

1997-04-26

The Weekly Challenger : 1997 : 04 : 26

The Weekly Challenger, et al

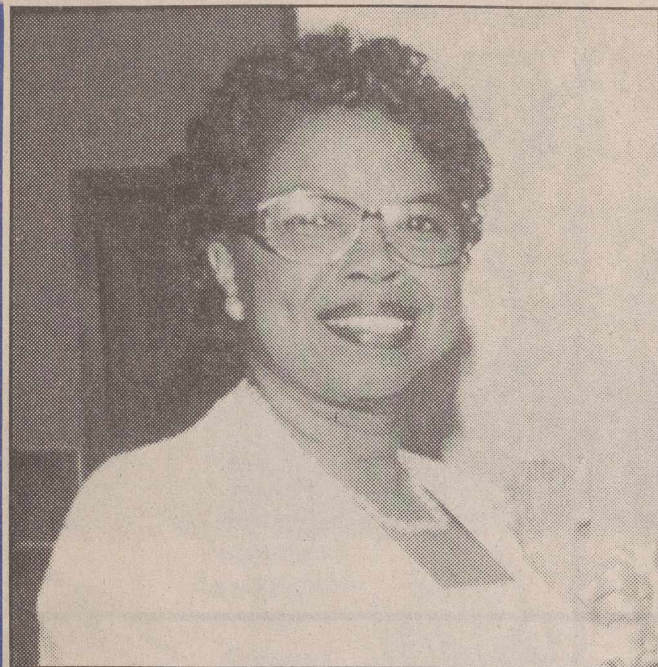
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Orchid Club Hosts Charity Luncheon



Ann Glymph

TAMPA — The Hillsborough County Orchid Club held a charity luncheon on Saturday, April 19 at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa.

Club president Ann Glymph opened the program with greetings followed by an invocation by Ruby Baker, chaplain, and the occasion by Angelina Smith, correspondence secretary. Also on the program were Nell R. Wimbley, Deveda Jackson.

Winifred Whigham, luncheon chair, presented gifts to the Tampa Lighthouse for the Blind, accepted by John Jerome; the Springs of Tampa Bay, accepted by Lisa Landers and United Negro College Fund, accepted by Mary

Bryant.

The program ended with closing remarks by Mildred Siplin.

Orchid Club members are Ruby Baker, Genva Lucas, Deloris Hammond, Doris Reddick, Mildred Siplin, Angelina Smith, Mary Smith, Winifred Whigham and Ann Glymph.

Please see pg. 2

SAVE WATER

Karen Perez: Jack-Of-All-Trades

by Ingrid Bethel

TAMPA — As the saying goes, a jack-of-all-trades may be a master of none. But when it comes to multi-talented entertainer Karen Perez, those words simply don't apply. The professional model, singer, actress and playwright has been performing for over 20 years and has no plans of slowing down.

With runway modeling, television, film and theater experience under her belt, one might think Perez would be resting comfortably on her laurels. Instead, she continuously balances her talents with her graduate studies at USF, where she is working

on a master's degree in psychology.

And between studying and current rehearsals for the upcoming play, *After-life*, in which she'll be appearing from May 9 to 11 at Ruth Eckerd Hall, Perez counsels children. She's also raising three children of her own, listing motherhood on her impressive resume as one of her "special skills."

In fact, the accomplished performer, who plays six instruments and is trained in sign language and stunt fighting for stage and screen, has encouraged her children to follow suit. The Perez kids, Gabriel (13), Carmen (10)

Please see pg. 17



Karen Perez

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The Weekly Challenger

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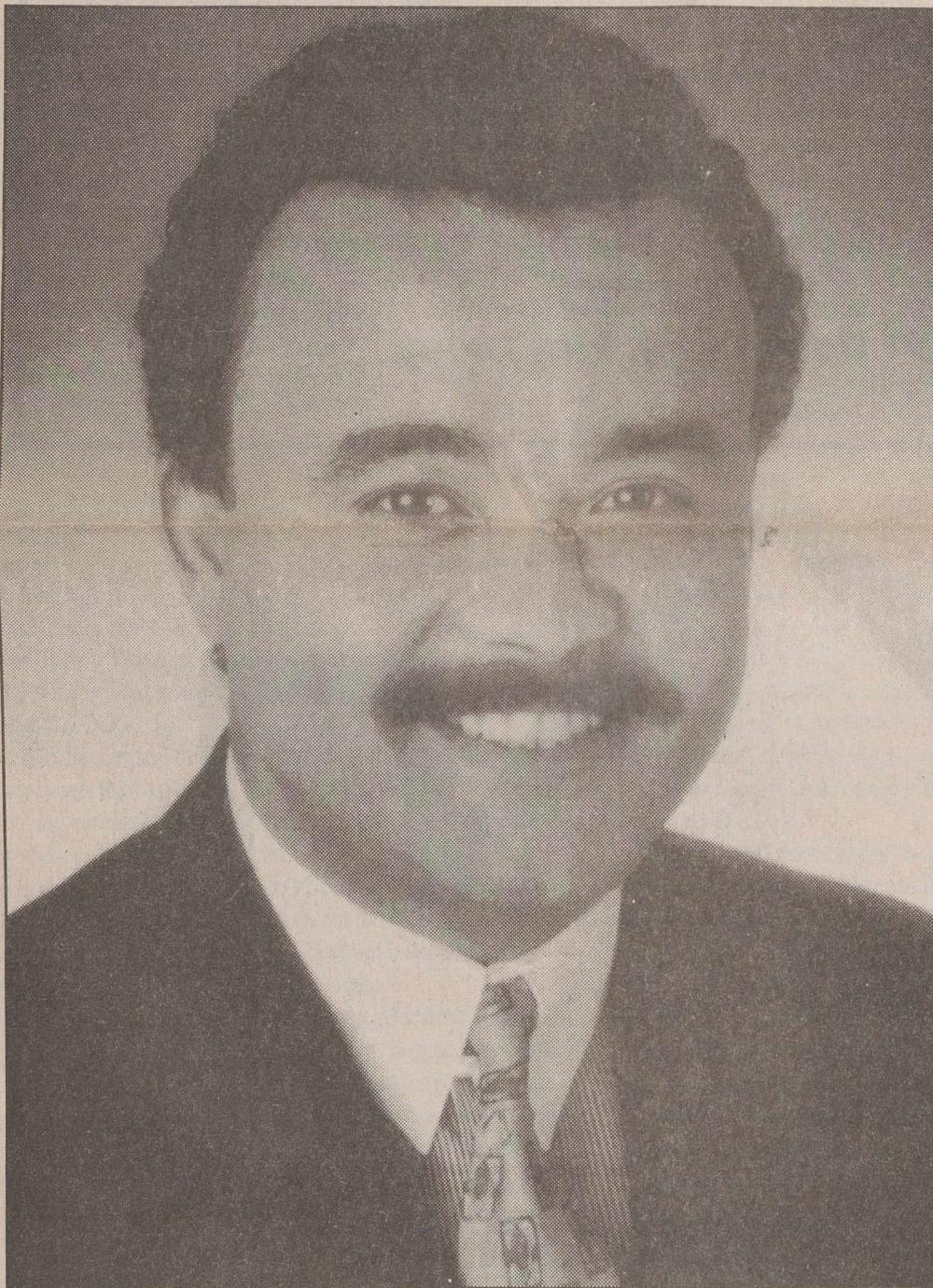


VOLUME 29 NUMBER 33

25¢

ST. PETERSBURG/TAMPA

APRIL 26, 1997



Reginald Roundtree

ACS Committee Hosts Charity Gala

ST. PETERSBURG — Rev. Father Hayden Crawford and WTSP Channel 10 news reporter Reginald Roundtree.

"With the help and support of the total community, we will find a cure for cancer during our lifetime," said Clowers. "The minority development committee and the American Cancer Society are organized and functioning to serve the public by providing services and saving lives. We look forward to the public's attendance at and enjoyment of our gala and dance."

Other program participants include committee chair Mary Clowers, Mattie Spencer, the

ments of the minority development committee will be recognized. The gala raises funds urgently needed to continue the important mission of the American Cancer Society and to identify successful ways to reach residents of the St. Petersburg African-American population with life saving information and services to cancer patients, their families and the community.

Don't miss this worthwhile effort. For ticket information, call 867-7702.

During the gala, contributions to and educational accomplish-

Florida Festival Of Choirs

"Make a joyful noise..." that's what selected choirs of St. Petersburg will be doing on June 14 at St. Petersburg High School. They will be participating in the first annual Florida Festival of Choirs competition.

There has been a tremendous response for inquiries about this event and the producers have extended the deadline for entry until April 30. On May 3, at a special luncheon to be held for choir directors, the choirs chosen to perform in the festival will be announced. Every church or Gospel organization is eligible

to submit an entry form as there are no entrance fees.

The festival features an evening of Gospel song stylings from area choirs to culminate with the choosing of a winner of this event. During the awards ceremony, the "best choir of St. Petersburg" will receive the Gracious Song Cup trophy along with a \$500 donation to their church or organization. Other awards include best solo performance, the most inspirational performance and the best original dressed.

On the scope of community awareness and honorificals,

the festival contributes a portion of its proceeds to some needy charities. Those charities will also be announced at the luncheon.

As one may visualize, this is going to be an exciting evening for Gospel music and a presentation with divine intentions. Good luck to everyone that has solicited to enter and to everyone else, we hope to see you there!

Remember: The deadline is April 30. You may get more information or assistance by calling 813-550-9020 or 896-2922. Ask for Mr. Mays.

YouthBuild Program To Break Ground On Two New Houses

ST. PETERSBURG — On Wednesday, April 30 at 10 am, the YouthBuild St.

Petersburg program will break ground on two new single family houses at 224

and 234 27th Street S in the Palmetto Park neighborhood. Please see pg. 17

Share Your Wealth

by Junious Ricardo Stanton

"One spends what he has and yet has more to spare; another sets his heart on what is none of his and is a poor man still; give and thou shalt thrive; he shall have abundance that bestows abundantly." Proverbs 11:24-25, the Knox translation

To the so-called modern sophisticate, the above quote seems ludicrous and foolish. In today's milieu of social alienation and crass selfishness, a get over and get paid anyway you can mentality is pervasive. In such a setting, the idea of gaining abundance through a process of giving and sharing seems preposterous. This is the environment in which Africans in America find ourselves, an environment that runs counter to the psycho-socio-economic traditions of our African ancestors. In European culture, individualism is the norm. To the other four fifths of the world's population, individualism is an impractical and abnormal way of looking at life.

People of color in general and Africans in particular always had a tradition of communalism (not be confused with communism). The basis of communalism is group cohesion, sharing and prosperity through the collective efforts of the whole community. Initiative and hard work were part of the process. Filial obligation, mutual aid and inter-generational interdependence were integral parts of the overall social, ethical and economic fabric of each family. I say all this to say that intrinsic to African tradition was the concept of doing one's best, sharing, social obligation and reciprocal aid.

Africans brought to this hemisphere were subjected to brutal dehumanization, traumatic deculturation and systemic dehumanization to turn them from Africans to Negroes. After remaining in bondage and captivity for several hundred years, interacting with Europeans and being told we were subhuman, we rejected our Africaness and attempted to fit in by assimilating European culture values and lifestyles. Each successive generation finds us moving further and further away from our African psycho-social-ethical traditions, getting madder and more insane as a result. Look at the facts, more African Americans are committing

suicide than ever before, our communities are wracked with obvious emotional dysfunction and psychopathy. In the most materially prosperous nation in the world, despair and hopelessness abound to such an extent people are killing themselves in record numbers. Why?

What does all this have to do with the quote in the beginning of the piece? Everything. As deculturated and dehumanized Africans we have been brainwashed to believe that to be successful and to make it, we must be exactly like Europeans. This, of course, is impossible. Look at the men and women having cosmetic surgery to alter their African features to become more European looking. Look at the sisters dying and straightening their hair. This is a form of self-negation, self-hatred and exocentrism. As long as we set our hearts on what we are not or can never be, we will remain destitute of mind, poor in spirit and psychologically wretched.

"Give and thou shalt thrive," says the text. Give of your true self, give (express) your whole self and live. Share your abilities, talents and gifts. Spend what you have, your genius, your Africanity, your God-given qualities and riches. The more you give, the more your gifts will be replenished and the more you will have to share. This is a spiritual law, one that is applicable in every sphere of human endeavor. To the benighted, it makes absolutely no sense. To the spiritually and mentally limited, this is pure gibberish and mumbo jumbo. But to the spiritually awakened and mentally alert, it makes all the sense in the world. We come from people who were spiritually oriented, who used their entire brain, both the left and right hemispheres. We have to return to that if we are to survive and thrive.

Set your heart on what is yours, on being the best you can be. You come from great stock. You have nothing to be ashamed of. The more of your endowment and gifts you bestow on the world, the more prosperous you will become. You will become rich in fulfillment, self-esteem and psychological and in material wealth. Share your wealth!



Dr. Rebecca W. Steele

Moore Center Honors Dr. Steele

DAYTONA BEACH — Dr. Rebecca W. Steele, Bethune-Cookman College Concert Chorale director, will be honored in a musical tribute by the board of directors of the Richard V. Moore Community Center on Sunday, April 27.

First United Methodist Church of Daytona Beach will be set for a 6:30 pm reception in Dr. Steele's honor followed by a musical show featuring a number of past and present musically talented students from B-CC and Florida A&M University.

"We're recognizing Dr. Steele for the contributions she has made over the past 50 years to the lives of hundreds of young people across the state of Florida and the nation," says Joan C. Thompson, Moore Center board chair. "Rebecca Steele has touched the lives of countless B-CC and FAMU graduates who today live out her legacy in their personal and professional lives. Their achievements pay homage to her effectiveness as an educator and humanitarian."

Proceeds from the event will enable the center's board of directors to establish the Rebecca Walker Steele scholarship at B-CC to be awarded to an aspiring vocalist. Additionally, funds will be allocated to assist with the operating expenses of the center.

A member of the B-CC faculty since 1976, Dr. Steele currently serves as professor of music and director of cultural affairs, in addition to her work as conductor of the famed concert chorale and young artists group. Dr. Steele has had a highly successful career as a choral music director, voice teacher, music educator, singer and arts administrator. Please see pg. 17

NCNW Celebrates 50 Years

TAMPA — Tampa's National Council of Negro Women will observe its 50th anniversary at 7 pm on Satur-

day, April 26 at the Tampa Sheraton Inn and Conference Center.

One of the highlights of the

celebration will be a one woman show detailing the legacy of life of noted folklorist

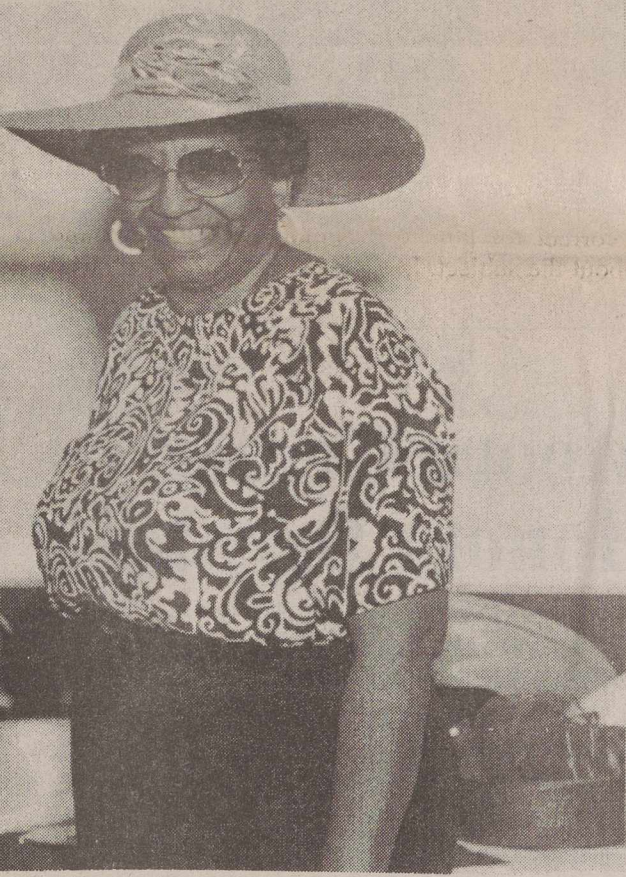
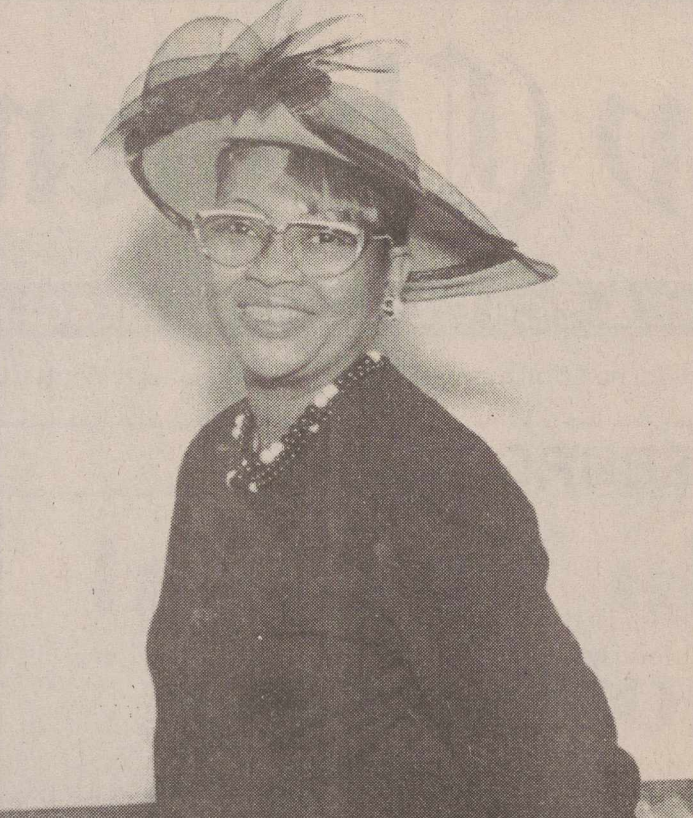
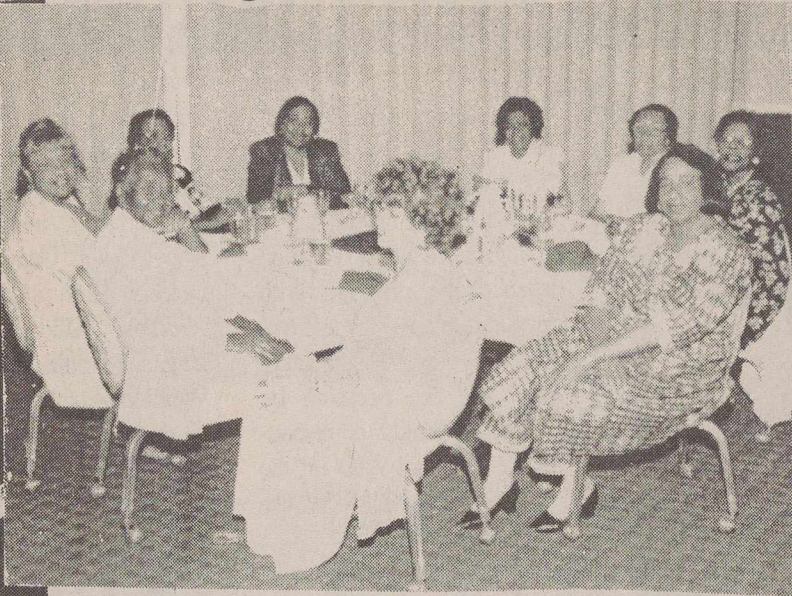
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Orchid Club Hosts Charity Luncheon

from pg 1.



L-R: Deloris Hammond, Ann Glymph, Sandy Baker, Mildred Siplin, Angelina Smith and Ruby Baker.



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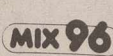
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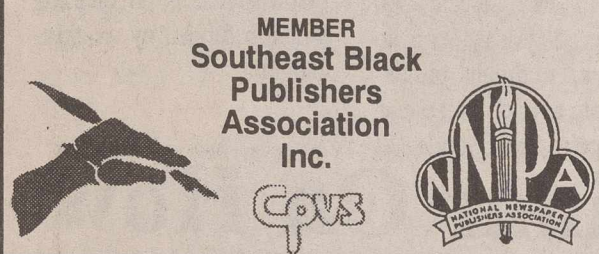


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◆◆◆◆◆
THE BLACK PRESS believes that America can best lead the world from racial antagonism when it accords to every man, regardless of race, creed or color, his human and legal rights. Hating no man, fearing no man... the Black Press strives to help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



African People's Socialist Party's Statement

The African People's Socialist Party is responding to the latest act of St. Pete police aggression against the black community. On Sunday, April 20, the St. Petersburg city government along with the police department closed down Bartlett Park, Campbell Park and Lake Maggiore, all recreational areas in the African community. Along with those areas, the police also closed down Save And Step, formerly known as Snax, on the corner of 9th Street and 18th Avenue S. All the above mentioned are areas frequented by African youth on Sunday afternoons. Not only were the parks and the store closed down, but a heavy presence of special weapons police, the Green Team, were placed at various intervals to prevent residents of the area, as well as the general community, from accessing the area. In essence, the police and city government declared marshal law in the African community and made African people refugees in our own community.

This latest act of aggression on the part of the St. Petersburg police and city government is yet another blatant violation of constitutionally protected rights of the African community, in this instance, the right to the freedom of assembly.

Signs posted in the parks announced that the parks are open to the public until 11 pm yet the police rope of the parks from Friday afternoon to block the community's access to the park. While this is happening to Africans who live in the community, white people who live outside our community are allowed in the park unprovoked to play tennis and baseball. It is clear that the police and city's actions are aimed especially at black people. What is also clear is that while the city throws up the smoke screen of the "violent Uhurus" and holds up the black and white dove, publicly declaring that it is seeking ways to heal the wounds and "bring communities together," the reality is that on a daily basis the police are attempting to provoke a rerun of Oct. 24 and Nov. 13 to "settle the score."

Thus far the city's only concrete approach to the police murder of TyRon Lewis and the rebellions that happened in the wake of the police brutality, is to escalate its military aggression against the black community. The city's recent shopping to stockpile tear, automatic weapons, shields and an armored tank are clear indications of its intent. In addition, the latest discussion in the city council calling for "water cannons" to be considered for its arsenals of weapons and the federal government counterinsurgency program of Weed and Seed make it visible to all who wishes to see that contrary to what the city says it has no intention of having a "St. Pete together" but instead a white St. Pete and a beaten down black south St. Pete.

We say that the city government is hypocritical and uses the color of the law to deny African people constitutionally protected rights. To justify its actions city council and the police department constantly demonize and criminalize the black community. We will not suffer peacefully as the city of St. Petersburg wishes us to do. We will continue to demand justice for TyRon Lewis and the firing and imprisonment of the police officer James Knight. We continue to demand democratic rights for the African community and that the city of St. Petersburg stop its counterinsurgency attack against the African community.

The Foundations for Good Human Relations

by Michael A. Grant, JD

Perfection in this life is not an attainable goal. Living a fulfilled life, with much contentment or peace of mind, is. Therefore, why agonize over the former when you can enjoy the latter?

It is so important that we accept ourselves as we are and that we can learn to really love-not merely indulge-ourselves. For this we need several things.

First is self-acceptance. Walter Cronkite, the celebrated news anchor, would conclude his daily chronicling of newsworthy events with an emphatic "And that's the way it is." To paraphrase Cronkite, I would like to challenge you to take an honest look at yourself, your strengths, your weaknesses, your good judgements, your fiascos, your kind gestures and your outbursts of anger and simply state: "And this is the way I am." Accept it. You may not be perfect but you are perfect-

ly you! One of over 5 million inhabitants on this small planet, you are unique in all creation.

