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VOLUME 31 NUMBER 15

25¢

ST. PETERSBURG/TAMPA

DECEMBER 26, 1998



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

From The Weekly Challenger Staff

I.W. Williams
Shirley Morgan
Sue E. Johnson
Lonnie Donaldson
Victoria Lawson
C.J. Robinson
James & Cora Thorpe
Harrison L. Nash III
Bill Thomas
Brenda Harris
Deanie K. Victor
Gustav Victor
Ernest Fillyau, Sr.
Evalio Harrel
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Barbara Bethel
Charles Howard
Florence Williams Ray
Rosetta Cohen Forshee
Edwina Blackshear
William Blackshear
Ron Lowe
Daniel Banks
Cleveland Johnson
James O'Neal
Steve Moran
Allene Gammage-Ahmed
Marilyn Buckner
Tommie Holloway
Don Perkins



Victoria Lawson Shares Gathering With *Challenger* Staff

ST. PETERSBURG—Last Saturday evening the Weekly Challenger Staff were given a Festive Gathering at the Elks Lodge, 18th Avenue South in St. Petersburg by Victoria Lawson.

The evening was filled with lots of music, joy, food, family and friends.

Victoria Lawson is the Weekly Challenger's Circulation Manager and has been a part of the Challenger team for more than thirty years and is the employee who sold the very first Weekly Challenger. Vicky as she loves to be called, thought it would only be appropriate to share some of her holiday spirit with those she work with and give thoughts of appreciation to the Editor-In-Chief, Mr. Cleveland Johnson.

Mr. Johnson was presented with a small token of appreciation from employees in the Circulation Department, Layout and Art Design, Office Staff, Marketing representatives and several of his advertisers and friends.

Lady "C" did a blasting job of spinning those oldies but goodies which brought back memories to most of us and gave us what we needed to get up and get on the dance floor.

Everyone had a wonderful time and enjoyed the hospitality of the Elks members and the company of each other.

On behalf of the Circulation Department of the Weekly Challenger, we extend our best wishes to you and yours for this holiday season. We look forward to serving you in 1999.



Public Announcement To FAMUans

All paid members of the Tampa Chapter of the FAMU Alumni Association are informed of the election of officers to be held via the mail ballot process and culminate on January 20, 1999. All members interesting in submitting candidates(s) for the ballot should submit the names with the candidate(s) approval.

To do this, contact Carolyn

Collins, Committee Chairperson at 879-0372 or mail all data to P.O. Box 26541 Tampa, FL 33623 before December 31, 1998. Other committee members are available to receive your recommendations. The other members are Frances Brown, Bernice Nelson, Theresa Perkins and Gloria Glover.

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 be warmer
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 your wallets
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Now along with our best holiday wishes, you'll get an extra chance at fattening your wallet. You see, from now until January 2nd, when you play a \$5 or more Florida Lotto ticket, you also buy a chance to win \$1,000 instantly. So, Happy Lotto Days from the Florida Lottery.



FLORIDA LOTTO
Who's next?

UPPER PINELLAS HEADLINES

 by Marilyn Buckner

It's Time For Healing

My two years old niece, Ja'Da, and I were 'bonding' - until her auntie combed her hair, she then told me she wanted to take a nap, and drifted off to sleep as I sang Christmas songs to her and watched, with heartfelt sorrow, the funeral and burial of a great statesman, Gov. Lawton Chiles. Three hours later, as my niece ate her dinner, I watched CNN news, just in time to hear a reporter state she heard a siren noise overhead. I talked back at the tv-"Those are state of emergency sirens lady and if I were you, I'd drop the mike and go into hiding!" Yes, I saw the first missile strike on Iraq, live and in color, at 12:49 A.M. Iraq time, I simultaneously watched the House Judiciary Committee feverishly debate the impeachment of our Commander-In-Chief of the Arms Forces and our 45th president, William Jefferson Clinton - what a day for our state, nation and world!

As an involved, partisan political activist, my spin on these historic activities struck a deeper core, than a discussion on the actual events. I've ran for public office, and worked hard to get my candidates elected. More won that lost in this state - more so that I've lost track of how many - so, as I watched these events unfold, it was a question of why? I've phoned and faxed my repre-

sentatives and shared my views. My last resort was to use my religious beliefs, thus biblical scripture. Well, two days later, the recently elected chairman of these hearing resigned and a very popular Clearwater mayor pled guilty of DUI charges...Art was imitating life and vice versa...

On the home front, I'd sent a day with my wise little niece, marveling at her intelligence and wisdom well beyond her age, facing a world with potential and unlimited opportunities, what her legacy would be, and what would she inherit as an American citizen...I mourned her inheritance to be a good and proud citizen.

Our country is in shambles during a season of good cheer and festivities. But, as I looked into the innocent eyes of my two year old niece, burning with purity and intelligence, I put the Christmas back into Christmas, realizing that everything is in perfect order, and the universe is unfolding as it should; we are not a forsaken country or world.

Breath, touch, taste and rejoice this holiday season, our country is just temporarily insane...pray for healing.

From my family to yours, have a very merry Christmas and Kwanzaa celebration! I've turned off my television and tuned in to my heart!

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Attorney Nobles Celebrates First Christmas



by Allene Gammage-Ahmed
ST. PETERSBURG—The community was invited to celebrate the First Christmas' and the appointment of the first African American woman to the Florida Supreme Court.

Yes, it was the beautiful home located in 'south' St. Pete - the home of Henry and Karen Nobles, Law Office of Henry E. Nobles, P.A., Tampa, Florida. The Nobles are the proud owners of this home.

This home is a historical landmark and a scenic site for local residents and tourists alike. The home is the former home of Al Capone - 16th Street and 22nd Avenue South.

Mr. Nobles and wife also honored Mrs. Peggy Quince, the first African-American woman appointed to the Florida Supreme Court. This was the last appointment made by the Governor before his death.

The Nobles were joined with many family and friends, his daughter Aneatria Pierce and husband.

Guest were able to get a grand tour of the beautifully decorated home and were made to feel right at home by the Nobles.

Coordinators of the event were Beryl Green and Sandra Hall. Food catered by Atwaters and photos by Terry Ford.

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Bob Gilder Honored



Bob Gilder

ST. PETERSBURG - For nearly fifty years Bob Gilder has dedicated his life to breaking down and removing the boundaries that exist between people of different cultures within the community. Mr. Gilder's compassionate voice has helped heal Tampa Bay's communities during turbulent times through this work in government, radio, social services and economic development.

In St. Petersburg, one of Mr. Gilder's numerous missions has been to offer assistance to financially or physically challenged residents who are unable to correct minor code violations. The N-Team

Codes Assistance program led by Bod, the community relations coordinator for the City, has been in existence since 1993. Gilder and his crew of volunteers from the community and the corrections facility have been instrumental in improving the homes and quality of life for over 1200 St. Petersburg residents. The volunteer effort has included civic, church, and business volunteers and has focused on the betterment of the city's neighborhoods.

The program has been a "win win" for the entire community. The housing stock has improved, recipients' lives

Please see pg. 5

The Weekly Challenger

KWANZAA: CELEBRATING THE PRINCIPALS OF THE BLACK VALUE SYSTEM

by Ron Daniels, Vantage Point

In one of the great triumphs of the 20th century for the world African community, particularly the nationalist and pan-africanist movement, Kwanzaa has become a major African holiday celebrated by millions of Black people in the U.S. and increasingly around the world. Created by the brilliant theoretician, practitioner and master teacher Dr. Maulana Karenga and introduced to the world in 1966 by the U.S. Organization, Kwanzaa is based on Kawaia, the doctrine of tradition and reason. In innovating Kawaia, Dr. Karenga examined the overarching worldview, culture and way of life of traditional African societies and extrapolated some basic values and principles which he contends will contribute to the reconstruction of the world African community in the modern era.

Designated the Nguzo Saba, or the Seven Principles of the Black Value System, Karenga envisioned these principles as a guide for African people in the conduct of their daily lives and a framework for the development of the Black community. Given the priority which Dr. Karenga places on Kawaia and the Nguzo Saba, it is not surprising that he would use these constructions as the foundation for Kwanzaa. Indeed, the Seven Principles are the centerpiece of the holiday. Celebrated for a seven day period from December 26 to January 1, each day of Kwanzaa is based on one of the principles in the Nguzo Saba.

As Kwanzaa gains in popularity within a capitalist society which places a premium on profit above all else, there is the ever present danger that the holiday will be corrupted by crass materialism. Therefore, as the world African community prepares to celebrate Kwanzaa this year, it is useful to reiterate the fundamental values/principles around which the holiday revolves as a means of safeguarding the essential vision and function of this historic African centered creation. The Nguzo Saba or the Seven Principles of the Black Value System are: Umoja-Unity, Kujichagulia-Self Determination, Ujima-Collective Work and Responsibility, Ujamaa-Cooperative Economics, Nia-Purpose, Kuumba-Creativity and Imani-Faith.

Each day during the Kwanzaa holiday, you as an individual, your family and/or the community in public commemoration, should set aside time to discuss the meaning of the principle for

the day. For example, what is the meaning of unity in the Black community as we approach a new century and millennium and how far have Black people progressed toward achieving this principle/goal? Despite the fact that the African world is ostensibly free of slavery and colonial domination are Black people really a free and self-determining people? If not, what should we do to achieve genuine self-determination? In the midst of a capitalist society, are we as African people making sufficient progress in internalizing and practicing the values/principles of working together collectively and building economic structures which benefit the masses of our people as opposed to an elite few within our community?

Today, there is a considerable amount of criticism of the current generation of African youth. Have Black people lost a sense of vision, mission and purpose in terms of our struggle for liberation and how does this affect this generation of young people? In the face of multiple assaults on our interests and aspirations as people in the U.S. and the world, are we being as creative as we might be in adversity? Finally, do we as African people still have the faith that sustained our ancestors and enabled them to endure the holocaust of enslavement, apartheid, terror and intimidation to service to pass the torch of the Black Freedom Struggle to successive generations? Do we still have faith that we will win?

