1970. Not shown in photo: Walter Boykin, past president.

Dear St. Petersburg Citizens: April 10, 1997



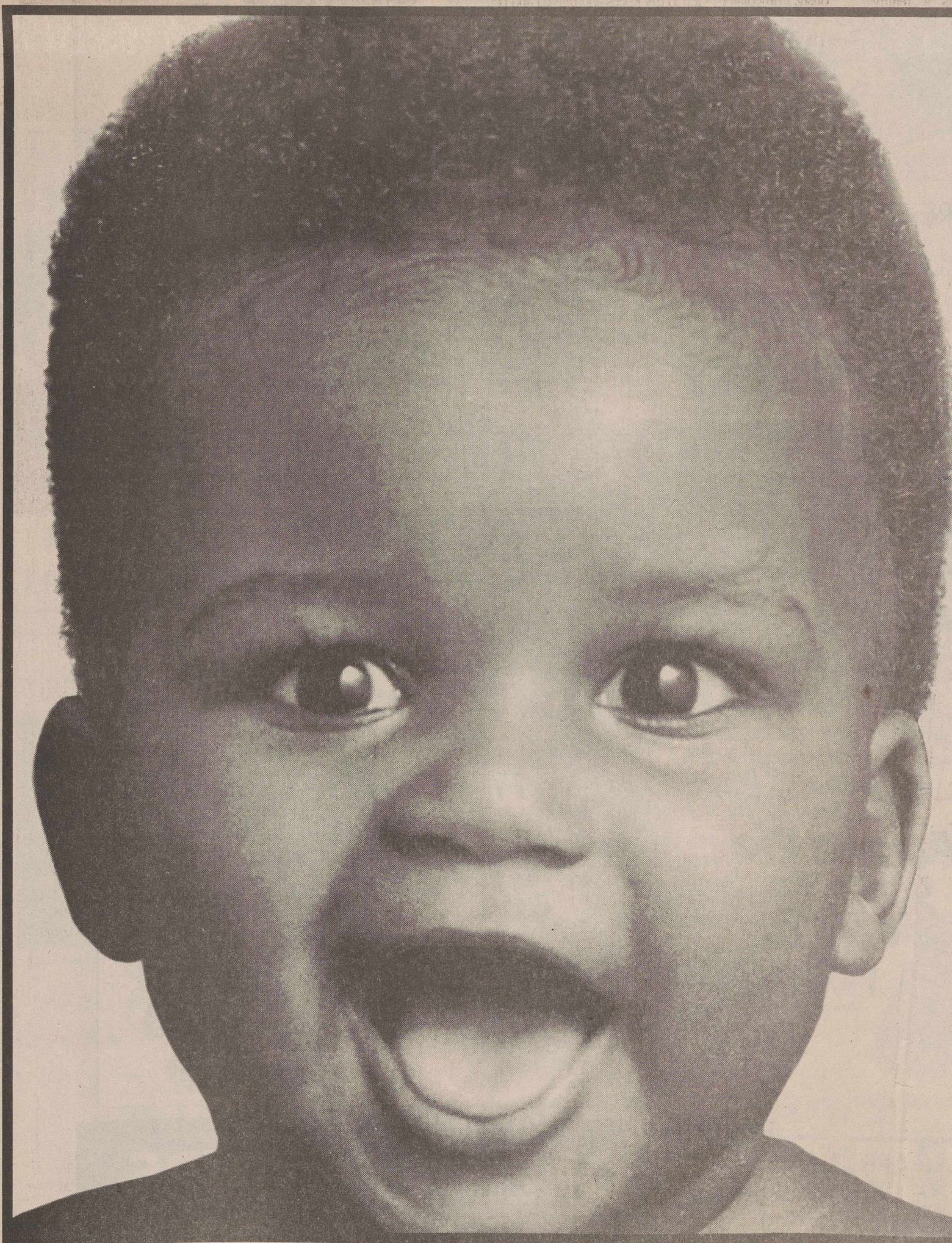
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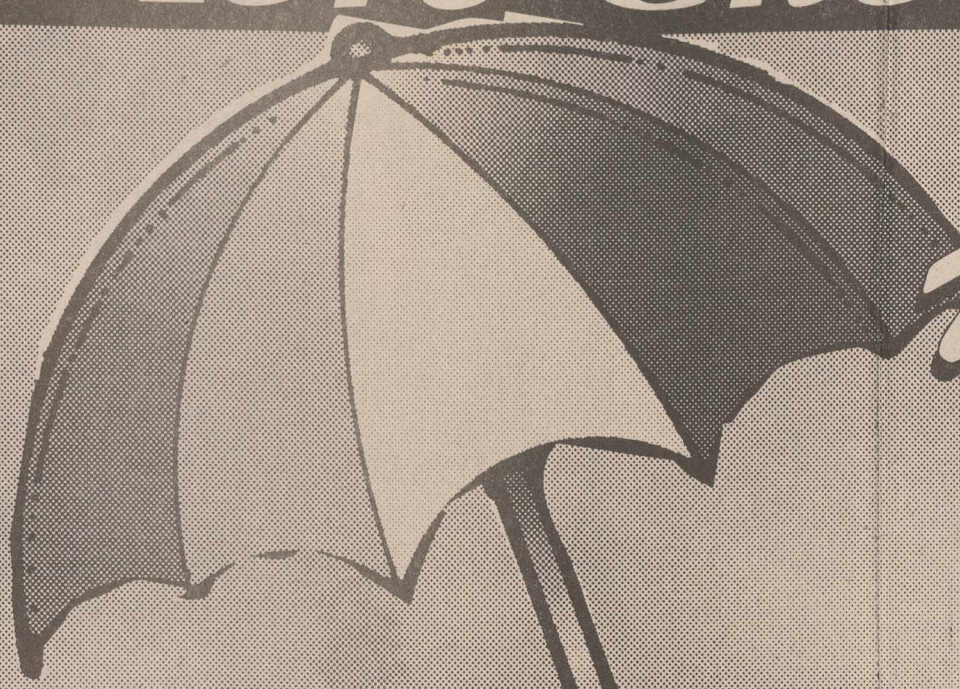
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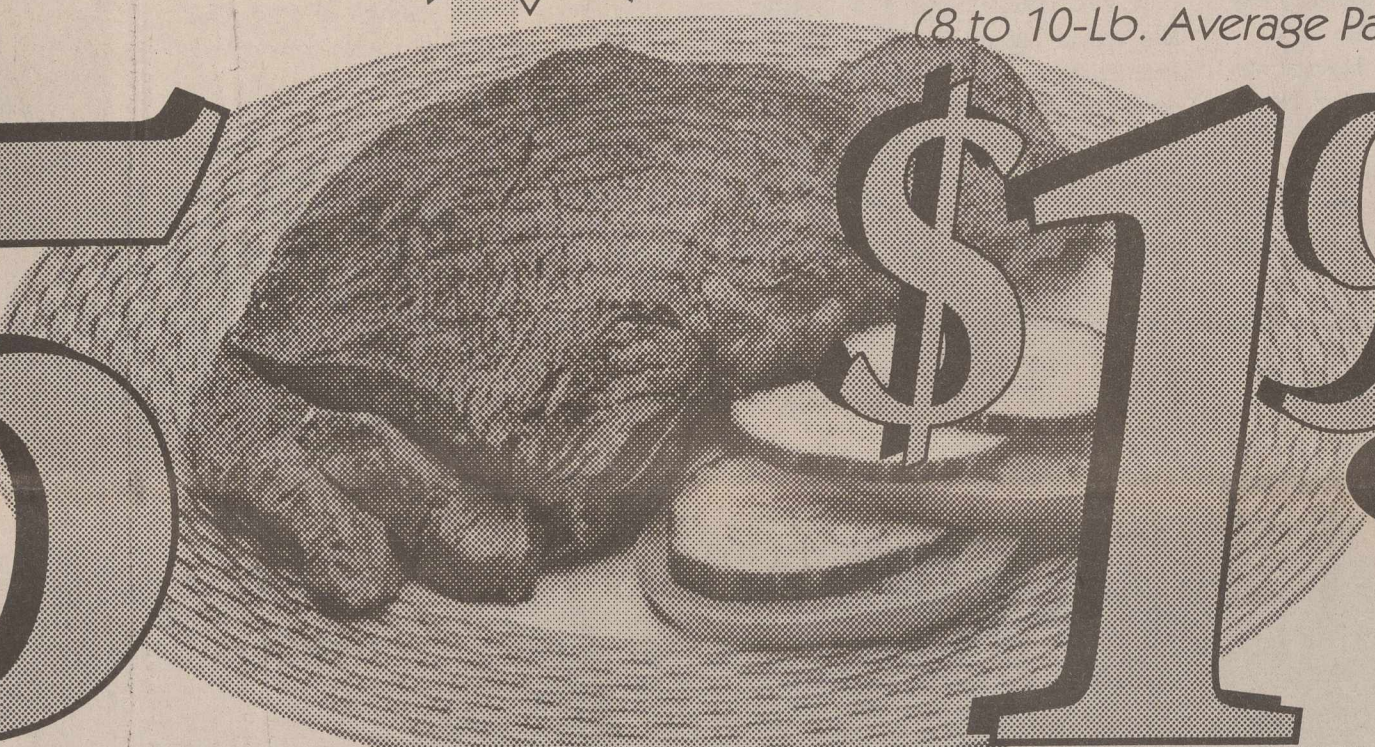
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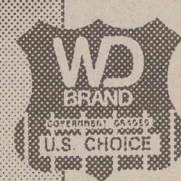
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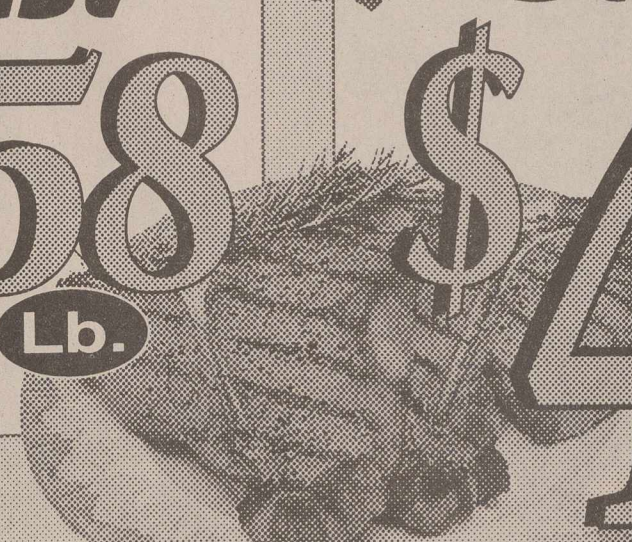
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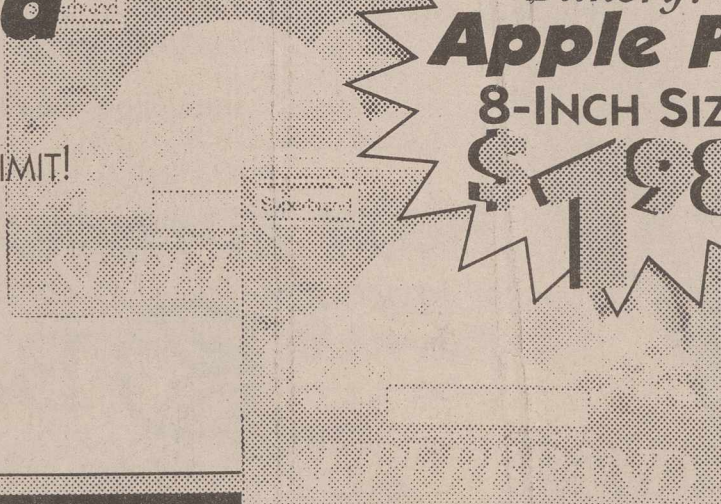


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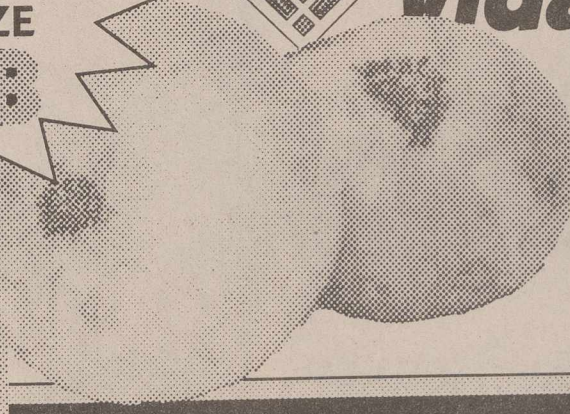
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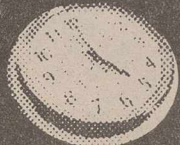
SATURDAY
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MONDAY
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TUESDAY
APR 15

WEDNESDAY
APR 16

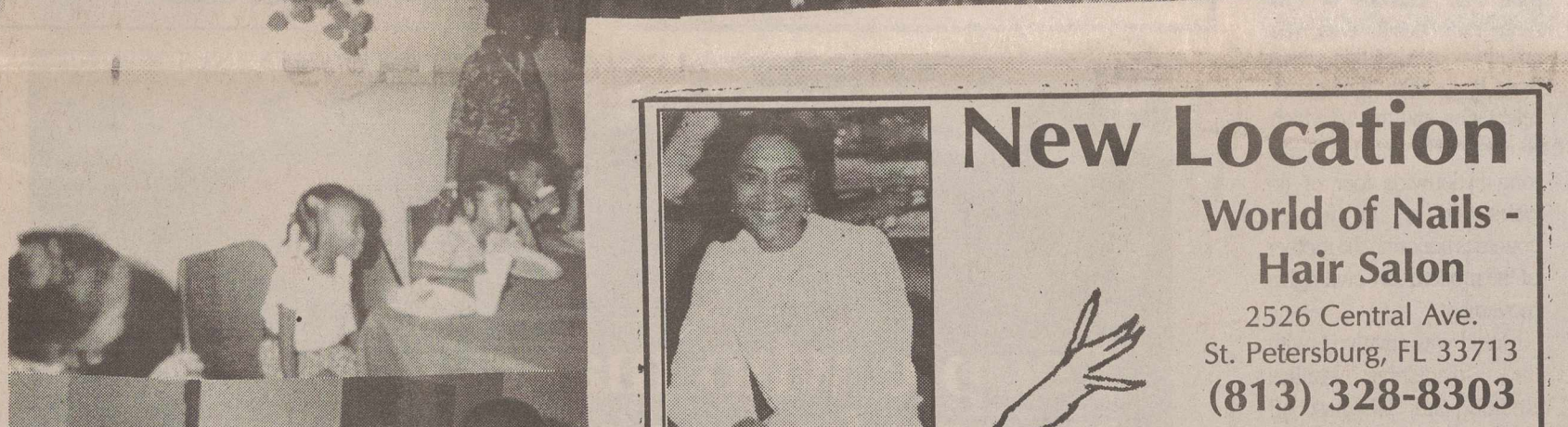


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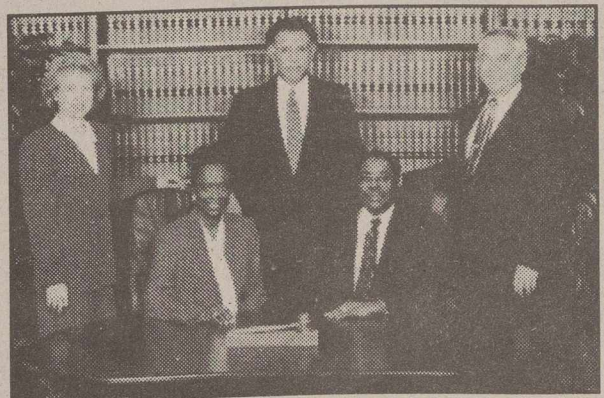
Elks Hold Annual Easter Egg Hunt

ST. PETERSBURG—The Sunshine City Lodge and Temple youth group held its annual Easter egg hunt at the Elks home. The children enjoyed playing games, looking for the eggs and refreshments. Barbara Norris is youth director; Mattie Adams, daughter ruler; Thomas C. Stockton, exalted ruler



WE WELCOME YOUR
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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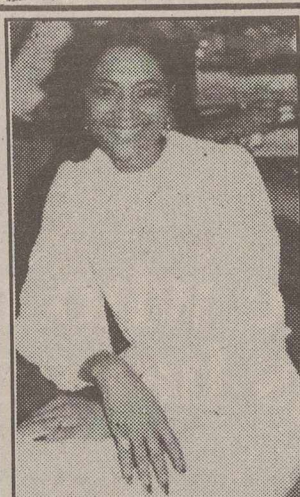
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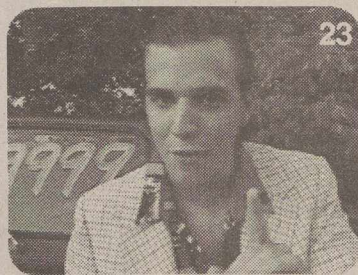
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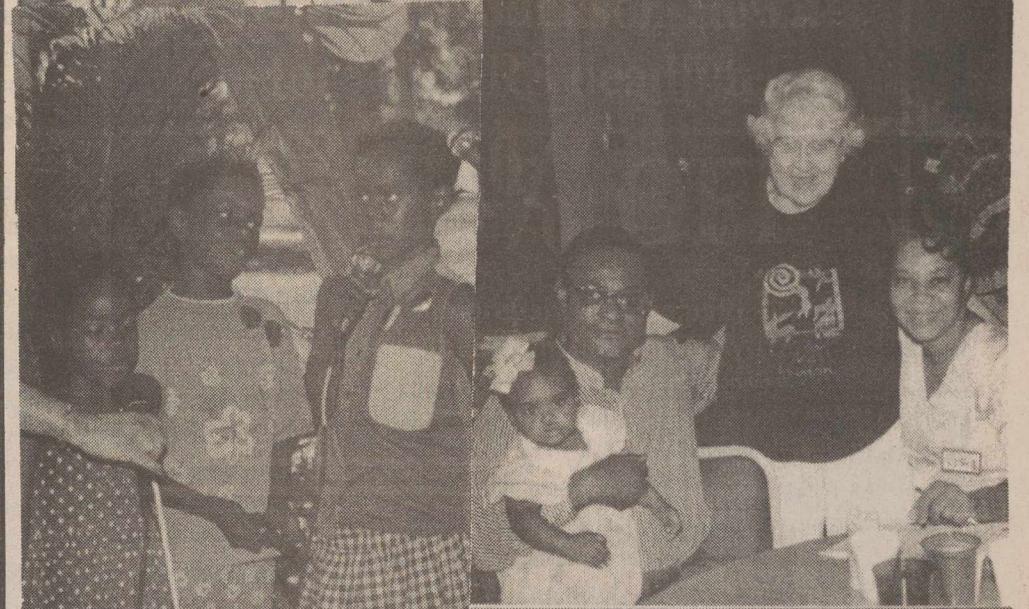
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Color Me Human

from pg. 1



Federal Task Force

from pg. 1

When President Clinton created the task force, he appointed then-HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros to head the group. Cisneros led a team of federal officials on a three-day visit to the city in late November to assess the situation and recommend actions to the president.