Seeing yourself, flaws and all, and telling yourself that you accept who and what you are is mentally healthy and an important ingredient in your search for a formula for happiness.

Accepting yourself is not tantamount to condoning undesirable behavior. Nor is acceptance necessarily approving. Acceptance is acknowledging the reality of who you are at this point in your personal development.

Why is self-acceptance so important? Because you get to declare a truce with yourself. Your inner walls of resistance come down.

All of that wasted psychic energy can now be rechanneled for more positive thinking, more constructive feeling and more fulfilled living.

Some of the harshest judgements that we pass, we pass

by Stuart C. Lord

The President's Summit for America's Future, which will convene at Independence Hall in Philadelphia on April 27, is aimed at giving 15 million children in need a better than even chance to achieve healthy, fulfilling and productive lives.

I can't say enough about the worth of this undertaking and not because I am helping to make this event happen. The real reason for my enthusiasm is that my life was turned around by the kind of caring, sense of responsibility and yes, love that the summit is trying to encourage.

More than 30 years ago in New Rochelle, NY, my twin brother Stanley and I were left orphans at the age of two days. The odds

were clearly stacked against us until we were adopted by a family that already included five children. When no one else would, my foster family gave me a stable home environment, a healthy start and all the encouragement and belief in myself that a child could need.

Then when I was five, my foster father died. When I was 14, my foster mother passed away and, for the second time in my life, I found myself without the adult support every young person needs. Yes, my foster brothers and sisters helped, but my church, my school and my neighbors also joined together as something of a new extended family that gave me the guidance, counsel

Sickle Cell Funding in the Budget

State Rep. "Mandy" Dawson-White (D-Fort Lauderdale/Pompano Beach) and Rep. Anthony "Tony" Hill (D-Jacksonville) successfully amended the House budget to get funding for Sickle Cell Disease. This funding request will be to aid in the education, prevention, screening and counseling. "I'm extremely hopeful and excited after two years of fighting to get dollars to sickle cell chapters. This is a tremendous victory and I anticipate keeping the funding in through the conference committee discussions," said Rep. Dawson-White.

Sickle cell is an inherited disease that primarily affects African Americans, about one in every 350 African-American newborns. The oddly shaped red blood cells become stuck in their capillaries, causing severe pain. Children tend to be more vulnerable to life threatening infections and are prescribed daily antibiotics, until at least age 5, to increase their chances of survival. Although great strides have been made in the fight against this dreaded disease, we will have far to go to eradicate the disease.

In Augusts 1988 Florida began mandating the screening of all newborns, regardless of race, as part of metabolic disorders and this has helped ensure that infants born with sickle cell (disease and/or the trait) are identified and provided proper education and treatment. However, most individuals, African Americans and others of color, born prior to 1988 are not aware of whether they possess the sickle cell trait and what having the trait entails regarding their future reproductive decisions. Therefore, it is imperative that we provide the funding needed to ensure that screening, testing, education and counseling are as widespread as possible.

Through its mandatory newborn screening, Florida has proven that positive change can be affected, with our lower rate of mortality for those born with sickle cell disease and by being able to better treat and help those who suffer from the excruciating pain and strokes associated with the disease. "We must make further positive advances by properly screening, testing, educating and counseling individuals with the trait regarding their reproductive and treatment options," says Dawson-White.

**NEWS DEADLINE
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and support I needed.

Every day when I read the newspaper about increasing child poverty, of children suffering because of lack of access to the most rudimentary of preventive medicines, of children who fail out of school with no tangible skills, I think that I could have ended up like them, just another sad statistic.

As an African American, I am particularly sensitive to the statistics that demonstrate the absolute need for the summit:

- A child is abused every 13 seconds in America, with almost 3 million reports of such abuses filed each year.

- One in nine African Americans between the ages of 12 and 15 are victims of violent crime.

- The number of chil-

The Struggle for Affirmative Action Continues

by George Wilson

It's no secret that affirmative action has been subjected to a relentless attack from forces which feel that the American playing field is level and that no adjustments are needed. Those forces got a boost last year when Californians voted in favor of a measure known as Proposition 209 that would eliminate affirmative action in that state.

Immediately after the vote, those opposed to the proposition took the matter to court to seek a restraining order barring implementation of the law until it was heard by a panel of judges. In San Francisco, Chief US District Judge Felton Henderson, who happened to be an African American, ruled that Proposition 209 as it was passed, discriminated against minorities and women. Unfortunately, a three-judge panel overturned Henderson's decision and lifted the restraining order ruling

dren under six living in poverty has increased 50% since 1979.

- Suicide rates for children between 5 and 14 doubled from 1970 to 1988.

Statistics clearly point out the need for something to be done, but they don't convey the real tragedy—that story can only be told by the millions of children and young people who have been ignored by society. They each deserve the same chance that I was lucky enough to get.

When you get down to the basics, the goal of the summit really is to provide all young people with a shot at success. By tapping America's vast resources and forging new networks and effective alliances, bringing

together corporations, schools, religious, volunteer and other non-profit organizations, the summit aims to deliver the resources our children and youth require.

But the summit itself cannot deliver these resources. It's really only a catalyst, a kick start for a new campaign to be called America's Promise-The Alliance for Youth. The summit will provide a renewed sense of commitment and a host of new strategies and tools for improving the lives and prospects of children in each and every American community.

America needs to change the way it is thinking. Instead of dismay at the range of problems facing our young people, we need new faith in

responsible collaboration and the ability of the individual to make a difference. Just as my foster parents did for me, we must all look beyond the immediate and obvious problems to the endless possibilities.

The summit is offering a focus that we now need more than ever. More than 30 years ago, John F. Kennedy encouraged the people of this nation to ask not what their country do for their country. Thirty years later, the need has never been greater for all of us to heed those words.

Stuart C. Lord is the director of the Grover L. Hartman Center for Civic Education and Leadership at DePauw University, Greencastle, IN.

that the people had spoken through their vote and that the court didn't have the right to undermine their decision. The next step for opponents of the proposition is to appeal to a nine-judge panel for what is known as formalized ruling. They will ask the panel to reinstate Judge Henderson's ruling.

Among those opposing Proposition 209 is Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA), who says that this matter is far from over. "This is just one step in a battle. Those of us who are opposed to Proposition 209, who are fighting against allowing them to dismantle affirmative action are prepared to go all the way to the Supreme Court. This is just another step in the struggle," said Waters. She and other opponents are determined as are their adversaries to prevail.

The California case has national implications. After all, if Proposition 209 is allowed to take

effect, it's just a matter of time before the other states implement similar programs. By inaccurately portraying African Americans and others as non-deserving of any type of special consideration to correct decades of injustice, supporters of measures like Proposition 209 are telling a segment of America to "sink or swim" and "we are out of life preservers."

For quite some time, President Clinton has been saying that affirmative action should be "mended, not ended" when it has been politically correct for him to talk about the subject. In light of the continuing battle to maintain affirmative action, it would seem that bold decisive leadership must be exhibited. Phrases are nice, but action is even better.

Rep. Waters and others are starting to wonder what the Chief Executive might do. "I don't know what I can expect from the president,"

Waters noted. Meanwhile, the president has been in a mend it, don't end it mode. He has said, "Don't throw out the baby with the bath water" when people have pointed to areas of affirmative action that they thought create problems. "We supported the president's idea of mend it, don't end it in some aspects of federal law. The president spoke out against Proposition 209 in the state of California. I would hope that he would be with us all the way in this struggle because we are in it for the long haul and we are going to need him and everybody else with us," Waters said.

The struggle to preserve affirmative action is but one of many challenges confronting the African-American community. A sincere battle is essential on all fronts because as many have said, failure is not an option.

Black Students Are Failing

problem?

It has been learned that a committee consisting of school personnel and representatives from the NAACP, IMA, Pinellas Alliance of Black School Educators,

Community Alliance and various other community groups has been organized by the school district to address the student achievement problem.

The committee-at-large

was divided into four study-discussion groups to develop a plan that will determine the steps to be taken by the school district which will lead to a solution.

Please see pg. 4

"I shouldn't have been afraid."

After the accident, I dreaded going to court over compensation. Fortunately, my experienced trial lawyer prepared me so well, I knew exactly what to expect. In fact, I enjoyed watching him argue my case so persuasively!"

If you are injured, choose a skilled trial attorney. because most insurance company lawyers are proficient in court. Our extensive trial experience and expertise greatly benefits our injured clients. We do not charge for our legal services unless your case is settled or won.

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It's So Hard To Say Goodbye To Yesterday



L-R: Gary Cooper and Peggy Cooper

by Mabel Cooper

Pictured are Gary Cooper and his lovely wife Peggy. The Coopers left Lawrenceville, NJ chill for sunny Florida April 10, traveling by jet, their preferred mode of travel. The Coopers were celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary. The first class all expenses paid gift was from their five daughters. The Coopers said they will always remember that very special day when they pledged their eternal love to each other during a private ceremony in Peggy's parents' home on April 23, 1957 in Huntsville, AL when he was stationed as a MP there with the US Army.

As we all know, celebrations, vacations, etc. inevitably end and life returns to the business of homes, work and hobbies. So, the Coopers returned to home turf in Jersey on April 15. Accompanying

the Coopers here were their long-time friends James Cooper (no relation to Gary) and his wife Dilca Matthew also of NJ.

Celebration activities included visits to Busch Garden, Disney World, other tourist attractions, dining in exclusive restaurants, shopping sprees, a day on Europa Sea Kruz on Madeira Beach and a glorious day at the beach where the water was emerald, the sun bright and a strong breeze bends sea oats on sugar-white dunes.

The Coopers, as usual, along with their friends, bedded down at Howard Johnson Motel on Treasure Island. In their free time (which wasn't often) Gary and Peggy and guests visited with Gary's mother Mabel T. Cooper in her 13th Street N apartment complex where they spent a wonderful time sharing old

and new memories. And with his father, George Cooper, and his wife Jessie where they shared remembrances with them and a few cherished friends and a delicious dinner within the friendly confines of their 11th Street S home.

The foursome enjoyed themselves immensely while here and the trip was rewarding, especially for the first time visitors to Florida. They were positive, pleasant people to be with. As for Gary and Peggy, who are regular visitors to the city (Gary's home town), they are planning to come back in November for their annual Thanksgiving visit, it's God's will.

Gary said, you can't go home again and he knows you can't. But you go back to dear faces and familiar haunts of years past. And in this fast-changing, bewildering world that is sometimes a solace.

A MOMENT IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

by Nadine L. Lewis



A Man Of Many Firsts

Can you name the first African American ever to be directly elected to all three branches of government: legislative, executive and judicial?

Carl B. Stokes was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in the legislative branch in 1962. In 1967, he was elected to the executive branch as mayor of Cleveland and was elected to the judicial branch as judge of Ohio's largest court, Cleveland Municipal Court in 1983.

Perhaps one of the most consistent trailblazers in American politics, Stokes has served this country in many ways. He was a US army veteran, an assistant Cleveland city attorney and state legislator before winning Cleveland's mayoral contest in 1967. His impressive list of African American firsts includes: first ever elected mayor of a major city; first Democrat to be elected to the Ohio General Assembly; first to hold the office of president elect of the National League of Cities and the first attorney to serve as general counsel to a major American labor union, the United Auto Workers.

Stokes, who when he became Cleveland's mayor became mayor of the eighth largest city in the US, is a bona fide "home-town boy makes good" story. He rose through the political ranks to become mayor of the city in which he was born and raised and which he loved. He was also senior partner in the law firm of Stokes and Green and was the WNBC news anchorman. His final service to his country was as US ambassador to the Republic of Seychelles.

Upon the untimely death of Carl Stokes last year, US Rep. Louis Stokes said, "Above all, my brother was proudest of the fact that he was the first black American to acquire the political power to break down barriers and open unprecedented opportunities for minorities." Rep. Stokes added that his brother, the great grandson of a slave, was an inspiration to African Americans everywhere. "He has left a legacy that will always be remembered."

Carl B. Stokes shares a moment in African-American history. For more information about black history and culture, write to Nadine L. Lewis, PO Box 2286, Columbus, OH 43216.

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Foundations

from pg. 3

What do you tell yourself about your abilities and what you are entitled to receive from life?

How long do you endure unpleasant situations and people before you decide to choose a better place or more enjoyable space?

Typically, during the course of a day, how often do you laugh?

Like self-acceptance, self-love is the starting point for living life at its best.

To use the analogy of concentric circles like those seen when you toss a pebble into a lake, our deepest feelings for ourselves radiate out to others. In Karmic fashion, the acceptance and love of others is sent back to use, oftentimes not in ripples, but in tidal waves.

Become aware of whether or not you routinely accept and love yourself. Consciously listen to your own thoughts about yourself. If you choose a more positive approach with you, this old troubled world will not only not get you down, but you will soon discover that you have created your own light, that when combined with the light of others like you, will help to stamp out much of the darkness that characterizes human relations on our shrinking planet.

Dr. Michael A. Grant, author of *Beyond Blame*, is a motivational/inspirational speaker. His company G&C Motivational Consultants, also conducts seminars, leadership workshops and team building meetings.

Black Student

from pg. 3

Each study group was asked to brainstorm solutions of one of four of the following questions: (1) What does a student who has accomplished highest achievement look like? (2) What factors contribute to highest achievement? (3) What are the essential elements of a good plan?

(4) What other concerns or issues do you have about your task?

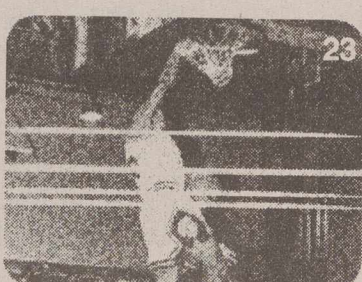
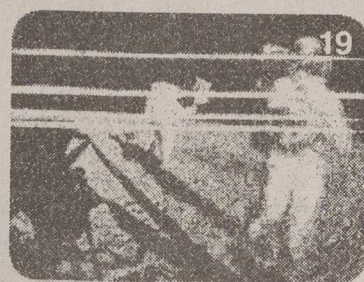
The findings generated by the four groups were given to the district curriculum department to develop an implementation plan which would include a timeline, monitoring and program evaluation.

Unanswered questions are: When will the plan be ready? When will the program be ready for implementation? (I hope and pray that the black community won't have to wait another 10 years.) Meanwhile, what should the black community be doing to deal with problems in part-

nership with the school district? Black community, what does your plan look like?

Next week perhaps some answers.

SAVE WATER



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- Session III-A runs May 12-June 20
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Three Inner-City Recreation Centers Expand Hours

ST. PETERSBURG — Mayor David J. Fischer has authorized expanded weekend hours at three recreation center in the inner city.

Beginning this weekend, Campbell Park, Frank Pierce and Wildwood centers will now have longer hours on Saturdays and will now be open on Sundays. In addition, Campbell Park and Wildwood centers will add midnight baseball to its current list of programs.

"It is hoped that these additional hours of operation as

requested by neighborhood leaders will better meet the needs of community children, teens and adults," says Mayor Fischer.

Campbell Park Center, 601 14th Street S: Friday, 7:30 am to 9 pm; Saturday, 9 am to 6 pm; midnight basketball, 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, 9 pm to midnight; Sunday, 1-7 pm.

Frank Pierce Center, 2000 7th Street S: Friday, 9 pm to midnight; midnight basketball, 9 pm to midnight; Saturday, noon to 6 pm; Sunday, 2-

8 pm. Wildwood Center, 2650 10th Avenue S: Friday, 6 am to 9 pm; Saturday, 9 am to 8:30 pm; midnight basketball, 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month, 9 pm to midnight; Sunday, 3-8:30 pm.

For more information about recreation schedules and programs, call 893-7441.

Midnight Basketball at Frank Pierce is an ongoing program funded by an existing grant.

Free Seminar On How To Start And Manage A Small Business

ST. PETERSBURG — A free one-day seminar to learn how to establish and manage a small business will be held on Saturday, May 3, 8:30 am to 5 pm, at the Enoch Davis Center, 1111 18th Avenue S. Free lunch will be provided.

To register, provide your name, address, phone number

and business name, if any, and mail registration to Lynn Williams, US Small Business Administration, 1320 S Dixie Highway, Suite 301, Coral Gables, FL 33146 or fax to her at 305-536-5058.

The SBA, in conjunction with the Pinellas County Service Corps of Retired Exec-

tives (SCORE), the University of South Florida's Small Business Development Center will provide a comprehensive summary of the basics of starting and managing a small business. This free seminar will help individuals who plan to start a business or who have a new business.

Sanderlin Center Needs Volunteers

The Sanderlin Resource Center needs committed and caring volunteers who want to make a difference in the com-

munity. If you have a few hours each week and want to be part of a winning team, join the center. It will be a rich and

rewarding experience. For additional information, call center manager Johnnie Mack at 323-8896.

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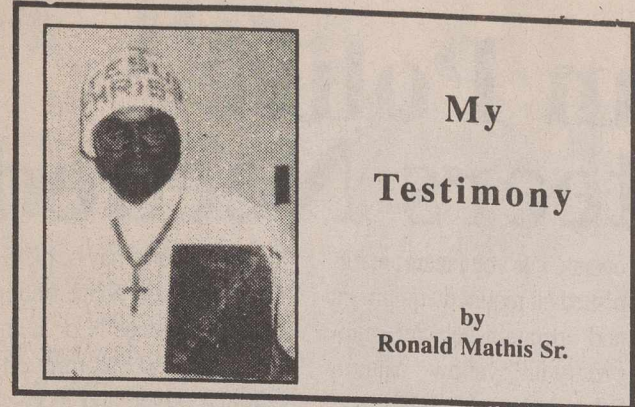
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Grace and peace to every one who reads this testimony from God, the Father, and God, the Son, who is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, truly Lord of all lords and King of all kings, God almighty who came in the flesh as a man praise God, and the Holy Spirit.

On March 27 of this year I met this man who had just been released from solitary confinement. God blessed me to help him with things he needed because he had only his clothes. We have a Christian locker that helps men when they first come to prison if they don't have anything to get started with. As we talked I asked him was he a Christian. He said he wanted to become one. He told me that when he was 32 years old he had told one of his friends that there were five things in life he never did. One was he had never killed anyone; two, he had never been to jail, the third was he had never been to prison before, the fourth thing was he had never been married before and the fifth thing was he had never received Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.

Within six months after making this statement, three of the things he had spoken about to his friend came to pass. He was married, then he killed a man and went to jail but not prison, he did time in the county jail. God gave him another chance at life. Years

later he became a drug dealer, he was living a corrupt life, not doing anything to please God, he had played church a few times. But he was fooling himself, he became a nervous wreck, he asked God to place him in prison so he could get his life together because he needed to get away from everything and everybody who was corrupting his life. He needed help but he had to be isolated from the outside world. Now the fourth thing he had spoken happened; he was at Lewisburg prison here with me. And praise God, Jesus used me to make the fifth thing happen. After I witnessed to him, we prayed together for him to receive Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. Jesus freed him that night because after we prayed he said a burden had been lifted off his shoulders. He was now happy and praising the name of Jesus. We became good friends and days later he let me know about his problem with sugar. He said his hands would get numb and start throbbing, his feet would get so hot until he would want to cut them off if he didn't take his medication. I shared with him that Jesus Christ could help him and heal him. I read him James 5:13-20 and Psalm 103:3, also Isaiah 53:4-5. I shared with him about believing in the power of Jesus because so many people asked God for healing but they don't stand on His words in the

Bible. They go by feeling and not His word. God said in Isaiah 11:11: "My word that goes out from My mouth will not return to Me empty but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it."

I told him as soon as you ask God to heal you, you are healed but Satan comes and tells you not to believe what the Bible say and he will tell you all that mess is for when Jesus walked this earth and just for His disciples. People in the world forget that every born again believer is a disciple of God and we have the same power as Jesus. Our problem is that we just don't use it nor believe in it. Too many people are waiting to see a burning bush or hear a voice come from out of the sky when all the time all they have to do is just believe in God's word. They believe that they are going to heaven, but can't believe the other part about healing and the thing is they have never seen heaven nor have they seen God, but they can believe one part of the Bible and not the rest. Well, praise God, this man started believing and he did receive his healing. As of this date, his hands had not swelled any more. God proved His word to be true.

Once more, I prayed and asked God to help me win over 300,000,000 souls and lead them to Jesus Christ. That prayer has been answered because more and more men here have prayed with me to receive Jesus Christ. God has been sending men to me for prayer. We must understand that there is power in our tongue. If we claim that we are hurting when we are hurting when we do hurt, we will continue to hurt. People must stand on God's word and

claim the healing in the Bible for God, standing on the Scriptures and not on what they see or feel. God tells us in Romans 4:17 that God calls things that are not as though they were and He tells us in Ephesians 5:1, "Be imitators of God." So we can call things that are not as though they were, which means if you are sick, claim healing by the stripes of Jesus, Isaiah 53:5. This man here in this testimony spoke these things into being by his own mouth, so be careful of what comes out of your mouth because Jesus said in Matthew 12:36-37, "But I tell you that men will have to give an account on the day of judgement for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted and by your words you will be condemned." Thank You, Jesus Christ, for Your mighty healing power when any person just believes in Your word and not what they see and feel. Amen.

Class Of 1958 Meeting

ST. PETERSBURG - Members of Gibbs High School class of 1958 will meet at 2 pm on Saturday, April 26 at Bay Vista Park to begin planning for the 1998 40th reunion. All members currently living or visiting in town are urgently asked to attend. Bring lunch if desired.

PLACE YOUR CLASSIFIED AD TODAY!
Stop by the Weekly Challenger office:
2500 - 9th St. S.
St. Petersburg

Mays Named Executive Director Of Diversity

HOUSTON, TX - Leslie L. Mays was recently named executive director of corporate diversity for Shell Oil reporting to the company's president and CEO Philip J. Carroll. In this capacity, Mays works closely with Shell's corporate leadership council to provide strategic direction, creative thought leadership and development of diversity strategies in both human resources and contracting.

A native of Houston, Mays have over 15 years experience in human resources management, change management, developing innovative corporate diversity initiatives and organizational strategy development. She will coordinate all internal and external diversity activities and initiatives from Shell's headquarters in Houston.

Mays is a nationally recognized authority on corporate diversity and has had an outstanding career implementing effective diversity plans in several different industries. She brings an approach that integrates company interests with employee concerns and will serve both as a resource to



Leslie L. Mays

management and a catalyst for change in the company.

Prior to joining Shell, Mays served as the corporate diversity director at General Mills, Inc. from 1994 to 1996 where she increased organizational effectiveness of the recruitment, selection, development and retention system and processes. She also developed diversity orientation and skill based training curricula for human resources professionals and management teams, lead organization-wide work/

life balance programs and initiatives and developed and led the company's supplier diversity program.

Prior to General Mills, Mays also worked as the director of corporate diversity and urban affairs for Reebok International from 1990 to 1994. In this key organizational role, Mays created a community relations function to enhance the corporation's image and developed a targeted recruitment and outreach program which resulted in a

significant increase of minority representation. At Reebok Mays developed and initiated sexual harassment prevention training programs and established a supplier diversity program and economic development program which included provisions for capital to minority and women-owned businesses.

From 1985 to 1990, Mays was a senior associate at Jane

C. Edmonds and Associates, Inc. where she was responsible for management training and diversity planning.

Mays holds a bachelor's degree in communications from Texas Southern University in Houston. She is a charter member of the Boston chapter of Coalition of 100 Black Women, a lifetime member of National Black MBAs, of NHCC, of the Society of Human Resource Professionals, on the board of directors of the Texas Business Hall of Fame Foundation and sits on the boards and is a supporter of several community-based organizations.