These are but a few of the questions that might be pondered and discussed as the Kwanzaa holiday unfolds. While Kwanzaa is designed to be festive, it is important to remember that it is a holiday with a purpose, a time when Africans as oppressed people can focus on the longstanding values/principles which have been and continue to be essential to our survival and development was a world African community. Kwanzaa is a time to recite and discuss the Nguzo Saba and grade ourselves and the community in terms of the progress made toward making the Seven Principles of the Black Value System a living, breathing reality. Kwanzaa is a time to uplift, uphold and celebrate the history and culture of African people and the values/principles which have sustained our people in the past and will sustain us into the 21st century.

Happy and Productive Kwanzaa!

Black Strategists At Democratic Party Play Key Role In Election Victories



(seated from left): Regena Thomas, Doug Walker, Carolyn Whittaker (standing from left): George Henry, Dorothy Jackson, Alison McLarin, Donna Brazile, Anthony Wyche, Greg Moore

WASHINGTON, D.C.—During the weeks leading up to the November 3rd elections, a group of African American political operatives

worked long hours at the headquarters in Washington quietly implementing a strategy to arouse a sleeping giant, the black vote.

You won't see the faces of these individuals in any press conferences. You won't read about them in any post-election assessment of factors con-

tributing to the emergence of the black vote as the decisive factor in the surprising victories of Democratic candidates, especially in the south. However, these persons are not new to grassroots politics. They all have grown accustomed to working in the political trenches without any public recognition. They are content to be "nameless," invisible.

In preparing during the past year for the 1998 elections, these political strategists were brought together by a common belief, contrary to the predictions of the political pundits, that the black vote, a sleeping giant, could be aroused and energized to make a telling difference for the Democratic party in targeted congressional races and state elections. Congressional Black Caucus Chair, Rep. Maxine

Waters and Rep. Charlie Rangel, who was a chief fundraiser for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC), arranged for a group to organize an African American "boiler room" operation in cramped quarters at the DCCC. This group worked cooperatively with African Americans on the staff at the Democratic National Committee and allowed staff members to take official leave to spend the month before the election working full-time.

Rep. Rangel said, "We understood clearly the critical importance of the 1998 elections and the survival issues at stake for African Americans. We also felt very strongly that with the right strategy and the meaningful involvement of African American leadership

we could mobilize the black vote as a powerful tool in the elections."

It is estimated that 89 percent of African American voters supported Democratic candidates, an increase of eight percent over 1994. In spite of the predictions that African Americans would be among "the unlikely voters," the "unexpected" heavy turnout of African American voters as a main reason for the "unexpected" Democratic gains in the House of Representatives, Democrats maintaining the status quo in the U.S. Senate, and significantly helping to elect new Democratic governors in South Carolina, Alabama and Georgia.

from her cabinet.

Entertainment was provided by C.J. the D.J. and food catered by Atwaters Catering service.

A New Year's Eve Party will be hosted by V.F.W. 10174 on Thursday, December 31, 1998. Everyone is cordially invited to stop by.

Please see pg. 5

V.F.W. 10174 Women's Auxiliary Christmas A Success

ST. PETERSBURG - Wonderful things were happening at V.F.W. 10174 Post on 18th Avenue and 49th Street South last Friday night. Lights so bright, colorful decorations, beautiful ladies decked in their holiday fashions, jewelry and fashionable hair styles - just what Santa ordered.

The Women's Auxiliary of approximately 17 active members held their annual Christmas party which was a big success for them this year. Attendance was at an all-time high, people from everywhere showed up and according to many - they wouldn't have missed it for the world.

Madame President, Anelita Jones was very pleased with the turnout and events of the evening. The women exchanged gifts with the men; the tables were set up very festively from one end of



the Hall to the other - Food fit to satisfy the taste buds of any King or Queen. This is Anelita's third year as President and she is very appreciative of the support she gets

Mfume Warns GOP Of Voter Backlash Over Impeachment Proceedings

BALTIMORE, MD - NAACP President & CEO Kweisi Mfume warned Republican members of Congress that their dogged attempts to impeach the President are harmful, unwarranted and without a doubt will cause a huge voter backlash particularly in Black and Latino communities.

"The Republican Party is setting itself up for widespread voter backlash for years to come and most certainly in the year 2000 elections," Mfume said.

The NAACP President pointed out that this is a defining moment for a Republican Party that has made overtures about reaching out to the traditional Democratic base of African American voters. "The GOP's vicious insistence on impeachment speaks volumes about their genuine sincerity to attract minority voter who

have consistently said leave impeachment alone and get back to the substantive issues of running the country."

The NAACP will use the impeachment vote in the next NAACP Legislative Report Card that grades the voting records of House and Senate members. Mfume said, "We'll be looking closely at both Democrats and Republicans in swing districts as it relates to their votes on impeachment and how we might defeat their re-election bids through a campaign of massive turnout and education."

Mfume said, "House Republicans are taking partisan politics to another level that is politically dangerous for their party and even worse for the majority of American people who overwhelmingly have stated their disdain for impeachment."

NEWS DEADLINE IS 4PM MONDAY

Black History Pageant Rehearsing For Feb. 14th Performance

ST. PETERSBURG - More than 50 young people, ranging in ages from 10 to 19 are busy with rehearsals for the 21st Annual Black History Production that will be held 6:00 p.m. Sunday, February 14, 1999 at Bayfront Center's Mahaffey Theater in St. Petersburg. This year's theme is "Hold Fast The Dream: A Salute to Black Entrepreneurs." One of the scenes will be a tribute to 22nd Street South, the way it was 40 years ago with all the thriving black businesses.

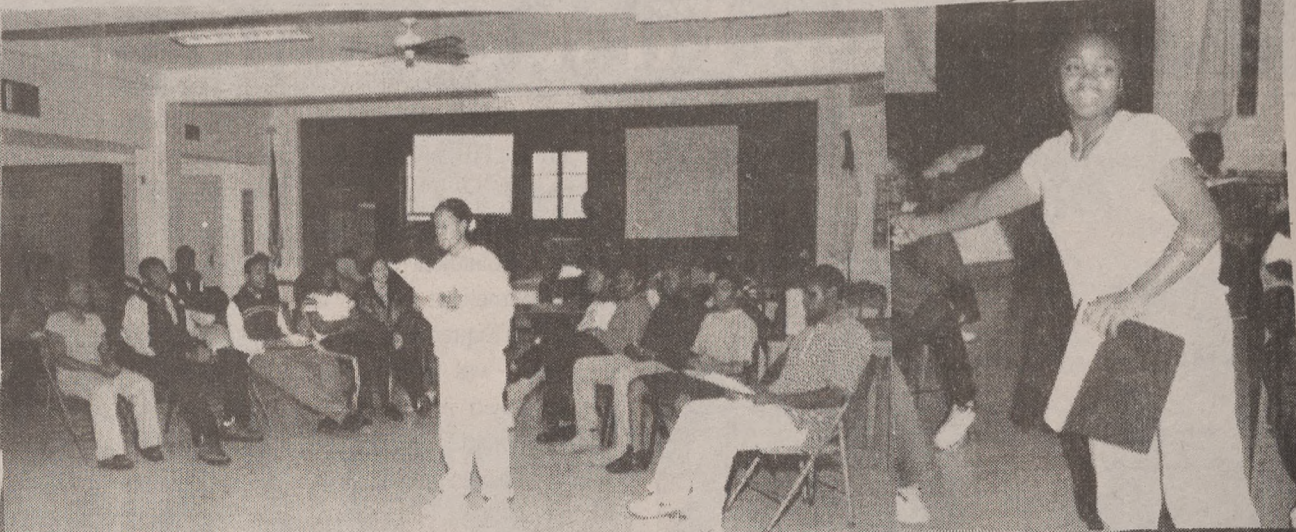
For 21 years, this production has been sponsored by the Black History Pageant Committee of Bethel Community Baptist Church, the Rev. Manuel L. Sykes is pastor.

The Committee will highlight the lives of black businessmen and women, including Madame C.J. Walker, the first black female millionaire who made her wealth from hair care products for black women. One of the scenes will be a tribute to 22nd Street, some 40 years ago. Those businessmen and women will be announced in a poem written by Rhonda Rembert of Gina's Inkwell. The Bethel Community Baptist Church

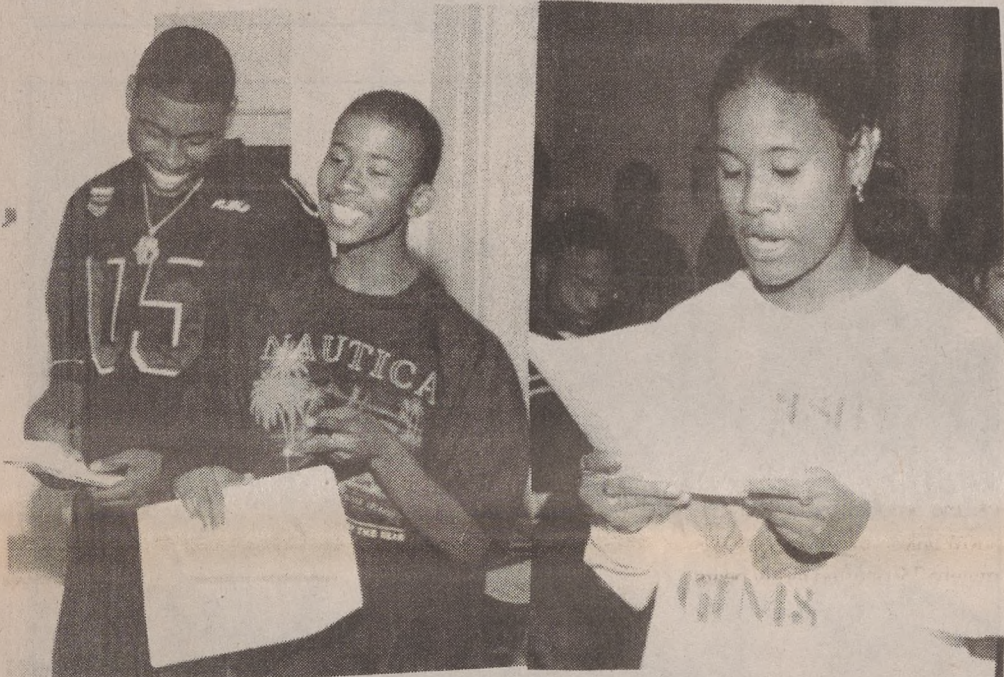
Youth Choir, directed by Belinda Sykes, Bethel's first lady, will also participate. There will be several dance performances, including one for the participants choreographed by Katurah Robinson.