The president announced approval of the proposals Dec. 3 to channel increased federal assistance to the community. Cuomo succeeded Cisneros as task force chair when he became HUD secretary in January.

Stephanie Owens was

appointed in January as the full-time coordinator for the task force in St. Petersburg. She works to coordinate federal aid to the city and to help groups work together to improve conditions in the community.

Citizens advisory commission members are Norman E. Brown Jr, director of employee relations, Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners; Sevell C. Brown III, president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; Marvin Davies, Atty. Robert Decker of Ruden, McClosky, Smith, Schuster & Russell, PA; Alma

B. Frazier, president of the Federation of Inner City Community Organizations; Atty Joel Giles of Carlton, Fields, Ward, Emmanuel, Smith & Cutler, PA; Jenkins, NAACP president; Donald McRae, chief of staff, city of St. Petersburg; James O. Simmons, president/CEO of the Pinellas County Urban League; Rev. Manuel Sykes, pastor of Bethel Community Baptist Church, and Omali Yeshitela, chair, National People's Democratic Uhuru Movement.

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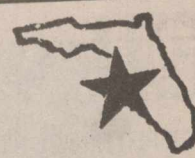
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North Central Florida



Society In Ocala

by
Florence Williams Ray

Helping Senior Citizen

On March 1 and 8, the governor's West Ocala Neighborhood Revitalization Council and Leadership Ocala/Marion, along with MAD DADS, Marion County Recreation and Parks, Silver River Marine Institute and Weed & Seed came together and painted three of four senior homes. It was hard work and fun and a feeling of great accomplishment when it was over. The project made some senior citizens very happy indeed.

Thanks to Narvella Haynes and Jay Been Painting for a fine job as coordinators.

Fort Mose Exhibit

The Florida Museum of Natural History is presenting its traveling exhibit, *Fort Mose*. The Fort Mose site, located south of St. Augustine, was the first legally sanctioned free black community in the US.

The fort, given by the Spanish, prospered for many years. Lately much excavation has been done and the exhibit covers both the past and current history. An accompanying video adds to the explanation and understanding of the project. The exhibit will be on display, free of charge, during normal academy hours for two months.

For more information, call Sheryl Murphy at 629-7082.

\$20,000 Top Contest Prize

It's possible to win \$20,000 in cash for your child's education if you are successful in winning a contest being sponsored by the American Library Association and Suave.

Additionally, the Friends of the Ocala Library have donated five \$100 savings bonds as prizes for drawings to be held locally during National Library Week, April 13-19.

All you have to do is answer the question: How has the library helped you and your

family?

Adults 18 or above, who are parents or legal guardians of at least one child, are invited to describe in 125 words or less how the library impacts their family. Entrants should describe how the library helps connect them to one another and their community and how the library helps with better grades, financial savings, family entertainment and more.

Rules and entry forms are available at every branch of the Central Florida Regional Library: Ocala, Belleview, Dunnellon, Fort McCoy, Forest, Marion Oaks, Rainbow Lakes, Reddick, Bronson, Chiefland, Cedar Key, Williston and Yankeetown.

Missionary/Education Day

Dunnellon's Beulah MB Church observed its annual Missionary and Education Day on March 23 with the theme "Walk in a Path Ordered by the Lord."

Cynthia Benjamin presided over the 11 am service. Call to worship by Arzula Hannibal, song service by Beulah's #2 Choir, devotional service led by Eunice Fulton and Aria Tribble, welcome and occasion by Pearl Langford, responsive reading by Cynthia Benjamin.

The Brandon family performed a special selection; Scripture by Arzula Hannibal, words of wisdom from Deacon Willie Thomas, solo by Deacon Clinton Bums, Palm Sunday by Pearl Langford. Speaker Barbara Townsend was introduced by Benjamin.

Ruth Edwards made special presentations. Rev. John E. Hannibal is the pastor. Elizabeth Oliver is president; Cynthia Benjamin, chair; Ruth Edwards, church program coordinator; Marilyn Williams, assistant church program coordinator; Arzula Hannibal, acting pastor.

Mobil's Initiatives Mark Fulfilling First Year

FAIRFAX, VA —Mobil Corporation is continuing its broad-based Mobilizing Our Community outreach campaign to benefit urban neighborhoods and residents with a series of initiatives this year.

"The relationships we've established with African American and Latino organizations and businesses in the past year affirm Mobil's commitment to diversity and demonstrate our intent to be the brand of choice among black and Latino consumers," says Anthony P. Smith, ethnic marketing manager. "Mobil is committed to the idea that the best way to revitalize many of the urban neighborhoods where we do business is to be a good neighbor and that means to reach out and embrace people at the grassroots level."

To increase its pool of African American, female, Native American and Latino franchise owners, Mobil established the special purpose credit program with Detroit's OminBank. This groundbreaking agreement involves one of the nation's largest African American owned financial institutions. It provides \$45 million in financing to minorities and gives OminBank the ability to make additional larger loans. The agreement also makes financing more readily available for qualified candidates while augmenting Mobil's efforts to be responsive and sensitive to the communities it serves.

The Mobilizing Our Community campaign's two-day mini-festivals called Community Weekends, are being held at Mobil service stations in Detroit, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Dallas, New York and New Jersey, the key markets for its other activities. Designed especially to benefit inner-city residents, the community weekends are supported by national and grassroots black organizations which participate as community partners.

The community weekends offer voter registration, health

screenings, education and immunizations, child fingerprinting and video identification. Mobil franchising and employment opportunities are discussed with potential candidates on-site.

Mobil's new *My World* TV commercial plus its *Three Worlds* and service radio spots target minority consumers and heighten awareness of the Mobil brand. Other visible marketing initiatives include Mobil's eye-catching "Check It Out," "You've Got the Power" and "Jammin' Station" billboards, part of an all-encompassing marketing strategy that is attracting considerable attention.

Mobil has developed relationships with a number of African American organizations across the country including the Detroit Institute of the Arts, the Detroit chapter of 100 Black Men of America, the NAACP, National Urban League, OICs in Philadelphia, Congressional Black Caucus, the Historically Black College Coalition and the National Black Nurses Association.

Mobil sponsored Philadelphia's annual Days of Unity parade and celebration and the youth-oriented Powerhouse '96 fall concert in that city. The company also supported the Artists Salute to Black History Month and African Marketplace and Cultural Fair festivals in Los Angeles. Mobil was the proud sponsor of this year's Rosa Parks 40th anniversary celebration and tribute which recently concluded a year-long nationwide tour of 40 cities and several foreign countries honoring the mother of the modern-day civil rights movement.

Mobil was involved with the Philadelphia Phillies Rookie and RBI baseball leagues, the all-new Mobil Gridiron Classic, a black college football showcase in Dallas, TX as well as Detroit's Motor City Roundball High School Holiday Tournament, 100 Black Men's annual youth oratorical contest and

Operation Kidwatch programs. Mobil worked with communities in Detroit and Los Angeles to build homes for needy African-American families with Habitat for Humanity and in partnership with Delta Sigma Theta sorority and Omega Psi Phi fraternity. Both organizations are influential, historically black pan-Hellenic groups.

Mobil is a leading oil, natural gas and petrochemical company with operations in more than 125 countries. The company markets gasoline in 28 states and the District of Columbia through more than 7,000 branded stations.

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Wednesday 6:30 p.m.

Fashion Explosion Upcoming



L-R: Caroline D.H. McMahon, Alice Martin, Rhodia Hall and Daniel Banks (rear).

by Daniel Banks

OCALA — Les Fideles Federated Women's Club will present its 7th annual spring fashion show at the Holiday Inn West on April 18 from 5 to 9 pm. The hotel is located at 3621 W Silver Springs Blvd, just off I-75. The theme for the

evening is "Fashion Explosion." Dinner will be served. Commentator for the affair is Helen Cunningham. Music is to be provided by Herbert Lofton.

A rundown of what to look for includes a carousel of fashions (Anything Goes), Black

and White (ensembles), Afro Wear (South of the Nile), loungewear and lingerie (Feelings), swimwear (Roaming Eyes), cocktail and evening wear (Elegance) and bridal wear.

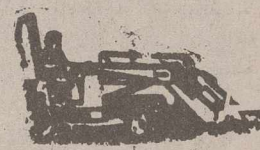
Comedian Bob Walker will entertain during intermission and a special solo is slated for later in the program by Yvonne Little.

Models of all shapes, colors, sizes and ages will be featured. They are Rhodia N. Hall, Caroline D.H. McMahon, Alice Martin, Daniel Banks, Cynthia Graham, Rosetta Mays, Tier Jacobs, Cynthia Price, Ashland Michelle Joiner, Veronica Lenon, Vicky Phillas, Carl Hooksim and Paulette Croskey.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased through club president Lydia Armstrong at 867-7273 or head coordinator Helen Baxter at 687-4065. Other coordinators are Francine Tucker and Oney Mae Jackson.

Hats and apparel provided by Mrs. Porter's Hats and Jessie's Fashions.

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Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Eugene King

Bryant-King Wedding

The ceremony uniting Federal LaShon Bryant and Ronald Eugene King in marriage was held on Saturday, March 15 at

New St. John MB Church in Ocala. The Rev. T.L. Brooks officiated. (Photo by James Young)

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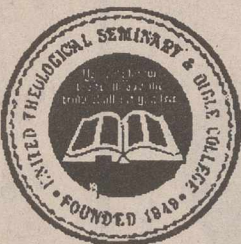
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Hugh B. Price
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National Urban League

The leading cause of death among our Black youth is homicide. Gang membership and gun possession continue to be on the rise. According to Hugh Price, the new, dynamic leader of the National Urban League, this is an issue that must be tackled head-on. By making young people the focus of his agenda, Price, the NUL and its 114 affiliates are trying to get our kids off the streets so they can do what so many others may not

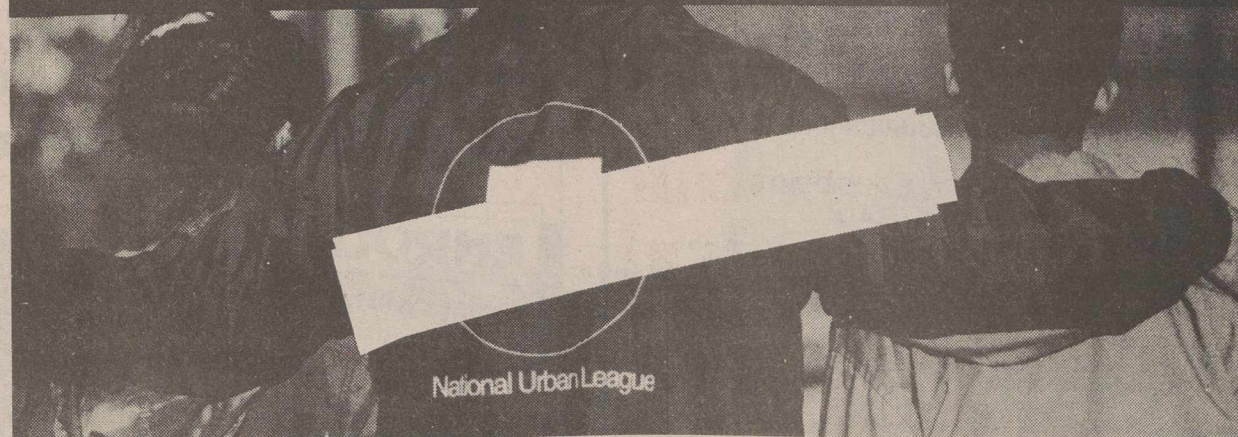
get the chance to do — grow up. Anheuser-Busch supports the National Urban League, just as we support other educational and cultural programs, community projects and the development of minority businesses.

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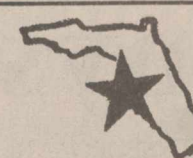
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North Central Florida



Peace Corps Among Top Recruiters Of College Grads

WASHINGTON, DC — The Peace Corps ranks 3rd in the nation in recruiting college graduates for 1997, according to an annual survey by the magazine *The Black Collegian*. The agency has consistently ranked among the top three recruiters of college graduates for the past five years.

"The Peace Corps offers graduating students a wide range of opportunities as volunteers in more than 90 countries," said Peace Corps director Mark Gearan. "Our assignments are among the most rewarding available and it is tremendously heartening to find so many college graduates opting for Peace Corps service."

Gearan noted that a recent survey of former Peace Corps volunteers found that 94% would make the same decision to join. "That's additional proof that Peace Corps truly is the toughest job you'll ever love," he said.

The *Black Collegian* survey was mailed to hundreds of employers nationwide in business and government. In its spring 1997 issue, the magazine lists the top 100 employers for all college graduates. Peace Corps ranks 32nd with 3,677 job opportunities available for 1997. Topping the list is Enterprise Rent-A-Car followed by the US Immigration and Naturalization Service. In the #4 slot is Andersen Consulting, followed by Boeing.

Peace Corps, now in its 36th year, was founded by President John F. Kennedy to offer trained men and women to countries in need. Currently, nearly 6,500 volunteers serve in 91 countries, including South Africa, where 31 volunteers began serving last month for the first time.

For more information on the Peace Corps or to request an application, call 1-800-424-8580 or visit its Web site at www.peacecorps.gov.

Filing Your Tax Return Better Late Than Never

(NU) — Taxpayers who miss the filing deadline should collect their papers and file a tax return immediately. Since the late filing penalty increases with each passing month, filing sooner is better than filing later.

The IRS will assess a penalty of what the taxpayer owes for each month the tax return is late. The penalty assessment stops when the tax return is filed.

Taxpayers who cannot pay the full amount due still save money by filing the return sooner, rather than later. The important point is to file the tax return before the IRS asks for it.

According to the National

Association of Enrolled Agents, an organization of tax specialists licensed by the IRS, it is much more difficult to make payment arrangements when the IRS is in the final stages of the collection process.

Enrolled Agents can help taxpayers who owe money to the IRS by making arrangements for installment agreements, which break the amount owed down into manageable monthly payments.

For more information about taxes and how to locate an Enrolled Agent in your area, call the toll-free EA hotline at 1-800-424-4339. All calls are confidential.

Study Tips: Work Smarter, Not Harder

(NU) — Figuring out how and what to study is probably the greatest source of frustration for any student. "Every student has different study habits," says Noli Runas, director of education at the IIT Technical Institute in Oxnard, Calif.

Runas advises students to consistently review class notes and reading materials and then begin concentrated study for a test three or four nights beforehand. He offers these other study tips:

- Pace yourself. Take a 10-minute break for every 45 minutes you study.
- Attack the tough parts first. Study the most difficult things when your mind is fresh.
- Review reading materials and class notes. Highlight key points and turn the key points into questions. Then practice answering them by yourself or with a friend.
- Don't just memorize information. Think critically rather than just remembering enough information to get you through the test.

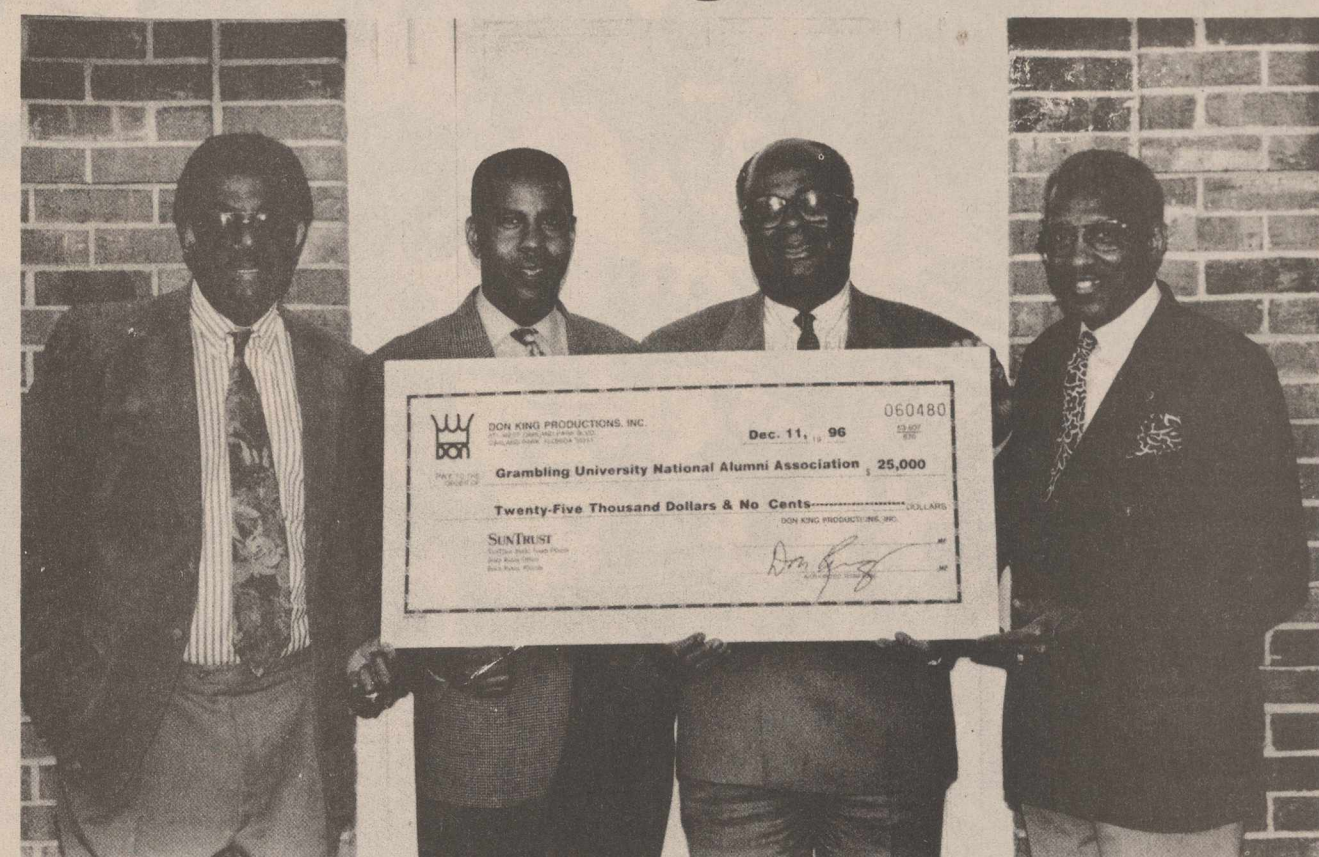
• Don't overwhelm yourself. Divide information into sections and tackle them one at a time.