Free GED Classes At Sanderlin Center

ST. PETERSBURG - Lakewood Community School offers free classes at the Sanderlin Family Center, 2335 22nd Avenue S, Monday-Friday from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm. Anyone without a high school diploma is en-

couraged to attend in order to improve a specific skill or study literature, math, social studies, science and writing to obtain their GED. Basic math, as well as algebra and geometry, is taught. Essay writing is introduced by showing stu-

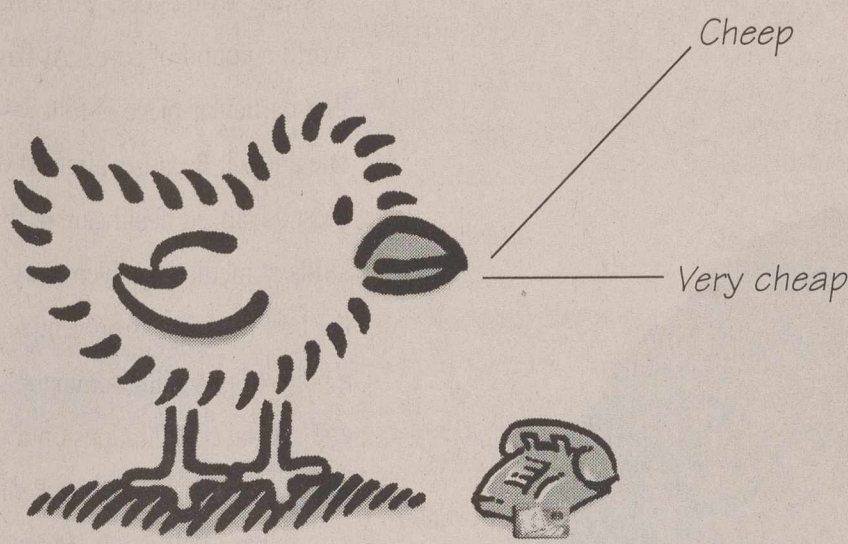
dents how to organize, plan and write topics. The class is also available to any person with a GED or high school diploma who wishes to improve an explicit subject.

Classroom books, computers and videos are available in

order to enhance each student's skills. One-on-one student assistance is provided as well as group lessons.

Students should feel free to drop in at any time and stay as long as their schedules allow. Come to room 5 or call 321 9444 for further information.

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

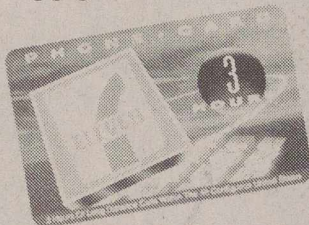


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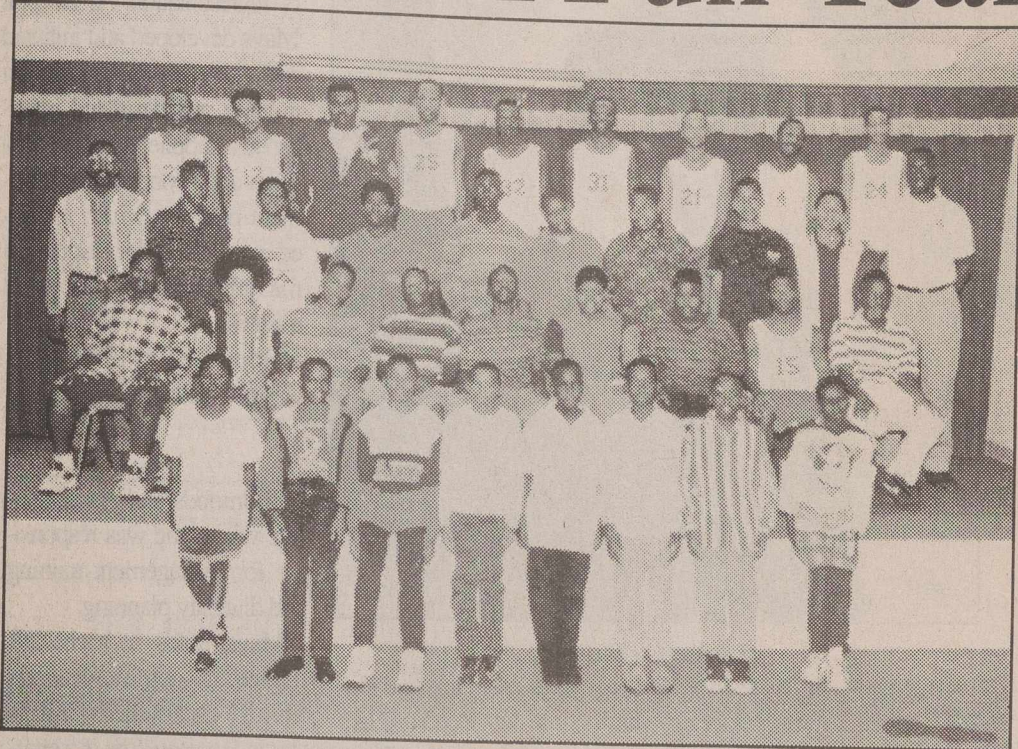
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500 Role Models Of Excellence Provide A Full Year For Students



by Barbara Rosales

ST. PETERSBURG — "When something is earned it automatically has value. When a student strives toward success, that journey can be a truly meaningful one." These statements are the foundation for the work of the mentors in Pinellas County schools 500 Role Models of Excellence project. Coordinated by W.J. Bryant, this volunteer program is alive and well in many of the county's elementary, middle and high schools and encourages the involvement of successful adult African-American men to donate their time to young black male students. These men have committed to formal meetings twice a month and their presentations usually focus on current issues impacting the boys, either in their communities, at home or at school.

At Riviera Middle School,

over 50 boys ranging in age from 11 to 15, are currently enrolled in this very popular group. Barbara Rosales, community involvement coordinator, manages these boys and the six wonderful men who volunteer as mentors for these students.

Rather than being labeled as just another pull-out group for troubled youth, these volunteer role models regard this group as a golden opportunity to lead by example. The male students selected for this group are expected to have reasonably good grades, good citizenship and must be recommended by a staff member before they can join. There is always a waiting list of boys who have made significant improvements and desire to become part of the program. All the adults agree that keeping the standards high has resulted in a very successful program. The role models and

the boys together have written a Code of Conduct and the rules are strictly enforced. The boys seem to have no trouble with rules they helped to create.

Aside from the regularly scheduled monthly meetings, the boys are expected to work on other positive projects. Last November, the boys, their mentors and Rosales traveled to Largo High School to hear nationally known motivational lecturer Wally Amos of the Famous Amos cookie company. During December, many of the boys helped to collect, sort, bag and distribute food for the needy.

To start off the new year on a positive note, the group participated in a January youth conference titled Increase the Peace. Students of various ethnicities came together to learn about identifying and dealing with prejudice and the

many ways we can all learn to appreciate racial diversity. Also in February, Rosales, Bryant and several of the boys manned one of the many information booths at the Jordan Park Community Resource Festival sponsored by the Boys and Girls Club.

At the beginning of April, the group collaborated with the Riviera multicultural committee at the Summit on Youth Initiatives and Leadership, sponsored by the Coalition of African-American Leadership and the Florida Martin Luther King Jr. Institute for Non-Violence.

On May 16, the 8th graders of the 500 Role Models of Excellence project will travel to Tampa's Hoolihan Stadium to participate in the Promise Keepers conference. Also in May, the Riviera chapter of the 500 Role Models project will join the many others in the county for a summit to be held at the Allstate building (SPJC) on 34th Street S, St. Petersburg. Members of the county police agencies will conduct a question and answer panel for the boys. Major topics will focus on the civil disturbances last fall in St. Petersburg and the role of the police in the lives of the students.

It is abundantly clear that the 500 Role Models project is a huge success at Riviera Middle School. None of the accomplishments would have been possible without the efforts of the volunteer mentors. Much gratitude is extended to Riviera role model mentors Alvin Lewis, Calvin

Hopkins, Norris Martin, Kenneth Washington, Bradley Thurman and Carlos Walker.

The 500 Role Models of Excellence project is always searching for men who would like an opportunity to work with boys who will shortly become the men of tomorrow. Anyone interested in joining this valuable mentoring program should call W.J. Bryant at 538-7167, ext. 1154 for more information.

Barbara Rosales is community involvement coordinator at Riviera Middle School.

Some members plus two role models, Bradley Thurman, left, and "Coach" Alvin Lewis, right.

District Health And Science Fair

ST. PETERSBURG — Pinellas County schools will be hosting their annual elementary health and science fair on May 16 and 17 at Pinellas Square Mall. Everyone is invited to come out and cheer on the kids!

You! Can Make A Difference — help support our paper by patronizing our advertisers!

Civilian Police Volunteers Needed

ST. PETERSBURG — The St. Petersburg Police Department is taking applications for the Civilian Volunteer Road Patrol. This unit assists the police department by taking reports of minor crimes, helping with disabled vehicles and assisting at accident scenes, crime scenes and special

events. The volunteers are furnished all required equipment and operate a vehicle equipped with yellow caution lights. Volunteers must be at least 19 years old, have a valid Florida's driver's license and pass a polygraph exam. There will be a 40-hour evening volunteer academy.

Applications may be picked up at the main police station, 1300 1st Avenue N or at any neighborhood community resource center, and received no later than May 9, 1997. Any questions, call Officers Ortiz at 893-7773. Be a special part of our community.

Free Home Buyer Classes

CLEARWATER — If you've been dreaming of buying a home for your family but wondered how, get the answers at free home buying classes on May 8 and 15, Thursdays, 7-9 pm at CTX Mortgage, 28100 US 19 and Republic Drive in the

Coastal building, 4th floor.

Home Buyer classes are free to the public and will explain how to get help with your down payment, choose the best mortgage (with information about all lenders in Pinellas County) to shop for a home, understand cred-

it reports and determine exactly how much you can afford.

For registration and more information, call Community Service Foundation at 461-0618.

Bahamas Launches Music Festival Month

ATLANTA — The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism has named June 1997 as Bahamas Music Festival Month and Nassau's luxurious Cable Beach is the showplace for two festival vacations.

The summer celebration

features a showcase of Caribbean music as well as a sumptuous festival of foods, junkanoo parades, sightseeing, sports and a night-life beyond compare. According to organizers, direct and affordable festival tour packages are

available and reservations are underway.

For June specials and tickets to the Caribbean Music Festival and the Bahamas R&B Festival, call your travel agent or 1-800-4-BAHAMAS.

Club Holds Education Programs

CLEARWATER — Ervin's All American Youth Club and community enrichment center is presenting three ENABL (education now and babies later) educational programs. The presented is Kimothly Warren, senior health educator for the Pinellas County Public Health unit.

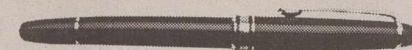
Each session helps young people and their parents deal with such issues as peer pressure, abstinence, self-esteem and personal decision making. The programs are free and open to the public.

The programs will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 28-30, 6-7 pm at

Ervin's, 1250 Holt Avenue in Clearwater.

For further information, call Dr. Richard Bowers, director of development and communications, at 443-7721 or Kimothly Warren at 824-6905.

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Close To Your Heart

TAMPA — The Tampa Bay chapter of the National Florida A&M University Pharmacy Alumni held Close to Your Heart, a free educational program designed for the community that focuses on how to control high blood pressure and diabetes. The program was held on Saturday, April 19 at First Baptist Church of College Hill and offered screening and referrals for blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol, free brochures, free cookbooks, free over-the-counter products and free consultations.

**We welcome
your letters
to the editor.**



L-R: Mary Ann Watson, ARNP; Selma Brown, RN; Joscelyn Richey, ARNP; Ann Thornton and Joyce Morris, president.



Clearwater Neighborhood Housing Services

Clearwater Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. (CNHS) is a private non-profit corporation located at 608 N Garden Avenue in the city of Clearwater. Its mission is to revitalize the neighborhoods it serves by promoting home ownership, housing rehabilitation and economic development. CNHS works within a partnership structure. Mrs. Isay M. Gulley, executive director of the corporation, attributes all of its accomplishments to the strong partnership. Some of its major partners are the city of Clearwater, Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, Pinellas County, US Automobile Association, NHSA and the

financial and business community.

Currently, CNHS through its partnership is developing affordable housing in the north and south Greenwood area of Clearwater, as well as providing assistance with economic development and housing rehabilitation. Currently, it has developed and provided home ownership opportunities to more than 100 families through its new construction product.

The corporation is also concerned about stabilizing home ownership through its existing

housing stock within Clearwater. Therefore, it would like to make all residents aware of the following product:

JOBS!! JOBS!! JOBS!!

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Minority Small Business Capital Needs Investment Forum Coming

MIAMI — An opportunity for members of the minority small business community to pre-qualify for business financing by presenting to a panel of qualified volunteers their business plan at Wednesday, May 7 at the Enoch Davis Center, 1111 18th Avenue S. All information shared will remain confidential.

Call Lynn Williams from 8:30 am to 5 pm to set up your appointment. On Thursdays and Fridays call Williams at the Enoch Davis Center at 813-894-1810. On Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, call SBA's south Florida district office in Coral Gables at 305-536-5521, ext. 128.

The SBA, in conjunction with the Pinellas County Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE), the University of South Florida's Small Business Development Center and a community lender have developed a service to help minority small business

owners/entrepreneurs to determine if a loan may be available to assist them with their business needs.

SBA cautions that this process is not to be interpreted as a loan approval.

The forum is composed of representatives from the four groups. All participants will:

- Learn if their proposals are eligible for bank/SBA financing.

- Receive qualified advice on how to proceed with a loan application.

- Receive, if needed, assistance with their business plans or their loan applications from either SCORE or SBDC.

SBA notes that there is no guarantee of financing for the minority business owners or start-ups. It is an opportunity however to determine whether or not it will be worth their time and effort to develop a complete loan application package.

Adult Book Discussion

TAMPA — The Seminole Heights branch library, 4711 Central Avenue, will host the library system's black literature group discussion of *1001 Things Everyone Should Know About African-American History* by Jeffrey C. Stewart on Saturday, May 3 at 10:30 am. Take an entertain-

ing trip through 500 years of African-American history, from migrations and the military to inventions, medicine and sports. Stewart earned his PhD from Yale University. Copies of the book are available at the branch. For more information, call 273-3669.

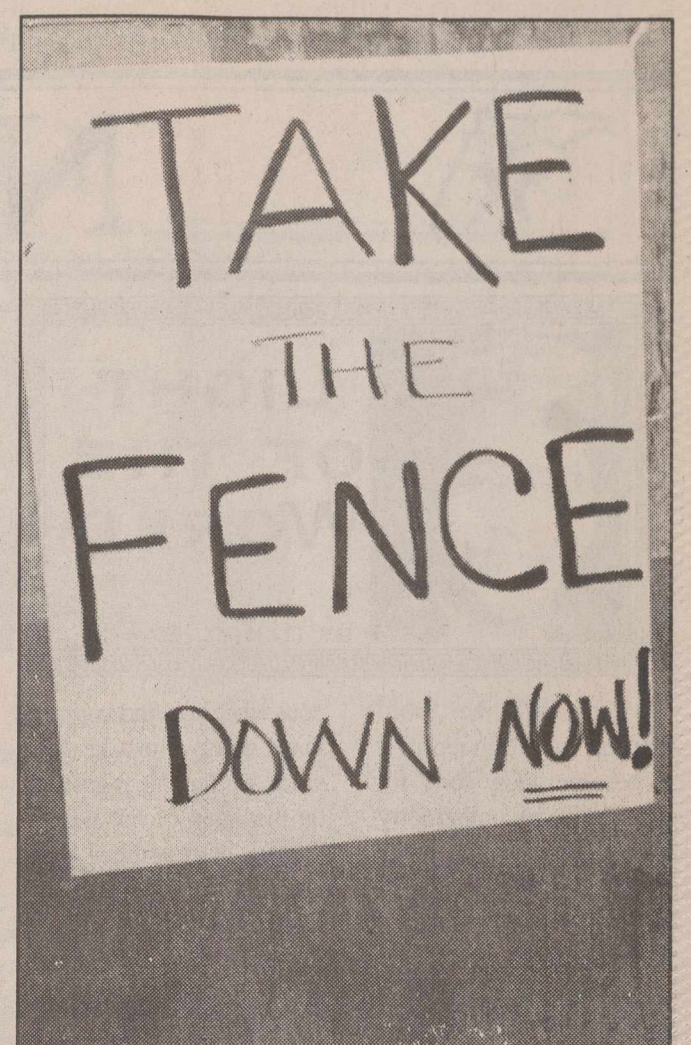
Hires

If we want to be successful we should follow the advice we give to others.

A sharp tongue will cut our opportunity.

If first you try and don't succeed, then try reading the Bible.

A narrow mind comes out of a wide mouth.



SPJC Has Opening For Health Care 'Detectives'

ST. PETERSBURG — The next time you're watching an episode of *ER* or *Chicago Hope* and identifying with the characters, bear this in mind:

You could be a full-fledged member of the team without having to face all that heart-stopping excitement and emotional trauma every day. You could do your part as a medical laboratory technician, a goal St. Petersburg Junior College can help you reach, and still enjoy the pride and prestige that go with being part of the medical establishment.

Medical laboratory technology (MLT) is a field whose practitioners resemble the interior line of a football team. In medicine, their positions are not where the flashy plays take place, but the doctors and nurses and other more visible team members could hardly function without their support.

Many in the industry see them as "detectives" of health care.

It's a good time to inquire about entering SPJC's MLT program. For more information, call 341-3239.

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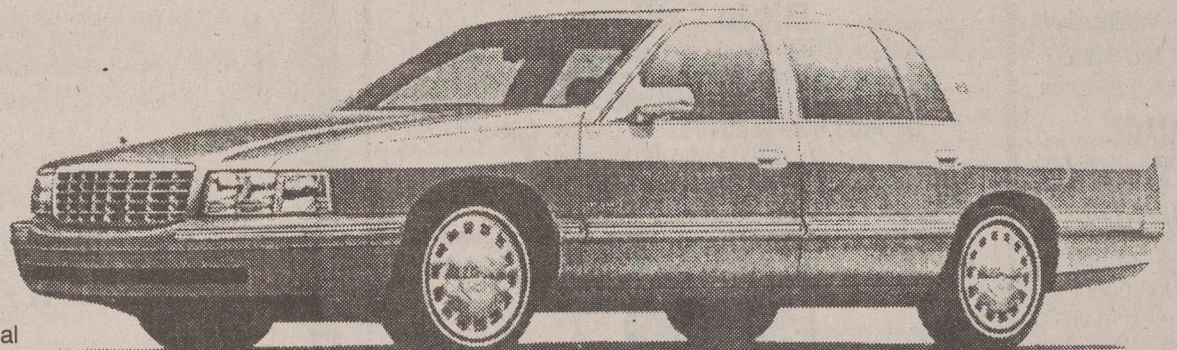
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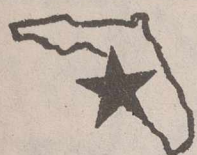
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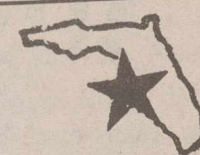
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North Central Florida



LIGHT OF THE WORLD

BY DANIEL BANKS

What does the word "repent" mean? To repent is to become godly sorry for our sins. By becoming sorry for our sins, we open up the way for God to forgive us of our sins. When He forgives us for our sins, there's no spot or blemish on our heavenly record to prevent us from being caught up with the Lord, should He suddenly appear!

Consider this passage: "Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance; for ye were made sorry after a godly manner that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation, not to be repented of but the sorrow of the world worketh death."

"For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter." (II Corin. 7:9-11)

To be contentious and hold onto sin would be a mistake. To be self-right-

eous when you find yourself in sin is also a mistake. Yet, when we humble ourselves on the altars of our hearts, then we place spiritual laws into motion that will help us. If we wallow in our sin, we also place spiritual laws into motion, but to our detriment and to our own harm.

It would behoove us then to repent for all of our wrong. In our hearts, we should pledge to live the way God wants us to. We should endeavor to furnish the Lord a life that He would be pleased with.

If God be for us, who, then can be against us? Recruiting Him over to our side won't happen through wishful thinking. We've got to refrain from all of the known wrongs in our lives and if a sin should overtake us, be diligent enough to repent of it and ask God's forgiveness.

John went crying in the wilderness, "Repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (St. Matthew 3:2) Today, the echoes of that cry still resound in the ears of those that have spiritual ears to hear with.

The Lord bless you and keep you, is my prayer.

Moet & Chandon Celebrates African-American Achievers

NEW YORK — Moet & Chandon Champagne has launched a year-long national campaign to celebrate the achievements, past, present and future, of African-American leaders. Moet & Chandon Celebrates African-American Achievers is a multi-faceted campaign that will give back to the African-American community.

The campaign will feature a series of events taking place in five different cities. In New York City, Washington, DC and Los Angeles, Moet & Chandon will partner with the Ronald H. Brown Foundation, Inc. for a Salute to Ron Brown. Each event, sponsored by Moet & Chandon and hosted by a local, prominent business or community leader, will raise funds to support the foundation's programs. The New York event will be held on May 20; specific dates for other cities will be announced.

Moet & Chandon's events in Atlanta and Chicago will help young professionals gain access to their city's Network of Success. Five of each city's most accomplished leaders in the corporate, public service, communications and entertainment arenas will come together with local graduate students and interns to talk about their strategies of success. Moet & Chandon sees these networking gatherings as a rare opportunity for aspiring achievers to meet one-on-one with the most sought after leaders in their chosen fields.

Back To School For Seniors Day

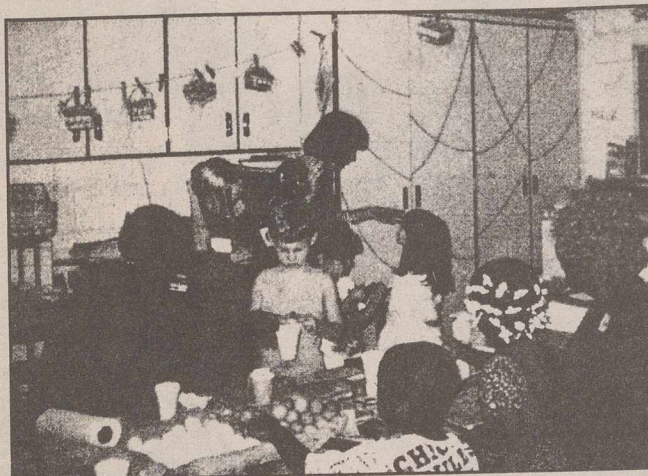
by James Thorpe

OCALA — Do you think have changed since you were in school? Just ask the members of the Golden Age Senior Citizens Club and they will say "yes." On March 25, club members and residents of the Inn at Surrey Place went "back to school" at Fessenden Elementary. The seniors began their morning in the media center where they enjoyed refreshments and viewed a video on the Marion County school system. Their next stop was the kindergarten classrooms where they helped dye Easter eggs and assisted with other activities. A tour of the school followed. A highlight of the visit was time spent in the computer laboratory where club members, assisted by students, experimented with a variety of software programs.

Back to school for seniors was a delightful and informative morning that was enjoyed by both seniors and students. Many thanks to Loretta Jenkins, principal, and her excellent faculty and staff for a wonderful visit.

History of Fessenden

More than 120 years ago, local Negro residents built a log cabin school on the site of the current Fessenden Elementary. By 1886, a larger cabin was built on this one-acre parcel to house the 300 students who attended the school. In 1890, Ferdinand Stone Fessenden, a wealthy white industrialist,



moved from Boston, MA to Marion County. Fessenden was touched by the inadequate facility, but impressed with the effort made by the people to provide an education for their children. Fessenden provided funds to acquire additional land, lumber and equipment for a classroom and boys' and girls' dormitories.