On January 10, at the University of South Florida, the Black History Pageant Committee will have an African Tea and Fashion Show from 4 to 7 p.m. to benefit the production. Commentators will be Reginald Roundtree and Kelly Williams of Channel 10. Minister Myron Harmon and his wife, Loretta are the chairpersons of the fashion show.

The pageant's artistic director is Melvina Randall and her assistant Teresa Riggs. Peggy Peterman is the founder/director and Rhonda Rembert and Frances Williams are pageant coordinator and assistant coordinator. The Black History Pageant is actively seeking all black businessmen and women to run their pictures and information about their businesses on a wide screen before the performance. Those interested in being displayed in the production's souvenir booklet may call 822-7674 or 327-9869.



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The Weekly Challenger

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

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ST. PETERSBURG



TOGETHER

Construction of the city of St. Petersburg's Business Development Center (BDC), which began in August 1998, has been completed and the city's Business Assistance Division is now providing their services from the center.

"We're open and ready to assist current and future business entrepreneurs although not all of the equipment and materials are installed," said Ken Jones, BDC coordinator. The center will have a soft grand opening in late January.

While the center's goal is to strengthen economic activity throughout the city with special emphasis placed on the Challenge 2001 Area, all citizens of the city are welcome and encouraged to use the center, said Ken.

The center has adopted the motto "Educating and cultivating small business" which reflects the BDC's focus on building small business through education and technical assistance.

The BDC, located in the rear of Bethel Community Baptist Church, 1045-16th Street South, is a joint venture among the city of St. Petersburg, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), and the volunteer efforts of local businesses, banks, and business resource organizations.

Visitors to the center will find and be able to use business reference materials, computers, a copier, Internet access, business plan assistance, credit repair counseling, help with identifying loan sources, onsite loan programs, and assistance with becoming certified as a minority/women business enterprise.

There's also a training room where classes will be offered on topics such as how to start a business and how to develop a marketing plan, said Ken. Additionally, a conference room for business owners who do not have their own office is available for scheduled meetings.

Present center hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Additional hours will be implemented as the need arises.

Other business resources that will be either housed at or available through the center are: Tampa Bay Black Business Investment Corporation, a loan intermediary; the Small Business Development Center; Gulf Coast Certified Development Corporation, St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce volunteers, and other agencies.

For more information, call 893-7146.

NAACP Youth Council Presents Holiday Stockings



L-R: Shani Lodge, Dion Promise, Jenard Woodard, Corey White, Kiesha Mack and Danielle Woods



ST. PETERSBURG--The NAACP Youth Council presented holiday stockings to forty-five youth plus who attend the Sidewalk Sunday School in Jordan Park on Saturday, December 19th at 10:30

a.m. The presentation was made by Youth Council Officers, Danielle Woods, president; Shani Lodge, vice president; Rennair Baker, secretary; Deon Promise, parliamentarian; and Corey White, chaplain.

The NAACP Youth Council was greeted by Godfrey Watson, director of the Sidewalk Sunday School, and Mrs. Angela Lodge, community volunteer.

21st Christmas Light Display

ST. PETERSBURG--In 1977, a few strings of lights were put up at our home. This grew to about 6000 lights by 1979, which attracted a few cars. Now, 20 years later, it has grown into one of the largest Christmas light displays in the country with nearly one half million lights covering about 1/2 acre. It takes about 12 friends, 3 months to set up. Two additional high capacity electric meters have been installed (making a total of three meters) to handle the 10 truckloads of items that are installed.

Beginning from 6 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., the lights should

brighten the southside of St. Petersburg as never before. Last day of the display should be Sunday, January 3rd.

Many don't know how to find Oakdale Street in St. Petersburg, this is how you would get there: Traveling on I-275, take exit #9, which is 175E. Turn right onto 4th Street heading south. Go about one mile, crossing over 22nd Avenue South. The next street on the left is Oakdale. Go two blocks and look.

The display also includes a 16 train, H.O. scale outdoor railroad; 16 operating carnival rides; everything from reindeer

to an animated Jurassic Park display; about 50 snowmen; a 6400 light Christmas tree that rises about 70 feet into the air and others that rise to lower heights; an animated hot air balloon display, bands, zoos, circus, carnival, Mickey Mouse, and holograms; many large mirrored balls and high-

powered spotlights give much of the enormous display; a snowflake effect; approximately 250 stuffed teddy bears and animals. Multitudes of display cases and window displays; approximately 200 lighted figures.

"Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

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Bob Gilder

from pg. 3

have been positively impacted, inmates have gained new skills that can be transferred into real jobs, and a new spirit of cooperation between the people of the community is continually being formed.

Bob believes that people are happiest when they help to make a difference. He and the N-Team volunteers have made a difference and have touched the lives of so many people. These efforts were recognized by members of the Board of Directors of the James. B. Sanderlin Center on December 4, 1998. Mr. Gilder was selected as the third honoree for the annual "Many Faces of Christmas" ceremony at the Center.

Mr. Gilder has been the recipient of over 1,000 awards. When asked about this achievement Bob commented, "that's what makes the Sanderlin Center award special, is that it comes from an institution and people who are providing a tremendous service to this community."

Mayor Fischer presented a proclamation in which December 4, 1998 was proclaimed Bob Gilder and the N Team Day.

VFW

from pg. 3



Happy Holidays From

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President and Chief Executive Officer



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6.99

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Or Miller Lite Ice, Genuine Draft
or Genuine Draft Light, 12-oz. cans



8.99

Korbel Champagne

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1.79

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MEAT

**T-Bone or
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**Fresh
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Breast Bone Removed,
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**Smoked
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**Mosey's
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Point Cut, Old Fashioned Flavor
(Flat Cut ... lb. 2.39)

California Roast lb. **1.89**
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Save up to .90 lb.

MEAT

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Low Salt No Sugar Added,
Regular or Thick Sliced Lower Sodium,
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(When you buy one 16-oz. bag
at regular price, get one
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GROCERY

**Selected
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Regular, Holiday, Low Sodium,
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Assorted Varieties, 8-oz. bot.
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**Sutter Home
Wine** **6.99**
White Zinfandel or
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**Prices Effective Saturday,
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Publix Orange Juice

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Cauliflower, Broccoli, Tomatoes and
Zucchini, with Your Choice of Our
Appetizing Dips, Small 56-oz. tray
(Medium 84-oz. tray ... 20.00,
Large 128-oz. tray ... 28.00)

Deli Nacho Chips 99¢

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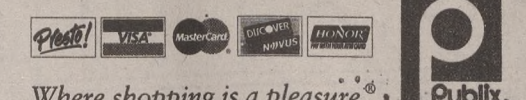
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Fresh from Florida, 8-oz. pkg.

Green Cabbage lb. 19¢

Fresh from Florida

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North Central Florida

To Have A Good Marriage, "Ye Must Be Born Again"



Eugene F. Broxton, D.Min.

by Dr. Eugene F. Broxton.

Recently I attended a spouse abuse seminar and I was disturbed by some of the things I heard about some marriage experiences. Wife and children beatings, drunken orgies, horror caused by deadly threats, murders, slam dunkings, incest and many other sad and other shameful acts of violence. When hearing these things, the thought that entered my mind was that somebody in each of those houses is not born again."

Before marriage, it is absolutely imperative that the couple should understand that marriage was created by God, and that genuine love is the ingredient that cause people to

live together in peace. As Christians we cannot over emphasize the importance of both man and wife being born again Christians. "Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? (2 Cor. 6:14).

Marriage should be an act of God. It should not be just a socially accepted experience that has resulted from:

- Persuasion by parents and friends;
- Material prospects;
- The woman being pregnant;
- Satisfying physical appearances;
- Premarital sexual gratifica-

tion;

•Other worldly standards

The notable evangelist Billy Graham remarked that very few couples divorce who have a regular discipline of praying and studying the word of God together. Because there is validity in that statement, I will ask six questions for premarital couples to answer.

1. Has Each of You Made A Personal Commitment to Jesus Christ?

In order to have a successful marriage each of you should repent of your sins be baptized, filled with the Holy Ghost and set aside to God's glory. If this is done you will make a commitment to (a) Jesus Christ; (b) permanence of marriage; (c) spiritual growth.

2. Are you Active in A Local Church?

The best way to determine whether or not a couple is interested in the church is to examine each of their current activities in the church. Too many single adults are saying that "when I settle down and get married then I will..." The Bible says do not forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Heb. 10:25). Your present church activity will carry over into your marriage. Before marriage it is vitally important for the prospective bride and groom to be active in the same church.

NOTE: Due to the importance and length of this article, the other four questions will be presented with the responses in the next issue of this newspaper.



LIGHT OF THE WORLD

By DANIEL BANKS

I wonder if we realize the significance of the birth of Jesus. Oh, we understand to an extent that He was sent to be the propitiation for our sins (I John 4:10), but we often fail to realize to a usable degree, that right now, He is with us! The gospel according to Saint Matthew chapter one, verse twenty-three beautifully explains the entire truth which we repeatedly miss: "Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel," which being interpreted is, "God with us." It illustrates the omnipotence and timeless companionship that the God-head renders to us. He was with us. He is with us. He will be with us. I can feel a whole lot of security in that, eternal security, as a matter of fact.