• Don't get comfortable. If you try to study in a comfortable chair, you can tire more easily and lose your concentration.

• Don't study on an empty stomach.

For additional information and a complimentary brochure about a technical college education, call 1-800-691-8414.

GSU Alumni Receive Gift From Don King Productions



Don King Productions recently made a beneficent \$25,000 gift to the Grambling University National Alumni Association. The donation is the largest received to assist the organiza-

tion in paying for a permanent alumni house purchased last summer near campus for activities and programs. The recipient of the first Grambling lifetime achievement award in 1996,

Don King is an honorary lifetime member of the GSU National Alumni Association. Holding the check from King are (l-r) Collie J. Nicholson, former GSU sports information director;

Herbert Simmons Jr, director of alumni affairs; President Raymond Hicks and James Bradford, national alumni president. (GSU photo)

A Closer Walk

by Antionett Cox
Dunnellon



by Antionette Cox
DUNNELLON — Easter sunrise service was held at Beulah Baptist Church at 7 am with the Rev. John E. Hannibal delivering the sermon. Rev. David Edmond was present as were members from various churches.

At 9:30 m, city-wide Sunday school was held at Mt. Olive AME with Rev. David Edmond as host pastor. Mt.

Olive received the banner for having the most members in attendance. The Youth Choir rendered song service, testimony by Evangelist Annette Edmond, solo by Arzula Hannibal singing "Precious Lord." Rev. Hannibal preached from St. Matthew 26:26-28 "The Saviour's Body."

What a job, what a fellowship to worship together on Easter Sunday and to know that our Redeemer lives!

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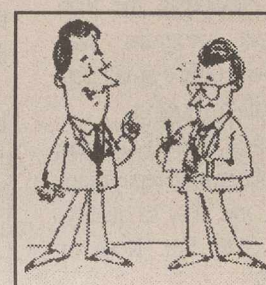


Let's Celebrate An African-American Arts Festival

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SEND US NEWS!

If you have information that might make a good article for this paper, send it in, and we'll try to use it in an upcoming issue.

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Leon Howard Sullivan, founder of Opportunities Industrialization Centers

Dorothy Irene Height, President of the National Council for Negro Women

Herman J. Russell, businessman and commercial developer

Julius L. Chambers, former head of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund and presently Chancellor of North Carolina Central University

Clarence "Blighouse" Gaines, winningest college basketball coach in history and member of the National Basketball Hall of Fame

William H. Gray III, former Congressman and currently head of the United Negro College Fund

Perhaps you thought the price of freedom was paid in full by our ancestors. However, we still have an outstanding balance when it comes to the costs of freedom. The fight never ends and sometimes it is purchased at the ultimate price.

The people featured in this ad invested heavily in freedom and have been on the front lines during our lifetimes.

R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company continues to further the cause of freedom through its longstanding support of organizations such as the NAACP, National Urban League and Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America. R. J. Reynolds has sustained a relationship with these organizations for over 20 years and maintains a genuine commitment to diversity while supporting the principles of Affirmative Action.

We thought you should know that the fight for freedom continues.

Boys & Girls Club Hosts Festival

ST. PETERSBURG — The Southside Boys & Girls Club hosted its first Black History festival on Feb. 22 in the Jordan Park Courtyard. More than 800 residents attended the festival which included local jazz, blues, Gospel, R&B and rap groups. Also featured were plenty of kid activities, free health screening, agency fair and vendors selling Afro-centric products and ethnic foods. Mayor David Fischer, State Rep. Rudy Bradley and Councilman Ernest Fillyau were guest speakers. Unit director Mr. Murphy expresses appreciation to everyone who helped make the festival a success.



Photos by ERNEST FILLIAU

Great News For Students

ST. PETERSBURG—The US Army has some great news for college students and recent graduates, a program that can help pay off up to \$65,000 of your student loan. In addition to paying student loans, the Army's loan repayment program also provides valuable job experience for college graduates.

According to Staff Sgt. Howard Rose III, station commander of the St. Petersburg

Recruiting Station, students saddled with college loan debts and little job experience on their resumes are taking advantage of an Army enlistment officer that can erase their college debt and qualify them for the training of their choice in any one of over 200 job skills. Plus, their college credits could also help them qualify for advanced rank and a higher starting salary.

Takers of the Army's loan

repayment program more than doubled in 1990, the first year Congress approved the program for all Army job specialties. Previously, the loan repayment program was offered with only a small percentage of Army jobs.

For more information on the Army college loan repayment program and how to qualify, Contact Staff Sgt. Rose at 343-5430.

Hires

Stupidity has its value, it teaches how not to live.

It is so sad so many lose their health chasing after wealth.

When we give to the poor, the Lord will repay us with interest.

The joy of what we have is lost by wanting more.

**We welcome
your letters
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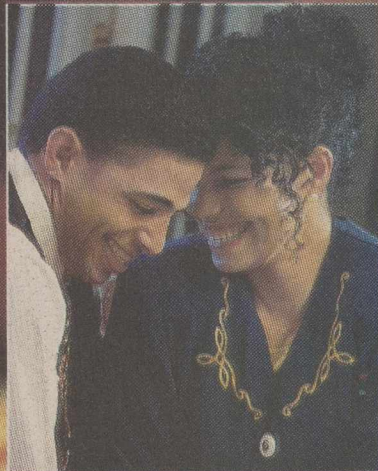
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Pam &
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GREAT EXPECTATIONS.



Dear Dad,

You were right about Carol, my Caribbean Queen (smile). I don't know why I took so long to marry her. She's great! Every time I turn around she surprises me. Just last night, I came home and she had this real gourmet dinner — cashew chicken stir-fry.

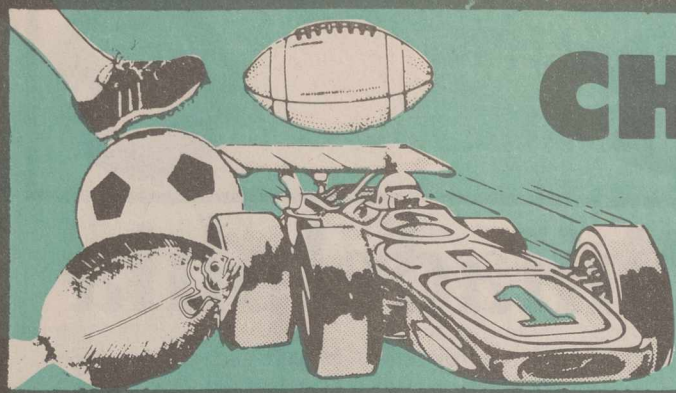
She went to Publix, bought chicken breasts, had them diced and then used her own recipe. Over dinner she made a big announcement...we're expecting! Congratulations, Grandpa!

Love,
Patrick

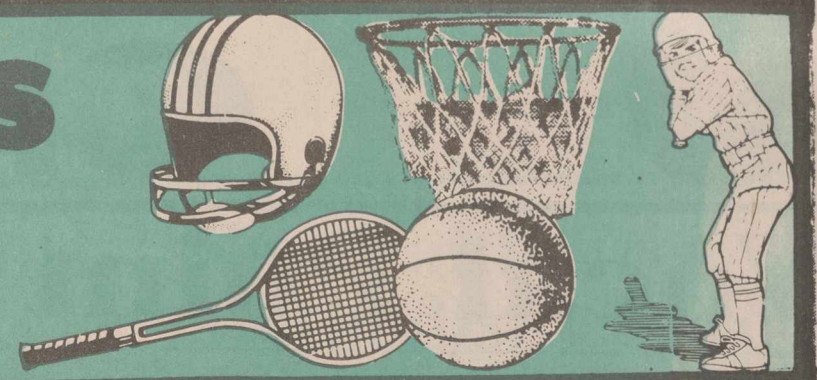
At Publix, we work daily to exceed your expectations. Take our fresh chicken, for example. They're nourished with 100% all natural feed. That's what makes them all natural grade A quality. We never freeze them, so they remain tender and tasty. Which is really important when you're eating for two—or more! So as you plan for those surprises, keep in mind that in all great meals, the main ingredient is Publix.



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CHALLENGER SPORTS



Ingrid Bethel, (L), Hulk Hogan and Adriana Perez on the set of McKinsey's Island.

'Hulkster' Shoots Film In Bay Area

by Ingrid Bethel

TAMPA—WWF superstar Hulk Hogan, a native of Tampa Bay, is currently filming a new movie in the area. The wrestling phenom is starring in *McKinsey's Island*, a Big Island Productions feature in which he plays an ex-CIA agent searching for treasure on the island and seeking to avenge the death of his former partner. The film co-stars

veteran actor Robert Vaughn of *Man From U.N.C.L.E.* fame and is set for a late '97 or early '98 release. Local actors are also being used in the production, including 7-year-old Adriana Perez (pictured far right with Hulk Hogan, center, and Ingrid Bethel, left) on the set.

The Hulkster, in addition to working on his current film project, has also found time to

keep some pretty interesting company. He was recently spotted at the Chicago movie premiere of *Double Team* with fellow superstar and Chicago Bull Dennis Rodman, who is co-starring in the film with Jean Claude Van Damme. Rodman has started a pro wrestling career and has become pals with Hogan. So what's next? Sounds like a promoter's dream to me!

World Championship Boxing

One of boxing's most enduring and renowned heavyweight champions returns to the ring when World Championship Boxing: George Foreman vs. Lou Savarese is presented live on Saturday, April 26 (10 pm ET/8 pm MT/7 pm PT) from the convention center in Atlantic City, NJ. The HBO sports broadcast team of Jim Lampley, Larry Merchant and analyst Roy Jones Jr. will be ringside to call the action, which will be closed-captioned for the hearing impaired and presented in Spanish language on HBO en

Espanol.

In his first appearance on HBO in two years, George Foreman, a two-time heavyweight champion of the world from Humble, TX, carries a career mark of 75-4 KOs, into the ring with Bronx native Lou Savarese (36-0, 30 KOs) in a scheduled 12-round matchup. Foreman was last seen on HBO in April 1995, scoring a 12-round decision over Germany's Alex Schulz. The undefeated Savarese is considered by many to be an emerging contender in the heavyweight division and will

face his most challenging task to date.

World Championship Boxing is celebrating its 25th anniversary season on HBO. The network's first fight was Foreman's stunning knockout of Joe Frazier for the world heavyweight title on Jan. 22, 1973 in Kingston, Jamaica. Foreman's battle with Savarese will mark the 252nd fight on HBO. The executive producer is Ross Greenburg; producer Dave Harmon; director Marc Payton.

Bryant Gumbel Golf Tournament Benefits UNCF

Former Today show host and avid golfer Bryant Gumbel (2nd left) is shown with representatives of Anheuser-Busch Companies Inc. prior to teeing off for the annual Bryant Gumbel Golf Classic to benefit the College Fund/UNCF. The annual fundraiser, which is supported by Anheuser-Busch, is held to assist students interested in attending UNCF colleges and universities. Shown with Gumbel (l-r) are Curtis Greer, former star player for the St. Louis football Cardinals and current president of quality beer sales, an Anheuser-Busch wholesaler in Fairfield, NJ; Victor M. Julien, corporate affairs director of national programs, Anheuser-Busch Companies; and Lewis McKinney, region director, state affairs, Anheuser-Busch Co. Proceeds from the tournament provide more than 80 students with full four-year scholarships to UNCF colleges and universities.

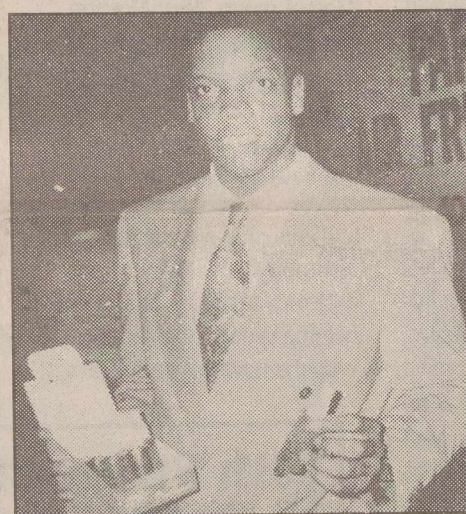


Football Place Kicking and Punting Camps

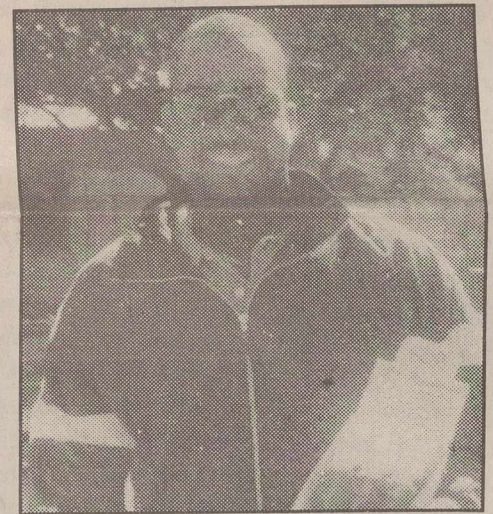
This summer National Kicking Service, Inc. will conduct football placekicking and punting camps throughout the country. In Florida, the camp (for all ages) will be held at Stetson University in Deland on June 13-15. Call or write the National Kicking Service for a free brochure: PO Box 723, Scituate, MA 02066, (617) 545-5031.

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Air Show Features Marine Corps Harriers and Sea Stallion

WASHINGTON—US Rep. C.W. Bill Young has made arrangements with the US Marine Corps for a Harrier jet demonstration to be the feature performance this Saturday, April 12 at the annual Bayboro Adventure Day air show at Albert Whitted Airport in downtown St. Pete.

"The AV-8B Harrier jump jet, with its vertical takeoff and landing capabilities, is one of the world's most unique aircraft," said Young, chair of the Appropriations Subcommittee on National Security. "This will be a very exciting demonstration that will be the highlight of the show."

The show is free and the airport gates will open at 11 am Saturday with the Harrier demonstration scheduled for 1 pm. A second Harrier will be on static display so visitors can take a closer look at the aircraft and talk to Marine Corps pilots. Other aircraft will be on display, including a Marine Corps CH-53E Sea Stallion helicopter, the same aircraft that was used to successfully rescue Air Force pilot Scott O'Grady on June 7, '95 after he was shot down over Bosnia five days earlier.

Bayboro Adventure Day is sponsored by the University of South Florida, the Florida Marine Research Institute, Albert Whitted Airport, the US Army Reserves and the US Coast Guard.

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<p>FULL SERVICE OIL CHANGE SAVE \$3.00</p> <p>30 pt. Oil Change & Safety Check Includes Oil, Filter, Lube, Visual Inspect., PLUS "Free Full Service Car Wash"</p> <p>\$22.99 plus tax (Reg. \$25.99)</p> <p>Coupon EXPIRES 5/2/97</p>	<p>THE WORKS!!! SAVE \$2.50</p> <p>Full Service Car Wash, Polysheal 1000 Wax System, Undercarriage Spray & Rust Inhibitor, Air Freshener</p> <p>\$11.00 plus tax (Reg. \$13.50)</p> <p>Coupon EXPIRES 5/2/97</p>	<p>"FRESH & SHINE" SAVE \$2.00</p> <p>Full Service Car Wash Polish Wax, Poly Sealant Wax & Air Freshener</p> <p>\$9.95 plus tax (Reg. \$11.95)</p> <p>Coupon EXPIRES 5/2/97</p>	<p>FULL SERVICE CAR WASH SAVE \$1.00</p> <p>Soft Cloth Car Wash, Vacuum Interior, Windows Cleaned, Dash Dusted, Exterior Towel Dried & Detailed</p> <p>\$7.95 (Reg. \$8.95)</p> <p>Coupon EXPIRES 5/2/97</p>

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St. Pete, FL 33711

327 - 1831

880 3rd Ave. So.
St. Pete, FL 33711

821-BEEP



CHURCH NEWS



Vocal Point In Concert New Philadelphia



Vocal Point

Christ United Methodist Church, 457 1st Avenue N, is presenting a great local acappella men's ensemble in concert on Sunday, April 13 at 3:30 pm. A free-will offering will be taken up.

Fabulous! This is just one of the words that have been used to describe the dynamic, unique, thoroughly polished and professional music ministry of the Gospel singing group Vocal Point. The straightforward exuberance of their presentation of the good news has brought joy to music lovers of all ages, genders and denominations.