In the late 1890s after Fessenden's death and burial on the grounds, the school successfully petitioned sponsorship from the American Missionary Association which operated the school until 1952. The school was named Fessenden Academy and Industrial School, shortened to Fessenden Academy in 1992. The school en-



rolled students from across the US and included a two year junior college curriculum. As more educational institutions opened their doors to black students, Fessenden's enrollment dwindled forcing its closure in 1952. It was then purchased by the Marion County Board of Public Instruction. Since then, the facility has served as a high school (1953-1970), middle school (1970-75) and elementary school (1975 to present).

None of the pre-1900 buildings remain but ruins of some of the buildings are found in the woods around the school. Today, Fessenden's main building is a one-story native stone structure built in 1931. Adjoining



the south side of the main building is a series of classrooms built in the mid 1940s. A covered walkway leads to the cafeteria, gym and classrooms built in the 1960s.

Fessenden School began due to the interest of the

people in the north end of Marion County. Fessenden is looked upon with pride because of its legacy and commitment to education. Today, Fessenden Elementary continues to grow, prosper and serve the young people of the area.

St. Paul AME Hosts Seasonal Tea

OCALA — The Women's Day activity committee of St. Paul AME Church in Ocala is sponsoring a Seasonal Tea at 6 pm on Saturday, April 26

in the multi-purpose building. Tables will be decorated concurrently with the seasons and a variety of delicious foods and drinks will be

served. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Barbara Croskey is event chair. Rev. James Sykes Sr. is pastor.

ACT-SO Fundraiser

OCALA — The Marion County NAACP branch will sponsor the 1997 Gospel Extravaganza at 6 pm on Sunday, April 27 at Forest High School, 1614 SE Fort King Street in Ocala. Proceeds will benefit African-American high school students toward competing in the national ACT-SO (Academic, Cultural, Technological and Scientific Olympics) competition. There are 11 local winners who will compete for college scholarships in Pittsburgh, PA in July.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call 351-4560 Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1 to 6 pm.

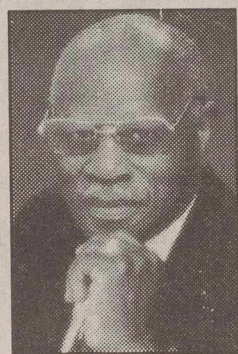
Summer Travel: Tough On Vehicles

(NU) — For millions of Americans, the traditional automobile vacation remains a perennial favorite. But your dream trip could be ruined by automotive problems.

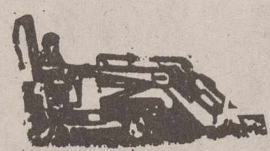
The experts at the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence have prepared a consumer brochure on summertime auto maintenance. For a free copy of "Getting Your Vehicle Ready for Summer," send a self-addressed, stamped, No. 10 envelope to: ASE Summer Brochure, Dept. NU-S97, 13505 Dulles Technology Drive, Suite 2, Herndon, VA 20171.

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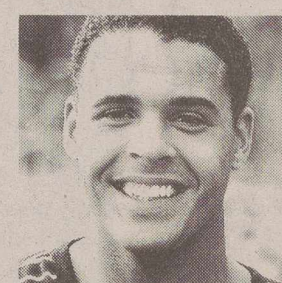
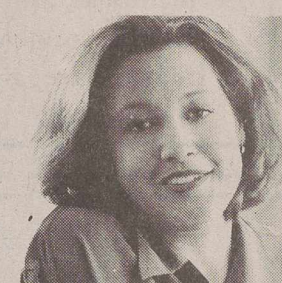
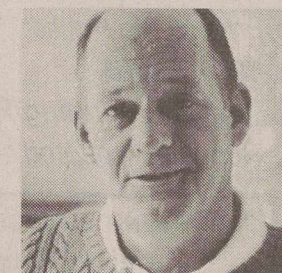


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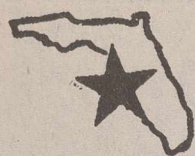
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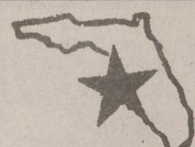
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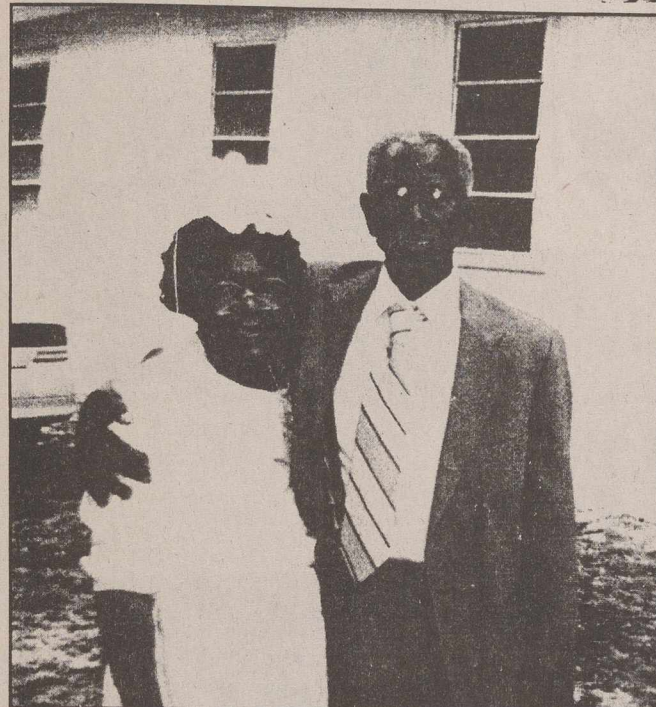


North Central Florida



Ocala News

by James Thorpe



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Howard

51st Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Howard have been married for 51 years. They are members of Mt. Carmel Primitive Baptist Church, Rev. Blue, pastor.

Fish Fry

Scott AME Church of Lowell will host a fish fry on Saturday, April 26 and also serve hot dogs and sweet potato pies and feature a yard sale. When children buy a hot dog, they get a soda free. Come and bring the kids.

Male Chorus

The Marion County Community Male Chorus will hold rehearsals at 6 pm on Saturday, April 26 at the Theological Seminary. All members are asked to be present.

State Memorial Service

The following persons from Ocala and Dunnellon attended the annual grand lodge memorial service for the Masonic family: Most WM Butler Hagins, past WM Edward Washington, trustee board chair Robert Bowels, Samuel Walker and Ernestine B. Bowels.

On My Own

Howard Academy Center offers On My Own, a program designed to provide job skills, job placement and educational opportunities for adults who want to better their economic condition. The program operates six days a week.

The program offers help with TABE testing, pre-GED, GED, career training, career placement, day care, resumes and cover letters, driver's license preparation, reading, parenting skills, State Housing Initiative Program, adult literacy and math.

If you're looking to better yourself, On My Own may be the program for you.

Circle of Services

Marion County Financial Circle of Services has opened an outreach office on the

CFCC Hampton campus, 1501 W Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 7 pm. Services available: loan applications, credit card applications, consumer credit counseling and information on general banking services.

Second MB Church of Jacksonville was the host. The service was held on April 13. Rev. Erwin A. Donaldson presided over the service. The procession of the Masonic family and guests was worth seeing. The congregational choir followed. Scripture by Rev. Williams Jackson, prayer by Rev. Lorenzo Hill. Music by the choir was so spirit filled that the audience rewarded them with a standing ovation. The program was the best ever witnessed by the group. Everyone in attendance agreed that the program was the most impressive ever and was enjoyed by all.

Volunteer Awards

JCPenney Golden Rule Awards of Marion County,



Society In Ocala

by Florence Williams Ray

Achievers Program

Central Florida YMCA's black achievers program is now in full bloom at Howard Middle School in Ocala. It was established with the partnership of concerned citizens of west Ocala MTOMBA Village, a community action program which focuses on and supports the positive development of youth, started April 14 as a pilot program.

This program (targeting 14 students) had 13 students on Monday, 26 on Wednesday and 30 by Friday. This enrichment program will meet every afternoon from 2:30 to 4:45 pm at a designated site for supervised enrichment programs.

The primary components of the MTOMBA Village youth enrichment program are academic enrichment, character and community, encouragement, excellence, community and family involvement, cultural awareness, options and opportunities and empowerment.

The purpose of the W Ocala MTOMBA Village is

Big Sun Volunteer Center and the Ocala Junior League held its annual affair on Monday, April 14. The program began with a buffet followed by the awards program. Deborah Brown, Mrs. Bowels' nominee, was one of the adult winners. Bishop Brown of the AOH Church provides breakfast and the afternoon meal to at least 115 to 125 persons at each meal. The meals are free and served in a clean, quiet and attractive setting. Those who eat there have nothing but praise for the AOH church.

to provide residents an effective method through which they can actively support and participate in the positive development of their youth and the ongoing revitalization of the community. Parents, please support this community development effort.

New Staff Member

Narvela Haynes is a recent addition to the YMCA staff. She will coordinate the black achievement program and work in conjunction with

CFCC and the many volunteers working with the mentoring program.

Haynes will coordinate the implementation of this new program as well as working directly with the children and adults. She will bring many great things to the community in this capacity.

If you are interested in volunteering your service, please contact her. Their motto is "We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities."

PSIMAS Offers Support

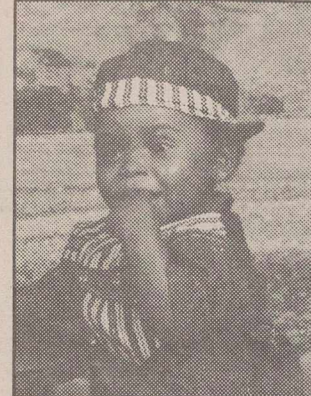
PSIMAS (Parent Support in Math and Science) is a program designed to inform multi-cultural parents of the need to motivate their children to excel in math and science and ways parents can support their children both at school and in the home.

Tutoring is offered Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 4 to 6 pm and Saturday from noon to 4 pm.

Roosevelt Rimes Jr. is coordinator, Robert Johnson, teacher, also Orville Gibbs and Barbara Pompey. Call Rimes at 629-7082 for more information.

Brotherhood Day

On Sunday, April 27 at 7 pm, Welcome Stranger MB Church of Ocala will present its Brotherhood Day program. The speaker for this occasion will be Deacon Floyd Parker II. Music will be rendered by the Male Chorus. The public is invited to attend. The Rev. George Grimsley is pastor; Lilly B. Snow is chair; Felix M. Snow and Deacon Roosevelt Hunt Jr, co-chairs.



Yabahri Jones Birthday Greetings

Birthday greetings go out to Donvae Barnes, April 16; Earl Tucker, April 19; Pearlina Donaldson Williamson, April 24; Agnes Vernon, April 27 and Yabahri Jones, April 25.

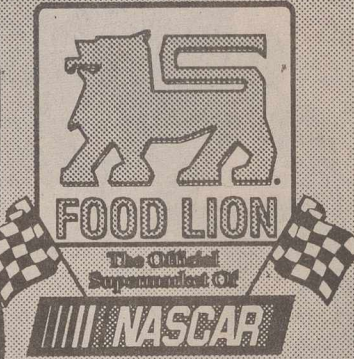
Hello Neighbor

Hello neighbor
It's been a year since you moved in next door
In all of that time, I've never said hello
The moving left you exhausted for awhile
And then came our first grandchild
Afterward came Yule season
And for no good reason
We took a trip out West
Now I must confess
My presence isn't fate
My conscience made this date
Hello neighbor...

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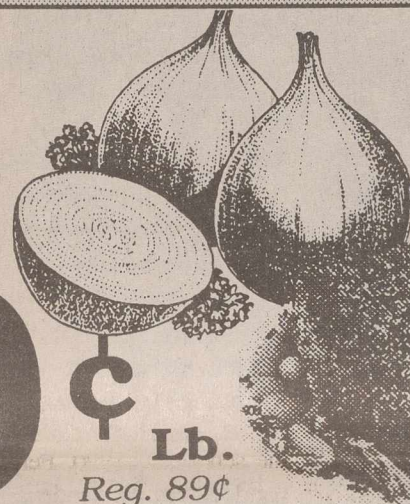


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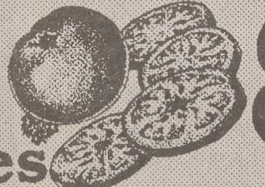


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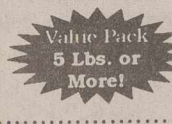
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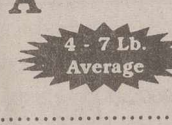
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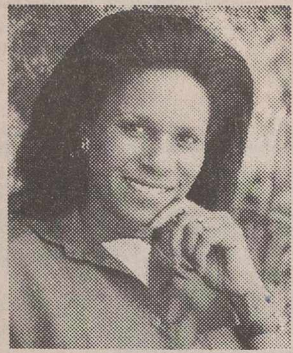
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Let's Celebrate An African-American Arts Festival



May 2nd Thru May 4th Webb Park In Ocala



CLEARWATER

HEADLINES

by
Marilyn Buckner

The Clearwater/Upper Pinellas NAACP hosted its annual Freedom Fund banquet on Friday, April 18 to an audience of 375 at the beautiful downtown Harborview Center.

The Rev. Ron Sailor Jr., 22, was the keynote speaker. Sailor serves on the national board of directors. His speech focused on youth as the future of the organization. He challenged them to "dare to be different" and "to master yourself on the inside."

The banquet program featured many distinguished guests and visitors. Numerous awards were presented by Charles Rutledge. They

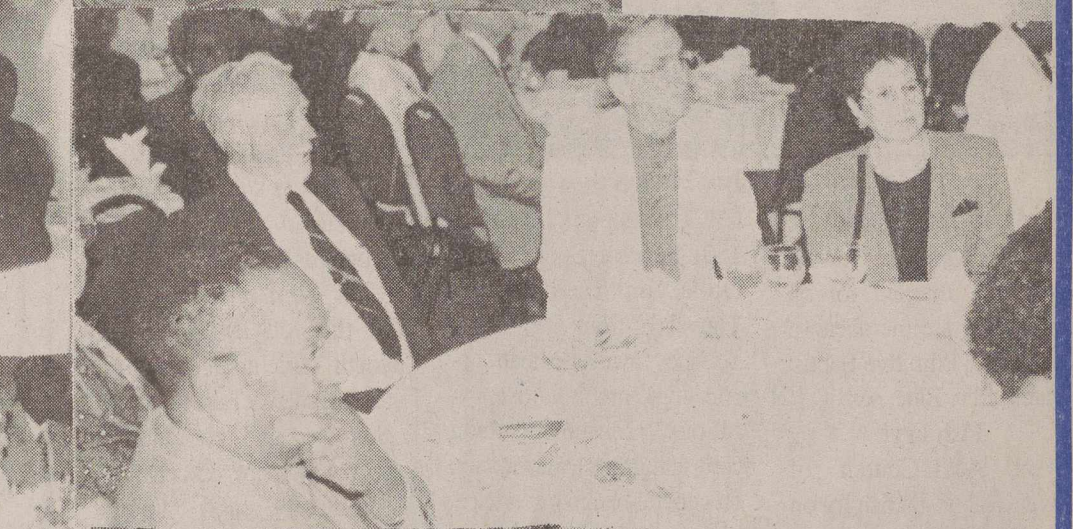
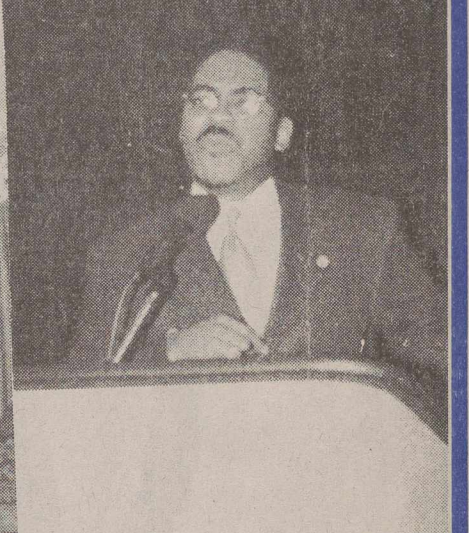
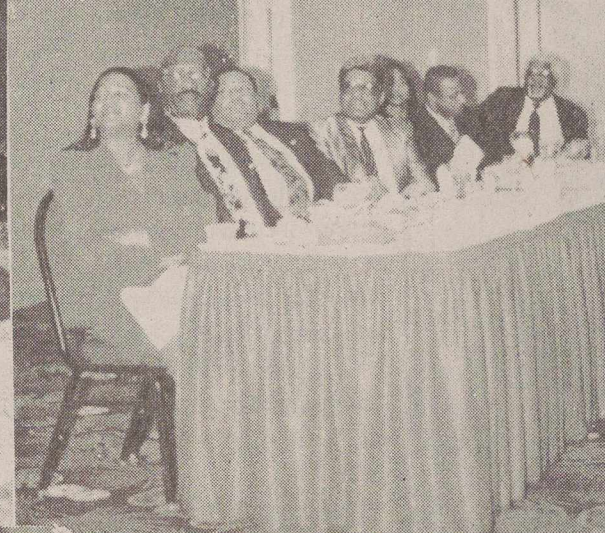
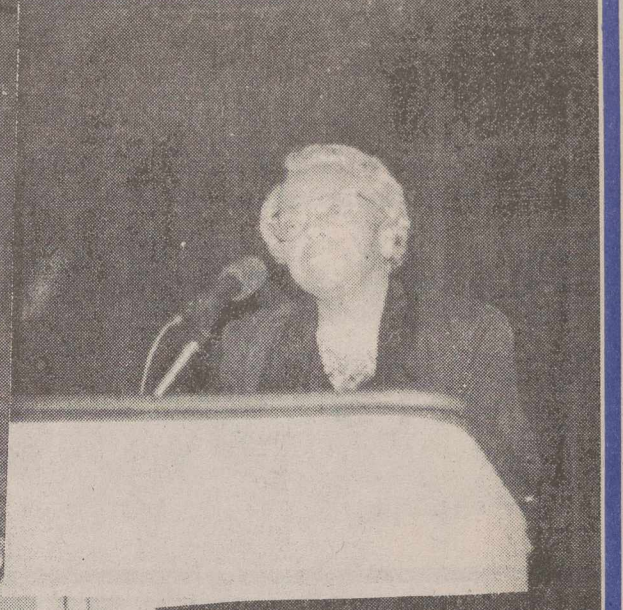
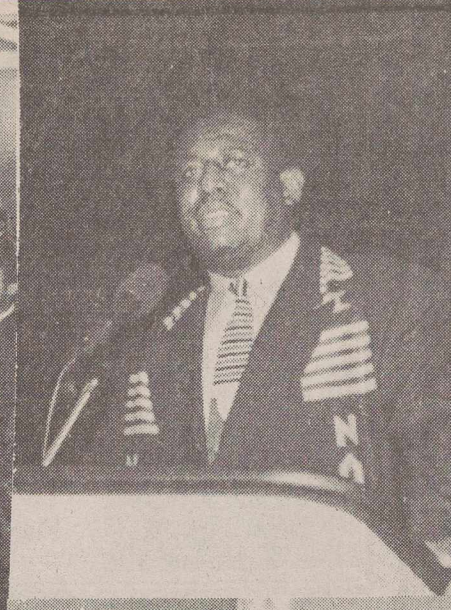
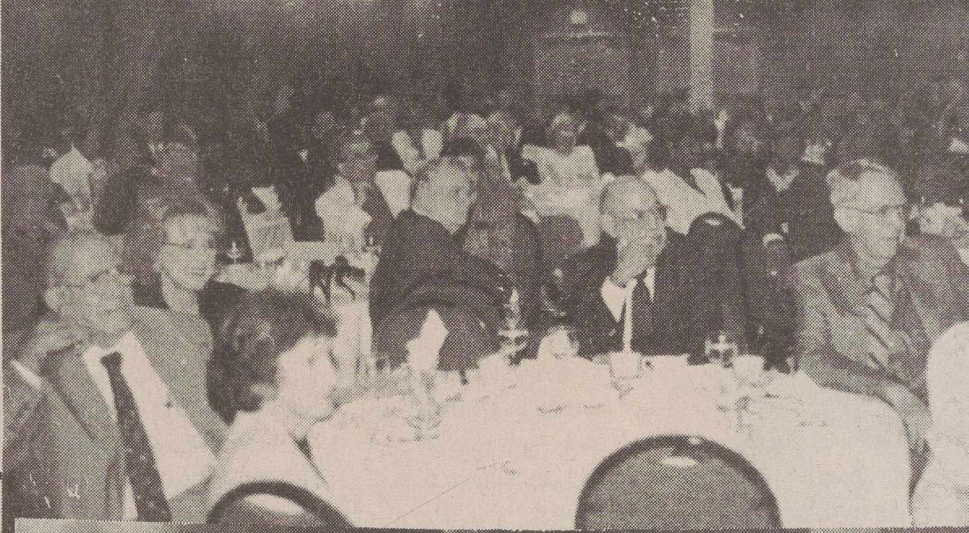
ran from life memberships to golden heritage memberships.

The banquet could not have been successful without the help of members Juanita Washington, Kenneth Miles, Deborah Turner, Diane Porter, Mayme Hodges and the million dollar medallion club member Cherry Harris.

Harris was unable to attend the banquet this year due to illness. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Congratulations, Clearwater NAACP, on another successful banquet.

Send your headlines to me at PO Box 6941, Clearwater 34618.



Rambling With Charles Howard

"Yesterday has gone, forget it.
Today is here, use it.
Tomorrow may not come,
So don't wait on it."
896-2152

More Unique Ways to Stretch a Dollar

Don't Get Burned. Before you put several hundred dollars for enrollment in a commercial stop-smoking clinic, check with your local lung association. These often offer complete smoking cessation programs for only \$5 or \$10. If not, they can tell you what commercial clinics charge least with best results. If no

affiliate of the American Lung Association exists in your community, write their headquarters at 1740 Broadway, New York, NY 10019.

For further information: *How to Stop Smoking*, Herbert Breen, Simon & Schuster, NY 1975.

Happy Birthday

April 24: Willie Mae Davis, Charlie Watkins; April 25-30: Markese Fitzgerald, Chaun-

cey Gregory, Kristie Johnson, Tyrone A. Howard, Idella McGhee, Bridgett Watkins, Renay Allen, Robert Lee Walter Jr., Tansey Daisy Albury, Melvin Kennedy, Dexter Rogers

Celebration

A birthday celebration was held on April 13 at Busch Garden in Tampa for Alvin Wynn II. The weekend started with a party on Saturday for Alvin with family and friends. He turned five. The party place was McDonald's on 38th Avenue and 4th Street N. In attendance were the Coys, Taylors, Wynns, Dunbar,

Branches, Sandy LaShore, Busqith, Thompsons and Taliaferro. On Sunday, the groups drove to Tampa for a fun day at Busch Garden. The Kumbay Scorpion and the monster are just a few of the rides that brought joy and some sickness to the day. This was a day that Alvin and his family and friends won't soon forget.

It's when you run away that you're most liable to stumble. Until next week, jump to it!