I contend that in the broad scope of things, if we really believed that vengeance belonged to the Lord and that in His perfect timing, He would repay those who offend us, slight us, overlook us, discriminate us, abuse us, unfairly pay us and judge us; there'd be a lot less vehement demonstrating, fewer murders, less need for marching, a reduction in medical costs, less money thrown away on attorney's fees, less hatred, and less scheming to get even. In its place would be more time spent in prayer. There would be more quality time spent in the presence of the Lord in multitudinous ways. One would have more inner peace, as opposed to turmoil. One would have an enjoy solace, rather than disdain and irrita-

tion. We could have a restored soul, in place of vexation of spirit. Crime, race relations, politics, job inequities, and other cares of this world are designed to pull our attentions away from the cross. However, we must let nothing separate us from the love of God; not life, not death. In the secret place of the Most High, in your prayer closet, or any other hallowed place where you commune with God, battles are won in the heavenlies, victories are attained by prayer and supplication, and direction is given through divine inspiration!

If you really believed that God is with us, we'd inquire of Him all the time! If we really believed that God is with us, we'd listen attentively when He speaks to us. If we really believed that God is with us, we'd carry ourselves in such a manner that would prove fitting to the presence of a King.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life." St. John 3:16 After giving us this matchless gift, He never took it back. Jesus is still with us today, in everything we say and do and experience. This fact is corroborated in St. Matthew 28:20, "...Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." These are the words of Jesus Christ. They are the only truth in any world, universe, or galaxy one might stumble upon. God bless you and keep you in this present age and the next. Amen.



Society In Ocala

by Florence Williams Ray

Epsilon Phi Lambda Chapter Celebrates 92nd Anniversary

Epsilon Phi Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. celebrated its 92nd Anniversary Founder's Day on Sunday morning, December 20, 1998 at St. Paul A.M.E., Ocala.

The Founder's Day message was delivered by Brother Gary W. Johnson, District Director Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity of Florida. Johnson was introduced by Brother Frank Washington, Jr. A selection was rendered by Minister Daniel Banks and the Occasion was stated by Brother Rueben L. Williams.

Presentations of certificates and plaque was done by Brothers William E. Jackson and Ernest K. Johnson, Jr. Those receiving certificates were Laura Carter, Margaret Irving, James Jackson, Charlie McCants, Ruth McCants, Catherine Montgomery, Mary Sue Rich, Judge Sandra E. Stephens and Donnie T. Sykes. Recognition of the Great Letter organization was by Bro. Dr. Cecil A. Jones, Jr., remarks came from James D. Sykes, Sr. DD. Pastor of St. Paul A.M.E. Church.

Alpha officers and member include Brothers Bobby L. James, President; De. Cecil A. Jones, Jr. Vice President; William E. Jackson, Secretary; Fred J. Smiley, Treasurer; Dr. Eugene F. Broxton, Parliamentarian; Dr. Thomas A. Harris Chaplain; Reuben L. Williams, Director of Education; Frank Washington, Jr., Director of Public Affairs, Marion F. Lenon, Editor of

Sphinx and Roland Smith, Sr. Historian. Also Brothers Elton B. Bellamy, Sr., Herbert S. Coleman, Dr. Lorenzo S. Edwards, James Glover, Dr. L.R. Hampton, Jr., William H. Jackson, Ernest K. Johnson, Jr., Robert C. Johnson, Vince Jones, Charles A. Lauria, John J. Livingston, Willie Long, George McAllister, Howard W. Nelson, Roy L. Rolle, Jr., Edward L. Walker and Rudolph Young.

Fraternity motto is "Fist of All; Servants of All: We shall Transcend All."

Jesus Is The Reason For The Season

On Sunday, December 20, 1998, the Youth Department of New St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Ocala presented its Christmas program in titled "Jesus Is The Reason For The Season."

The outstanding program included: Timely selections by the choir and children; "Now Behold The Lamb" With dancers Danika Florence, Patrice Rushing, Shekay Vernon and Katoya Gadsdon.

Other participants included Musicians Sylvia Thomas and Stanley Jacobs; Drummers Erica Brooks, Antonia Porter and Jason Dowdy. The program was directed by Davida Randolph, Elnora Vemon and Erica Harvey. The Rev. T.L. Brooks is pastor.

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday greetings go out to Lillian Pierson and James Porter, December 24th; Alicia Pierson, December 27th; Davis Williams and Elaine Reynolds, Dec. 30th.

Check Out Charities Before Giving

TALLAHASSEE--As the holiday season approaches, Floridians can expect an increase in the level of fundraising by charitable organizations, Florida Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner Bob Crawford announced.

And with so many organizations soliciting money, making a decision about contributing can often be confusing.

To assist consumers in making their decisions, Crawford's office announced the availability of the annual "Gift Givers' Guide" - a popular consumer guide that shows how much money organizations spent the previous year on program services, administrative costs and fund-raising expenses. This year's volume is the sixth edition.

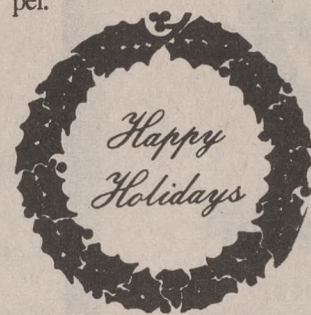
"This guide provides consumers with information that they can use to ask relevant questions and to become informed before contributing to an organization," Crawford said. "While consumers should also take other factors into consideration when deciding whether to contribute, we believe, that this guide is an excellent starting point."

The guide lists the approximately 5,500 organizations registered with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as charities that solicit money from the public in Florida, whether they are located in the state or not. Also included is a list of organizations that are exempt from filing a detailed financial report, and a section listing professional solicitors and fund-raising consultants.

To receive a free copy of the "Gift Givers' Guide," consumers can call the Department's consumer help line 1-800-HELP FLA (435-7352) and leave their name and complete mailing address. Consumers should allow 10 to 15 days for delivery.



Rosetta Cohen Forshee



Head Clock Could Help With Medication Compliance

HOUSTON--Doctors write an average of 8,000 prescriptions every year, but many of those drugs fail to produce the proper result.

"The most common problem is that people don't follow instructions on properly taking medications," said Dr. Ed Fann, professor of pharmacology at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. "Forgetting to take medication or stopping the regimen too soon can limit a drug's effectiveness."

In an effort to increase medication compliance, Fann and colleagues are studying our internal memory of the so-called head clock, a unique device that virtually anyone

can use to help them remember to take a pill. The head clock is part of an internal mechanism that alerts us to perform a task.

"We all have a sense of time and its passing and can remind ourselves to do something at a certain time," said Fann. "This is the job of the head clock. By paying attention to a twinge or feeling of anxiety produced by this innate mechanism, we can do a better job of remembering."

The key is being aware of the feeling. If you sense some anxiety, it could be your memory telling you that you are forgetting something. Fann says when this feeling occurs, you

should go through a mental checklist of the tasks you have set for yourself in order to remember a specific task.

Baylor researchers are testing the theory on a group of medical students. Half of the group will be taught about head clock and the techniques of using it. Half will not. The investigators will track how well students in each group do in remembering to take a harmless placebo pill.

"Using medications other than exactly how they are pre-

scribed can be dangerous," said Fann. "Teaching patients to be more in tune with their internal head clock has the potential for increasing patient compliance, improving health and reducing costs associated with unused medications."



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A Voteless People Is a Hopeless People!

Warning To All Parents

A form of Tattoo called "Blue Star" is being sold to school children. It is a small piece of paper containing a blue star. They are the size of a pencil eraser, and each star is soaked with LSD.

The drug is absorbed through the skin simply by handling the paper. There are also brightly colored paper tattoos resembling postage stamps that have the pictures of the following: Superman, Mickey Mouse, clowns, Disney characters, Bart Simpson,

Butterflies, etc. Each one is wrapped in foil. This is a new way of selling acid by appealing to young children! They are loaded with drugs. If your child gets any of the above, do not handle them. These are known to react quickly and some are laced with Strychnine.

This is very serious, young lives have already been taken.

From Sputnik Drug Information Zone; Made possible by The Lacaeum Drug Archives.

Merry Merry Christmas

TRY OUR WINGS - BEST IN TOWN

Wings, Subs, & More

1420 NW 10th St.

867 - 1515

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(WINGS)

25 pc. - \$8.00

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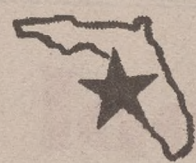
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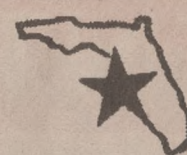
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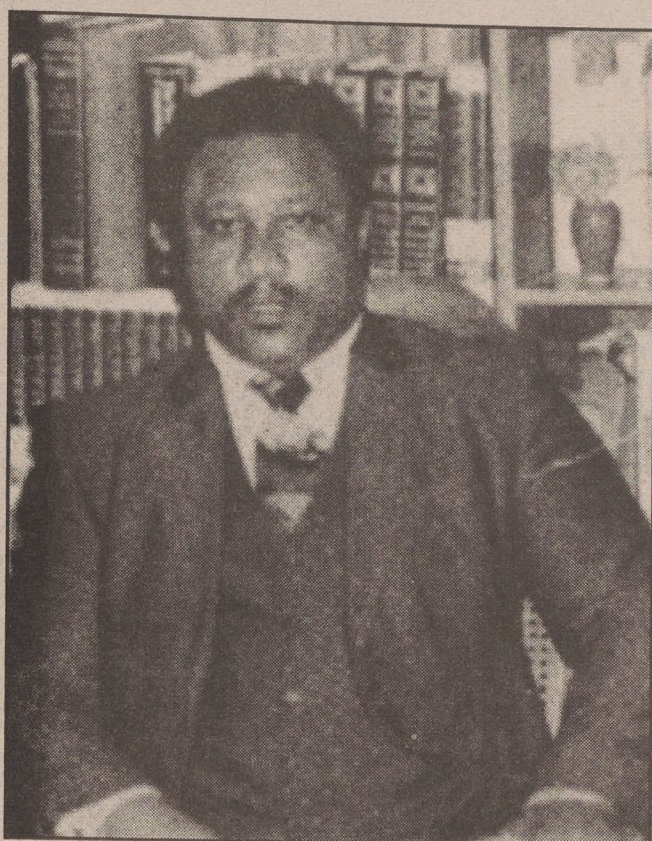
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North Central Florida



Author's Thanks



Minister Robin Williams

by Minister Robin

OCALA - Thanks be to God Almighty, my father, all wise and eternal in the heaven. Thanks be to my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ;

Thanks be to my mother and father, whom I will forever honor and love. Thanks to my friends, who have given me my flowers and the love that I so dearly need.