Extraordinary! This energetic sextet has been leaving audiences spellbound with their robust harmonies, tight ensemble sound and bright soul-stirring original compositions and Gospel favorites. Although some of the group members are proficient instrumentalists, they have developed their sterling reputation as acappella performers.

Magnificent! When the lights come on and one hears the awesome power of these six male voices singing in perfect harmony, it is a feeling

that invigorates, excites and touches the soul. When one experiences a Vocal Point performance, visions of soothing strings and big band brass can be felt throughout the building. It is obvious by their sparkling smiles and jovial personalities that these men thoroughly enjoy sharing their wealth of talents. When President Bill Clinton visited a local Tampa church, he and other honored guests were mesmerized by the talent of these well-mannered, dynamic young men.

Dedicated! All of these young men grew up in the church. Although they have been faced with many of the same trials that we all endure, they have held fast to their belief in the power of God. They have chosen to testify to others through their personal life experiences and remain very active members of their various churches. They feel most at home when they are able to talk to young people about various pressures that they face on a daily basis. They have dedicated their lives to be role models and are not at all afraid of bearing that

tremendous responsibility.

Seasoned! Formed in 1984 by four young men from the Tampa Bay area, the group developed its well-deserved reputation by singing in churches and schools. Various personnel changes have brought the group to its current membership: Bruce Turner, Edward Jones, Jamal Gosin, Roy Sadler, Jeff Henderson and Kevin Mitchell. Their look is crystal clean and contemporary. And they all share a strong commitment to their families, community and God.

Bruce Turner (1st tenor)
Bruce is a song writer, arranger and producer, who has been featured on BET. He has performed with various blues, jazz, easy listening, alternative and Gospel bands and is an accomplished pianist and bassist. Bruce has brought his varied talents to the group as a co-arranger and lead vocalist and is dedicated to helping young people.

Edward Jones (2nd tenor)
Ed has sung Gospel music for as long as he can remember. He received a Who's Who in Music in 1982 and is

also a trained vocalist. His humble demeanor and sense of humor have endeared him to many of Vocal Point's fans. Edward and his wife Karen are raising a beautiful little girl, Hope, who has been unofficially adopted by the members of the group.

Jamal Gosin (3rd tenor)
Jamal is the former director and an original member of the Gospel group, New Horizon, that launched the very successful "Always Coca-Cola" campaign. That group would later become Motown recording artists Soultry. Jamal has also been a fashion consultant and entrepreneur. His rousing testimony of overcoming extreme adversity has been helping young people deal with the many obstacles they

often face.

Roy Sadler (4th tenor)

Roy has been singing Gospel music for 25 years. He is a classically trained vocalist and saxophonist, who has a passion for acappella music and '50s do-wop with an avid interest in writing, arranging and composing. Roy is an educator who devotes his time to giving various workshops and seminars in the areas of computers and academic development. Roy and his wife Lisia hope to begin a big family soon.

Jeff Henderson (baritone)

A former personal trainer and football player, who has been singing a cappella music for the last 20 years, opening for such Gospel groups as Shirley Caesar, the Mighty Clouds of Joy and the Jackson Southemaires. One of the co-arrangers of the group, Jeff's dynamic personality is responsible for energizing the group. Jeff and his wife Courtney have chosen to use their talents to better serve their community.

Kelvin Mitchell (bass)

As the only remaining original member and chief arranger for the group, Kelvin holds the primary responsibility for the unique sound that is Vocal Point. He has sung a cappella music for the last 20 years and is also a classically trained vocalist and musician. He has an intense interest in peer counseling to youth and is a financial advisor with a keen business mind.

The spring revival continues through Friday with Evangelist Paige serving as guest speaker. Prayer, praise and song service start at 7:30 and preaching at 8 pm. Members and friends are grateful to God for the spiritual reawakening taking place nightly.

The right hand of fellowship will be extended and sanctuary prayers offered during mid-morning worship. A time

of praise and spiritual self-examination will be observed. The sermon continues to focus on the post-resurrection appearances of Christ. A final offering for revival will be taken at the conclusion of worship service.

Spiritual growth and maturity will be evaluated at a planned session of church members and leaders. This will be done by examining ministries

of the church for their scriptural and spiritual effectiveness in the body of Christ. All members are urged to participate in this evaluation.

Men and boys will hold their monthly breakfast on Sunday, April 20. The missionaries will serve sick and shut-in members on Sunday. All persons interested may contact any member of this ministry.

B-CC Chaplain Reappointed To One Church, One Child

DAYTONA BEACH — Gov. Lawton Chiles recently reappointed Bethune-Cookman College chaplain Rev. Kevin James as a member of the One Church, One Child of Florida Corporation.

Rev. James has been working with this program for two years. Last year, nine adoptive placements were made with his assistance.

"The One Church, One Child of Florida program is important to strengthening our community by working to place needy children in good respectable homes and into environments that can offer them a better life," says Rev. James. "During the past eight years, One Church, One Child program has successfully placed 4,321 black boys and girls in loving homes, but there are still over 1,059 black children that still remain."

The mission of One Church, One Child of Florida is to inform African-American church congregations about the role black congregations and larger communities play in ensuring permanency for black children who are in foster care, homeless, neglected, abused and/or other kinds of life threatening situations

and to provide these children with appropriate African-American families.

"There are plenty of success stories and families are invited to give a child the opportunity to experience a better life," says Rev. James.

For further information, contact Rev. James at 904-255-1401, ext. 280 or 281.

Friendship Missionary Baptist

2315 18th Avenue South

St. Petersburg, FL



CHURCH SERVICES

Sundays 8 AM and 11 AM Worship
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Baptist Training Union 4:30 PM
Prayer Meeting Thursday 7:30 PM

"Where strangers meet with friends and sinners find their God."

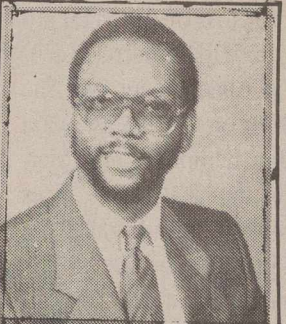
ELIM Seventh-Day Adventist Church

801 - 6th Avenue S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712

(813) 894-5246 / 823-1619

SATURDAYS
Sabbath School: 9 am
Morning Worship: 11 am
Youth Hour: 1 Hour Before Sunset

WEDNESDAY
Prayer Meeting: 7:30 PM
LEWIS W. EDWARDS
M.A., M.DIV., D. Min.
Pastor-Counselor



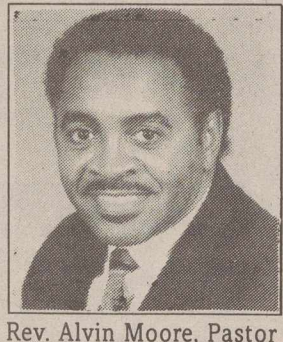
ELIM Junior Academy & Day Care Center

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

2120 19th St. S., St. Pete • 896-5228

10:30 AM.....PRAISE & WORSHIP SERVICES.....SUNDAY
9:00 AM.....CHURCH SCHOOL.....SUNDAY
5:00 PM.....FELLOWSHIP & DINNER.....TUESDAY
7:00 PM.....BIBLE STUDY.....TUESDAY
6:00 PM.....PRAYER SERVICES.....TUESDAY
7:30 PM.....MASS CHOIR REHEARSAL.....THURSDAY

Join us for any of our services where you will always find "JESUS BEING PREACHED AND TAUGHT"



Rev. Alvin Moore, Pastor

Bible Holiness Church of God in Christ

419 5th St. S., St. Pete, FL 33701

Church: 898-3838 • Res: 821-9501

Pastor: Elder B.O. Walker

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study Tuesday 7:30 p.m.
Mid-Week Service Friday 7:30 p.m.
Prayer Tuesday Morning 9 a.m.

"Everyone Is Welcome"



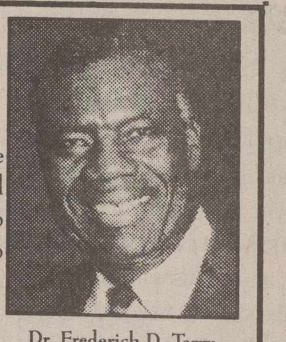
TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2830 - 22nd Avenue South • St. Petersburg, Florida 33712

(813) 327-8560

9:00 AM.....Prayer Time
9:30 AM.....Sunday School
11:00 AM.....Worship
12:30 PM.....After Service Fellowship
Wednesday 6:30 PM Prayer Meeting and Bible Study

You are invited to share spiritual nurturing, preaching of the Gospel and a Christian community for everyone



Dr. Frederick D. Terry

All Nations Church of God By Faith

3000 - 4th Avenue S. • St. Petersburg, FL

327-6866 • 327-2656

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....11 a.m.
Night Worship.....7 p.m.
Tuesday Bible Class.....8 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer Meeting.....8 p.m.
Friday Tarry Service.....8 p.m.
Saturday Sabbath School.....11 a.m.

Rev. Johnnie Lee Williams, Pastor

St. John Missionary Baptist

3200 5th Avenue S., St. Petersburg, FL

Rev. Steve Thomas, Pastor

EARLY MORNING WORSHIP 8 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 A.M.

LATE MORNING WORSHIP 11 A.M.

BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER MEETING WED. 7 P.M.

Come join us each Sunday for any or all of these services.

You are welcome.



20th Street Church Of Christ

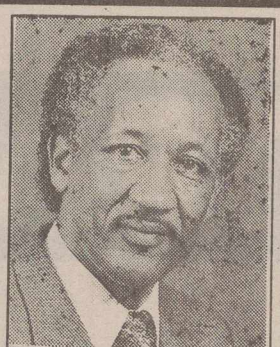
820 20th Street South

St. Pete, FL

Home: 896-8006

Minister Robert Clemons

Sunday Morning Bible Class.....9:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Ladies Bible Class Monday.....7:00 p.m.
Sunday Evening Worship.....5:00 p.m.
Monday Evening Bible Class.....7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Evening Bible Class.....7:00 p.m.



ST. MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

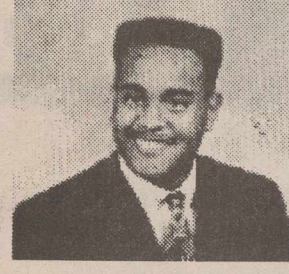
1301 - 37th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL

Schedule of Services

Church School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....11 a.m.
Baptist Training Union.....5 p.m.
Evening Worship.....6:30 p.m.

Prayer Meeting

Thursday.....7 p.m.



Rev. Brian Brown

"One week from church makes one weak."

New Mt. Olive Primitive Baptist Church

3001 18th Avenue South St. Petersburg, FL 33712

Church: (813) 327-9904 Office: (813) 321-3898

Elder Carl Rhodes, Jr., Pastor

Early Morning Worship 8 a.m. (2nd thru 5th Sundays)
Church School 9:30 a.m. • Mid-Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Communion Service 5 p.m. (1st Sundays)
Prayer Meeting 7 p.m. (Tuesdays)
Christian Education School 7 p.m. (Wednesdays)

"Oh, Come Let Us Praise The Lord!"



Unity Temple Of Truth Church

511 Prescott St. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712

The Church of the "Daily Word"

Sunday Morning Service.....11:00 a.m.-12 Noon
Sunday School and Youth Education.....10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Adult Class.....9:30 a.m.

(813) 898-2457

Prayer Line 1-800-308PUSH

affiliated with Unity School of Christianity,
Unity Village, Missouri



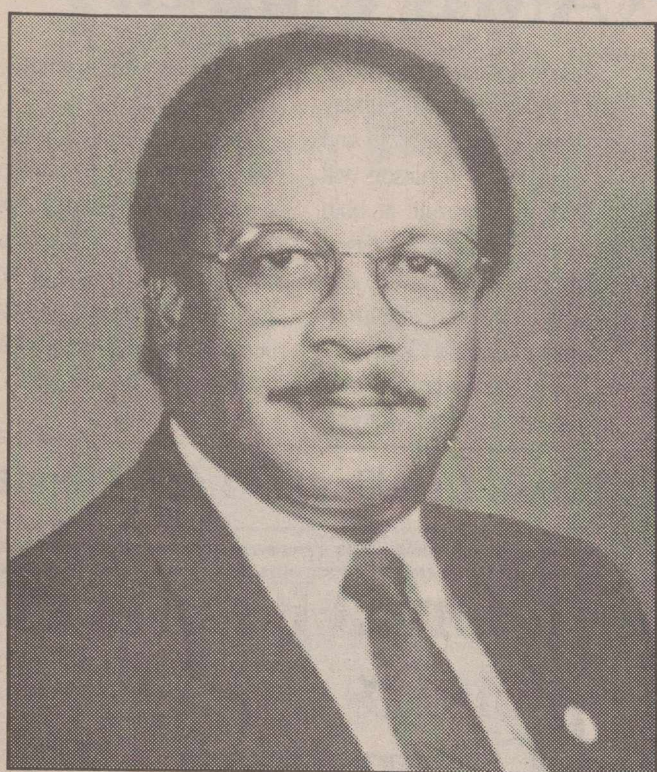
Rev. Melvera Hinton Brown



CHURCH NEWS



Bethel Metropolitan



Dr. Henry J. Lyons

Chairs Deacon and Mrs. William Gale, co-chair Deacon Lannis Thomas and the pastor's anniversary committee are determined to adhere to Galatians 6:6 showing love and honor to Pastor Lyons and his family in this his 26th year of pastoral service. Using the theme "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" adequately addresses the members' perception of their pastor. The initial activity of celebration is a prayer brunch on Saturday, April 12 at 10:30 am in Fellowship Hall. The 26th anniversary proper will be celebrated on Sunday, April 20 at

11 am.

Pastor Henry J. Lyons and members invite you to worship with them on Sunday at 8 and 11 am. This week, the Praise Team, Youth and Angelic Choirs and #2 usher board will serve.

We encourage your attendance at our Wednesday night AWANA, NBC, Bible study and prayer meeting at 7 pm for a clearer understanding of the Word. The study groups are designed to enhance biblical growth for the entire family. The April 9 devotional leaders is the deacons board. Transportation is provided.

You are welcome to attend the Thursday Bible study from noon to 1 pm. Meet us for Saturday mid-day prayer hour, 12 noon.

Are you disgusted with the current educational school system? Are you looking for an answer to early morning bus stop waits, 45 minute rides that are miles away from home? Do you yearn for your child to learn how to read, write, speak and do math? Does self-esteem play an important role in the desire for your child to develop academically, socially and mentally? Would a Bible-based curriculum designed to bring success, put your mind at ease? Then we may be just what you seek! Bethel Metropolitan Christian School is accepting new student enrollments for the 1997-98 school year. Registration began on April 1. Parents may call 327-0554 or see Yvonne Reed from 3 to 4 pm for further details.

Bethel's Pathfinders summer day camp is held June 9 through Aug. 8. The Bible-based camp will be in its 9th year. The hours are from 7 am to 6 pm. You may call the church office at 327-0554 for an application.

April 13, Ada Berry Circle #5 ice cream social
20th, pastor's anniversary
30th, birth month reception

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

Rev. Harry L. Dawkins and the steward board invite you to their annual Steward's Day on Sunday, April 13 at the 10:30 am worship service. Native daughter, Rev. Victoria Martin returns home to deliver a spiritual message.

Ordained in 1995 during the annual Tampa conference, Rev. Martin received her PhD in 1990; was employed by Clayton County High School as a counselor and serves as assistant pastor at St. Paul AME Church under senior pastor, the Rev. Dr. Preston Warren Williams at St. Stephen AME, Atlanta.

She is the daughter of the recently retired Presiding Elder B.H. Martin and the Rev. Willa C. Martin. She's a product of Pinellas County schools.

This invitation is extended to everyone to come and experience the spiritual rainbow of Gospel songs and preaching, testimony to be heard and felt starting with 9 am Sunday school and 10:30 am worship.

The steward board invites you to attend a Gospel breakfast at 10 am on Saturday, April 12 featuring the Edwin Hawkins Singers and the South Tampa Christian Center Ensemble. For tickets, contact any steward or call 822-

2089.

Thursday, April 3, youth church meeting, 6 pm.

The trustee board invites you to its Trust-Tea on Sunday, May 4.

Bethel's Shining Star: B'Leaka Farrah Grant, a native of St. Petersburg, is the daughter of Glorious Williams Grant, granddaughter of Agnes T. Williams and god-daughter of Lena M. Brown.

She attended Grace Lutheran School and participated in many school and church activities including playing church bells in the Lutheran Bells Group. B'Leaka was also a student at Bay Vista Elementary and Bay Point Middle and was an active member and officer in Peer Motivators. Currently a senior at Lakewood High, her school and community involvements are: Students Targeted for Education Performance, girls basketball team, PIMEG, Who's Who Among American High School Students, Inter-Act, Tennessee State Minority Technology Engineering Program, Tennessee State Environmental Engineering Program, YES, Ambassador of America, Ebony Scholars and many more plus numerous awards received.

New Faith Free Methodist Church

Pastor Curtiss L. Long, the Missionary Society and members invite everyone to their annual Night in White on April 13 at 5 pm.

The theme is "Missionaries Reaching Out in Love to Heal a Broken World." The colors

are white and purple.

Churches and missionaries throughout the city have been invited. Rev. Nelson and his 'St. Mark AME Church congregation will be host guests Rosie M. Coffee, president Lillie Bryant, program chair.

Greater St. Paul MBC

Pastor Joe Holloway and members invite the community to join us in any worship services.

On Tuesdays, prayer meeting begins at 7 pm and is immediately followed by Bible study at 7:30.

On Saturday at 8 am, Minister Eric Little and Dexter Blasingame will hold a Shepherd Men's meeting to discuss their special project.

At 11 am, the #3 ushers will meet. The Youth Choir will rehearse at noon and at 1 pm there will be a brotherhood meeting at Grand Central Church.

Also on Saturday, Sadie Jenkins and the deaconesses

will host a tea/hat and fashion show in Fellowship Hall from 4 to 7 pm.