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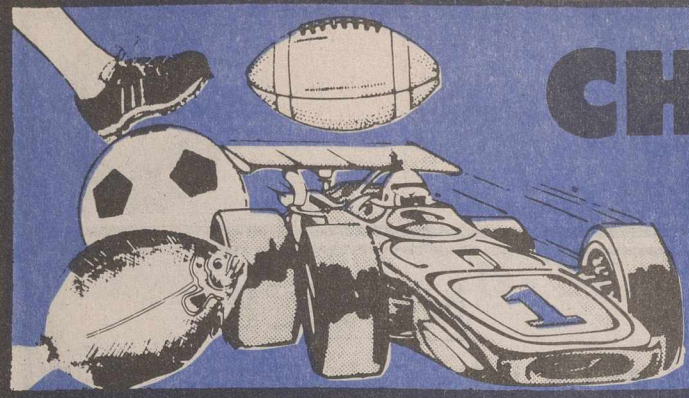
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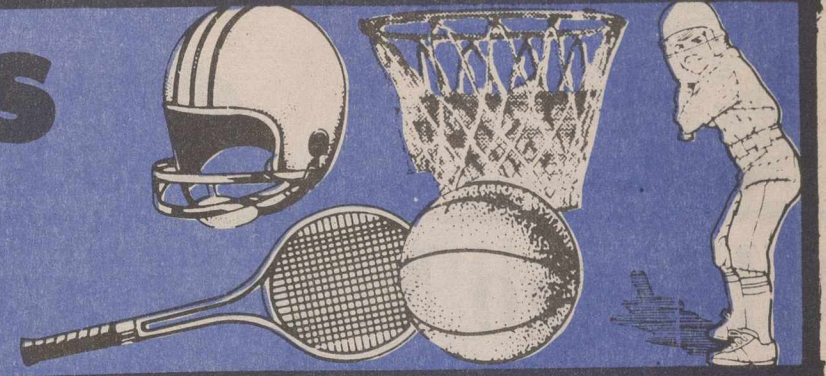
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Godfather Hats	Reg. \$49.99; reduced to \$30.00
Kangol's Caps	\$19.99
Matching Tie and Hankerchief Sets	starting at \$12.99

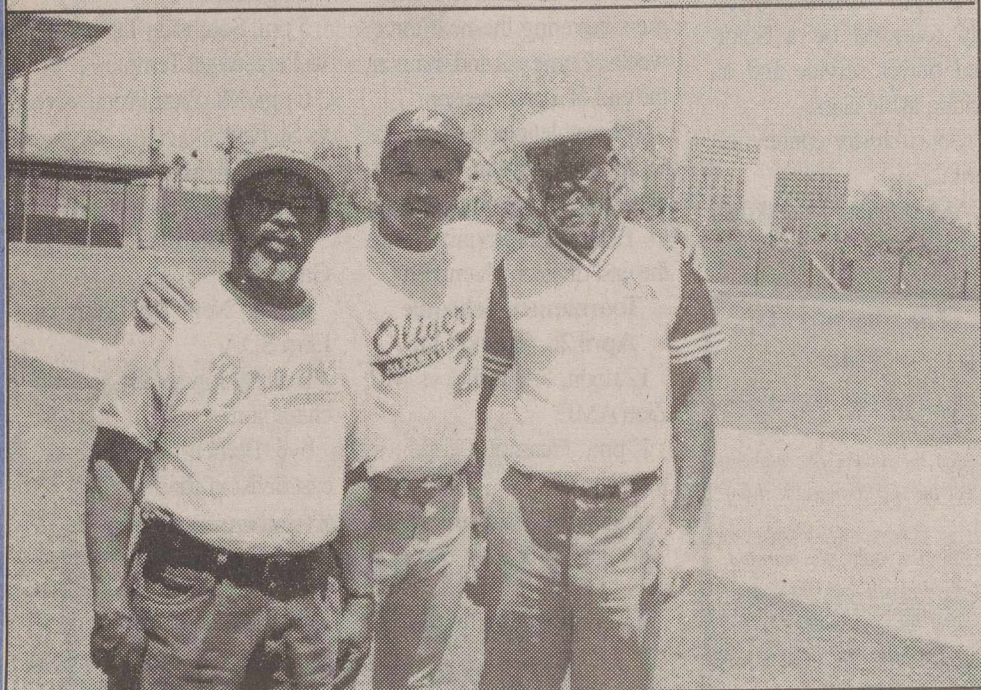
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CHALLENGER SPORTS



Campbell Park Baseball



L-R: Fred Wright, Mannie De Aza and Willie Hill

Photos by BILL THOMAS

ST. PETERSBURG — Manuel De-Aza, an ex-professional baseball player, has played with the Houston Astros, St. Louis Cardinals and the Kansas City Royals. Locally he had played with seven semi-pro teams in Pinellas County including the Alouettes, the only predominantly black semi-pro team to

play in local leagues. Due to the lack of sponsorship and financing, the Alouettes were disbanded.

Recently, several team members, Carl East, Willie C. Hill and Fred Wright have been working feverishly to revive the team, keeping Campbell Park as home field. This area is noted for

promising young black athletes and the primary goal is to help them get started on the right foot with instruction from professional players. They have several fundraisers planned such as car washes and fish fries.

For more information, contact Manny at 867-4476 or Willie at 823-4163.

Tiger Woods: Sign of Hope

by Bernice Powell Jackson

As we celebrate Jackie Robinson's entry into the big leagues 50 years ago, we find ourselves another first—Tiger Woods becoming the first person of color to win the Masters golf tournament. Some might argue that firsts in the world of sports are not really meaningful, but history shows that Jackie Robinson's breaking of the color barrier was the dawning of a new day.

Clearly Tiger Woods has not suffered the abuse, indignities and threats that Robinson did half a century ago. But the reality is that were he not the famed Tiger Woods, there would be golf courses and clubs where he, as a person of color, would not be welcome even today. At the Augusta National, home of the Masters, no black had played in this famed tournament before 1975 and the club had no African American members until seven years ago.

Growing up in the segregated nation's capital, I remember trailing my uncle around the city's African-American public golf course, Langston Golf Course. Hundreds of unnamed amateur and professional golfers laid the groundwork for Tiger Woods.

After his win, Woods acknowledged those who had paved the way for him: Charlie Sifford, Lee Elder and Teddy Rhodes. These men endured hostilities and insults just to play a game which they loved. These men and other athletes of color before them, established a level of excellence and a measure of grace which Tiger Woods has learned well.

Jackie Robinson had to endure taunts, name calling and mean spirited pranks from his fellow team mem-

bers as well as spectators. He found himself isolated from most of his teammates, some of whom threatened not to play with him. He was spiked by opposing players, called nigger and other racial epithets and yet his playing was so outstanding that he was named Rookie of the Year.

Tiger Woods, coming a half a century later, has missed much of that kind of bigotry. Still, golf remains a game of the well-to-do and of European Americans for the most part. Business people of color, aware of the deals made on the golf course, have long lamented their lack of access to private golf courses and clubs.

Tiger Woods, only 21, broke a multitude of records with his one Masters Tournament win. He already has

much poise and is growing in his self-awareness and respect for those who have gone before him. He has refused to be categorized as an African-American player, recognizing that half of him is Asian American. He has grown in his self-understanding for it was only a couple of years ago that he seemed to be struggling with racial identity labels. Some African Americans saw this as a denial of who he was, but his speech after the Masters win showed that he has matured in his thinking around race.

Some have said that they find it difficult to understand why Tiger Woods' win is a race issue. Unfortunately, as long as there are still racial firsts in this nation and as long as discrimination keeps young people from reaching their potential, race will be a factor in all that we do.

Annual Golf Classic

CLEARWATER — The Clearwater chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority sponsors its annual golf classic on Saturday, April 26, 8 am at

Chi Chi Rodriguez Golf Club, 3030 McMullen Booth Road, Clearwater. For more information, contact Barry Baker at 726-4673/725-2945.

Midnight Basketball

ST. PETERSBURG — Come by for pick-up games and weekly tournaments at Campbell Park Center, 9 pm to midnight, 1st and 3rd Sat-

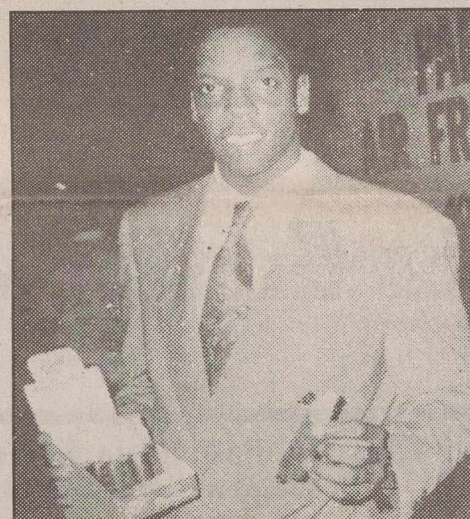
urday of each month and Wildwood Center, 9 pm to midnight 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. For details, call 893-7441.

Registration For Football And Cheerleading

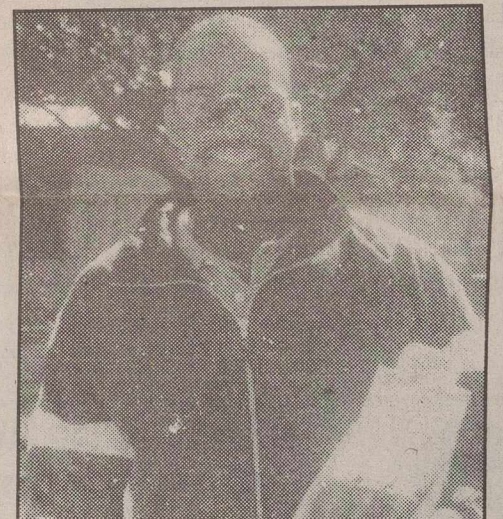
ST. PETERSBURG — The Gibbs Jr. Gladiator Youth Athletic Organization is holding registration for the upcoming football and cheerleading season on Saturday, April 26 at their office adjacent to Wildwood Com-

munity Center, 2650 10th Avenue S. Since WRXB is doing a remote broadcast on Saturday from Wildwood, the GYG organization will offer a registration discount on this day only. Free free to call 328-2454 for details.

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Jacksonville Jaguars Score With Youth

BURTONSVILLE, MD — Mickey Washington, defensive back for the Jacksonville Jaguars, will hold one of the best youth instructional football camps in the USA. The camp is for boys ages 8-18 and features instruction from members of the Jaguars.

"Members of the Jacksonville Jaguars and myself offer each player an enormous amount of encouragement with an enormous amount of

enthusiasm," Washington says. "But our main goal is to encourage each player to go home a more positive, optimistic person."

Washington's program will be held June 7-12 at Jacksonville (FL) University.

Jacksonville Jaguars scheduled to instruct at the program include Mark Burnell, Kelvin Pritchett, James Stewart, Chris Hudson, Willie Jackson, Jeff Lagermann, Tony Boselli,

Joel Smeenge, Santo Stephens and others.

The NFL players do not make token appearances. They get very involved with the youth players. Mickey Washington will be at the camp every day.

For more information about the program, call 1-800-555-0801. Over-night housing is available.

NEWS DEADLINE IS 4 PM MONDAY

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CHURCH NEWS



Chicago Mass Choir Has New Album



610 N. Fairbanks Ct.
Chicago, IL 60611 • 312.944.1107

Chicago Mass Choir

For Bookings:
Feranda Williamson
President, ECC Music Workshop
312.373.7281

The Chicago Mass Choir, which has been a driving force in the realm of traditional Gospel music for some time, pulls out all the stops on its latest album *You Love Me*.

Produced by CMC's own Percy Gray who has worked with the likes of Rev. Milton Brunson and the Thompson Community Singers, Rev. Clay Evans, O'linda Draper and Albertina Walker, *You Love Me* contains a greater contemporary Gospel presence than any of their previous critically acclaimed releases, a fact that should only expand their already broad reaching fan base.

"Basically with this album, we want to reach a larger audience, especially expanding on our following within the ranks of the young people," says Gray. "With songs such as 'Call On Jesus,' 'This Little Light' and 'Wonderful God,' I feel that we can accomplish this goal." Although this album may have more of a contemporary flavor than our previous albums, the substance that has gotten the choir to where it is, the traditional base, is still present."

Gray along with his brother Jeral penned the album's thought-provoking title track. "Through this we want to let

people know that in spite of the situation, in spite of the things that we may have done, God still loves us. He forgives us regardless of what the circumstances may be."

The song "Take Over Lord" best reflects the spiritual personality of the Chicago Mass Choir. "If there's one thing about this choir, we've been put in situations that only God could bring us through," Gray reflects. "There was this one time when we were on the road and had only 20 choir members to minister with. We wondered how we were going to make it through without our entire body. The

choir went into prayer and God took over. From that situation, we learned that whatever situation or circumstance we're confronted with, we just place it in the Lord's hands and ask Him to take over in our behalf. And let me tell you, He hasn't failed us yet."

In retrospect, the Chicago Mass Choir has been sharing its music and ministry with the world since 1988 when the late James Chambers organized Ecclesiastic Community Choir and the ECC workshop in Chicago. Today the workshop still stands by its

initial goals to achieve excellence in Gospel music by providing educational services to our community and proclaiming the word of God through our music ministry."

The week-long workshop always culminated with a live recording featuring the workshop choir. The 1990 workshop recording proved to be an eventful occasion with the choir being rewarded with its initial recording contract. Since the entire organizational structure of the workshop and choir was based in Chicago, it is fitting that the choir be named the Chicago Mass Choir.

Together with expanding their audience base, the Chicago Mass Choir is more importantly looking for more doors to open up in which to share their ministry. "I believe *You Love Me* is a powerful album, both artistically and spiritually," says Gray. "And I say that not because I was involved with it, but because God was involved in every aspect of putting the album together. I feel that the album is going to help in a huge way of expanding the choir's ministerial base. That's what the Chicago Mass Choir is all about anyway. This choir does more than sing, it actually goes out witnessing to souls. And I feel that the songs on this album, together with the choir's spiritual nature, will go a long way in winning both young and old souls for the cause of Jesus."

PRAYER HELPS

Youth Day At New Hope

Dr. Alvin Moore and the youth of New Hope invite all to Youth Day '97 services beginning at 9 am. Youth of all ages will be in charge of the 10:30 am services, deacons will be in charge of devotion. The New Voices of Hope Choir will render song service under the direction of Vernard McKinney and Bobbie Tampa. Dr. Moore will deliver a special Youth Day message. The children have worked hard for this occasion so let's show our encouragement to them.

You are invited to be a special dinner guest each Tuesday at 5 pm which is immediately followed by a Spirit-filled prayer service and an exciting Bible class.

Prison ministry conference, April 25
YALIA prayer breakfast, May 3, 8 am

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.

NOTICE

ALL CHURCH NEWS MUST
BE RECEIVED BY 4 PM ON
MONDAY, OR IT WILL
NOT BE PUBLISHED
UNTIL THE NEXT EDITION
OF THE WEEKLY
CHALLENGER!

Shepherd Men's Basketball Ministry

ST. PETERSBURG— The ministry begins its post-season basketball tournament on Saturday, April 26 at Lakewood High School. This will be a single elimination tournament covering the next three weeks. Come out and share in the end of a great season.

Congratulations go out to St. John-Clearwater, 10-0, the west division champion and to Bethel Community, 9-1, the east division champion.

Tournament Schedule
April 26, Round One
12 noon, Friendship vs Mt. Zion AME
1 pm, Pleasant Grove vs McCabe

2 pm, New Mt. Olive vs Fire Department
3 pm, Northwest vs Stewart Isom
4 pm, 5th Avenue vs Trinity Presbyterian
5 pm, Southside Tabernacle vs Pentecostal Temple
6 pm, Mt. Zion Progressive vs St. Paul
7 pm, Mt. Moriah vs Police Department
8 pm, Southside COC vs Galilee
9 pm, New Mt. Zion vs Elim SDA
Bye: St. John, west division champion
Bye: Bethel Community, east division champion

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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

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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

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Prayer Meeting Weds. 7:30 p.m.
Bible Study Mon. 6:00 p.m.
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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.

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and in the name of Christ and Our Lord says: "COME!"
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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.

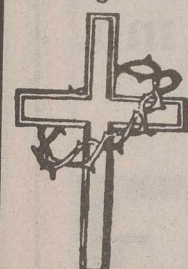
"The Church That's Moving Forward Together"



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.



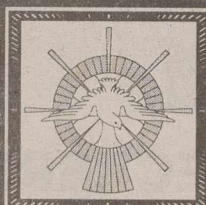
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Thursday Night Prayer
Meeting & Teachers Meeting
We welcome you at all times.

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YPWW 6:30 p.m.
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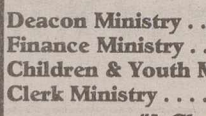
New Philadelphia Community Church

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.)



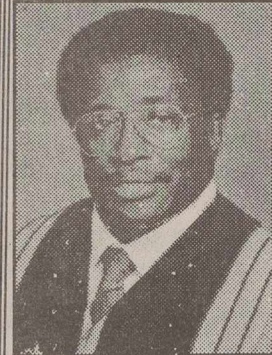
St. John Missionary Baptist Church

1500 N. Pennsylvania Avenue
Clearwater, Florida 33516

Church Phone: 443-1945 Parsonage: 446-6056

Rev. Fleming Tarver, Pastor

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

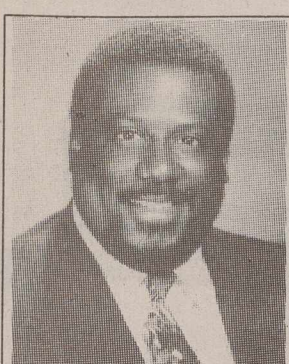
PHONE: 323-7518

REV. WAYNE G. THOMPSON, PASTOR

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A.M.

MORNING WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

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Phone: 894-4311

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Worship Service: 7:00 a.m. * 9:00 a.m. * 11:15 a.m.
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Wednesday, Bible Study - 7:30 p.m.
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Also offering tutoring, free lunch, mentoring, day care, after school care, boy scouts, private school.



Rev. Wilkins Garrett, Jr., Pastor



CHURCH NEWS



Missionary Nurse Off To Africa



Phylis E. Carlman

Mrs. Phylis E. Carlman, wife of Dr. C.C. Carlman, joined 242 mission workers from around the nation for a two week missionary trip to Africa. They left on Thursday, April 17 and plan to return on May 1. This trip will take

them to Kenya, Tanzania, Comoros and Madagascar. Dr. C.C. Carlman is asking the public for their prayerful and financial support. She may be contacted at PO Box 82456, Tampa, FL 33612 on her return.

Moore's Chapel AME

Rev. M. Mason Walker and members welcome you to their Sunday, April 27 services at 8 and 11 am. Ira Whitson will deliver the 8 am sermon. The Male Chorus will provide music, directed and accompanied by Geraldine Mays. The stewardess and usher boards will serve.

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

Family and Friends Day will be observed at 11 am. Rev. Richardson and St. Paul AME Church of St. Augustine will be in charge of the services. St. Paul's Choir and the African Freedom Singers will sing. Ushers and stew-

ardesses from both churches will serve. Dinner will be served following the service at the Masonic Hall, 3100 Freemont Terrace S.

Love feast will be held Friday evening, May 2 at 7. Wednesdays, 12 noon prayer service, 7 pm prayer service and Bible study.

Monday, April 28, African Freedom Singers rehearsal, 5:30 pm.

The Pastor's Aide Board's pre-Mother's Day banquet will be held at 6 pm on Saturday, May 3 at Lakewood United Methodist Church fellowship hall, 5995 9th Street S. For tickets, contact any board member.

Bethel Metropolitan

Pastor Henry J. Lyons and members invite you to worship with us Sunday at 8 and 11 am. This week the Praise Team, Sanctuary Choir, Male Choir and youth ushers will serve. The second family district meeting will be held on Sunday, April 27 after the 11 am service. Each member is asked to remain and sit in your designated area. The Maome S. Benton Circle #10/Red Circle Sunshine Band will have a six-course dinner available after mid-morning worship.

In our quest of being a purpose-driven church, Pastor Lyons, NBC director Alfred Williams and the official board has instituted a nurture for Baptist churches commitment campaign. This campaign seeks to increase participation in our mid-week ministries. The prayerful adult attendance goal is 225. Our youth oriented program, AWANA, has exceeded their goal and they are still growing. We encourage your attendance at our Wednesday night

AWANA, NBC and Bible study at 7 pm for a clearer understanding of the Word. Each study group is designed to enhance biblical growth and preparation in the work of the church for the entire family. The April 30th devotional leader is the trustee board. Transportation is provided.

You are welcome to attend Thursday noon-day Bible study and Saturday mid-day prayer hour, noon to 1 pm.

Registration is now open for Bethel's Pathfinders summer day camp that is held June 9-Aug. 8. This is the 9th year for the Bible-based camp. The activities include cultural field trips, artistic expression and many fun-filled events. New this year will be ongoing academic skill awareness. The camp hour area from 7 am to 6 pm. You may call 327-0554 or stop by the church office for an application.

April 30, birth month reception



BEAT THE HEAT AT YOUR HOUSE OF WORSHIP; IT'S COOL

During the oppressive heat and humidity of summer, remember that your House of Worship is always open, all the year 'round, and always ready to revive your spirits. You'll find it cool inside, and you will leave there feeling refreshed in more ways than one. You will learn that God made this world you're living in, and established the four seasons, including summer, so that we could grow our food and enjoy the beauties of nature that unfold along with the calendar. Remember even in the heat of summer that He made the water that you may have a chance to swim in, the cool grass on which you might enjoy a picnic, and the balmy star-studded nights. So don't forget to attend your House of Worship regularly this summer; it's the "cool" thing to do.

How God comes to thee, and all times are His seasons.
- John Donne

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."
- Ecclesiastes 3:1

NOTICE

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Pleasant Grove

Sunday services begin at 7 am with the Gospel Chorus and male ushers serving, followed by church school and new member orientation at 9:30 am and worship hour at 10:50. The Junior and Gospel Chorus will render song service. Baptist Training Union and new member orientation at 5 pm.

The Angelic Choir will be in concert at the church, 2550 9th Avenue S, at 4 pm on Sunday, April 27. Everyone is

invited. Wednesday, tutorial program for K-12, 6:30-7:30 pm; children/youth Bible study, 7:30 pm; adult prayer meeting and Bible study, 7:30 pm. Thursday, Gospel Chorus and #2 Choir rehearsal, 7:30 pm. Friday, Bible drill team rehearsal, 6:30 pm; teachers meeting, 7 pm. Pleasant Grove will worship with New Jerusalem at 7:30 pm.

THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER.

NEWS DEADLINE IS 4 PM MONDAY

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

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.
YPWW 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.



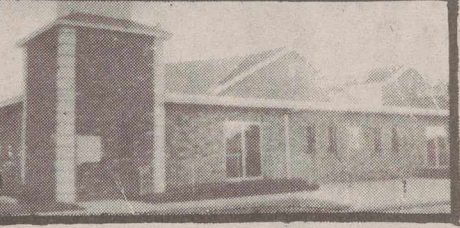
Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church

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 - 16th Street S., St. Pete, FL 33712
PHONE: 896-6722

Rev. Manuel L. Sykes

Services

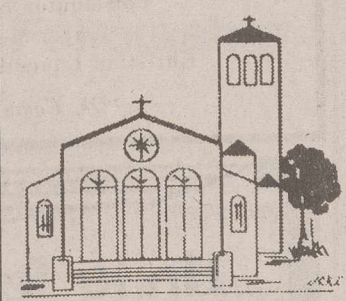
Sunday School 8:45 a.m.
Worship Service 10 a.m.
Prayer Services Wed., 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study Wed., 7:30 p.m.