Thanks to my family, who have given me more by far than I have given them.

Thanks to my teachers, who have labored and strug-

gled through the years to instill useful knowledge within me.

Thanks be to all who have pulled and pushed and prayed for me in this life; For without all of your efforts, I am nobody; but with your efforts and God's, I am somebody. Amen!

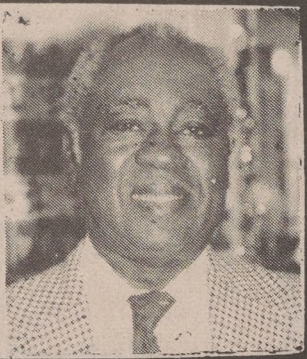
The conscience is God's invisible whip. Man is a slave to his nagging conscience, which forever reminds him of his guilt.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

READ A NEWSPAPER EVERY DAY

Ocala News

by James Thorpe



Greater Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church Announcements

Come join Pastor Lee and the Hopewell family on Christmas morning of their worship service 9:00 a.m. Come singing and praising the Lord for let us see another Christmas whether you believe it or not, Christ is the reason for Season."

Let us all try and make someone happy with a meal, a gift but most of all "love" and do all we can to lead some one to Christ.

Our Congratulations!

To Brother Eugene T. Swift, Sr. who now has retired from Allstate Insurance Company. He was employed with Allstate for 18 years as an Insurance Agent. Prior to his employment with Allstate, he was employed with the government for 20 years. So now he plans to take it easy for a

while. Some of his favorite sports such as golfing, he want to be able to play golf because of his back problem. He plans to spend more time with his family. I don't believe he's afraid of wasting time for he finally has time to take. So now is the time to put work aside and concentrate on you! May God continue to bless you, for "Retirement, is a new Beginning."

Congratulations

To Dowanna Howard, on making "Fidessa Service Club" and to Likecia Lucky, on making the "Anchor Service Club."

To Little Miss Dekeria Franklin, who was crowned "Miss Fashionetta of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority" on November 14th. Dekeria was escorted by the handsome Master Carlton Faison, Jr. Miss Likecia Lucky, was the Queen who crowned Dekeria.

Three Universities Join Efforts To Improve Agricultural Safety

GAINESVILLE—Three Florida universities have joined together to attract a new federal agricultural safety center to the state.

The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health formed the Deep South Center for Agricultural Research, Education and Prevention of Injuries and Disease awarded \$1.1 million to fund it for three years based on a joint proposal by the University of South Florida, the University of Florida and the University of Miami.

The center will focus on the safety of agriculture families and migrant agricultural workers.

Agriculture is the second most dangerous occupation in the United States, behind mining, said Yehia Hammad, a University of South Florida professor of environment and occupational health who will be the center's director.

"Whether it involves pesticide exposure, tractor injuries

or unsanitary living conditions, we want to curb the epidemic of deaths, illnesses and disabling injuries among agricultural workers and their families," he said.

The center's director of intervention is Carol Lehtola, state agricultural safety specialist with the Cooperative Extension Service of UF's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

"Efforts to inform the agriculture community about ways to improve safety and health are bringing down the number of farm injuries, and the center will help accelerate those efforts in the South," said Lehtola who will help develop outreach efforts to prevent injuries and illnesses.

Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, BEthune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Edward Waters College in Jacksonville and Florida International University in Miami also will participate in the center's work.

Roy Communications To Handle Ethnic Communications

ATLANTA, GA—Roy Communications, the largest African American public relations firm in the southeast, will manage ethnic communications in the \$12.5 million Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi youth-targeted anti-tobacco account.

Roy Communications, along with the Persaud Brothers of New York, will execute a high profile and spirited program of grass roots relations, community relations, street promotions, and special events.

Roy Communications partnered with Jackson, Mississippi-based advertising firm Maris West and Baker and the Washington D.C. and Atlanta offices of Perter Novelli. The team edged out Spike/DBB of New York, Slaughter Hanson of Birmingham, and The Godwin Group of Jackson.

The Partnership of a Healthy Mississippi is a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing teen tobacco use throughout the state. The Partnership has over 50 members from the public and private sectors representing health, education, law enforcement and youth groups. It is underwritten by a \$62 million pilot program in addition to the \$4 billion settlement that Mike Moore, the Attorney General

of Mississippi, negotiated with the nation's tobacco marketers.

"It was an incredibly tough decision for the selection committee to make," said Liz Carroll, spokesperson for the Partnership. "All the representatives were impressive but the Maris, West & Baker team rose above the rest. Their ideas are fresh, their approach unique, their passion and enthusiasm contagious. What's more, teens involved in the evaluation process were blown away. Clearly this is the team that can best get through to the kids we're trying to reach."

"We're eager to get started with this exciting campaign which will include events involving music, humor, inspiration and education. Our messages are aimed at helping young people understand how they are manipulated by the tobacco industry," said Charlotte Roy, president of Roy Communications. "This new account helps us to expand our expertise in the health communications field."

Roy Communications is an Atlanta-based minority-owned company with communications capabilities including design and execution of marketing, public relations, promotional and community relations campaigns.

READING IS VITAMINS FOR THE MIND

From Our Family To Yours

Publix hopes this Kwanzaa season is filled with joy, peace, faith and prosperity for you, your family and community.

Happy Kwanzaa from Publix!



Where shopping is a pleasure.®



ENTERTAINMENT

The African-American Holiday Of Kwanzaa

ST. PETERSBURG — Avenue South. You're invited to celebrate the seventh principle of Kwanzaa, Imani (faith) starting at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, January 1, 1999, in the auditorium of the Enoch Davis Center, 1111-18th

The celebration is open to the community to observe and participate in the ceremonial lighting of the candles and the reading of the Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles) by city

and community leaders such as Kwabena Denizulu, Gwen Reese, Rev. Manuel Sykes, Judge Myra McNary, Roger Clendenning and other city and community representatives. Bring a covered dish and

enjoy the karumu (feast) and entertainment. Scheduled to appear are Dundu Dole' African Drummers and Dancers, The Alumni Singers, Rico Curry, poet and Earth Mission Cultural Arts Group.

Kwanzaa Celebration Of Ujima

ST. PETERSBURG—The public is invited to the Kwanzaa celebration of Ujima.

Please join us in celebrating the Ujima principle of Kwanzaa and in honoring many of the elders of the African American community.

This event will take place on Monday, December 28, 1998 at 7:00 p.m. at Bethel Community Baptist Church, 1045-16th Street South.

The celebration is being sponsored by the YMCA of Tampa Bay, Funded by Juvenile Welfare Board.



These students are about to discover their teachers really are from another planet.

THE FACULTY

A new science fiction thriller
From the director of *Desperado*
Screenplay by the writer of *Scream & Scream 2*

STARTS CHRISTMAS DAY

AMC THEATRES TYRONE SQUARE 6 66th St. & 22nd Ave. 347-9777	MUVICO PALM HARBOR 10 37912 US Hwy. 19 N 944-2282	AMC THEATRES COUNTRYSIDE 6 2391 State Road 580 796-2278	AMC THEATRES SEMINOLE 8 Outside Seminole Mall 393-8862	AMC THEATRES TRI-CITY 8 East Bay Dr. & US 19 531-2865
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REGAL LARGO MALL 8
10500 Limberton Road
581-5199

REGAL PINELLAS 6
2690 70th Ave. N
525-6627

Gibbs High School Class of '68

Christmas Holiday Extravaganza

Saturday, December 26 - 8:00PM - 1:00AM

At

THE ST. PETERSBURG COLISEUM

D. J. JOHNSTONE

Featuring Top 40 Hits and Old School Mix

\$ 15.00 General Admission

For Tickets Contact

Pop Lancaster 327-4199

Freda Davis 866-6342

Ernest Thomas 864-0388

Willene Weaver 323-1304

or purchase at these Ticket Outlets

Novells Quik Market

Star tapes & CD's

2930 18th Ave. So.

1234 34th Street So.

(727) 327-9291

(727) 328-2961

No Tickets Will Be Sold At The Door !



BYOB
Setups Available



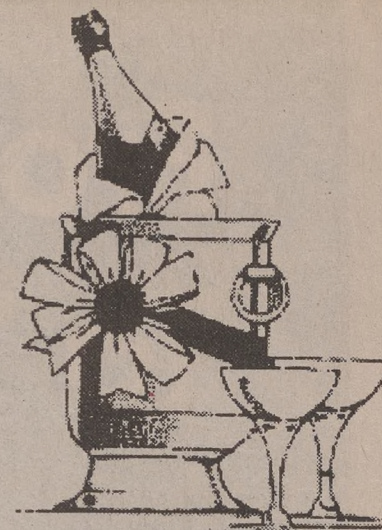
New Year's Eve Celebration

Thursday Dec. 31st

9:00 p.m. - Until . . .