Pastor Holloway reminds everyone of the baptismal service on Sunday morning and of our 3 pm fellowship with St. John's Church and Rev. Steve Thomas as they observe their pastor's anniversary.

On Tuesday, April 15 we will worship with Mt. Calvary Church and Rev. Houston as they observe their pastor's and church's anniversary.

If you need information or transportation to any service, call 327-7107. Sara Nash, reporter

THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER.

All Nations Church Of God By Faith

All Nations invites all churches and all people of all nationalities to plan to attend the world-wide evangelization crusade with Apostle

S.D. James. Come, see and hear this man of God, an end-time apostle of the Lord with a world-wide ministry of salvation and deliverance.

This world-wide evangelism crusade will take place on the grounds of All Nations Church under the Shekinah Tabernacle, 31st Street S and

4th Avenue, St. Petersburg, April 4-13, 8 pm nightly. Pastors James and Johnnie L. Williams.

For further information, call 327-2656 or 327-5926. Myrtis Stevenson, reporter



Moore's Chapel AME Church
Rev. M. Mason Walker, Pastor
321-3545

3037 Fairfield Avenue St. Petersburg, FL
Early Morning Worship 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Faith Memorial Missionary Baptist Church

1800 18th Avenue S., St. Petersburg, FL
Reg. Bragg L. Turner, Pastor
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11 a.m.
Membership Training 5 p.m.
Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Tuesday 7 p.m.
"The Church That's Moving Forward Together"

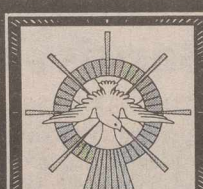


Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church

532 33rd Street S. • St. Petersburg, FL
Rev. Dr. J.L. Holloway
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Baptist Training Union 5 p.m.
Tuesday Night General Bible Study
Thursday Night Prayer Meeting & Teachers Meeting
We welcome you at all times.

Bibleway Church of God in Christ

3774 19th Avenue S., St. Pete, FL
Elder Sylvester Reeves, Pastor
Sunday Services
Sunday School 10:30 a.m.
Noon Service 12 noon
YPWW 6:30 p.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.
Weekly Service begins at 7:30 p.m.
Bible Band, Tuesdays, Tarry Service, Wednesdays
"Where the Lord's Spirit and Blessings Flow Gently."



New Philadelphia Community Church
The Reverend Don A. Gaskin, Pastor
2335 - 22nd Avenue South
P. O. Box 15935 • St. Petersburg, FL 33733
Wisdom School 9:50 AM • Morning Worship 10:30 AM
Bible Study Fellowship 6:30 PM (Wed.)

Deacon Ministry Deacon Edward Nesbitt
Finance Ministry James Robinson
Children & Youth Ministry Joyce Robinson
Clerk Ministry Wyonna McGee
"A Church With Passion For God and Compassion For People"



St. John Missionary Baptist Church

1500 N. Pennsylvania Avenue
Clearwater, Florida 33516
Church Phone: 443-1945 Parsonage: 446-6056
Rev. Fleming Tarver, Pastor
Sunday Services
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Baptist Training Union 5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Weekly Services
Bible Class Monday, 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study, Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
The church where everybody is somebody and Christ is all.

FIRST BAPTIST INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH

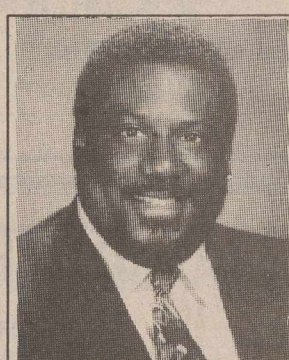
3144 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH
ST. PETERSBURG, FL
PHONE: 323-7518

REV. WAYNE G. THOMPSON, PASTOR

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A.M.

MORNING WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

COME WORSHIP WITH
THE FIRST BAPTIST FAMILY



Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

955 20th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Phone: 894-4311

Sunday School: 8:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 7:00 a.m. * 9:00 a.m. * 11:15 a.m.
New Membership Class: Sunday, 8:00 a.m.;
Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.
(Adult and Youth)

Also offering tutoring, free lunch, mentoring, day care, after school care, boy scouts, private school.



Rev. Wilkins Garrett, Jr., Pastor

TRAVELERS REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
2183 22nd Avenue South, St. Pete, FL 33712
Church Phone: 822-4869
Residence: 894-5094

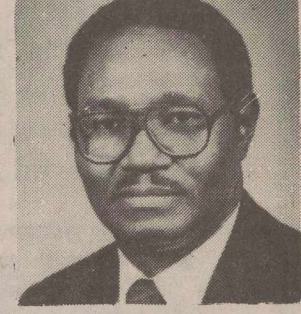
Mid-Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Prayer/Praise Service (Wednesday) 7:00 p.m.
Bible Study (Every 2nd & 4th Sunday) 6:00 p.m.
Rev. Larry Lewis, Assistant Pastor

Rev. Donald F. Browne

"WE ARE THE CHURCH WHERE CHRIST IS THE CENTER OF ATTRACTION"

New Faith Free Methodist Church

2427 Irving Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL
Phone: 824-2814, Pastor • 323-1290, Church
THEME: Looking Upward, Searching Inward, Striving Onward
SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES
SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM
MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM
YOUTH BIBLE STUDY WED. 6:30 PM
ADULT BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER SERVICE WED. 7:00 PM



Rev. Curtiss L. Long, Pastor

GREATER MT. ZION AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

919 - 20th Street S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Rev. Charles Robinson, Pastor

Early Morning Worship 7:30 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. • All Male Bible Study Weds. 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting Weds. 7:30 p.m.
Bible Study Mon. 6:00 p.m.
Co-ed and Adult Bible Study Thurs. 6:30 p.m.
Support Group Every Sunday 6:00 p.m.
Live Broadcast WRXB (Every Sunday 8:30 a.m.)
DIAL-A-DEVOTION (24 Hours) 822-1936 • Tape Ministry • Bus Ministry
Need a tape of a service or transportation - Dial 894-1393
("The church with a heart in the heart of the city")

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

912 - 3rd Avenue North • Phone: 822-2089

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:00 a.m.
Prayer Service/Bible Study Tues. 7:00 p.m.
Junior Church Fellowship Thurs. 6:00 p.m.
Tutoring Mon. & Thurs. 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Welcome... This church opens wide the door - and in the name of Christ and Our Lord says: "COME!"
TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE



The Rev. Harry L. Dawkins, M. Div., Pastor



CHURCH NEWS



Moore's Chapel AME

Rev. M. Mason Waker and members invite you to share in their services this Sunday, April 13 at 8 and 11 am. Rev. Walker will deliver the messages at both services. Music will be provided by the Inspirational Choir directed and accompanied by minister of music Geraldine Mays. The usher and stewardess boards will serve.

Church school begins at 9:30 am with Mose Bell in charge.

The lay organization will hold revival on April 11. Lay president Delores Ross will be the speaker. On Friday evening, April 18, the speaker will be Gladys Newton, a member of Pleasant Grove. Devotion begins at 7 pm followed by a Know your Church segment presented by

lay member Barbara Melvin Jefferson.

Lay Day will be held on Sunday, April 20 at 8 and 11 am. The 8 am speaker is James Wilburn of Moore's Chapel, a member of the trustee board, secretary of the local lay board, vice president of the Pastor's Aide Board, organizer and lead advisor of Moore's Chapel step team, teacher of the young adult sister to sister prayer class and a prayer warrior who is active in many services to the Lord.

The 11 am speaker is Hazel Leonard, a member of St. Paul MB Church, Pierce, since she was nine. She is a member of her church choir, VBS teacher and attends Sunday school. Leonard has been teacher at Jenkins Middle School for 26 years. She is a

graduate of FAMU where she received her BS in library science and special education, a master's degree in supervision, administration and guidance counseling.

Wednesdays, 12 noon prayer service; 7 pm prayer service and Bible study

Thursdays, Chosen Generation support group, 7 pm

April 11, Teens in Action meeting, 6 pm

April 12, steward board meeting, 7 pm

April 13, YPD meeting, 4 pm; April 14, trustee board meeting, 7 pm

April 21, lay organization meeting; April 26, Pastor's Aide board meeting

April 27, Family and Friends Day, 11 am, St. Paul AME, St. Augustine; Inspirational Choir concert, 4 pm

Cardinal Bernardin Taught Us Well

By Monsignor Kenneth Velo
For News USA

(NU) - Last Nov. 14, Chicago lost its beloved Cardinal Joseph Bernardin who, among a long list of accomplishments, was also a teacher and a friend.

One of his most endearing qualities was humility, even in the face of so much responsibility.

The cardinal was born in a South Carolina mission in 1928 to Italian immigrants. This was where his deep sense of humility first emerged. No matter how busy he became, he always took time to give his undivided attention to people who sought his counsel.

In a beautiful talk, a priest quotes St. Francis of Assisi: "Preach the Gospel; use words if you must." The cardinal always preached the

Gospel through his life and his love.

Quiet by nature, wise and gracious, he taught us well through his example. At a time when false charges of misconduct were leveled against him, he forgave the person whose accusation hurt him.

After the cardinal came to Chicago more than 14 years ago, I joined his staff and worked with him in almost every aspect of his ministry. Over the years, our friendship grew.

While the cardinal was known for many good deeds, times that I cherish most occurred outside of the public eye, such as unscheduled stops at hospitals or visiting his elderly mother.

One of the cardinal's final public acts was to write a letter to the US Supreme Court strongly opposing assisted

suicide.

He sought to embrace death as a natural part of life, often easing others' fears. He bore his sickness with great patience, and he died with a profound sense of peace.

Some may think being humble in the '90s is an impossible task. But my experience with Cardinal Bernardin shows me that is not so.

In my service as president of the Catholic Church Extension Society, which supports more than 650 missionaries, I see the work of humble people every day. Some people in rural parts of the country would never see a priest, receive the sacraments or hear the word of God without these missionary priests, sisters, brothers and laypeople.

Through their humble service, they continue the legacy of Cardinal Bernardin.

Greater Mt. Zion AME Church

Pastor Robinson and members invite you to Sunday

worship services at 7:30 and 11 am. Pastor Robinson will deliver the message at both services. Sunday school is at 9:30 am. Music for the day will be provided by the Inspirational Choir and Choir #2.

The #1 stewardess board is taking ads for their Mother's

Day books. Ad deadline is April 30.

The hospitality committee will celebrate its 1st anniversary at 4 pm on Sunday, April 13. The speaker will be Rev. James Crews, pastor of Mt. Zion AME Church of Mulberry. Music will be provided by Moore's Chapel AME.

News Deadline is 4 PM Monday

Florida Festival of Choirs Competition

The inaugural rendition of the Florida Festival of Choirs competition 1997 will be held in St. Petersburg at a date and location to be announced later. The festival will feature choirs from Pinellas County's African-American communities singing for bragging rights, honors and donations to be contributed to their particular church. The competition is open to all area churches and there are no entry fees.

The choir festival is being presented by South Star Communications in association with *The Weekly Challenger* and is under the direction of Madison Mays.

Information concerning this event has been mailed to most area churches; however, if a church has not received any of this information and would like to, you may do so by calling 813-896-2922 or 941-722-5942.



New Hope

Dr. Alvin Moore and members invite you to Sunday services beginning with 9 am church school. At the 10:30 am service, deacons will be in charge of devotion, the Mass Choir will sing under the direction of Vernard McKinney and Donald Pate will deliver his trial sermon. Immediately after service, the church will travel to Orlando and worship with Rev. L.

Mills and Mt. Sinai in their dedication services.

Come and be a special guest each Thursday for dinner at 5 pm, followed by prayer service and Bible class.

April 19, men's ministry, 8 am; Building Fund Sunday, April 20; county-wide revival, April 25, Lake Wales; prison ministry conferences, April 25 & 26; youth day, April 27

SAVE WATER

Traveler's Rest

The church will observe its 53rd anniversary May 16-18. Everyone is invited to come and celebrate with us during this joyous occasion.

You are invited to any and all worship services that are conducted at Traveler's Rest. The Mass Choir will render song service on Sunday. Sunday school is at 9:30 am followed by mid-morning worship at 11.

Bible study will be held at 6 pm on Sunday, April 13.

Thursday, April 10, mid-day Bible study, 11 am; Mass Choir rehearsal, 7 pm

Saturday, April 12, brotherhood meeting, 10 am

Tuesday, April 15, trustee board meeting, Mass Choir rehearsal, 7 pm

Wednesday, April 16, stewardship meeting, 6 pm; praise/worship service, 7 pm

Transportation can be provided by calling the church at 822-4869.

New Mt. Olive Primitive Baptist

Pastor Rhodes and members invite you to their worship services on Sunday, April 13. Services begin with 9:30 am church school followed by worship hour at 11 am. The #2 ushers, Rhodes Gospel Chorus and P.A. Davis Memorial Choir will serve.

At 4 pm, the pastor's aid board will sponsor a booster program for the pastoral family's 18th anniversary to be held on Sunday, April 20. Guests for the booster pro-

gram include Bishop John Copeland and Macedonia Free Will Baptist Church.

Services for the pastoral family's anniversary will be held at 11 am and 4 pm on Sunday, April 20. Bessie Hayes and Renita Walton are chairs.

Tuesday, teachers meeting and public speaking class, 7 pm; Wednesday, prayer meeting, 6:30 pm; Bible study, 7:30 pm Daisy Bentley, reporter

King's Kid Summer Kamp

With less than 10 weeks before summer break, King's Kids Summer Kamp at Mt. Zion Progressive is already set to go. This summer camp will be one unlike any other at Mt. Zion with more of an emphasis on trips that the older kids will enjoy. The campers will experience field trips to Sarasota Jungle Gardens, John Ringling Museum, Bishop

Planetarium, Lowry Park Zoo, MOSI, Fun Center and Celebration Station to name a few. Campers will have beach parties, attend movies, picnics at the park and story tellers. The camp will run from June 10 to Aug. 15. Applications and additional information are available by contacting Pam Phillips or Glenda Shorter at 894-4311.

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church

2550 9th Avenue S.

St. Petersburg, FL

Rev. Joseph Gordon, Pastor

Early Morning Worship 7:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
Baptist Training Union 4:30 p.m.
Communion 7:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
Wednesdays 7:30 p.m.

"The Church Where Everybody Is Somebody"

Bethel Community Baptist Church

1045 1/2 16th Street S., St. Pete, FL 33712
PHONE: 896-6722

Rev. Manuel L. Sykes

Services

Sunday School 8:45 a.m.
Worship Service 10 a.m.
Prayer Services Wed., 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study Wed., 7:30 p.m.

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

505 - 35th Street S. • St. Petersburg, FL • 327-3186

Morning Worship 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Mid-Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Baptist Training Union 5:00 p.m.
Bible Study/Prayer Service Thursday 7:30 p.m.
Couples Ministry (3rd Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

Come join us at the Church where everyone is Welcome!



Rev. Earnest Jones, Pastor

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church

3455 - 26th Avenue South • St. Petersburg, FL 33711
(813) 327-0554

"Church of The Open Door"

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Wed. NBC/AWANA/Bible Study/Praise & Prayer 7:00 p.m.

Thurs. Midday Bible Study 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

Sat. Noon Day Prayer Hour 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

DR. HENRY J. LYONS, PASTOR

Bealsville Church Of God

2006 Hollomon Road, Plant City, FL (So. of Hwy. 60)
Between Smith Ryals and Holloman Roads
Elder Martin Rainey, Pastor
1-737-1746

Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Morning Service: 11:30 a.m.
Mid-Week Tues. Night: 7:30 p.m.
Counseling and Bible Teaching
For transportation: Call 866-2589



STEWART-ISOM MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1820 Walton Street S., St. Pete, FL 33712
(813) 327-0593

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Bible Study: Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

"To God Be The Glory"



Rev. Calvin Hopkins

With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer Masjid Al-Muminin

Islamic Services
Friday & Sundays at 1 p.m.
3762 18th Avenue South, St. Pete
Imam Askia Muhammad Aquil

Christ Gospel Church

2512 22nd Ave. S.
St. Pete, FL 33712
327-0997

Rev. P.D.H. Leonard
Pastor



SUNDAY
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:45 a.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.

TUESDAY
Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY
Evangelical Service 7:30 p.m.

PRAYER TIMES
Tuesdays, Fridays & Sundays - half an hour before service.

Mondays & Thursdays, 7:30 p.m.

Friday nights at midnight.

RADIO BROADCAST
Sundays 7:45 a.m.

If you would like to come to church and do not have a way,

call 327-0997.

The Church Where Everyone Is Welcome

The Holy Ghost Church of God Purchased With His Blood

2901 Fifth Avenue S. St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Bishop W.D. Holcy, Pastor

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:30 a.m.
Y.P.W.W. 6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Bible Band 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Prayer & Worship Service 7:30 p.m.

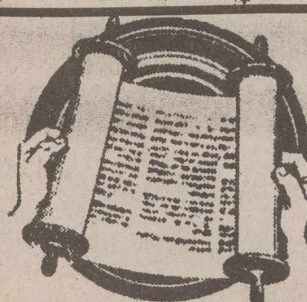
Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church

3700 22nd Avenue S. • 321-0020
Elder Clarence L. Warren, Pastor

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

The church where everyone is welcome & the Spirit of Christ lives.





CHURCH NEWS



Easter At Bible Holiness

Bible Holiness celebrated Easter Sunday with Family and Friends Day. The hospitality board served dinner. The program was presented by Leola Grantlin and Thelma Hunt. Rev. B.O. Walker is pastor.



NOTICE
ALL CHURCH
NEWS MUST BE
RECEIVED BY 4 PM
ON MONDAY, OR IT
WILL NOT BE PUB-
LISHED UNTIL THE
NEXT EDITION OF
THE WEEKLY
CHALLENGER.