St. Joseph Church

2101 - 22nd Ave. S., St. Petersburg
Catholic Diocese of St. Petersburg

Masses: Saturday 5:15 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m. Gospel Choir
11 a.m. Traditional Choir
Order of Service from the
African-American Catholic Hymnal



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

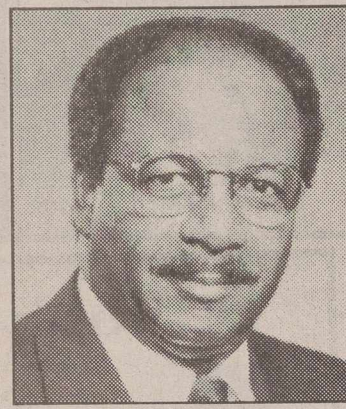
3455 - 26th Avenue South • St. Petersburg, FL 33711

(813) 327-0554

"Church of The Open Door"

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

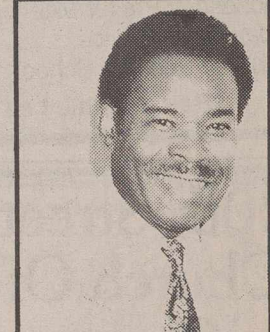
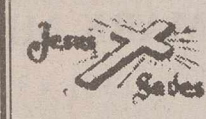
Morning Worship 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Wed. NBC/AWANA/Bible Study/Praise & Prayer 7:00 p.m.
Thurs. Midday Bible Study 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.
Sat. Noon Day Prayer Hour 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.
DR. HENRY J. LYONS, PASTOR



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.
YPWW 6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship 7:30 p.m.

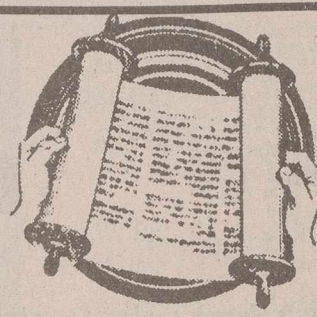
Tuesday, Bible Band 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Prayer & Worship Service 7:30 p.m.

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



Rev. Sumpter Reaches 101

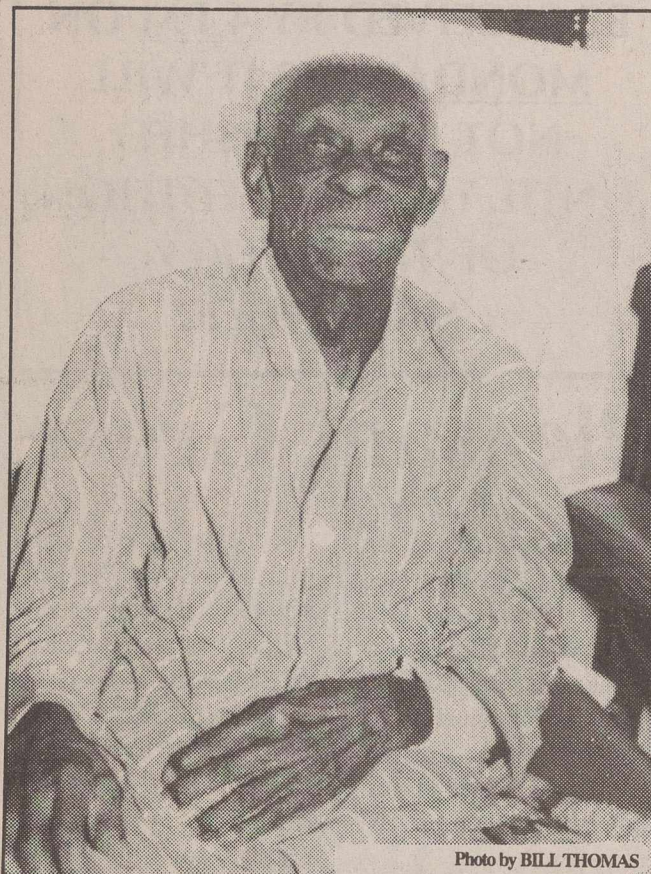


Photo by BILL THOMAS

Rev. Sumpter Bristol

The family of Rev. Sumpter Bristol, will give a party in his honor on Saturday. Rev. Bristol was born in Jasper on April 28, 1896. He joined the Army in 1917 during World War I and preached his first sermon while in the Armed Forces. At the end of the war in 1918, he was ordained and in 1924, he

became a full-time minister. After serving 65 years as a minister, he felt it was time to retire. Rev. Bristol is the father of five children, grandfather of 61 and has 150 great grands. He has outlived three wives. He is a member of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

Bethel Metropolitan Christian School

Bethel Metropolitan Christian School at 3455 28th Street S is now accepting applications for the 1997-98 school term. The school is enrolling kindergartners, first and second graders.

Parents who are disgusted with the current educational system, unhappy with busing, felt that their children are treated unfairly and are not taught very much, have a choice. Your children can remain in those conditions or parents can invest in their children's education by sending them to Bethel Metropolitan Christian School. The school uses a Bible-based curriculum, children perform above grade level in reading and math, kindergarten children write in

unbelievable cursive, character building and manners are taught, certified teachers are hired and children are taught to use the computer. A special feature of the school is black history.

Standards are high at Bethel Metropolitan Christian School and students measured up the first year of its existence.

The hours are 8:30 am to 3 pm daily; however, before and after school care is provided.

Yvonne C. Reed is the director/teacher of the school and Dr. Henry J. Lyons is pastor. For more information, feel free to visit or call 327-0554 after 3 pm.

New Philadelphia

Keeping aflame the fire of revival is the ongoing focus of Sunday's sermon. The worship theme through Pentecost Sunday (May 18) will continue to emphasize the spirit of revival among church members. The Rev. Mary Wheeler-Jones will deliver the sermon at mid-morning worship. The building fund ministry will share information of importance at the conclusion of the service.

A class for prospective ministerial candidates meets on Wednesday at 6:30. A primary focus will be preparing persons for Christian ministry who have experienced a divine call to do such. A survey of biblical hermeneutics will be explored. If one is to understand the teachings of God's word correctly, such a

study is essential. There sessions are open to all interested persons. The primary text is the Bible. Secondary texts will be materials which aid in understanding the Bible.

The importance of a male prayer group will be one of several points of discussion at men and boys monthly breakfast together on Sunday. An internal and external strategy for outreach witnessing will also be planned. Time of the gathering is 9 am.

A Come, Let Us Reason Together session will be held on Monday, April 28. This activity will take the place of the monthly Christian communication and fellowship hour. All members are requested to make a sacrificial effort to attend.

NOTICE
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TWO MINUTES

WITH THE BIBLE
BY CORNELIUS R. STAM, FOUNDER
BEREAN BIBLE SOCIETY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60635



GRACE ABUNDING

In a letter to his spiritual son Timothy, Paul wrote some 1900 years ago about his own conversion:

"I was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious; but I obtained mercy because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant..." (1 Tim. 1:13,14).

And he follows this with the now famous declaration:

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief" (Verse 15).

Upon reading these words of Paul, those who know their Bibles will immediately recall the words of Romans 5:20,21:

"Moreover the Law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, GRACE did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might GRACE REIGN through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."

These two passages from the pen of Paul have a closer connection than may appear on the surface. The Apostle Paul, once Saul of Tarsus, had led his nation and the world in rebellion against Christ. "As for Saul," we read in Acts 8:3, "he made havoc of the church," and he himself testified to the Galatians: "Ye have heard... how that before measure I persecuted the church of God, and laid it waste" (1:13).

Yet God, in infinite mercy, had saved Paul, not only for Saul's own sake, but to make him the living demonstration of His grace. Thus, in writing to Timothy, the Apostle goes on to explain: "Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me, first Jesus Christ might show forth all long-suffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting" (1 Tim. 1:16).

Let's take our places with Saul, the sinner, and find salvation by grace through faith in Christ, the Savior, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..." (Acts 16:31).

Elim Seventh-Day Adventist

Looking for a place to worship this week? Pastor Lewis Edwards and members invite you to worship with them on Saturday, April 26. Early morning service begins at 9 with the Bible study topic "What Knowing God Means." Divine worship be-

gins at 11 am and music will be provided by the Temple Choir under the direction of Johnny Mells.

Weekly services are Wednesday night prayer meeting at 7:30; Friday night family worship service at 7 pm. Come and receive a blessing.

Our community service center is open to serve you each Tuesday from noon to 2 pm and Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 6:30 pm.

Upcoming events are April 23-27, United Youth Congress, St. Louis, MO. Guest speaker Elder S.J. Jackson,

SEC family life instructor, May 1-2.

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

I am home in Heaven, dear ones oh so happy and so bright there is perfect joy and beauty In this everlasting light All the pain and grief is over Every restless tossing passed I am now at peace forever Safely home in Heaven at last.

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

Galilee's Mission Society will sponsor an All Mission Day fellowship program on Sunday, April 27 at 4 pm. Rev. Don Gaskin, pastor of New Philadelphia, and congregation will be guest participants.

The theme is "A Revived Determination to Revisit the

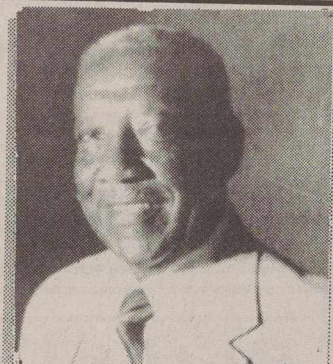
Great Commission."

The public is cordially invited to be the guest of one of the following groups: senior women, Carrie Hinton, president; women's intermediate auxiliary, Martha Philpott, president; and nurses guild, Victoria Lawson, president.

10th Street Church Of God

207 10th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting/
Bible Study 7:15 p.m.
Evening Worship (1st & 3rd Sunday) 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Chester L. James, Jr. - Pastor
International Headquarters, Anderson, Indiana

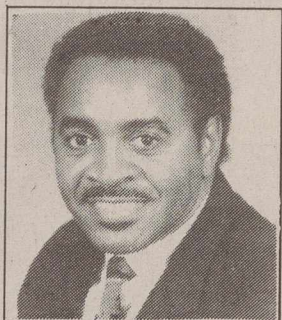


New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

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"



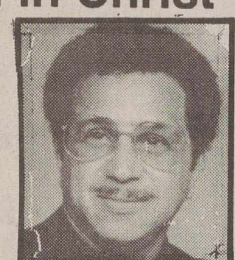
Rev. Alvin Moore, Pastor

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"

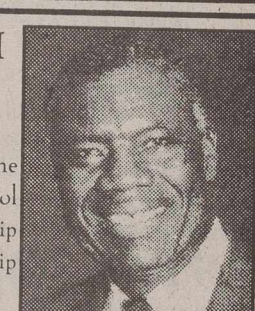


TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

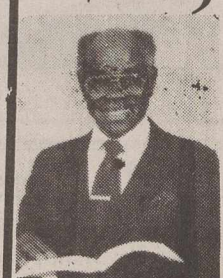
EARLY MORNING WORSHIP 8 A.M.

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.

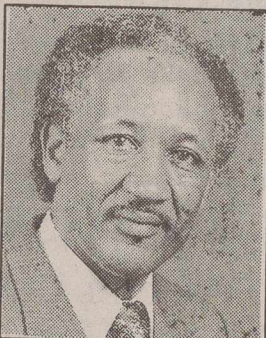


20th Street Church Of Christ

820 20th Street South
St. Pete, FL
Home: 896-8006

Minister Robert Clemens

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 Class9:30 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



Prayer Tower

Sunday, April 27 will be celebrated as Dual Day at Prayer Tower. Church school begins at 10 am, morning worship at 11:30 and afternoon service at 4 pm. This is a day of spiritual fellowship with guest Christians from a variety of church affiliations, having men and women responsible for an individual service. Special choirs have been formed, a women's choir for the morning service and a male choir for the afternoon service, with guests from

throughout the city included.

The morning speaker will be Ayakao Gallman Watkins of Victory Christian Center, St. Petersburg. Watkins, originally from Daytona Beach, works very faithfully in many capacities within the church, including women's ministry, singles ministry, nursery, and is often called upon to teach God's word. She is a very willing vessel, desiring to do that which draws others to the kingdom of God. She holds a master's degree from Florida

State university, a bachelor's from Spelman College and is employed as a health planner with the Healthy Start Coalition of Pinellas.

The Dual Day afternoon speaker will be Elder Melvin Goggins, pastor of Soul's Harbor Church of God in Christ, Columbia County, FL where he has faithfully served for the past 18 years. Elder Goggins earned his bachelor's degree at Florida State University in architectural drafting and education. Other

than his duties as pastor, he is employed by the Columbia County school system.

Elder Clarence Welch, pastor of Prayer Tower, and all its members extend a very warm welcome to everyone and a special one for Dual Day services. We're asking that you come and spend the day fellowshiping with us so that together we can "...taste and see that the Lord is good!" Prayer Tower is located at 1137 37th Street S.

Traveler's Rest

Rev. Don Browne and members invite you to attend their worship services at any time. Sunday school begins at 9:30 am followed by mid-morning service at 11. Prayer and praise service are held every Wednesday at 7 pm. Mid-day Bible study is held on Thursday morning at 11. Again, everyone is always welcome to attend. For transportation to services, call the church at 822-4869.

Church members will be celebrating the 53rd anniversary of their church on May 16-18. Everyone is cordially

invited to come share in this joyous occasion.

Tuesday, April 24, senior citizen fellowship meeting, 6:30 pm

Friday, April 25, deacon meeting, 7 pm

Saturday, April 26, CYFA Choir rehearsal; Sunday school teachers meeting and youth usher rehearsal, 10 am

Tuesday, April 29, Mass Choir rehearsal, 7 pm

Wednesday, April 30, the Pulpit Aide ministry will be in charge of prayer and praise service at 7 pm.

Mississippi Mass Sings For Pope

Mississippi Mass Choir, the world's #1 Gospel choir, was honored by performing for Pope John Paul II during the choir's tour of Italy.

The Malaco Records group was unexpectedly invited to sing for the Pope on March 31 after the choir performed several times at the famed Umbria Jazz, Gospel and Soul Easter Festival in Terni, Italy. The choir was also chosen to close the festival as the headline artists following Patti LaBelle.

Mississippi Mass Choir performed for the Pope at his summer residence on the outskirts of Rome. The choir sang three songs for the pontiff including "Jesus Paid It All" from the choir's current

hit album *I'll See You in the Rapture*.

The Mississippi Mass Choir had departed Jackson for Italy on March 25 on the first leg of its 1997 world tour. Other stops later this summer will include a return to Greece, site of a previously acclaimed tour. While in Greece from July 5 to 15, the choir's performance halls will include the ancient Acropolis.

All world-touring stops feature Mississippi Mass' first breakout star Lillian Lily. Lillian, whose debut solo album *Gotta Have Faith* was just released by Malaco, is the first singer to emerge from the choir as a solo recording artist.

Riding high on its fifth hit album, *I'll See You in the Rapture*, the choir recently swept up a 1997 Grammy nomination for the disc. The choir also won two of Gospel's most coveted Stellar Awards as both choir of the year and traditional choir of the year. Now the choir is nominated for a Dove Award, the major annual awards in Christian music.

Founded in 1988, the choir's debut album *The Mississippi Mass Choir Live* remained in the #1 slot atop the Billboard chart for 45 consecutive weeks, setting a new record for a Gospel recording. For its unprecedented popularity, Billboard gave the choir a special achievement award.

An Evening Of Spiritual Music And Poetry

ST. PETERSBURG—The Zeta Amicae chapter invites everyone to its 21st annual tea

featuring an evening of spiritual music and poetry on Sunday, April 27, 4-6 pm, at Trin-

ity Presbyterian Church, 2830 22nd Avenue S.

St. Mark Missionary Baptist

Rev. Brian Brown and members welcome everyone to Sunday services. Church school begins at 9:30 am. Then at 10:45 am, worship begins with deacons and youth leading devotion. The children and youth choirs will render song service with director Franklin Gray at the organ and Vivian Green at the piano. The children and youth

ushers will serve. Rev. Brown will deliver the message. Baptism will follow morning worship.

Men of the church will prepare a delicious Mother's Day breakfast for the women of the church on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 11.

The junior women will sponsor their annual Mother's Day luncheon on Saturday,

May 10.

Monday, children/youth choir rehearsal, 6 pm; junior women, 7 pm

Tuesday, teachers meeting, Special Chorus, 7 pm; Male Chorus, 8 pm

Thursday, senior hour of power, 1 pm; prayer meeting and Bible study, 7 pm

Greater St. Paul

Pastor J. Holloway and members invite the community to a Health Fair on Saturday, April 26 from 10 am to 3 pm. Free dental checkups, medical screening, blood pressure checks, chiropractic screening, foot screening and HIV testing will be offered. Come out and get healthy and have a good time. The event is

sponsored by Integrated Services.

The Fellowship Choir will have a special rehearsal on Saturday at 11 am and the Male Chorus at 12 noon.

Sunday will be Fellowship Day for all members. The Male Choir will render song service and the #4 ushers will greet all worshippers. Service

begins at 10:45 am.

Deacons and deaconesses will celebrate their anniversary at 3 pm. St. John Church (St. Pete) and Pastor Steve Thomas will be the guests.

For more information or transportation, call 327-7107. The church is located at 532 33rd Street S. Sara Nash, reporter

Greater Mt. Zion AME

Pastor Robinson and members invite you to Sunday services at 7:30 and 11 am and church school at 9:30. Music for the day will be provided by the Richardson Special Chorus and Youth Choir. The

youth department will be in charge of the mid-morning service.

The women's Bible ministry will sponsor Women of the Bible on Friday, April 25

at 7 pm and also a mother/daughter luncheon at 11 am on Saturday, May 3.

The Sounds of Zion invite you to their anniversary on Sunday, April 27 at 4 pm.

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal

Rev. Harry L. Dawkins, stewards and members invite you to worship on Sunday, April 27: Sunday school at 9 am and worship hour at 10:30 am. Come and hear songs of praise by the Youth Choir and hear the words that will give you strength, faith and joy preached by the pastor.

Wednesday, Mass Choir rehearsal, 7 pm
Thursday, April 24, Youth Choir rehearsal, 6 pm.

The youth church meets every Thursday at 6 pm.

St. Petersburg district revival will be held at Bethel-Dunedin April 21-23. Members are urged to come together for this spiritual re-awakening experience.

You are cordially invited to attend the Trustees Tea on Sunday, May 4 immediately after the 10:30 am worship service.

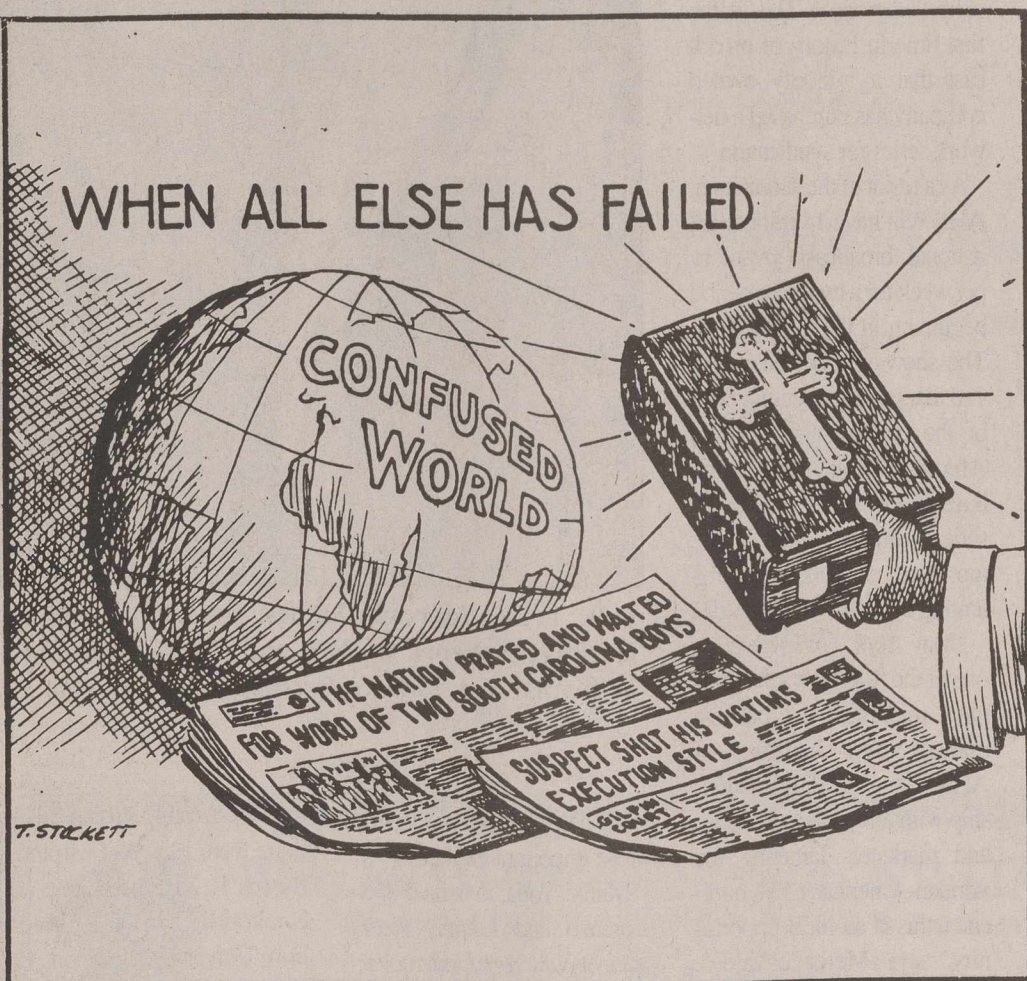
Start marking your calendar

for the annual Calendar Tea on Sunday, May 25.

The tea committee will meet on Thursday, April 24 at 6:30 pm. All committees, chairs and other interested members are urged to attend.

The calendar groups will sponsor a dinner sale on Saturday, May 3 at the church from 11 am to 3 pm.

Each Wednesday at noon, the Missionary Society meets with others to share prayer.



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

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

GREATER LIGHT A.M.E 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!

FIRST MT. PILGRIM EVANGELIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.

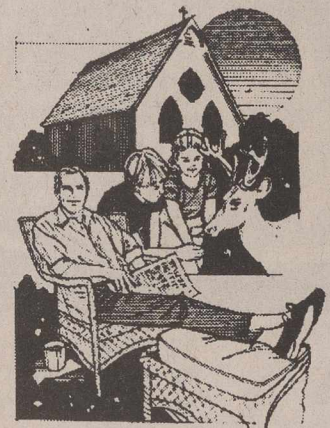
2700 - 5th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL
Reverend L.P. Davis, Pastor
Home Phone: 345-3121
Sunday Worship
Sunday School 10:00 am Baptist Training Union: 4:30 pm
Morning Worship 11:30 am Evening Wor. ip 6:30 pm
Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study 7:00 pm
Friday Evening - Youth Meeting 6:30 pm
The Church That Welcomes Everyone!

NOTICE

ALL CHURCH NEWS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 4 PM ON MONDAY, OR IT WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED UNTIL THE NEXT EDITION OF THE WEEKLY CHALLENGER!