CLUB 1801

1801 34th Street South, St. Pete



- Professional and Social Networking
- Prime Rib Buffet Dinner
- Exquisite Ambiance
- Professional or Tastefully Casual Attire
- Dancing
- Cash Bar
- Excellent Entertainment

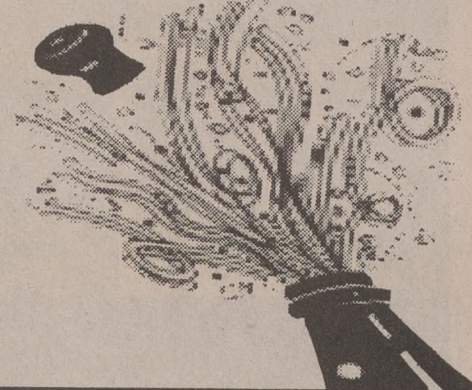
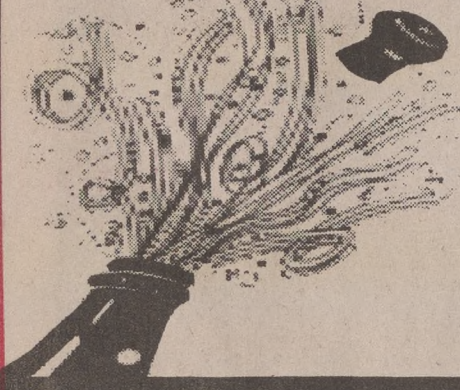


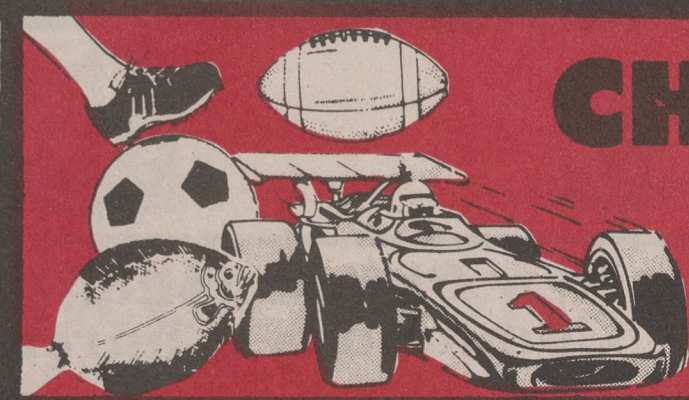
Kayla Hill

Admission
\$21.00 (a Couple)

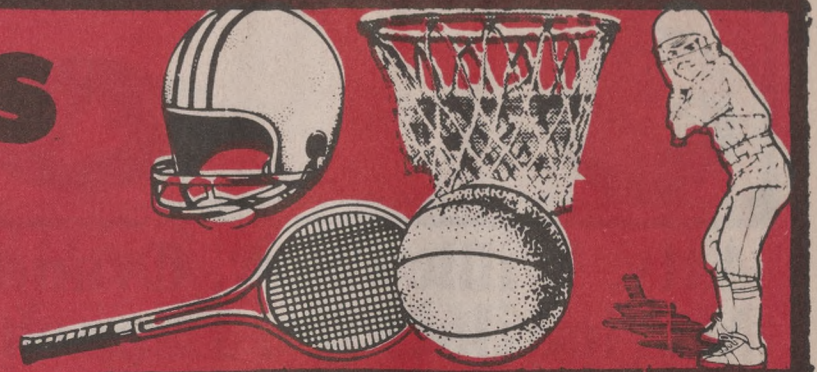
Come Join Us For The New Year Celebration

Sponsored by **The Weekly Challenger** Newspaper

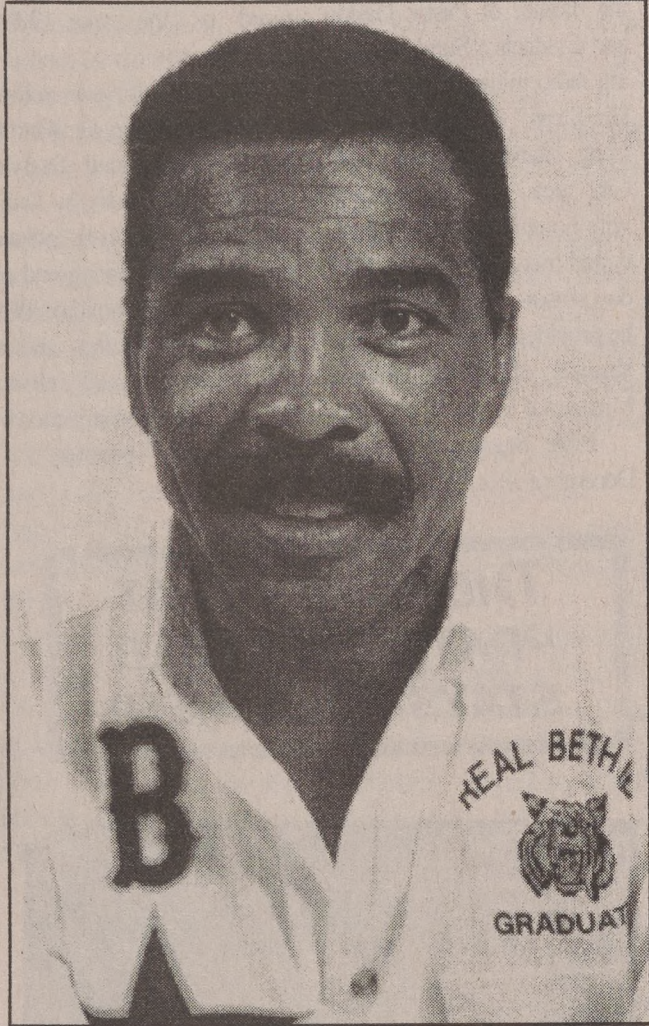




CHALLENGER SPORTS



B-CC's Wyatt Named National Coach Of The Year



Alvin Wyatt

DAYTONA BEACH — Street & Smith's magazine, America's Bible for professional and college sports previews, just announced that Bethune-Cookman College football coach Alvin Wyatt has been selected to receive the inaugural Street & Smith's Eddie Robinson Coach of the Year Award, presented to the top coach in black college football.

Eddie Robinson, legendary Grambling State University head football coach, will present the award to Wyatt at the Street & Smith's Eddie Robinson Awards Dinner on Saturday, December 26, 1998 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta, following the McDonald's Heritage Bowl,

which pits Bethune-Cookman College against Southern University in a 12:30 p.m. kickoff. Coach Robinson also will present the Street & Smith's Player of the Year Award to quarterback Patrick Bonner of Florida A&M University.

In his second year as head coach, Coach Wyatt led the Wildcats to an 8-2 season and its first post-season in Division I-AA, the McDonald's Heritage Bowl.

B-CC finished 4-7 last year.

Coach Wyatt said he is both excited and humbled by the award. "This is the happiest I've ever been in my life," Wyatt said. "To know that I am the first recipient of this award

is very exciting, coupled with the fact that the award is coming from the best black college football coach in history, Eddie Robinson, and Street & Smith magazine. This is an extremely humbling experience for me."

"The award caught me by surprise," said Wyatt, who last month was named Coach of the Year for the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and Florida Coach of the Year by the Daytona Beach Quarterback Club. "This was not one of my goals. I was only interested in turning the football team back to glory. Then all of a sudden, all of these extracurricular things started happening."

"I'm glad for the Daytona Beach community, our president, Dr. Oswald P. Bronson, my coaches, the football team and the entire Bethune Cookman-College family," Wyatt said.

Wyatt had served an assistant football coach at B-CC for 21 years before being named head coach in November 1996.

The Street & Smith's Eddie Robinson Awards were voted on by coaches, athletic directors and media covering black college football which includes 38 schools in four conferences (SWAC, MEAC, CIAA and SIAC) and the five independents.

"Street & Smith's is honored to be affiliated with Eddie Robinson, the winningest college football coach of all time," said Sal Schilliro, publisher of Street & Smith's.

"Eddie Robinson started his coaching career in 1941, the year after Street & Smith released its first college football annual."

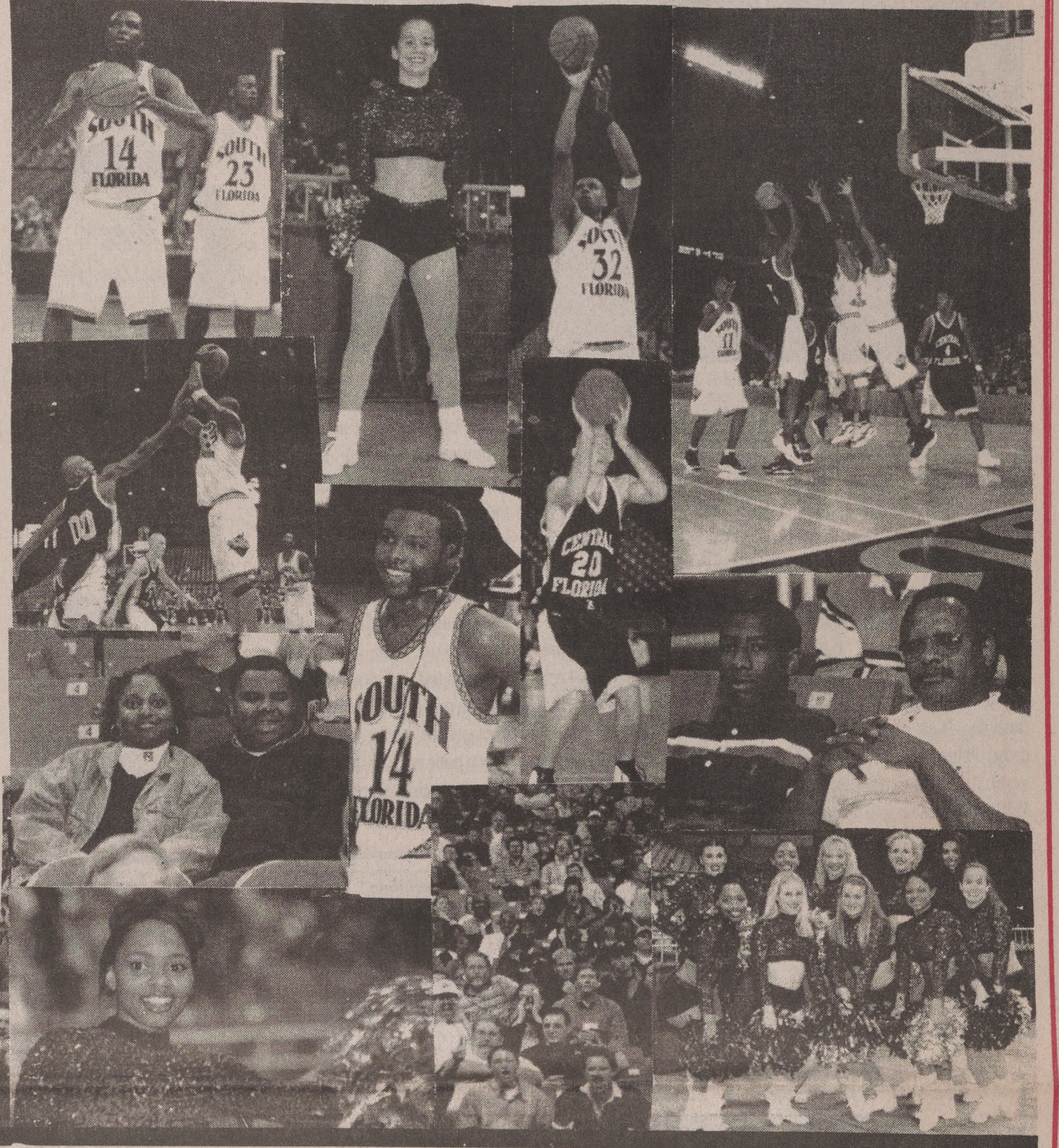
USF-UCF Game Used For Test By NCAA Committee

ST. PETERSBURG — Last weekend the University of South Florida scored 69 over University of Central Florida's 55 in somewhat of a dress rehearsal for the NCAA tournament which will be held in March, 1999.