Elim Seventh-Day Adventist

Elder Oliver J. McKinney will be the guest speaker for the 11 am divine worship service on Saturday, April 12. Now living in the Decatur, GA area, Rev. McKinney was a pastor of Elim in the late '70s. In his consecration message to the church in 1976, he said, "Elim is positive proof that under God no mission is too difficult, no human goal is unobtainable if God wills it. In securing this church plant, you have demonstrated to yourself and others that what Elim wants, Elim gets. If she is united." Music will be provided by the Youth Choir under the direction of Johnny Mells.

Early morning service:

begins at 9 with the Bible study topic "Light Against the Darkness." Weekly services are Wednesday night prayer meeting at 7:30; the community service center is open every Tuesday from 12 noon to 2 pm. Friday evening family worship at 7; Saturday, Sabbath school at 9 am, divine worship at 11 am, Adventist youth hour, 1-1/2 hours before sunset.

Upcoming events: Holy Communion service, Friday night, April 18, 7 pm; united Youth Congress, St. Louis, MO, April 23-27.

Elim is located at 801 6th Avenue S. For information or transportation, call 894-5246. Bobbie A. Coleman, reporter

Shepherd Men Basketball Ministry

The ministry is now entering the final week of regular season league play on Saturday, April 12 at Lakewood High School gym, 1600 54th Avenue S. The public is invited to come out and join in the fun and excitement of your favorite church basketball team. This is your last chance to support your team before we enter into the league tournament.

Week 11 Schedule

12 noon, Southside COC vs McCabe
1 pm, Friendship/First Baptist vs Stewart Isom
2 pm, Greater St. Paul/Armour of God vs Trinity
3 pm, South Tabernacle vs Galilee/Gethsemane
4 pm, Mt. Zion Progressive vs Pentecostal Temple/Prayer Tower
5 pm, New Mt. Zion,

Tampa vs 5th Ave. COC
6 pm, New Mt. Olive vs Mt. Moriah/Traveler's Rest
7 pm, Northwest COC vs Police Department
8 pm, Elim vs Greater Mt. Zion AME
9 pm, Bethel Community vs Fire Department
Bye, Pleasant Grove vs St. John Clearwater
Come cheer on your church team!

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

We invite all to worship with us on Sunday and the upcoming week. Sunday worship begins at 8 am with deacons in charge of praise

service. The Male Chorus and #2 ushers will serve at 8 and 11 am. The church's Auxiliary Week will culminate at 4 pm on Sunday with Pastor Sykes

and Bethel Community in charge. No BTU. Monday, 7:30 pm & Wednesday, 12 noon, Bible study; youth training, 6 pm

Pleasant Grove

Sunday services begin at 7 am with the #2 Choir/ushers serving. Church school and new member orientation are at 9:30 am, mid-morning worship hour at 10:50. The #2 and Angelic Choirs will render song service and #2 ushers will serve.

Old fashioned Family and Friends day will be held at 3 pm. Rev. Wallace Elliott of First Mt. Zion, choirs, ushers and congregation will render service. Remember to wear your old fashioned attire.

On Sunday, April 27, the Angelic Choir will be in concert at 4 pm.

Wednesday, tutorial program, 6-7:30 pm for grades K-12; children/youth Bible study, 7:30; adult prayer meeting, teachers meeting and

Baptism, 7:30 pm
Thursday, Gospel Choir and #2 Choir rehearsal, 7:30 pm
Friday, Bible drill team rehearsal, 6:30 pm; teachers meeting, 7 pm
Saturday, Angelic Choir rehearsal, 5 pm

First Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church

1121 22nd Street So., St. Petersburg, FL
Rev. Wallace Elliott, Pastor

Church Services
8:00 a.m. Morning Service
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship Service
5:00 p.m. B.T.U.

"THE LITTLE CHURCH WHERE EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY"

Prayer Tower Church Of God In Christ

1135 37th Street South, St. Pete, FL

Elder Clarence Welch, Pastor

Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Service 11:30 a.m.
Y.P.W.W. 5:30 p.m. Sunday
Church Service 6:30 p.m. Sunday
Night Services 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday Services 7:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Bible Band, Thursday 7:30 p.m.



Grand Central Progressive Baptist Church

1401 - 18th Ave. S. • St. Pete, FL 33705

Rev. Clark Hazley, Sr., Pastor • 896-6843

Sunday School 10 a.m. / Morning Worship Service 11 a.m.

Weekly Activities

Wednesday Bible Study 7:30 p.m.
Choir No. 1, Thursday 7:30 p.m.
Rehearsal, Saturday Evening 4:30 p.m.
"The Church where God is Love and you are Loved."
Visitors Welcome

Good Samaritan Baptist Fellowship

Meeting at Covenant Presbyterian Church
4201 6th Street South, St. Petersburg, Florida

Sunday Worship Service: 8:45 A.M. Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30 P.M.

• Wholistic Ministry (Physical, Mental, and Emotional)

• Bible Based Fellowship Considering the Biblical Commands in Light of Contemporary Problems

• Promoting the Self-Worth and Equality of All Persons

• Non-Sexist Participation • Youth Ministry

NATHANIEL W. TINDALL, II, PASTOR



GREATER LIGHT AME Zion Church Inc.

1400 - 9th (MLK) Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701 • (813) 823-3611

Pastor: Rev. Harry Jones

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Friday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
"EVERYONE IS WELCOME"

AND REMEMBER THAT JESUS IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!



Macedonia Freewill Baptist Church

2361 Seventh Avenue South St. Petersburg, Florida
Rev. John Copeland, Pastor

Morning Worship 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Mid-Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting and Bible Class Wed. 7:00 p.m.

Communion is observed quarterly the first Sunday after every 5th Sunday.

For transportation to the church, call 327-8196 or 327-2391.

The Church Where Everyone Is Welcome



FIRST MT. PILGRIM EVANGELIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.

2700 - 5th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL

Reverend L.P. Davis, Pastor

Home Phone: 345-3121

Sunday Worship

Sunday School 10:00 am Baptist Training Union 4:30 pm

Morning Worship 11:30 am Evening Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study 7:00 pm

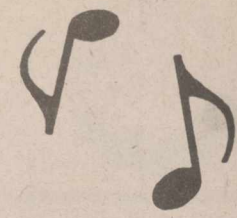
Friday Evening - Youth Meeting 6:30 pm

The Church That Welcomes Everyone!





ENTERTAINMENT



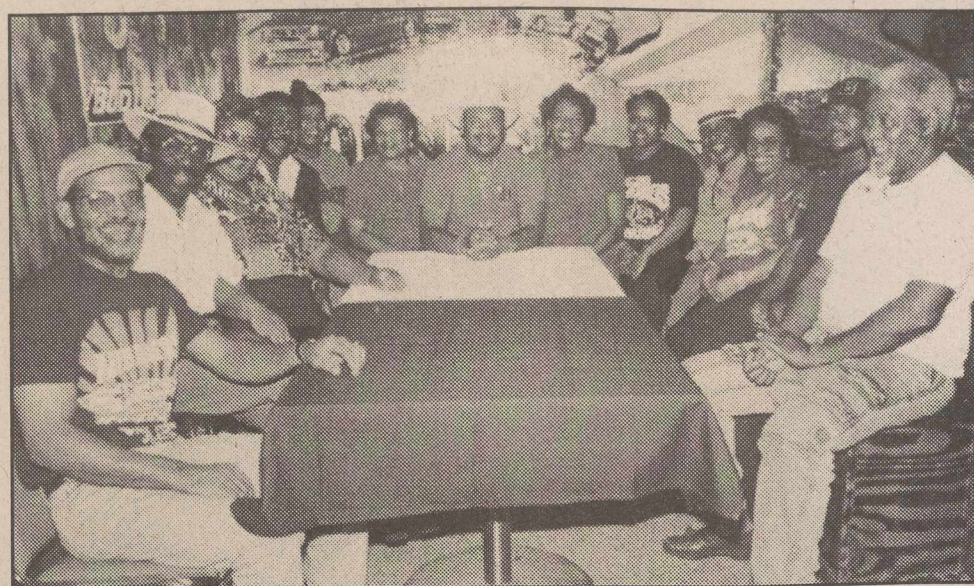
Bayboro Adventure Day

ST. PETERSBURG — Bayboro Adventure Day will be held following the Festival of States parade on Saturday, April 12 from noon to 6 pm in the Bayboro district.

The University of South Florida's Pinellas County alumni chapter will sponsor blues bands and cajun cuisine with proceeds benefitting scholarships for St. Petersburg students. The blues band Dr. Rocket will begin the performance schedule at noon followed by the Zydeco band Swamp Grass at 2 pm. Headliner and blues band T.C. Carr and the Catch will take the stage at 4 pm. Cajun cuisine, beer, wine and other beverages will be available. Restaurants include the Cajun Cafe on the Bayou, Gumbo's Bistro & Bar, Saffron's Caribbean Restaurant, the Southern Garden Cafe and The Garden. The Society for the Advancement of the Poynter Library will hold its annual book sale at USF St. Petersburg. A wide variety of children's activities are planned.

The Albert Whitted Airport will be open and will feature airplane displays and Young Eagle flights for children. The US Coast Guard will hold an open house and have tours aboard a Coast Guard cutter available. The Florida Marine Research Institute will have marine life displays including a marine life touch tank.

Bayboro Adventure Day is free and open to the public and is located in the Bayboro district at 1st Street S along 7th and 8th Avenues S, adjacent to Albert Whitted Airport. Parking is free and available on all USF parking lots and at the airport. The Looper Trolley will also service the festival.



L-R: Charles Lange, Wallace Hines Yvonne Barnes, Carlton Sams Jr., Patricia Reynolds, Joan Sams, Donnie Williams, Elizabeth Pitts, Annie Simpson, Geneva Hawkins, Marguerite Shaw, Bobby Brown and James Williams.

Nite Riders Hold Annual Ball

ST. PETERSBURG — On Saturday, April 26 the Nite Riders Van Club will hold its annual ball and on Friday,

April 25 it will hold a get acquainted dance, both at the National Guard Armory, 38th Avenue S and 37th Street. Dr.

Dan will be the deejay. There will be prizes, trophy awards and music. All vanners and clubs are welcome.

Spring Dance

ST. PETERSBURG — Sunshine City Lodge and Temple recently held a successful spring dance. Special guest Daisy Brunson, state president, spoke a few words to those attending and lots of door prizes were given away.

The drawing for the Emma V. Kelley P.D.R. District 6 council queen contest giveaway was the highlight of the evening. First prize winner Christine Taylor of Brooksville won a 19-inch RCA color TV and 2nd prize winner Ernest Brown of Clearwater won a Magnavox am/fm cassette/CD boom box. Deejay Lady C provided the music.

**PLEASE SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL
ADVERTISERS**

Pioneer Jamboree

ST. PETERSBURG — Come on down to the Pioneer Jamboree and see how things used to get done. There will be machines for the ladies and machines for men and even some machines for kids. You'll see antique flywheel engines, antique tools and equipment and lots of antique tractors. The 1926 Fairbanks-

Morse Engine and the 1920s Saw Mill will be up and running, making lots of cuts and lots of noise.

Bring the family to this fun and fascinating event on April 12 and 13 at the Pinellas Pioneer Settlement, 2900 31st Street S, St. Petersburg. The program runs from 9 to 5 on Saturday and from 9 to 3 on

Sunday and will feature antique tractor pulls on Saturday, a swap meet for antique engine enthusiasts, old fashion hay rides, cane syrup making, old time crafts, music by the Howl N Dog, K9 demonstrations, a petting zoo, reptile exposition and food and drink.

23 Years Of Art On The Bayou

TARPON SPRINGS — 23 Years of Art on the Bayou is the theme of the 23rd annual Tarpon Springs arts and crafts festival which will be held on

Saturday and Sunday, April 12 and 13 at Craig Park at the historic Spring Bayou in Tarpon Springs. Festival hours

are 9 am to 6 pm on Saturday with entertainment continuing until 10 pm and from 10 am to 5 pm on Sunday.

Senior Hall Of Fame Inductees

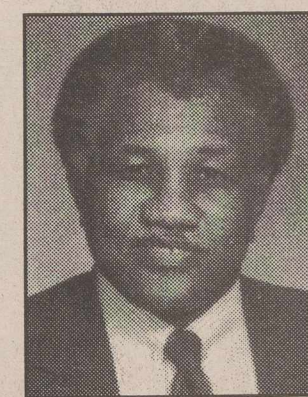
by Dianne Speights

ST. PETERSBURG — The concept of community service began in this community with many pioneers who are still remembered and respected today, such as Enoch Davis, Fanny A. Ponder, O.B. McLin, James B. Sanderlin and Sam Robinson, to name a few.

The Office on Aging again this year recognizes the contributions of citizens in this community by inducting 10 of them into the city's Senior Hall of Fame. The hall of fame is one of many ways the city reaches out to acknowledge and appreciate exceptional community service of its citizens, said Gerald Buckett, director of the Office on Aging. Persons nominated need only be at least 65, have lived in Pinellas County year round for more than three years and provide a community service that benefits the city's quality of life.

The 10 inductees will be presented to City Council on Thursday, April 10 and will receive keys to the city. Three of the 10 inductees were selected for their extraordinary community service with the African-American community, its youth, its elderly and its needy.

The three Hall of Famers are:



Col. George Brown

George L. Brown, Ret. Colonel, US Army and retired SPJC counselor. Lakewood High School often calls on Brown as a speaker, tutor and youth mentor. His other services include after-school volunteer counseling, student military liaison to recruiters, American Red Cross disaster volunteer and McDill AFB passenger terminal volunteer.

"The effectiveness of Col. Brown's service can be measured by the many occasions he has been called on to give advice or speak to young people about the uniformed services, advising youth of their rights and responsibilities," Gwen Elliott said.

Elliott, community involvement coordinator at Lakewood High, nominated Col. Brown for this award. She also stated:

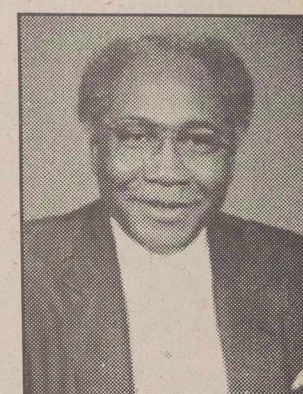
"It should be noted that Col. Brown was the first African American to command a military reserve unit in the state of Florida. As an educator, he has always been available to talk with young people in the community, including the little ones as the colonel became the Gingerbread Man while reading to Head Start youth. Brown is an extraordinary volunteer in every respect."



Vera O. Noble

Vera O. Noble has been active in the community, serving on such boards as National Council of Negro Women, Florida Gulf Health Systems, Happy Workers Day Care, Childs Park Neighborhood Outreach, Urban League housing committee, YMCA awareness award committee and serving as a volunteer with the YMCA, Free Clinic and Pinellas County schools. Topping her list of volunteer projects is her work in the church. She has served as president of Church Women United and is actively involved with the American Baptist Churches of the South.

Vera Noble was nominated by Thelma Footman, who says, "Noble should be selected for the Hall of Fame for the service she has rendered to the St. Petersburg community in the field of religious training and her commitment to helping others in the many organizations in which she serves."



Elder Clarence Welch

Elder Clarence Welch is familiar to the community as pastor of Prayer Tower for more than 30 years. Among his projects are a food bank for the needy and single parents, computer enrichment, self-help and academic enrichment programs.

Elder Welch, who serves on the Hospice board of directors, was nominated by Hospice. Until he got involved in the organization, Hospice had little presence in the African-American community. Elder Welch spearheaded Hospice volunteer training for minorities, coordinating training classes in the local community and helped organize a Hospice minority advisory committee that resulted in the group creating an award-winning video to help local minorities learn about Hospice.

With the Urban League, Elder Welch developed many programs for its members to address urban issues affecting their neighborhoods. Elder Welch is also known for his service on the YMCA board and for his devotion to the Neighbor to Neighbor program, which provides toys and food each year to 300 needy families, ensuring that 1,200 less fortunate children have a memorable holiday.

We congratulate all Hall of Fame inductees!



(Right, l-r): Mario Van Peebles, Cicely Tyson and Melvin Van Peebles star in the Showtime Original Picture "Riot", a hard-hitting drama about the 1992 Los Angeles riots, as seen through the eyes of four different ethnic groups (African-American, Anglo, Asian and Hispanic). The film, which premieres exclusively on Showtime on April 27 at 8 PM to observe the fifth anniversary of the Los Angeles civil unrest, also stars (left, l-r): Dante Basco, Phil Wong and Derek Basco. Photo Credit: RANDY TEPPER

Gibbs High Presents Spring Scandals

ST. PETERSBURG — Gibbs High School will present Spring Scandals at 7:30 pm on April 11. For ticket information, call the box

office at 895-5452, ext. 219 or 132.

This production includes a variety of materials from pop tunes to Broadway musical

numbers, tap dance and other choreography. Many of the numbers were events entered in the recent International

Thespian Festival at Pinellas Park High School where they earned excellent and superior ratings. The program features

many solos, duets and large ensemble numbers. Come and join in the fun and excitement! Donna White and Steve Bayless, directors.

City Federation Holds Coronation Ball



ST. PETERSBURG — The City Federation of Colored Women held their annual Coronation Ball on Saturday, March 29 at the Knights of Columbus hall at 1700 Central Avenue.

It was a beautiful affair with organization club colors of green and white and with each club vying to become Miss or Mrs. City Federation of Colored Women for 1997-1998.

Conethia Simon was Quest club queen for 1996-97. The 1997 queen, Carrie Hames, hails from the Piquant Los Jovens Club. Eartha and Lucy Brown were attendants. Barbara Lanier (queen) of Azalea Club and queen for Quest was an invited guest.

First place, Carrie Hames, Piquant Los Jovens; second place, Quest Club; president Beatrice Williams; chair Anne Killen; co-chair Dorothy Brown.