The Joy of Unselfish Giving

Time is not measured by the years that you live
But by the deeds that you do and the joy that you give -
And each day as it comes brings a chance to each one
To love to the fullest, leaving nothing undone
That would brighten the life or lighten the load
Of some weary traveler lost on Life's Road -
So what does it matter how long we may live
If as long as we live we unselfishly give.
Helen Steiner Rice

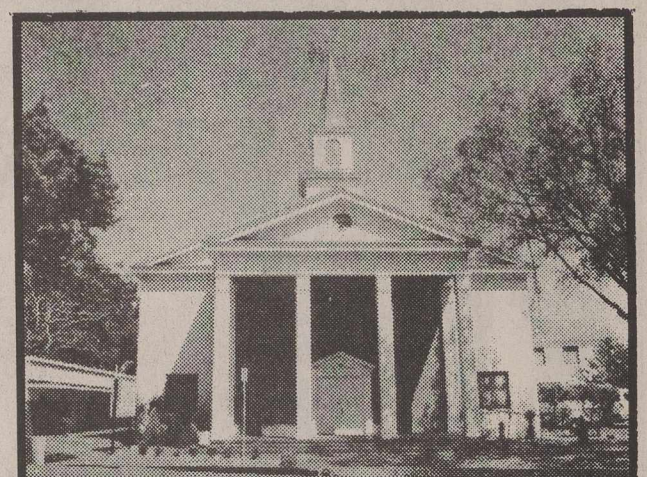


FAITH DECLARES A BUDGET VACATION AN ENJOYABLE ONE

Vacation time is here for many of us, and this year it may have to be a low budget one. However, wherever we live in this wonderful country, there is always something beautiful to see nearby, as well as some fun things to do; even if we just lounge around the back yard and maybe take an occasional ride to the woods or a beach, if there's one handy. It's not necessary to spend a lot of money in order to have a good time, escape from the cares and chores of the rest of the year, and see the wonders of nature. Just remember that God made this world we live in, and He put a lot of beauty into it that man, with all his huge shopping malls, etc., cannot completely eradicate. Remember also that God will be watching over you, whether you're at home or away.

So didst thou travel
on life's way, in
cheerful godliness,
William Wordsworth

"...I am with thee,
and will keep thee
in all places
whither thou goest."
- Genesis 28:15



ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2025 W. Central Blvd.
Orlando, FL 32805

ORDER OF SERVICE

Sun. Early Morning Service 7:30 AM
Sun. Sunday School & Orientation Class 9:30 AM
Sun. Morning Service 11:00 AM
Sun. Communion Service (1st Sunday) 1:00 PM
Sunt. B.T.U. 4:45 PM
Tues. Prayer Meeting & Bible Study 10:00 AM & 7:00 PM

I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the house of the Lord. Psalm 122:1

REV. FRED L. MAXWELL, PASTOR

Friendship

Missionary Baptist
2315 18th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL



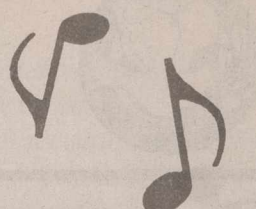
CHURCH SERVICES

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."



ENTERTAINMENT



'Smart Guy'



T.J. (Tahj Mowry) finds himself overbooked for the prom when his family thinks his lack of interest in the dance is really a "cry to be included" in the "Baby It's You, And You, And You" episode of "Smart Guy" airing Wednesday, May 7 at 8:30 PM (ET/PT) on The WB.

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Smart Guy

There's no chance that T.J. (Tahj Mowry) will be a lonely wallflower at the prom when his family gets into the act to find him a date in the "Baby It's You...And You...And You" episode of Smart Guy airing Wednesday, May 7 at 8:30 pm (ET/PT) on the WB Network.

Rhythm & Voices Multi-Cultural Theater Group

ST. PETERSBURG — Lights, camera, action! Rhythm & Voices is now looking for youth who aspire to be the next shining star on the acting scene. The Rhythm & Voices Theater Group has restructured its focus to empower young

theater enthusiasts to engage in theater workshops at the Enoch Davis Center, which will be facilitated by local and visiting artists.

In conjunction with the Mahaffey Theater, Mt. Zion Human Services, Inc. and the city of St. Petersburg, the

Rhythm & Voices Theater Group has the cure for your acting bug. So come join us on April 28 at 6 pm and harness your natural ability. Also, with the cooperation of Jai Hinson of the Dundu Dole Company, you are guaranteed a cultural blast!

Spring Barbecue Fest

ST. PETERSBURG — The Southside Boys & Girls Club will hold a spring barbecue fest on Saturday, May 3 from 11 am to 6 pm at Lake Maggiore Park. Come out and enjoy good food and Tampa Bay's hottest entertainment

from Daddy "V" Productions. It will feature live music and dance, rappers MCA and 2Below Zero, Burg Style Strawberry Boyz, R&B vocalist Resheda Robinson, singing sensation Fantasy and

Against the Grain Band. There will be great barbecue food and a free tee-shirt giveaway. If rained out, the fest will be held at the Southside Boys & Girls Club, 1011 22nd Street S, St. Petersburg.

Class Of '68 Plans Sock Hop

ST. PETERSBURG — The Gibbs class of 1968 will hold an oldies but goodies sock hop which will be held on Friday, May 2 from 9 pm to 2 am at the Knights of

Columbus hall on 17th Street and Central Avenue. Newly revived D.J. Johnstone will spin the records. Wear your blue jeans and dancing shoes and get ready

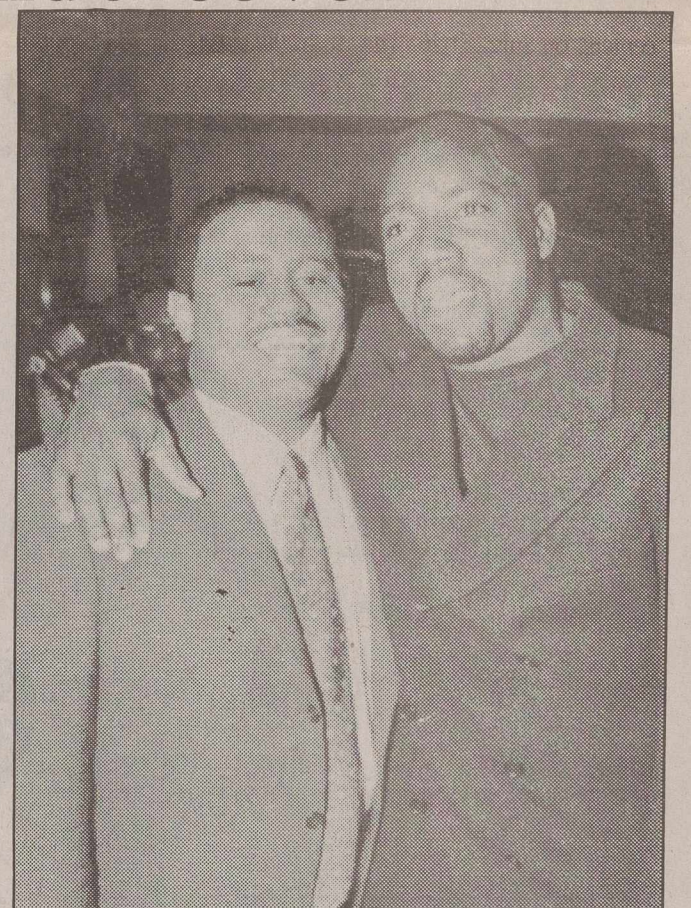
to listen to some of your favorite artist along with their remarks. Contact any Gibbs class of '68 member for ticket information.

AHN Acquires National Barter Time Of 'New York Undercover'

NEW YORK — A gala event was held Tuesday night, March 25 hosted by Frank Mercado-Valdes, president, the African Heritage Network, to celebrate the acquisition of the national barter time to the weekend broadcast runs of the popular drama series, *New York Undercover*. This is the first time in history of broadcast that a minority owned company has purchased a network series for syndication.

As a result of the acquisition, AHN will have 14 minutes of national broadcast inventory per week for a two-year period beginning in the fall of 1998. The show will be cleared in 110 markets representing 80% of the country and 90% of African-American and Latino households. This acclaimed series currently ranks in the top three network programs among black TV households.

"*New York Undercover* is one of the few shows that portrays minorities in a positive manner and because of AHN's long standing relationship with advertising agencies and marketers targeting the African-American TV audience, this is an ideal opportunity," says Mercado-Valdes. The African-American and Latino markets are critical to the success of many products and *New York Undercover*



L-R: Frank Mercado-Valdes, President, African Heritage Network (AHN), and Malik Yoba (J.C. Williams) *New York Undercover*.

will help advertisers reach those important markets.

Malik Yoba, Michael DeLorenzo and Lauren Velez, stars of *New York Undercover*, attended the event along with show producers Reggie Bythewood and James Mtume. Other guests who

attended to support this milestone were Rev. Al Sharpton, Byron Lewis, president of Uniworld, and executives from Universal Television.

Universal Television's *New York Undercover* currently airs Thursday nights at 9:30 pm on Fox.



43 Beaver Brook Rd.
Danbury, CT 06810
203-736-8333

TARIKA

The Roots Music of Madagascar

Madagascar Roots Band Tours US

Madagascar's international popular roots band, Tarika, takes its exuberant island grooves and topical focus to the road for a North American tour in March and April. The tour kicked off in New York

City on March 20 at S.O.B.'s in conjunction with a Putamayo fashion show for their new clothing line, Islands.

Over the past few years, Tarika (TAIR-i-ka) has gained a following as one of the most

explosive, ground-breaking bands on the world music scene. On their second Xenophile recording, *Son Egal*, Tarika has recruited current red-hot producer Simon Emmerson and members of

Baaba Maal's band. Recorded in Madagascar, the 13 original tracks shine with the bright vocal harmonies of sisters Hanitra and Noro, dancing bass lines, buoyant percussion and the energized sounds of

updated traditional instruments. Billboard calls the album "an outstanding rhythm intensive collection" and it has scaled the European and CMT world music charts.

We welcome your letters to the editor.

New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival

NEW ORLEANS, LA — Jazz of bold invention will be the subject when the 1997 New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival (April 25-May 4) presents vocalist Al Jarreau

and keyboardist Herbie Hancock on a program that promises to show the many facets of jazz on Thursday, May 1 at 8 pm at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

Vocalist Al Jarreau has been heralded for bringing jazz style to pop audiences. His great range and sheer vocal daring won his Grammys for best jazz vocalist in the late

1970s for "Look to the Rainbow" and "All Fly Home" but by the 1980s, it was clear that he had won over a broad pop audience. "We're In This Love Together" (1981) be-

came a pop radio staple and the albums *Jarreau* and *High Crime* both went gold.

Hancock clearly runs the gamut of styles. In 1983, he joined by trumpeter Wynton

Marsalis, launched his all-acoustic VSOP tour. He then released a breakthrough video on MTV, the synthesizer laden Grammy winning hit, *Rock It*.

Are you looking for a place to go?

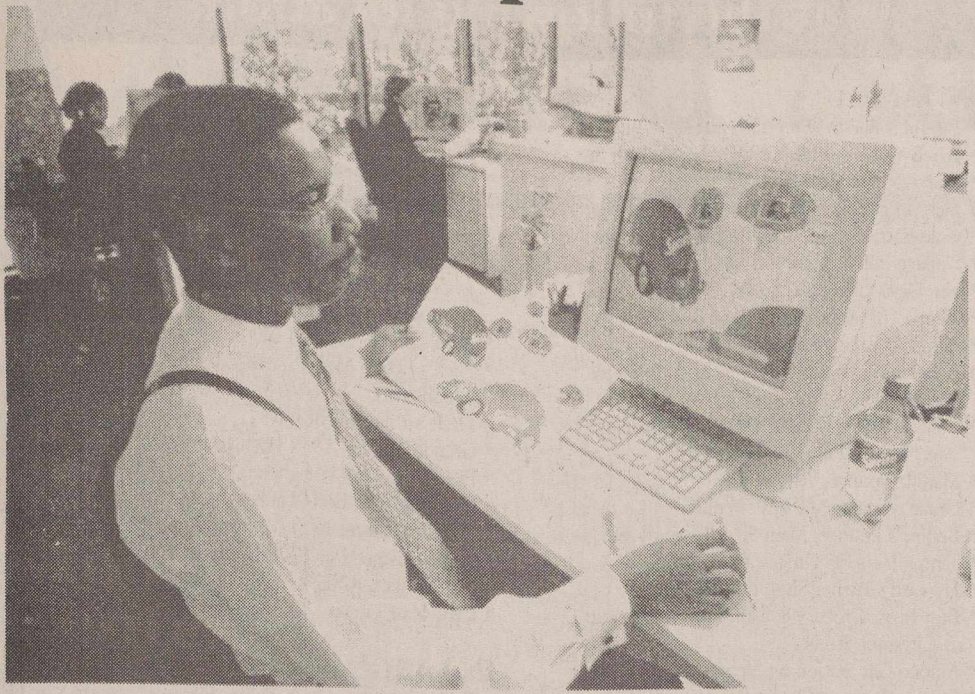
Why not visit THE ELKS LODGE? LISTEN TO YOUR FAVORITE OLDIES

Every Friday Night 9 PM until ?

1331 - 18th Avenue South 823-1169

Hit Music by Lady "C"

Coca-Cola Reports Initiative Results



The Murrell Design Group in Atlanta, GA is one of more than 3,000 suppliers in the Coca-Cola Company's minority and women supplier development program. This month, the Coca-Cola system reached and surpassed its five-year commitment to spend \$1 billion with minority and women-owned businesses. Pictured here: James Murrell, president of the Murrell Design Group, created the graphics for the 1996 Olympic torch relay and is now working on designs for the Sprite brand's NBA promotions.

ATLANTA — The Coca-Cola Company announces that the Coca-Cola system has reached and surpassed its commitment to purchase more than \$1 billion over the past five years in goods and services from minority and women suppliers.

The partnerships developed through the Coca-Cola minor-

ity and women supplier development program make good business sense, said Richard Burns, the company's director of global procurement and trading, North America Group, who reported results of the initiative recently at the black entrepreneurship in America conference in Baltimore.

The achievement of the spending goal fulfills a commitment made and announced in 1992 at the same conference held that year in Atlanta.

From April 1992 through 1996, the Coca-Cola system spent nearly \$1.1 billion with minority and women-owned businesses. More than 3,000 suppliers participated in the

program.

"Once again, through the strength of the Coca-Cola business system, a commitment made is a commitment kept," said Roberto C. Goizueta, chair/CEO, the Coca-Cola Company. "Diversity and entrepreneurship in our supplier base reflect partnerships that create another competitive advantage in the marketplace. We intend to build on that advantage."

The groups within the Coca-Cola system participating in the program include the Coca-Cola Company and its corporate and Coca-Cola USA divisions; the Minute Maid Company; Coca-Cola Ltd. in Canada and many independent Coca-Cola bottlers. The program both strengthened long-time partnerships with minority and women suppliers and developed new business ties with others.

The minority and women supplier development program is designed to provide entrepreneurs the opportunity to become a Coca-Cola system supplier and to assist with the development of those who match the system's business needs.

NCNW

from pg. 1

and Eatonville native Zora Neale Hurston. The show's multi-talented performer/artist scholar is Phyllis McEwen. McEwen is a graduate of Spellman College and Atlanta University. She is an adjunct professor in the women's studies department at the University of South Florida and a member of the Black Madonna artists project.

"In addition to featuring the impressive guest artist, we will crown the 1997 Little Miss NCNW and salute past presidents," said Lila Johnson-Thomas, Tampa metro section NCNW president.

Among the other program participants are Inana Carley, Barbara Dean, Tampa City

Councilwoman Gwen Miller, Clarence Webb, B.G. Baker, Hillsborough County school board member Doris Ross-Reddick, Alexandria Cohen, Alma Morris, Alberta Blake, Mamie Taylor and Martha Lara.

The council has conducted numerous charitable and community projects, including awarding scholarships, voter registration drives, sponsorship of Parent Involvement Day in the schools and contributes to the Urban League and Prison Crusade.

Congratulations to all of Tampa's NCNW members on their 50th anniversary!

For information and tickets, call 839-6538/238-8734.

Karen Perez

from pg. 1

and Adriana (7) are blossoming into gifted entertainers themselves and enjoy their mother's constant support.

The family's recent projects include FOX-TV's *Automatic Avenue* pilot, the feature film *McKinsey's Island* and several television commercials.

A survivor of domestic abuse, Perez says, "My focal point in life now is myself and my children. I'm thankful to God for getting me through the trials and tribulations I've faced and am com-

mitted to making life better for my family."

Perez also dedicates herself to encouraging African Americans and other minorities to expose themselves to and become involved in the many aspects of the entertainment world.

Her parents, Candida and Jose Perez of Brooklyn, NY, couldn't be any prouder of their daughter's achievements. And for the record, Karen Perez's spirit and determination should make us all proud!

Countdown Underway For Summit

PHOENIX, AZ — Rev. Leon H. Sullivan, world renowned civil and human rights activist, announces that the countdown is underway for the 4th African-American summit. This biennial event will be held in Harare, the capital city of Zimbabwe and one of the world's leading urban centers, on July 20-26. The entourage will stop briefly in London for a reception hosted by Parliament and Johannesburg for pre-summit meetings and a tour of Soweto. Rev. Sullivan and summit organizers proclaim that the over-riding theme of this

gathering is "Economic Development, Investment and Education."

The summit will also commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Sullivan Principles. This code of conduct promulgated by Rev. Sullivan sets the standard for American businesses and institutions operating in South Africa. As the world celebrates the changes taking place, there is agreement that the fall of apartheid is due in large part to the corporate and financial efforts in partnership with Rev. Sullivan and the Sullivan Principles.

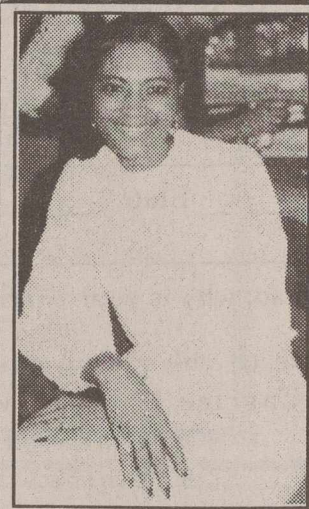
Moore Center

from pg. 1

trator. She holds a PhD in humanities and music with special emphasis on multicultural music education from Florida State University, a master's degree in music education as well as a master's in voice, piano and choral conducting from Columbia University. She received a bachelor's degree from Alabama State University.

For further information about the event, phone (904) 756-2278 after 6 pm.

PLEASE SUPPORT
YOUR LOCAL
ADVERTISERS



Owner Ms. Eula

B-CC Summer Registration Begins

DAYTONA BEACH — Registration for summer classes on the campus of Bethune-Cookman College will be held May 12 and classes begin May 13.

Classes will be offered in the six academic divisions of

business, education, general studies, humanities, science and mathematics and social sciences. Course names will be available at registration or by calling the registrar's office at 904-255-1401 ext. 425 or 426.

Tracinda Corp. Contributes \$1.2 Million To UNCF

FAIRFAX, VA — Tracinda Corporation, a private investment company with major interests in the Chrysler Corporation, MGM Grand, Inc. and Metro-Goldwyn Mayer, Inc. has contributed \$1.2 million

to the College Fund/UNCF's annual campaign, completing pledges made in 1987 and 1988. This gift represents the single largest corporate cash contribution that the college fund has received this campaign year.

New Location

World of Nails - Hair Salon

2526 Central Ave.
St. Petersburg, FL 33713
(813) 328-8303

MON. - FRI.

9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

WALK-INS

SATURDAY

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

REV. MOTHER SUPERIOR WILLIAMS

Ordained Psychic Christian Reader & Adviser

HAVE YOU BEEN HOODOOED?
ARE YOU SICK IN ANY PART OF YOUR BODY?

Rev. Mother Superior Williams has God given power to help you overcome your problems no matter how big or small.

She will tell you just what you want to know about friends, enemies or rivals; Whether husband, wife or sweetheart is true or false; How to gain the love you most desire, control or influence the action of anyone, even though miles away. Tell you of lucky numbers. She has helped thousands through all walks of life. She will advise on love, marriage, business, health, divorces, lawsuits, luck, alcoholics, happiness, spells, success and evil influences of all kinds. Tells who your friends and enemies are. Guarantees to remove all evil and bad luck! WHY SUFFER when you can be helped and freed from all your troubles?

Don't fail to call or write to her today.

Rev. Mother Superior Williams

3716 W. Horatio, Tampa, FL 33609

(813) 874-5581



I was having bad luck, miserable and it seemed like everything was against me. Just a few visits to Rev. Mother Superior Williams and now I'm doing fine with a good home and good man who loves me.

— Hillary Williams

YouthBuild

from pg. 1

YouthBuild St. Petersburg is a youth development and training program operated by Career Options of Pinellas in collaboration with the city of St. Petersburg, the Pinellas County school system, the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County, the Pinellas Workforce Development Board and the YouthBuild St. Petersburg management committee (a group of concerned citizens and business people).

The purpose of YouthBuild is to provide economically disadvantaged youth (ages 16-24) with education and employment skills through opportunities for meaningful work in their community. YouthBuild participants do this by helping meet the housing needs of homeless individuals and members of low and very-low income families within targeted neighborhoods.

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.



Mid Peninsula
Seafood
Restaurant & Market
...where the locals buy
their seafood...
family run for
over 15 years
2 Phone Lines For Your Convenience
327-8309 & 328-8309

NOW OPEN IN
OUR NEW
LOCATION AT:
400 - 49th ST. SO.

NEW HOURS:
Mon. - Sat.
11:00 AM - 9 PM
Closed Sunday

Your Horoscope

March 21 to April 19

Romantic aspects glowing in your chart all week could make a fantasy come true! With Mars, your planetary ruler, moving direct on the 27th, your life will seem to pick up pace. You'll see fast results, professionally and financially.

Taurus
April 20 to May 20

Mars in Virgo is helping you find ways to streamline your life, creating more time to spend traveling or with loved ones. Challenging aspects are urging you to take the initiative and make your voice heard at work.

Gemini
May 21 to June 21

With Pluto's opposition illuminating possibilities, an exciting new career or relationship could prove too tempting to resist! Powerful aspects are helping you make the right choice—trust your hunches.

Cancer
June 22 to July 22

With Venus and Mars in harmonious aspect, your home life will be lit with love. An aging relative could claim more of your time. You could get enlightening and useful news during a lunch with a co-worker.

Leo
July 23 to August 22

A romantic change of pace could set sparks flying again between you and your mate; steal away for the weekend. With Mars activating your financial zone on the 27th, you may need to tighten the reins on a loved one's spending.

Virgo
August 23 to September 22

On the 27th, a long-term project's success could garner you praise. While Venus remains in marvelous aspect, an ardent admirer may set your heart aflutter. Wait until next week to make any travel arrangements.

Libra
September 23 to October 22

When Mars moves direct on the 27th, an unforeseen turn of events could put you in a winning position at work. Some might mistake your gentle ways for weakness, but as one of the Zodiac's strongest signs, you'll prove them wrong.

Scorpio
October 23 to November 21

With Mars highlighting happiness, a romantic reunion could bring tears of joy to your eyes. Put business on the back burner and let your heart do the thinking. A stroke of luck could leave you in the money; indulge in a new outfit.

November 22 to December 21

Mars in challenging aspect could pose interesting questions. With spiritual and career choices in front of you, you may ask yourself, "What really matters to me?" Look inside to find the answer—no one knows your heart better than you!

Capricorn
December 22 to January 19

Although you love to be in control, powerful aspects are urging you to delegate responsibility—with a smaller workload, you'll be able to achieve more. With Venus and Mars playing Cupid, you may spend your off hours with a new love.

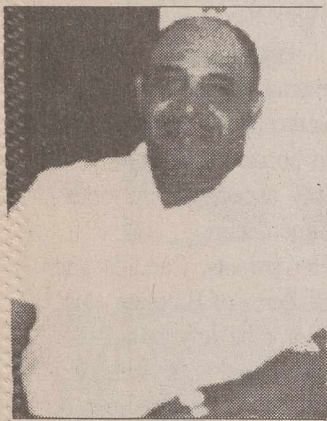
Aquarius
January 20 to February 18

With Jupiter and Uranus revving your energy levels, your creativity will shoot into overdrive. If you're single, you may embark on a romantic quest; if you're married, a spiritual retreat with your mate could deepen your level of intimacy.

Pisces
February 19 to March 20

Nothing makes you happier than sharing yourself with your soul mate—and Mars moving direct in Virgo on the 27th could bring your need for closeness to the fore. Put your shyness aside and make the first move toward a new friendship.