Two great basketball teams hooped it out at Tropicana Stadium in front of several individuals from the NCAA Tournament Selection committee and approximately 3,000 spectators.

The NCAA was in St. Petersburg to judge the readiness of the Stadium for the Final Four coming up in the Spring. These individuals did have the opportunity to witness the performance of both teams.

Although this area has been the host site for games in the past, last year was the first year that Tropicana Field hosted the NCAA with basically a spectacular turnout. If the NCAA Selection Committee decides that Tropicana Field will not remain the choice for future games, it would suffer a significant loss.



Galaxy Of Stars On Hand For Great Out Doors Adventure

CYPRESS GARDENS—Stars will shine at Cypress as a whole bevy of outdoor experts have already committed to attend the ?Great Outdoors Adventure Show scheduled Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 19-21.

Fisherman will get advice from such experts as Bernard "Lefty" Kreh. He is a world famous fly fisherman who has fished in all 50 states, every province of Canada, over much of South America, as well as some of the South Pacific, in Europe, Iceland and

other countries. A member of the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, Kreh has been teaching fly casting and fly fishing techniques since the early '50s. He will be joined by Captain Scott Moore and Walt Reynolds.

Interested in bass fishing? Two time Bassmaster champion Bill Dance will show guests how to do it better. Doug Hann, known as the "Bass Professor," will be there too, along with Larry Larsen and 15-year old fishing sensation Kent Raulston.

For those who like to hunt,

not contain the great works of African American literature."

Spirited Minds: African American Books for Our Sons and Our Brothers and Strong Souls Singing: African American Books for Our Daughters and Our Sisters (Norton) are beautifully illustrated books that each describe over one hundred works of literature, including fiction, history, poetry, biography, and drama. A delight to read, the books also highlight the extraordinary and heroic accomplishments of dozens of authors included as

well as powerful moments in African American history. Together, Spirited Minds and Strong Souls Singing are a tribute to the great legacy of African American writers that both adults and children can read.

"For young people who don't know this literature, the books are priceless," observes Mary K. Boyd, urban educator and chair of the local Black Teens for advancement. "But they're not just for the kids. The richness of the literature they bring to light is astounding even to me."

B-CC Receives Invitation To McDonald's Heritage Bowl

DAYTONA BEACH — Officials from the McDonald's Heritage Bowl extended a formal invitation to Bethune Cookman College to compete in the annual "Black College Super Bowl" on December 26, 1998 at 12:30 p.m. at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta.

This nationally televised contest pits the top two teams in the nation's only Division I-AA black conferences—the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and the Southwestern Athletic Conference. The Wildcats will take on the Jaguars of Southern University. B-CC earned the right to play in the Heritage Bowl by finishing third in the MEAC, behind conference champ Hampton and Florida A&M. The Wildcats finished the season, 8-2 (6-2MEAC), their best since 1977, with a major victory over then No. 4-ranked Hampton. B-CC's only losses were to Howard and Florida A&M.

"Every single game we played was based on getting to the Heritage Bowl," head coach Alvin Wyatt said. "All of those road games - South Carolina State, North Carolina A&T and Hampton, were crucial to win because we knew

we had a powerful Florida A&M sitting there waiting for us. We knew if we lost a game (chances) are we wouldn't be going to anywhere in the post-season (because Howard lost three games and had the tie-breaker with win over B-CC)."

During a press conference Tuesday in announcing the selection, B-CC President Dr. Oswald P. Bronson announced the Coach Wyatt had been voted the MEAC Coach of the Year by his peers. Wyatt turned around the Wildcat program in

two years. B-CC finished 4-7 last year and 1-9 in the MEAC. Coach Wyatt was also named in the Florida Coach of the Year by the Daytona Beach Quarterback Club, which recognizes statewide players and coaches in all Division 1 football programs.

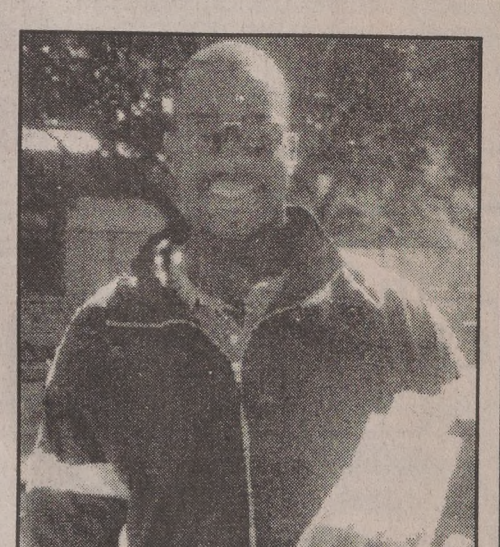
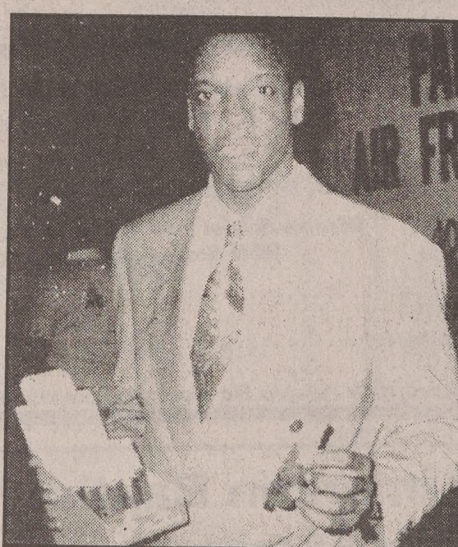
Heritage Bowl officials are encouraging Wildcat fans and supporters to get tickets early for the game, which will be televised live on NBC.

"These two teams have shown hands down that they

are high caliber teams playing at the top of their game," said Craig Cason, executive director of the Heritage Bowl. "Bethune's ability to dominate opponents on the road and Southern's consistent superiority in the SWAC make this a spectacular matchup to watch. We expect to see a capacity crowd at the Georgia Dome for the game on Saturday, Dec. 26th.

NEWS DEADLINE IS 4 PM MONDAY

What Do Superstars Dwight Gooden & Fred McGriff Have in Common?



Dear Air Freshener

At all 7-11's, ECKERDS, PUBLIX, KASH'N KARRY and WINN-DIXIE Stores!

<p>PRONTO CAR WASH QUIK LUBE & DETAILING CENTER SINCE 1958</p>			
<p>• "Free Full Service Car Wash with Oil Change" • Custom Waxing & Detailing • We Wash Vans & Pickups Too! • 24-Hour Self-Service Car Wash</p>			
<p>220 - 34th Street North, St. Petersburg (813) 327-1900 8:30 to 5:30 Monday - Saturday</p>			
<p>FULL SERVICE OIL CHANGE SAVE \$3.00 30 pt. Oil Change & Safety Check Includes Oil, Filter, Lube, Visual Inspect., - PLUS "Free Full Service Car Wash"</p> <p>\$23.99 Plus Tax • (Reg. \$26.99) Coupon EXPIRES 1/8/99</p>	<p>THE WORKS! SAVE \$2.50 Car Wash, ULTRA SHINE 1000 Tri-Foam Wax System, Under Chassis Spray & Rust Inhibitor, Wheel Brite, Armorial Tires, & Air Freshener</p> <p>\$13.00 Plus Tax • (Reg. \$15.50) Coupon EXPIRES 1/8/99</p>	<p>"FRESH 'N SHINE" SAVE \$2.00 FULL SERVICE CAR WASH Polish Wax, ULTRA SHINE Poly Sealant, Air Freshener, & Wheel-Brite</p> <p>\$10.50 Plus Tax • (Reg. \$12.50) Coupon EXPIRES 1/8/99</p>	<p>FULL SERVICE CAR WASH SAVE \$1.00 Soft Cloth Car Wash, Vacuum Interior, Windows Cleaned, Dash Dusted, Exterior Towel Dried & Detailed</p> <p>\$7.95 Plus Tax • (Reg. \$8.95) Coupon EXPIRES 1/8/99</p>



CHURCH NEWS



Atty. Willie Gary, Evander Holyfield And Marlon Jackson Launch Gospel Network



STUART—The MBC Gospel Network announced the debut of the values-oriented network last month at an inception breakfast in Atlanta premiering the national television network's broadcast. The network provides programming to bring family values back to television.

"There was a time when we cared about our youth and families. It is time to regain those values and reclaim our youth," said National Attorney Willie Gary, who is a majority partner in the gospel network.

Gary, Evander Holyfield and Cecil Fielder join with other investors in the network to promote positive role models for youth.

Marlon Jackson of the Jackson Five singing group

will act as President for the MBC Gospel Network, LLC and veteran broadcast consultant Alvin James will be Chairman.

Fielder, a major league baseball player, said "we need to start raising our kids like we were raised."

"Urban families need quality programming alternatives for television viewing that reinforce and complement traditional values. Working with Fresh Publishing, we look forward to providing this unique programming," said James.

The company is located in Atlanta Crawford Communications Complex. Crawford Communications will provide the network's corporate headquarters as well as a full spectrum of broadcast services.

James said the gospel network chose Crawford Communications for its central location the mid-city and its outstanding reputation in the broadcast industry.

The MBC Gospel Network has paired with Fresh Publishing company to supply the network with a series of video-taped religious conferences, network specials and live gospel events. Gary will host a national Spiritual Impact Hour focusing on role models from all walks of life.