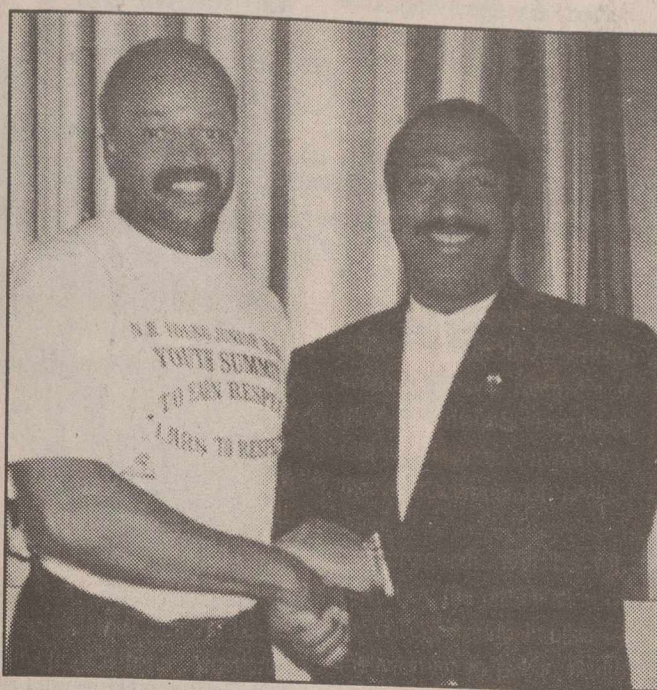
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Local Mentors Address Youth Summit



Rey Robinson(L) and Melvin Stone

by Ingrid Bethel

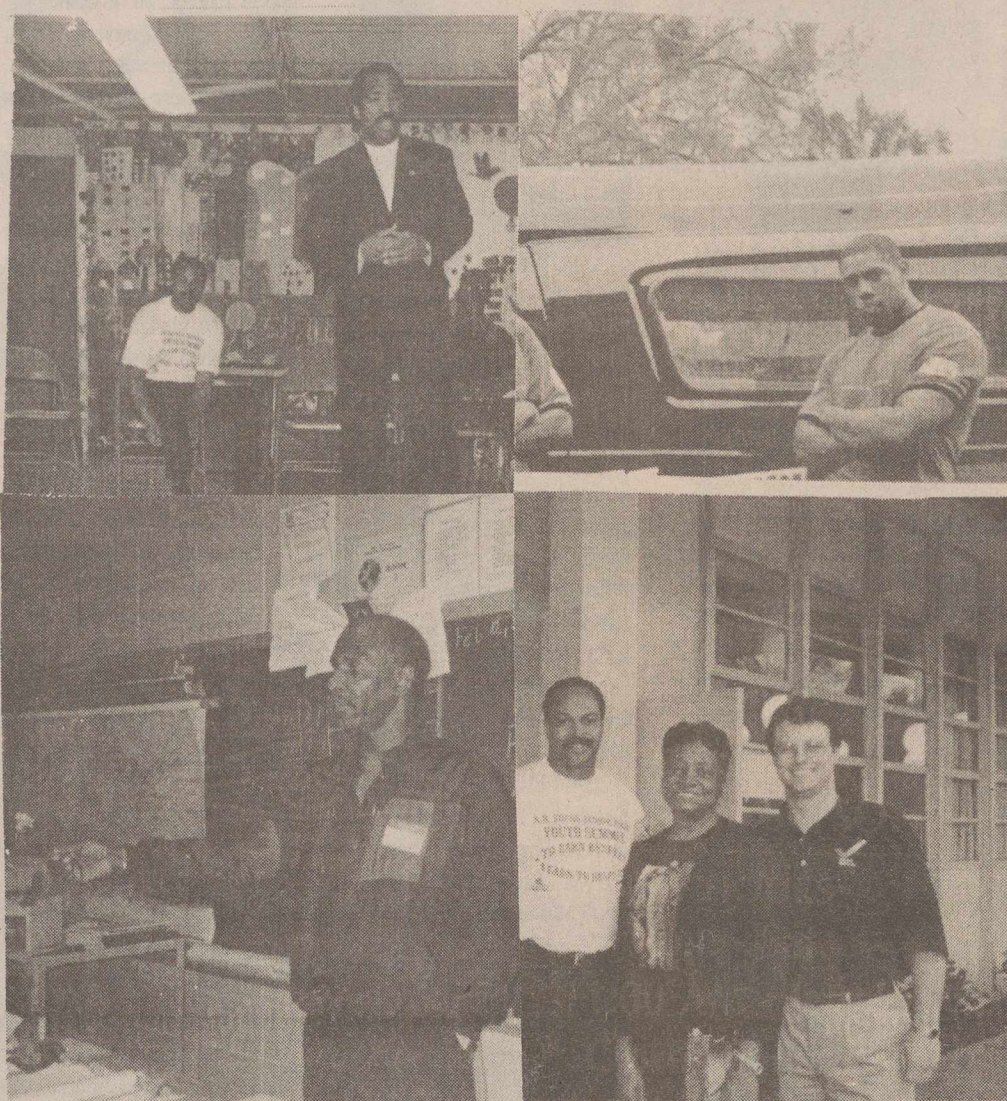
TAMPA — Tampa's Young Junior High School was the site of the first N.B. Young youth summit. The recent summit was the brainchild of Rey Robinson, school community specialist at Young. Sponsored by the school and the Hillsborough County school's human relations department, the summit hosted males between 12 and 14 years of age from middle and junior high schools throughout the district.

The summit's mission was to help the students improve their decision-making skills, self-esteem and school behavior. Through their efforts, sponsors hoped to empower the young males and encourage them to strive to become

more useful and productive citizens in society.

Using the theme "To Earn Respect-Learn to Respect," the students were exposed to rap sessions headed by popular male mentors and role models. The sessions included lively discussions on peer relations, building self-esteem, health issues and self-awareness. Facilitating the sessions were Rey Robinson, Joel Barum, Joe Reid and Rev. Kevin Steward. Greetings were given by Anthony Satchel and the keynote address was delivered by Melvin Stone, Tampa Fire Marshall.

The students received complimentary theme tee-shirts and lunches for their participation and WTMP provided musical entertainment.



Business partners for the event were Rebound Sports of Tampa Bay, Inc. and Spray Crete.

Young Junior High principal Dr. Margaret Fisher was happy with the summit's success as were Robinson and Barbara Bethel, supervisor of the county school's human relations program.

"I was very pleased with the

responses from the students and grateful to the generous business partners who helped make the summit possible. Because of the strong need to assist minority males and the interest shown in the summit, I plan to make it an annual event," said Robinson.

Bethel added, "The human relations department plans to continue its emphasis on help-

ing young males, not only with their personal success, but with their academic performance as well."

All parties in attendance agree that the summit was both timely and effective and plans are underway to make next year's event even bigger and better."

A MOMENT IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

by Nadine L. Lewis



Did you know that an African-American doctor devised the plan and was the primary neurosurgeon for the historic 1987 operation that successfully separated a set of 7-month-old Siamese twins?

Dr. Benjamin Carson, director of pediatric neurosurgery at the world famous Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD, was the principal neurosurgeon during the critical surgery that separated the twins, who were joined together at the back of their heads. He was assisted in the history-making operation by a small army of medical personnel including 7 pediatric anesthesiologists, 5 neurosurgeons, 2 cardiac surgeons, 5 plastic surgeons and dozens of nurses and other trained technicians.

When he was named director of pediatric neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Carson became the youngest person ever to hold that position and the first African-American director of pediatric neurosurgery in the nation.

In a 30-minute interview with Dr. Carson, this reporter found that this brilliant surgeon speaks softly, but does indeed

carry a big professional stick. An experienced pediatric neurosurgeon, he told me that he has a special research interest in neuro-oncology (brain tumors in children). He said he chose pediatrics simply because he loves kids. Sometimes called "gentle Ben" by his colleagues, he told me that he became interested in medicine at an early age. "Medicine is the only thing I've ever wanted to do," he said passionately. "I knew since the time that I was eight that I wanted to be a doctor."

Benjamin Carson was not always brilliant though. He started out at the bottom of his class in school, an academic cripple with nearly all F's on his grade cards. He was poor and impoverished, he lived in public housing and his mother was a single parent to Ben and his brother. It was through prayer, the good doctor said, and the help and encouragement of his mother Sonja Carson that he changed his life totally. He credits God and his mother for transforming Benjamin Carson, who was once at the bottom of his class into Benjamin Carson who graduated third in

his high school class.

The good doctor was not always kind and gentle either. As a teenager, he once nearly killed a friend after losing his temper over a silly argument. He stabbed the youngster in a fit of rage, but his knife penetrated the boy's belt buckle rather than his stomach.

During the interview, his faith in a higher power was evident with nearly every word. He said he prays before he goes into the operating room and asks God for direction. "If God be with you," he said, "who can be against you?" Dr. Carson added that he believes God is using his life to send a message of hope and confidence to young people all over the world. He believes God is saying through him, "Yes, you can be a member of a racial minority, in a single parent home, with a terrible temper, in dire poverty with no hope, but if you develop the talents that I gave you and if you trust in Me, I can make you into anything."

Continuing to give God credit for his tremendous success, he said he believes God changed his entire life to make certain points. One of those points he said is, "It doesn't matter where you came from, it's where you're going that counts."

Dr. Benjamin Carson shares a moment in African-American history.

SAVE WATER

USF Observes Public Health Week

TAMPA — An award-winning activist who speaks out about the special health care needs of African-American women will be among the speakers featured when the University of South Florida celebrates National Public Health Week, April 7-11.

Bylye Avery, founder and executive director of the Atlanta-based National Black Women's Health Project, will discuss the health issues affecting African Americans at 1 pm on Wednesday, April 9 in the USF College of Public Health auditorium.

The organization Avery heads established the Black

Women's Wellness Center in Atlanta's housing projects and provides technical assistance to self-help groups seeking to improve the health and self-esteem of African-American women. Avery is a recipient of the Academy of Science Institute of Medicine's award for the advancement of health-care.

Avery's talk will be followed by the presentation of the college's annual outstanding woman in public health award. This year's recipient is Dr. Martha Vallant, executive director of the Henry/Grades bi-county health department.

Enoch Davis Center Salutes The Tuskegee Airmen

ST. PETERSBURG — The Enoch Davis Center, 1111 18th Avenue S, is hosting the following events in honor of the Tuskegee Airmen.

April 12, 3 pm, a video presentation: Battles of the Tuskegee Airmen

May 10, 3 pm, African-American Aviation Pioneers;

Thomas Reilly, historian and exhibition curator presents the evolution of the accomplishments of early African-American fliers to struggles of the Tuskegee Airmen to join the Army Air Corps

June 14, HBO movie, *The Tuskegee Airmen*, with possi-

ble guest appearance by one of the film stars.

July 5, TBA, Roots and Wings celebration and jazz concert

Aug. 9, 3 pm, The Tuskegee Airmen Story, a video presentation

For details, call 893-7134.

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St. Pete Final Rites

BROOMES, EUGENIA, died March 30. She moved to St. Petersburg from Brentwood, NY in 1982 and was the pastor and overseer of the Latter Day Deliverance Church in this city. Survivors include Rainell and Robert Kirkham of Brentwood, Tammie Harrison, Regina and David Dukes, Tonya Pennywell, Latoya and Tammie Williams, William and Ricky Trent, Marcus Broomes, Tony Hannah, Louis Trent, all of St. Petersburg; Delber and Louise Bogg of Brentwood; a godson Pastor Kevin Hall; god-daughters Andrea Lester of Atlanta, Joyce Link, Orynithia Smith, Mary Evans and Vivian Powell of St. Petersburg; 16 grandchildren, one great grandchild. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

COWAN, SAMUEL Sr., died March 31. Survivors include his wife Ethora, a son Samuel Jr. and his wife Cindy of Jacksonville; a stepson Ernest Williams and wife Ruby of Decatur, GA; sisters Adel Polite and husband Louis and Edell Cowan of New Jersey and Edna C. Williams of Palatka; four grandchildren. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



CUTLIF, ULA, died March 28. Survivors include his daughters Lorraine Eldridge of Atlanta, Beverly Wilmot of California, Kimberly Cutliff of Atlanta; son Donald Cutliff of California; stepmother Bertha Cutliff of Albany, GA; six half brothers and sisters; sister Polly Thornhill of St. Petersburg; brother Edward Cutliff of Ohio; 14 grandchildren, one great grandson. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

PATTERSON, LEE Sr., died April 1. He was a deacon. Survivors include his wife Elizabeth; brother Amos Pierce of Jasper; sons Willie and wife Beulah, Nathaniel and wife Eula, Lee Jr. and wife Rose, Joe and wife Sandra, Bobby and wife Doretha, Wilbert and wife Zeta, all of St. Petersburg; daughters Reatha Mizell of St. Petersburg, Geneva Patterson of Kansas City, KS, Shirley Wright and husband John, Mary Woodard, Elizabeth Brown, Mae Hilliard, Joycelene Rose, Wanda Jordan and husband Jerome of St. Petersburg; 63 grandchildren, 110 great grandchildren, 8 great great grandchildren. Smith Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

PATTERSON, MYRUTH. Final rites were held on March 24. Survivors include his daughter Patricia and son-in-law Anthony of Jacksonville; stepson Stevie of New Jersey; sisters Cassie, Stella, Mittie of New Jersey, Willie Dawson of Philadelphia, Pauline and Dee of St. Petersburg; brother Robert of St. Petersburg; several grandchildren. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



PHILLIPS, EARL, died March 14. Survivors include his mother Geneva Phillips of St. Petersburg; sons Tony Phillips and wife Pamela, Joe Lee Graier and wife Monica, Tyrone Graier, all of St. Petersburg; daughters Connie Pierce and husband Lewis of Madison, Margaret Graier of St. Petersburg; a sister Pauline Johnson of Philadelphia; several grandchildren and great grandchildren. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



POWELL, JOHN H., died March 25. Survivors include his granddaughter Zella Power of St. Petersburg; nephew Dan Dixon of St. Petersburg; cousins Larry Shaw and wife Dorothy of St. Petersburg, Anthony Shaw and wife Alvis of Morrow, GA and Priscilla of St. Petersburg; three great grandchildren. Smith Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

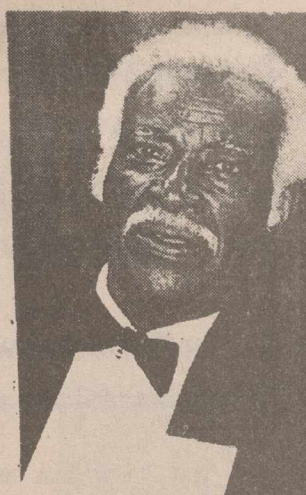
REDDICK, ANNIE MAE Nelson, died March 30. Survivors include her sister Victoria Nelson-Harvey of West Palm Beach; a brother Leon L. Nelson and wife Rosa of Ocala. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

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REID, LEROY, died March 26. Survivors include his wife Estella; children Jennie Sledge and husband Walter, William Reid, Vernon Reid and wife Bertha, Roy Reid, David Reid, Judy Reid and Rutha Clark of St. Petersburg; 12 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren; brothers Aaron Reid and wife Annie Pearl Reid of St. Petersburg and James Reid-South; sisters Annie Bell Hamm of Patterson, GA and Mary Williamson of Bronx, NY. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

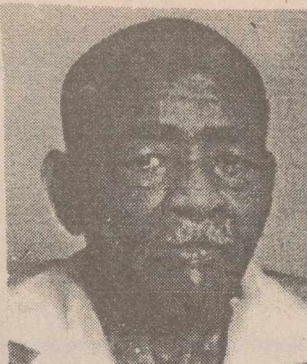


SERMON, KHADEIAH, born July 6, 1995; died March 26, 1997. Survivors include her parents Daphni Black and Lindsey Sermon; brothers Linsay Jr. and Andre; maternal grandparents Nancy Crumb and Alphonso Black Sr.; paternal grandparents Lizzie Sermon and Fredrick Woodard; maternal great grandmother Beulah Savage; special grandmother Inez Anderson; uncles, aunts, great uncles and great aunts.

The Sweetness Of Peace

After the clouds, the sunshine
After the winter, the spring
After the shower, the rainbow
For life is a changeable thing

After the night, the morning
Bidding all darkness cease;
After life's cares and sorrows
The comfort and sweetness of peace.



STEPHENS, ODELL, died March 24. Survivors include his sons Cleve Stephens and wife Mary of Taco, WA, Zebedee Stephens and wife Deborah of Santa Barbara, CA, Willie Stephens of Indianapolis, IN, Enoch Stephens of Buffalo, NY, Raymon Stephens and wife Anzella of St. Petersburg; daughter Lizzie Stephens, Adelle White and Betty Williams of Richmond, PA, Jean Threat of St. Petersburg and Mae Stephens of Taco; sisters Noorah Goofaty and Eva Phillips of Buffalo; 41 grandchildren, 92 great grandchildren. Smith Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



WARNER, FITZROY, died March 31. McRae Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

WILLIAMS, ROSA LEE, died March 29. Survivors include her sister Claudia Mae Ware of Center Hill; brother Joe Figgins of Chapel Hill, NC; many nieces and nephews; three sisters-in-law and one brother-in-law. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

Clearwater Final Rites

LEWIS, HEZEKIAH, died March 20. Survivors include his wife Sarah; mother Laura Brown; a host of stepchildren and other relatives. Woody's Funeral Home, Clearwater.

NATTIEL, ELIZA Williams, died March 20. Survivors include her husband Walter; daughter Tenesha Nattiel; sister Selina Johnson of Rochester, NY; brother James Williams of Clearwater; special child Jackie Jackson of Clearwater. Young's Funeral Home, Clearwater.

PRAYER HELPS



SAUNDERS, SUSIE, died March 31. Survivors include her husband Lovell; daughters Alva Saunders of Washington, DC and Evangelist Stacey Denmore and husband Apostle Michael of Norwalk, CT; three granddaughters; a brother John Lewis of Clearwater; sisters Kathleen Smith of Clearwater, Sadie Smith and husband Isaac of Philadelphia, Ernestine Davis and husband John of Silver Springs, MD and Cynthia Hooper of Palm Harbor; 2 sisters-in-law, 3 brothers-in-law. Woody's Funeral Home, Clearwater.