St. Pete Final Rites



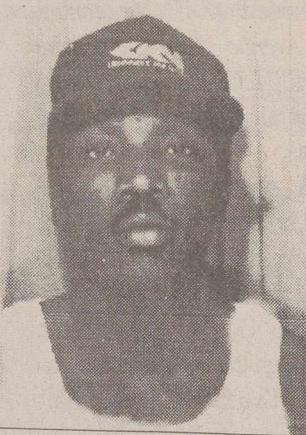
BRUCE, JAMES, died April 15. Survivors include his wife Vealer; sons James Bruce and wife Richard-Dean and Prince Bruce, all of St. Petersburg; three step grandchildren; special cousin Enolia Yates Fegans, St. Petersburg. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



DAVENPORT, MICHAEL, died April 9. Survivors include his parents Pamie Lee and Harvey Davenport, St. Petersburg; sisters Charlene and husband Rev. Larry Billue Sr., St. Petersburg; Bobbie Jean and husband Leon Demps, Bartow; Winifred Carter, St. Petersburg; Peggie Nunez and Belvert Davenport, St. Petersburg; Linda Winchester, Eufaula, AL; Ann and husband Mickey Albritten of Macon, GA; brothers Richard Davenport and wife Lesia, St. Petersburg; Warren Harris and wife Lola, Tampa; Rev. Dr. Lorin Harris and wife Joan, Knoxville, TN; Lawrence Davenport, Thomasville, GA. McRae Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

FLETCHER, JACK Sr., died April 9. Elder Fletcher was ordained in 1982 and was called to pastor St. John Primitive Baptist Church in Lake Panasofkee and Faith Temple Primitive Baptist in Plant City. Due to illness he retired in 1992. Survivors include his wife Nina; a son Jack Jr. and wife Shirley; daughters Eddie D. Keyes, Cecelia Williams and husband Claude, Amelia Fletcher-Grimm, Jean Freshler and husband Don, Sandra Fletcher, Angelia Fletcher, Wendy Shannon and husband James, Cynthia Miller and hus-

band Vance; sisters Turesa Thompson, Mattie Wolfe, Nancy Knowles, Louvenia Haynes and husband Rufus; stepdaughters Lydia Butler and husband Michael, Lisa Booker; stepson Robert Booker; 26 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



FORD, CALVIN, died April 14. Survivors include his wife Sheila; Son Antonio; mother and stepfather Lucinda and Sanford Dawes, Bradenton; sisters Betty and husband Ervin Wiggins, Daisy Mae Ford, Ruby Lee and husband Richard Oliver, Linda Faye Ford, Janice E. Ford, Tammy Lyn Ford; brothers Joe Jr. Larry and wife Cheryl, Lawrence Ford, all of St. Petersburg. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



JACKSON, MILDRED, April 15. Survivors include her daughter Evelyn and son-in-law George Nixon; four grandchildren and five great grandchildren; sister Marrie and husband James Newkirk; a brother Carlos Hamon; one sister-in-law. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

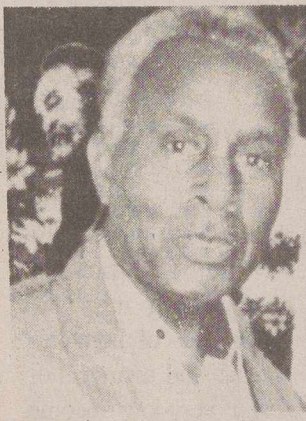


JOHNSON, ETHEL, died April 13. Survivors include her mother Patricia Grant, St. Petersburg; brother Jackie Johnson Jr., St. Petersburg;

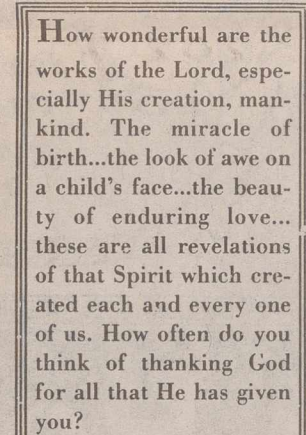
sisters Jacquelyn Johnson and Ida Johnson, St. Petersburg; maternal grandmother Christine Grant, St. Petersburg; maternal great grandmother Clara Grant, St. Petersburg. Smith Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



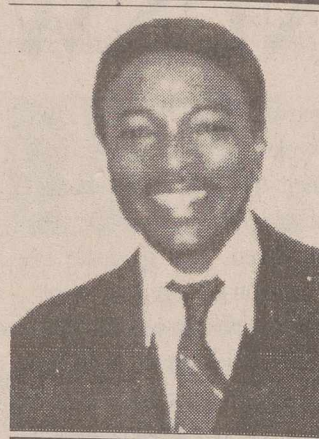
JONES, MAGGIE, died April 11. Survivors include her nephews and nieces Roy O'Neal, Cleveland, OH; Helen O'Neal, Cleveland, Ann O'Neal Carrington, Canton, MA; Jay and Cathy O'Neal, Hackensack, NJ; Donald and Hattie Engram, Cleveland; Vincent and Stephanie O'Neal, Louisville, KY; Rose Marie O'Neal, Elyria, OH. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



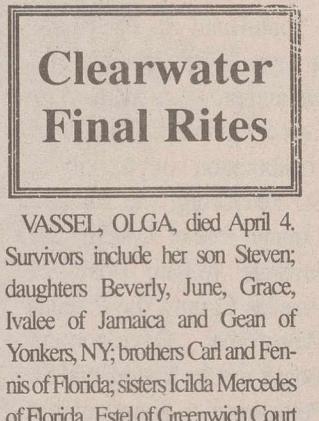
RAINES, LEWIS. Final rites were held on April 19 at Brown's Memorial COGIC. Survivors include his wife Marion; sons Oliver and wife Caroline, Thomas and wife Mozella of Atlanta, GA; a daughter Virginia Pickron; stepsons George and wife Angela of Minneapolis, MN; Keith and wife Barbara of Bayshore, NY; stepdaughters Deena Copeland and husband Wayne of Tampa; Dawn Bradley and husband Kenneth of New Jersey and Rosemary of Tampa; 22 grandchildren and four great grandchildren. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



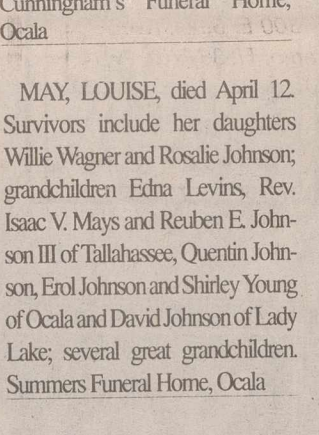
MAY, LOUISE, died April 12. Survivors include her daughters Willie Wagner and Rosalie Johnson; grandchildren Edna Levins, Rev. Isaac V. Mays and Reuben E. Johnson III of Tallahassee, Quentin Johnson, Erol Johnson and Shirley Young of Ocala and David Johnson of Lady Lake; several great grandchildren. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala.



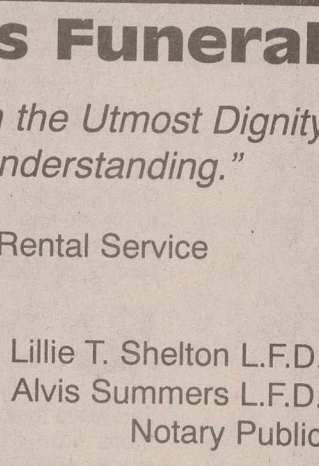
NEWSOME, LEON, died April 12. Survivors include his wife Janie Ann of Largo; daughter Deanna Newsome of St. Petersburg; stepdaughter Christina Lanier of Gainesville; sister Mary Newsome-Macon; brother Moses Newsome Jr.; mother-in-law Alice Scotch; father-in-law John Scotch; one granddaughter. Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



YARBROUGH, EUNICE Burr, died April 15. Survivors include her sister Jessie Lee Thomas of St. Petersburg; sister-in-law Katherine Burr, St. Petersburg; nieces Mary Heard of Georgia and Phyllis Burr-Maynard of St. Petersburg. Smith Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.



ALLEN, HELEN, died April 15. Survivors include her daughters Barbara Carter of Lake City and Kathryn (Louis) Bracey of Ocala; son Dwight (Betty) Reynolds; 10 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren. Cunningham's Funeral Home, Ocala.



MAY, LOUISE, died April 12. Survivors include her daughters Willie Wagner and Rosalie Johnson; grandchildren Edna Levins, Rev. Isaac V. Mays and Reuben E. Johnson III of Tallahassee, Quentin Johnson, Erol Johnson and Shirley Young of Ocala and David Johnson of Lady Lake; several great grandchildren. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala.



HILBERT, LUTHER, died April 8. Survivors include his wife Hattie; sons Millard Rucker and wife Kathy, Ulysses Locke, Lewis Hilbert Sr. and wife Lannetta, Alfred Hilbert Sr. and James Hilbert, all of Ocala; daughters Alice and husband Mark Stevenson and Janet Cogdell-Hilbert of Ocala; brother Homer Hilbert; sister Addie Mae Harrington of Ocala; 11 grandchildren. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala.

THOMAS, JAMES, died April 9. Survivors include his niece Marie Smith of Ocala; sisters-in-law Helen Thomas of Lakeland and Julia Thomas of Syracuse, NY; nieces and nephews. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala.

WOODSON, WALTER, died April 16. Survivors include his sons Freddie Lee Woodson of Ocala and Tommy Lee Woodson of MacLenn; 10 grandchildren, a host of great grandchildren; daughter-in-law Linda Woodson of Ocala. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala.

Clearwater Final Rites

VASSEL, OLGA, died April 4. Survivors include her son Steven; daughters Beverly, June, Grace, Ivaloe of Jamaica and Gean of Yonkers, NY; brothers Carl and Fennis of Florida; sisters Lucille Mercedes of Florida, Estel of Greenwich Court and Sylvia of England; 15 grandchildren, two great grandchildren. Young's Funeral Home, Clearwater.

Ocala Final Rites

ALLEN, HELEN, died April 15. Survivors include her daughters Barbara Carter of Lake City and Kathryn (Louis) Bracey of Ocala; son Dwight (Betty) Reynolds; 10 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren. Cunningham's Funeral Home, Ocala.

MAY, LOUISE, died April 12. Survivors include her daughters Willie Wagner and Rosalie Johnson; grandchildren Edna Levins, Rev. Isaac V. Mays and Reuben E. Johnson III of Tallahassee, Quentin Johnson, Erol Johnson and Shirley Young of Ocala and David Johnson of Lady Lake; several great grandchildren. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala.

You can find the Weekly Challenger at the following locations:

IN TAMPA

- Big John Bar-B-Q on 40th Street
- Bar-B-Q King, Hillsborough Ave. & 34th St.
- Morrison Drugs, 34th Street
- Jackson Foods, 34th Street
- Cole Barber Shop, 3407 E. Buffalo Avenue
- College Hill Drug, 22nd Street
- Lee Davis Center, 22nd Street
- Tampa Urban League, Tampa Park Plaza
- Bar-B-Q King on Main Street
- B-Beautiful Beauty Salon, 3222 34th Street N., 248-5683
- Cicily's Beauty Supply, 2301 Hillsborough Ave., 238-0351
- Manila Lounge, 7th Avenue
- Grace's Lounge, Albany Avenue
- Boogie's Lounge, Main St. & Howard Ave.
- Tampa Housing Offices, College Hill
- Howard's Barber Shop on Main Street
- Best Bros. Grocery & Deli, Howard Avenue & Chestnut Street
- Amoco Gas Station on Nebraska & 7th Street
- Orient Meats on Orient Road
- Continental IGA Food, 22nd Causeway Blvd.
- Kilbride Insurance on Nebraska
- Cicily's Beauty Supplies, Palm River Plaza
- Rent Club, Palm River Plaza
- Pal's Pre-School, Palm River Plaza
- Tampa Hair on North Florida
- Golden Comb on Main Street
- Johnnie's Barber Shop, Main Street
- 7-11, Temple Terrace Highway

IN CLEARWATER

- Charlie's Barber Shop, 1405B N. Myrtle Ave.
- B&T Dept. Store, 1841 Highland Ave. N.
- A&A Cafeteria, Greenwood and Carlton
- Rainbow Food Market, 1629 N. Highland Ave.
- Delric's Seafood, 1616 N. Ft. Harrison Ave.
- Eva's Beauty Box, corner of Greenwood & Carlton Street
- John's Barber Shop, 1400 N. Greenwood Ave.
- Nick's Econo Mart (S. Missouri Ave. & Woodlawn)
- Ozzie's Palace of Beauty
- Grande Monde, 1841 Highland Ave. N., Suite 3
- Ebony City, 1841 Highland Ave. N., Suite 1
- MVJ, 1409 N. Betty Lane
- Wendy's Palace, 1411 N. Betty Lane
- Evans Cosmetics, 1706 N. Fort Harrison Ave.
- Hairrealistics, 1405A N. Myrtle Ave.
- C&C Hair Design, 702 Greenwood

IN LARGO

- Baskin Cleaner, 1317 Baskin Dr.
- Hair Is It, 11447 Umlerton Rd.
- Helen Hair & Beauty Supplies, 11461 Umlerton Rd.
- Baskin Cafe, Baskin Drive
- Helm & Sons Cafe
- Rudy's Rib Shack
- Handy Corner Foods, 2325 119th St. N.

When I Must Leave You

*When I must leave you for a little while
please do not grieve and shed wild tears and
hug your sorrow to you through the years.,
But start out bravely with a gallant smile;
And for my sake and in my name live on and
do all things the same.
Feed not your loneliness on empty days, but
fill each waking hour in useful ways, Reach
out your hand in comfort and in cheer And i
in turn will comfort you and hold you near;
And never, never be afraid to die, For I am
waiting for you in the sky*

*Don't think of him as
gone away - his jour-
ney's just begun;
life holds so many
facts -
this earth is only one.
Just think of him as
resting
from the sorrows and
the tears
in a place of warmth
and comfort
where there are no
days and years.
Think how he must be
wishing
that we could know,
today,
how nothing but our
sadness
can really pass away.
And think of him as
living
in the hearts of those
he touched...
For nothing loved is
ever lost -
and he was loved so
much,
Ellen Brenneman*

How wonderful are the works of the Lord, especially His creation, mankind. The miracle of birth...the look of awe on a child's face...the beauty of enduring love...these are all revelations of that Spirit which created each and every one of us. How often do you think of thanking God for all that He has given you?



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THE WEEKLY CHALLENGER

2500 Dr. M.L. King Street, St. Petersburg, FL 33705

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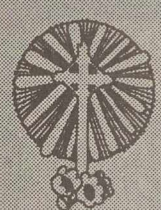
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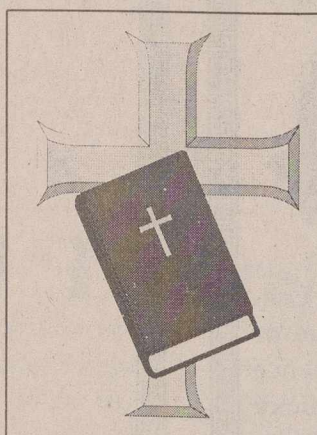
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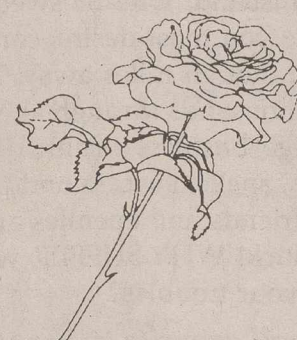
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If you have information that might make a good article for this paper, send it in, and we'll try to use it in an upcoming issue.



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PROFESSIONAL - Coordinates quality improvement for progs. and strategic planning. Evaluates and reports on staff productivity and prog. effectiveness; supervise records staff. BA + 4 yrs. (MA preferred), computer data mgmt. and analysis skills. Hiring Range \$24,765-\$32,857. Resumes: Personnel, Coordinated Child Care, 6698-68th Ave. N., Pinellas Park, FL 33781 no later than 4/29/97. **WAGES participants encouraged to apply. EOE**

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The Public Utilities Department of the City of St. Petersburg is seeking a highly qualified professional engineer to administer the engineering design, construction and control activities of capital improvement and maintenance programs for the City's potable and wastewater systems. Must be a graduate of an accredited four year college or university with a B.S. degree in civil engineering. Must have considerable progressive professional and engineering experience including at least eight years of extensive supervisory experience in design and construction of water and wastewater engineering projects. Must also be registered as a Professional Engineer by the State of Florida or be able to obtain registration within six months of appointment. Extensive knowledge and skill in the application of computer systems for CADD, GIS and project management is required. Excellent interpersonal communication skills are also required.

For a detailed description please call the City's Job Line at (813) 893-7033. Applications will be received in the Employment Office, One Fourth Street North, 4th Floor, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only. EOE/ADA Resumes should be mailed to the Employment Office, P.O. Box 2842, St. Petersburg, FL 33731. Preference in appointment will be extended to eligible veterans and, in some instances, spouses of eligible veterans. To receive veteran's preference, documentation of status must be submitted at time of application.

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Applications only by May 2. Available at:

- Pinellas Cty. Courthouse, 315 Court St., Rm. 401, Clearwater
- Criminal Justice Center, 14250 49th St. N., 3rd flr., Rm. H3004 (Fiscal Office) Clearwater
- County Building, 150 Fifth St. N., Rm. 223 (Alt. Dispute), St. Petersburg
- Court Administration, Rm. 219, West Pasco Judicial Center, 7530 Little Rd., New Port Richey
EOE AA Drug-Free Workplace. Any person with a disability requiring a special accommodation to participate in the application process should call 813-464-4646.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the City of St. Petersburg is proposing to amend the Consolidated Plan for the Community Development Block Grant and Emergency Shelter Grant programs as follows: 1) allocate unexpended FY 95/96 Emergency Shelter Grant funds to the Mustard Seed Foundation, Inc. for operating expenses at the Inebriate Center, 1801 Fifth Avenue North; 2) cancel the Wildwood Park improvement project and reallocate the \$160,000 budget for purchase and installation of new playground equipment at four playlots; and 3) provide \$20,000 for operation of an entrepreneurial training program.

The City Council of the City of St. Petersburg will hold a public hearing to receive comments on the proposed amendment on Thursday, May 1, 1997 beginning on or about 8:30 am in City Council Chambers, 175 Fifth Street North. Interested persons are invited to attend. Written comments concerning the amendment may be mailed to CDBG Programs, P.O. Box 2842, St. Petersburg, Florida 33731 or delivered to One Fourth Street North, Eighth Floor, until 4:00 pm on April 30, 1997. For additional information concerning this notice, please call 893-7886.



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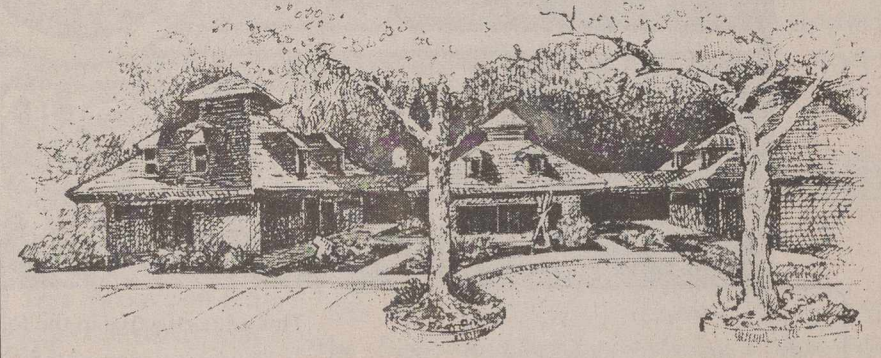
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NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES CITY OF CLEARWATER FY 1997-98 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT, HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM AND STATE HOUSING INCENTIVE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Public notice the City of Clearwater expects to receive an estimated \$1,036,000 in grant funds and approximately \$100,000 in program income under the Community Development Block Grant Program, \$402,000 in funds under the HOME Investment Partnership Program and \$633,161 in grant funds under the State Housing Incentive Partnership Program for the FY 1997-98 Program Year beginning October 1, 1997.

The grant amounts may increase or decrease. Federal funding authorization for the Community Development Block Grant Program and the HOME Investment Partnership Program have not been approved due to a budget impasse. State funding for the State Housing Incentive Partnership Program is based upon the amount of revenue generated through the local documentary stamp. The amount listed above is only a projection of the income stream.

These funds will primarily be used for housing and economic development activities. A limited amount will be used for other activities. Federal regulations applicable to these programs dictate funding availability for certain projects. Proposals for new projects will be accepted at this time. Suggestions for new projects for FY 1997-98 may be presented and should meet the following objectives:

1. Decent housing including assisting homeless persons to obtain appropriate housing and assisting persons at risk of becoming homeless; retention of the affordable housing stock; increasing the availability of permanent housing in standard condition at affordable cost to low income and very low income families, without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, family status, or disability. Decent housing also includes increasing the supportive housing which combines structural features and services needed to enable persons with special needs to live with dignity and independence.
2. Expanded economic opportunities includes the provision of jobs accessible to housing affordable to low income persons, including provision of jobs involves in carrying out activities under programs covered by this plan to low income persons living in areas affected by those programs and activities; availability of mortgage financing for low income persons at reasonable rates using nondiscriminatory lending practices; access to capital and credit for development activities that promote the long term economic and social viability of the community; and empowerment and self-sufficiency opportunities for low income persons to reduce generational poverty in federally assisted and public housing.
3. A suitable living environment includes improving the safety and livability of neighborhoods; increasing the access to quality public and private facilities and services; reducing the isolation of income groups within a community or geographical area through the spatial deconcentration of housing opportunities for persons of lower income and the revitalization of deteriorating or deteriorated neighborhoods; restoring and preserving properties of special historic, architectural, or aesthetic value and conservation of energy resources.

Eligible activities may include and not be limited to the rehabilitation and preservation of buildings and improvements; acquisition and disposition of real property; acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or installation of public facilities and improvements such as senior centers, neighborhood facilities and roads, public community services; special economic activities and special activities by subrecipients to carry out neighborhood revitalization, code enforcement, community economic development or energy conservation projects and related projects.

Funds will be used only in the incorporated limits of the City of Clearwater.

Applications can be picked up at the City of Clearwater Housing and Urban Development Department located at 112 South Osceola Avenue, Clearwater, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.

Proposals are to be sent to Mr. Alan J. Ferri, City of Clearwater Housing and Urban Development Department, P.O. Box 4748, Clearwater, FL 34618, (813) 562-4030 and are to be received by 4:30 p.m. on Friday, May 23, 1997. Any questions should be directed to this office.



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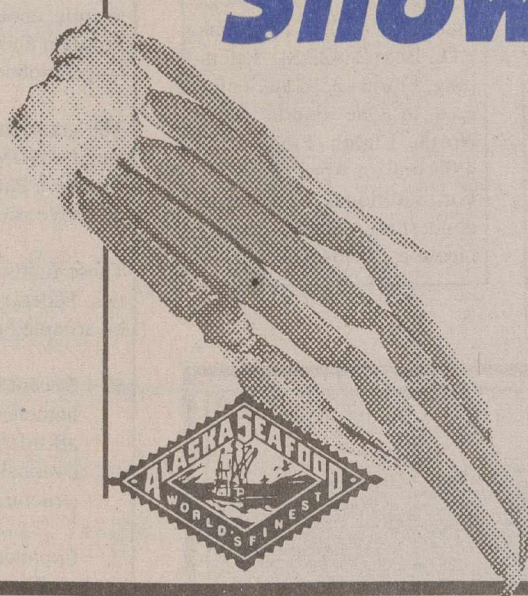
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WEDNESDAY APR 30

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