SHAFFER, LIZZIE MAE, died March 22. Survivors include her husband Frank, son Michael Head and wife Margaret; daughter Barbara Shaffer-Davis and husband Harold; five grandchildren, five great grandchildren. Young's Funeral Home, Clearwater.

Gainesville Final Rites



JOHNSON, KENNETH, died March 22. Survivors include his companion Frances Daniels of



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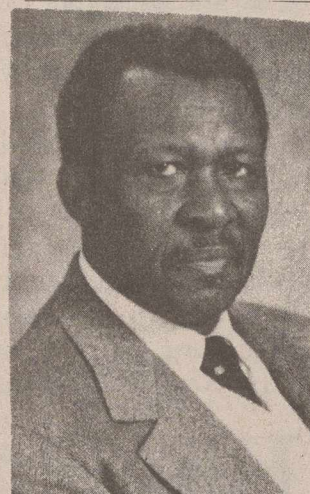
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Gainesville; children Kenneth Johnson Jr., Sandy Johnson, Troy Johnson, Dontavis Smith, Kendrick Johnson, Kenneth Johnson and Cassandra Johnson, all of Gainesville; brothers Jerry Johnson Jr., Orrian Johnson of Gainesville, Clyde Johnson of Ft. Myers; sisters Osie Johnson, Ruby Wilson and Jerrell Johnson of Gainesville. Chestnut Funeral Home, Ocala.

ROBERTS, PHILLIP. Final rites were held March 22 at Mt. Nebo UMC, Alachua. Survivors include his mother Jessie Hathcock of Alachua; son Antwan Roberts of Alachua; brothers Carl Hathcock and wife Michelle, Willie Roberts Jr. of Alachua, Anthony Hathcock of San Angelo, TX, Fredrick Roberts of Orlando; sisters Carolyn Long and husband Aaron of Alachua, Denise Presley and husband Elvin of Alachua, Joane Jones of St. Petersburg, Joyce Jackson of Orlando; grandparents Elmo and Edith Williams of Alachua. Chestnut Funeral Home, Gainesville.

Ocala Final Rites

ANDERSON, GERTRUDE, died March 26. Survivors include her brother Raymond Hamilton of Bradenton; stepson Arthur Anderson; several first cousins, nieces and nephews. Cunningham's Funeral Home, Ocala.



BROWN, JOSEPH, died March 22. Survivors include his wife Elnora of Ocala; sister Fennie Mae Russell of Alabama; stepdaughters Patricia and Sabrina Terry of Pen-

cia Martin of Cocoa, Soneta Ettel and Linda Jeffers of Maryland, Twyne Little John of Leesburg, Arleese Hall and husband Douglas of Fort Pierce; several stepgrandchildren. Cunningham's Funeral Home, Ocala.



HAYES, ELNORA, died March 26. Survivors include her daughter Pearl Mae and husband Harvey Langford of Dunnellon; nine grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, three great great grandchildren. Cunningham's Funeral Home, Ocala.



PALMORE, CLIFFORD, died March 18. Survivors include his wife Frances of Ocala; daughter Janis Palmore-Hoskins of Decatur, GA; sons Edward of Milledgeville, GA and Duane of Lancaster, CA; daughter-in-law Bertha Palmore of Lancaster; son-in-law Britton Hoskins Sr. of Milledgeville; sisters Clara Taylor, Ceola Watkins of High Springs and Evelyn Duncan of Gainesville. Cunningham's Funeral Home, Ocala.

TERRY, LEWIS, died March 17. Survivors include his wife Emma; daughters Sophia and Debra Terry of Orlando and Sabrina Terry of Pen-

sacola; sisters Mary Alice and husband Virgil Stewart of Charlotte, NC and Cynthia Brown of Ocala; brother Deion Brown of Ocala. Cunningham Funeral Home, Ocala.



WISE, ANDREW. Final rites were held on April 5 at Temple of Faith. Survivors include his wife Caldonia; daughters Ruby Nell Wise of Philadelphia and Mozella McFadden of Ocala; sister Annie Mosby of Ocala; 13 grandchildren, 28 great grandchildren, three great great grandchildren. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala.

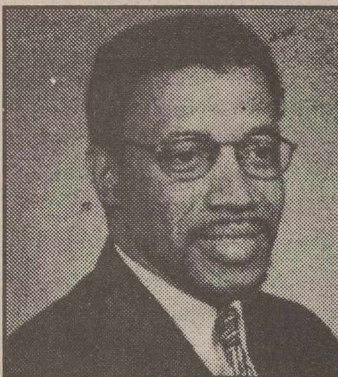


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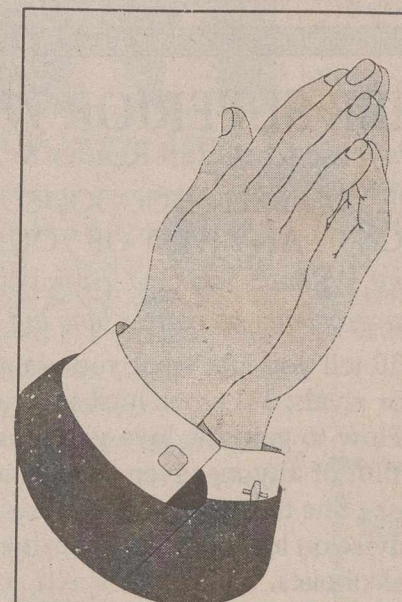


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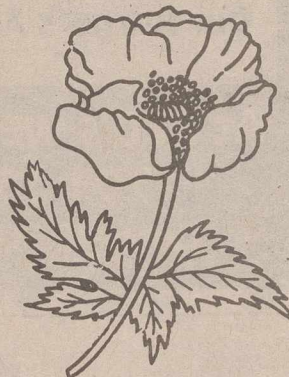
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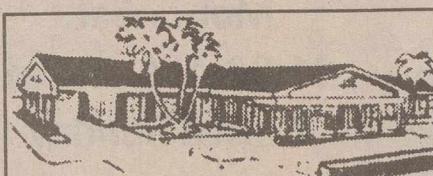
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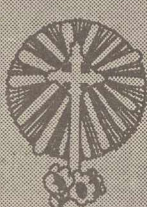
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RFQ-SSP - Sulphur Spring Park Improvements - Public Announcement in Compliance with Requirements of Chapter 287.055, Laws of Florida, Consultants Competitive Negotiation Act, as Amended and the City of Tampa's Women / Minority Business Enterprise Program - The City of Tampa is seeking Professional Architectural-Engineering services for design development/construction document preparation and limited construction administration services for the referenced project based upon an existing master plan which includes swimming pools, buildings, sitework and various other features. The construction of the project is estimated to cost \$1.5 million. A copy of the master plan may be obtained at a nominal cost from Florida Reprographics, 600 N. Florida Ave., Tampa, Phone 813-221-2094. The master plan may be reviewed at the Department of Public Works - Fourth floor TMOB, 306 E. Jackson St., Tampa. The master plan may also be accessible via Internet site <http://www.ci.tampa.fl.us/docs/tampa/otherdocs/index.htm>. Technical inquiries should be directed to David L. Vaughn, AIA, Contract Administrator, 813-274-8568. Firms desiring to provide these professional services to the City of Tampa must submit three (3) copies of a short statement of qualifications and experience, especially noting aquatic park experience, together with Standard Forms 254 and 255 in a package clearly marked "RFQ-SSP". Submittals are to be delivered to R. M. Salmon, P. E., Chairman, Consultants Competitive Negotiation Committee, City of Tampa - DPW, 306 E. Jackson Street, 4th Floor North, Tampa, Florida 33602-5223 - Submittals must be received at that location NO LATER THAN 2 p.m., Thursday, April 24, 1997.

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- Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Your Horoscope



Aries

March 21 to April 19

Brilliant stars are helping you feel more upbeat, confident and fulfilled than you have in years. Romance glows from the 12th through the 16th. After the 16th, Venus entering your money zone could send you an unexpected windfall.



Taurus

April 20 to May 20

Wonderful aspects on the 16th carry renewed enthusiasm into your life, jump-starting your romantic imagination. With Jupiter's presence challenging you to pursue your goals, you could see one of your fondest wishes come true.



Gemini

May 21 to June 21

While sunny aspects are making you happier than you've felt in years, Mercury moving retrograde on the 14th will bring you down to earth—at least for a little while! Attend to details now so you'll have more time to enjoy yourself later.



Cancer

June 22 to July 22

With Saturn continuing to influence your career zone, try not to be impatient—you may have to wait for success. When a friend pours her heart out to you on the 14th, either in person or long-distance, temper compassion with advice.



Leo

July 23 to August 22

While Venus visits Aries from the 12th to the 16th, scintillating romance will rock your world. Indulge in a fabulous new outfit or a trip to the spa so that you look your best. On the 14th, remember to return a loyal friend's favor.



Virgo

August 23 to September 22

Neptune remaining in positive alignment is stimulating a flood of creative ideas—and since you're the Zodiac's efficiency expert, you'll follow through on them. On the 16th, a short trip could turn into a thrilling adventure.



Libra

September 23 to October 22

Spectacular aspects are boosting your optimism, prompting you to reach for the stars at work. From the 12th to the 18th, Venus's glow could set off a supernova of love. You may need to reevaluate a savings strategy after the 14th.



Scorpio

October 23 to November 21

With Pluto urging you to expand your financial horizons, this may be a good time to invest. And while aspects highlight your domestic zone, a real estate deal could present an ideal opportunity. On the 16th, love ignites with passion.



Sagittarius

November 22 to December 21

While Jupiter in Aquarius continues showering you with opportunity, interesting friends and important social connections may open doors for you. Take advantage of bright aspects by planning a romantic getaway for the 12th and 13th.



Capricorn

December 22 to January 19

Thanks to profitable aspects, you may get the chance to earn more money or even find a new, more fulfilling position. Mercury moving retrograde on the 14th could trigger a heart-pounding reunion with an old flame.



Aquarius

January 20 to February 18

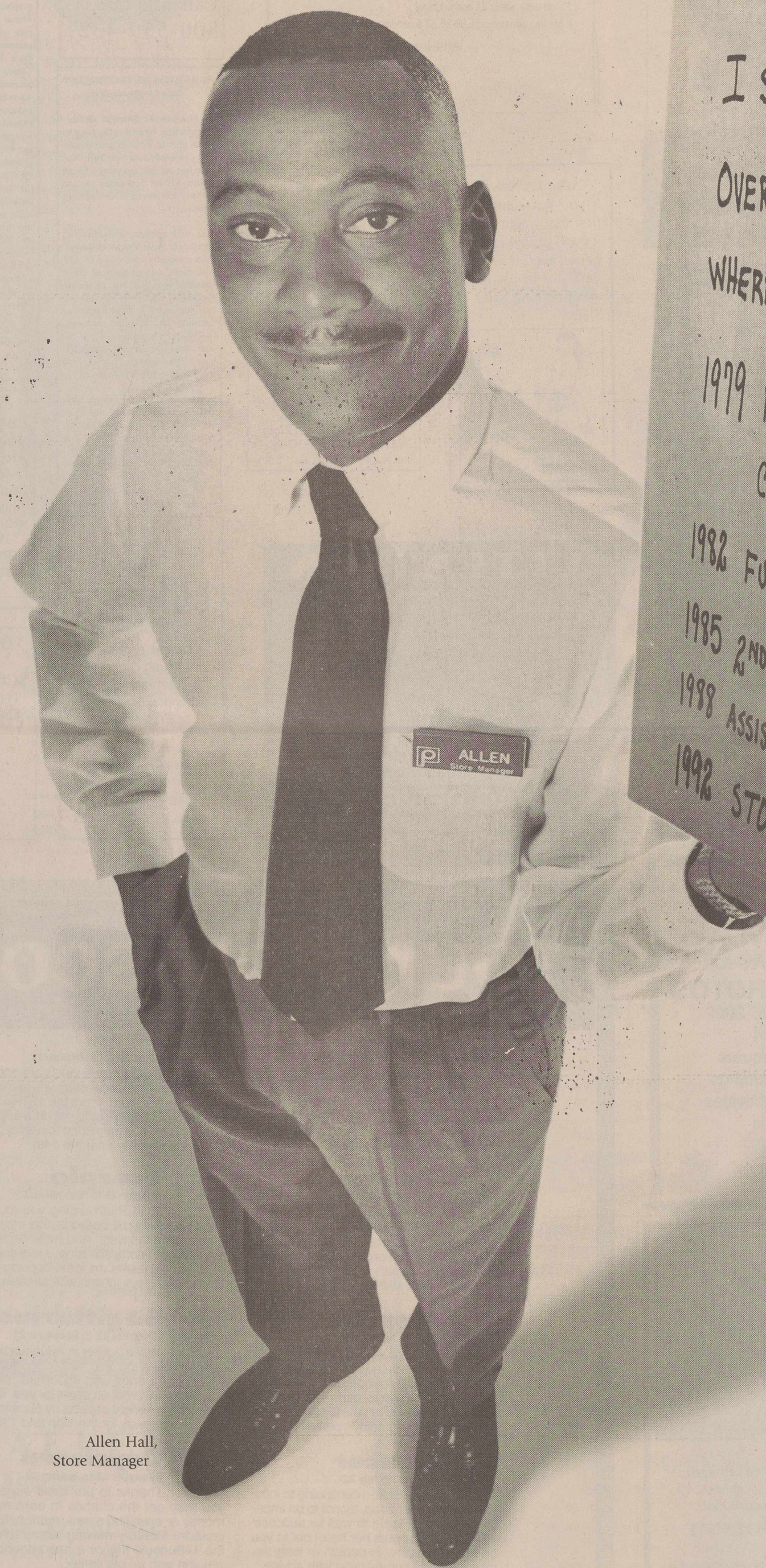
Venus positively aspected from the 12th to the 18th could bring a romantic dream to fruition; if you're single, you could discover a new flame. If you're married, a new addition to your family circle could fill your heart to overflowing.



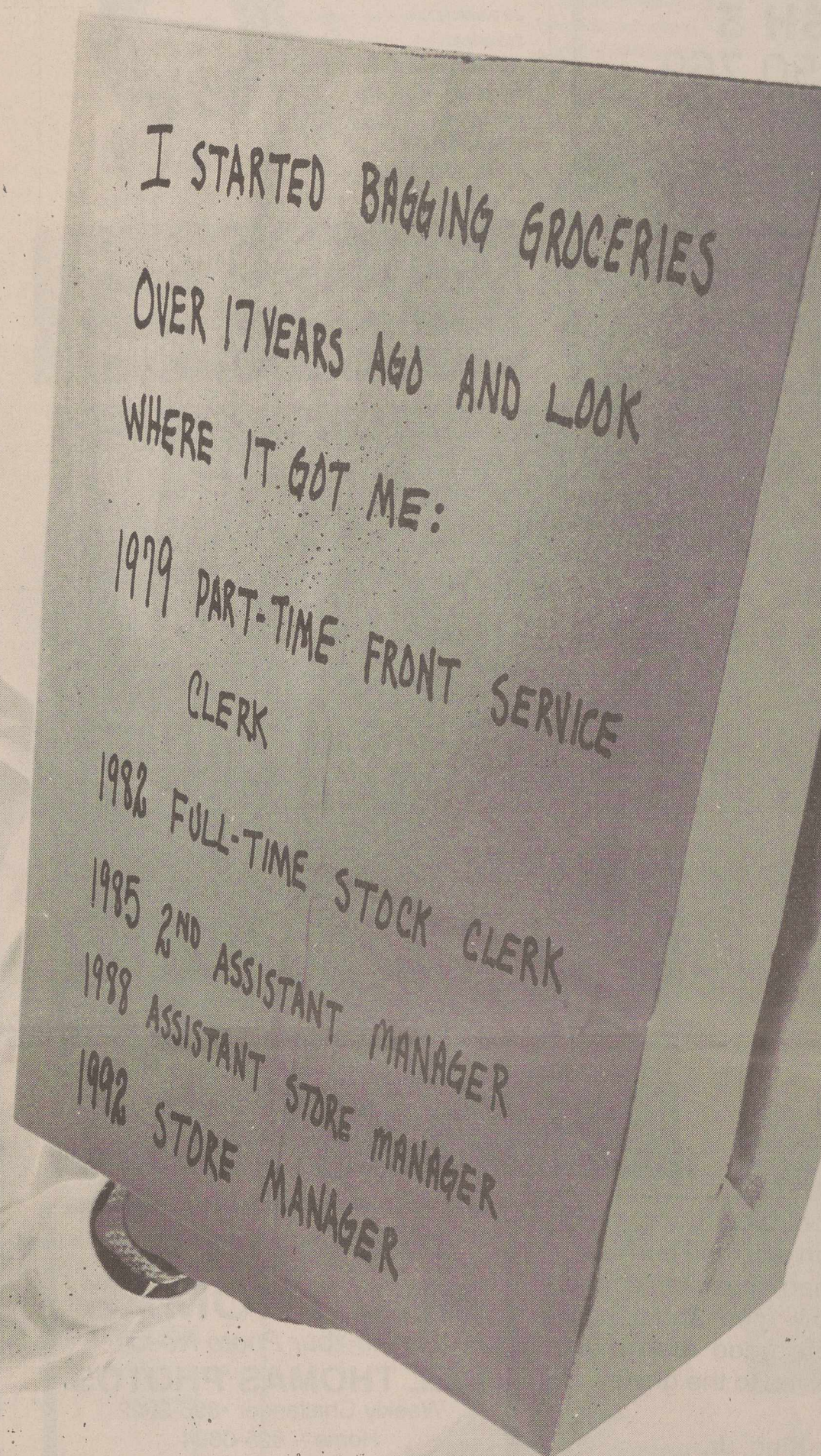
Pisces

February 19 to March 20

While Jupiter's beneficial placement in Aquarius enhances your spiritual nature, keeping a journal or diary could be a great meditative tool. On the 14th, be sure to arrive at appointments on time. Romance bursts into flower on the 16th.



Allen Hall,
Store Manager



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