The network has also entered into a contract with Foundation Telecommunications to provide satellite services. "This association will make MBC Gospel a global network broadcasting worldwide," James said.

The MBC Gospel Network will broadcast 24 hours a day.



Greater Mt. Zion

"For Unto us a Child is born a son is given...."

Christmas is almost here, we come anticipating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ with much excitement. Come join Pastor Charles Robinson and the Mt. Zion church family in our uplifting worship service this Sunday, starting at 7:30 a.m.

The Richardson Special Chorus will render song service as they lift high the name of Jesus. Sunday School will immediately follow with Sis. Rhonda Ryan in charge. At the 11:00 a.m. service **Sounds of Zion** will serve and Pastor Robinson will deliver the message at both services.

As this year comes to an end, we look ahead to the New Year. Mt. Zion's Church family, Moore's Chapel and Bethel will come together at Bethel A.M.E. on December 31st at

9:30 p.m. for our Watch Night Services. For all that God has done, let us come together and show our faithfulness and gratitude for his great and mighty acts of love and kindness shown to us. The church is located at 912-3rd Avenue North.

Our doors are always open to all and we continue to extend an invitation to everyone to join us in our weekly services.

Monday
Bible Study 6:00 p.m.;
Wednesday
Vintage Bible Study at 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting at 7:30 p.m.
— Calendar —
31st
Watch Night Service at Bethel A.M.E.
912-3rd Avenue North
9:30 p.m.

New Philadelphia Community Church

The first Sunday of Christmas will be celebrated during mid-morning worship service. Speaker for the occasion is the Reverend Willie B. Gaskin of Long Island, New York. He is the brother of Pastor Gaskin and conducts a Sunday morning radio ministry entitled "In His Steps," heard around the Long Island and New York City area. Rev. Gaskin and wife Loretta, are visiting family and friends during this holiday season. This past Sunday he provided music ministry in absence of James Bolden, Minister of Music.

Bible Study will resume December 30 at 7:00 This will

be final preparation session for our 1999 goal of reading through Bible in a year. Members and friends are encouraged to join us in this consecrated effort to read God's word as the year 2000 approaches.

Persons willing to volunteer for upcoming Dr. Martin Luther King salad festival should inform Pastor by January 10. This annual observance will be held following end of parade on King holiday. Persons preparing salads and/or other dishes should inform King Holiday ministry coordinator as soon as possible.

THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER!

Merry Christmas To All

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



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"



Moore's Chapel A.M.E. Church

Rev. Quinton Parker, 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.

ELIM Seventh-Day Adventist Church

801 - 6th Avenue S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(813) 894-5246 / 823-1619
SATURDAYS
Sabbath School: 9 am
Morning Worship: 11 am
Youth Hour: 1 Hour Before Sunset
WEDNESDAY
Prayer Meeting: 7:30 PM
LEWIS W. EDWARDS
M.A., M.D.I.V., D. Min.
Pastor-Counselor



ELIM Junior Academy & Day Care Center

20th Street Church Of Christ

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



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.

Friendship Missionary Baptist

3300 - 31st Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(813) 906-8300
Pastor John A. Evans, Sr.

CHURCH SERVICES

Sundays 8 AM and 11 AM Worship
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Baptist Training Union 4:30 PM
"Where strangers meet with friends and sinners find their God."

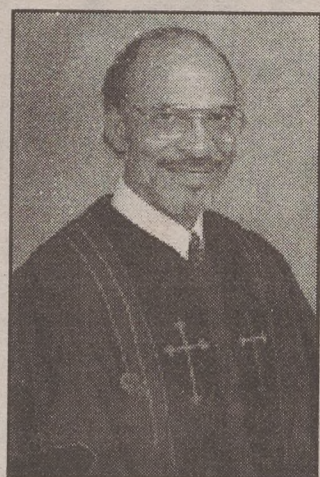
John A. Evans, Sr.

TRAVELERS REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2183 - 22nd Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Church Phone: 822-4869
Residence: 894-5094

Mid-Morning Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Prayer/Praise Service (Wednesday) 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Donald F. Browne



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

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

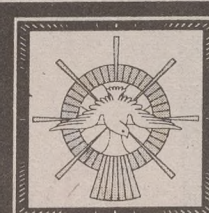
2830 - 22nd Avenue South • St. Petersburg, Florida 33712
(813) 327-8560

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



New Philadelphia Community Church

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

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

Good Samaritan Baptist Fellowship

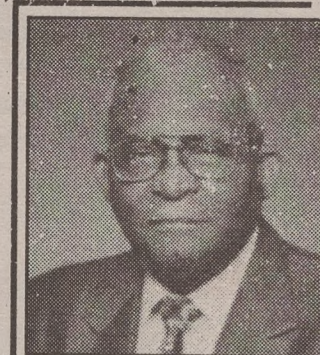
Meeting at Covenant Presbyterian Church
4201 6th Street South, St. Petersburg, Florida
Sunday Worship Service: 8:45 A.M. Wednesday Bible Study: 7:30 P.M.
• Wholistic Ministry (Physical, Mental, and Emotional)
• Bible Based Fellowship Considering the Biblical Commands in Light of Contemporary Problems
• Promoting the Self-Worth and Equality of All Persons
• Non-Sexist Participation • Youth Ministry
NATHANIEL W. TINDALL, II, PASTOR



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
Sun. 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

FIRST MT. PILGRIM EVANGELIST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH, INC.

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



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



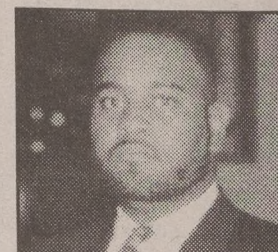
FAITH TEMPLE LIFE CHANGING MINISTRIES

950 Fifth Avenue South • St. Petersburg, Florida 33711
(727) 826-9739 • Fax (727) 826-9740
Pastor Walter Fields
Church Schedule
Sunday School 10:00 AM • Sunday Worship 11:00 AM
Teacher In Action 6:00 PM
Prayer Nightly 6:00 PM
Bible Study Monday Night and Wednesday Night 7:30 PM
Evangelist Night Friday 7:30 PM
Noon Day Prayer Monday thru Friday
"We are the light of the world, that will not be hid."

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 K. Brown

"One week from church makes one weak."



CHURCH NEWS



Bethel AME

Pastor Dawkins and the Bethel family invites all to join us for this Sunday in worship. This is the last Sunday in 1998 and the Youth will be in charge of the service under the leadership of Minister Gwendolyn Williams. Join us in Church School as we learn more and share more about God.

We are pleased to be sharing this year Watch Night Service with Greater Mt. Zion A.M.E., Pastor Charles Robinson, Moore's Chapel A.M.E., Pastor Quinton Parker, St. Mark A.M.E., Pastor Ronald Nelson, and Collins Temple A.M.E., Pastor Barthell. We will start the service with a joint Love Feast which will begin at 9:00 p.m. We are looking to bring 1999 in Praise the Lord in a Mighty Way. Come and join us in the unique worship experience. Pastor Quinton Parker will deliver the spoken word to take us into 1999. Choirs from the four churches will render the music. Come and join us. Breakfast

will be served following the service.

The Love, Faith and Hope committee is working very hard to make the upcoming event a success culminating Sunday, January 24, 1999. All members are urged to see the finance committee for payment on your pledge.

Join the Bethel family January 27-29, 1999 for our Winter Mini Revival, nightly at 7:00 p.m. We have invited as the guest minister Bishop Willie Mincey, pastor of Church of God True Holiness Tabernacle, Winter Haven, Florida. Come and be revived through the Holy Spirit.

Weekly Activities

•Monday - Boy Scouts, 6:00;
•Tuesday-New Members Class 6:15;
Prayer and Class Meeting, 6:30; Bible Study at 7:00;
•Wednesday Noon Day Bible Study, Mass Choir Practice;
•Thursday - Love Feast/Watch Night Service, 9:00 p.m.

St. Mark M.B.

Rev. Brian K. Brown and members of the St. Mark M.B. Church, welcomes everyone to worship with us this Sunday. Church School will begin at 9:30 a.m. under the leadership of Superintendent John Washington. At 10:45 a.m. the Deacons and Youth of St. Mark will open the service with a very spirit filled devotion. The children and youth choirs will give song service throughout the day, under the direction of Franklin Gray, accompanied by Vivian Green at the piano. The Children and Youth Usher

Board will serve and the message will be delivered by Pastor Brown.

Weekly Ministry Schedule

•Monday: 6:00 p.m. Children/Youth Choir Rehearsal; 7:30 p.m., Gospel Chorus;
•Tuesday: 7:00 p.m. Teachers Meeting; 8:00 p.m. Male Chorus;
•Wed.: 7:00 p.m. Special Chorus;
•Thurs.: 10:30 a.m. Senior Hour of Power; 7:00 p.m. Prayer Meeting and Bible Study;
•Sat.: 6:30 p.m. Junior Women

Black Ministers In The Civil Rights Movement Uptown On-Line

NEW YORK, NY - The ministers who headed black America's fight for freedom in the 1960s drew on a long tradition of church-bred activism, and like their many predecessors, they found the weapons they needed in scripture.

Dale Edwyna Smith reports for the Winter 1999 issue of American Legacy that throughout its history the black church in America has represented spiritual resilience, supporting faith and endurance through centuries of trial. But beyond fulfilling the religious needs of a people, the church has also served as what one historian calls a 'political system', a training ground for social change. While saving souls, black ministers have had to lead their congregants through a hostile and often cruel earthly world. Almost by default they've found themselves at the forefront of black America's long struggle for racial justice.

Martin Luther King, Jr., is the most famous preacher who took on the fight for civil rights from the pulpit, but, of course, he had many predecessors. In April 1787 Richard Allen and Absalom Jones, two former slaves who attended St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, founded the Free African Society, one of the country's first social and economic welfare organi-

zations for blacks. Seven months later, after they were forcibly removed from the sanctuary of the church for praying in a 'whites only' section, they led the other black members out of St. George's to form a separate congregation where they could worship in dignity.

There can be no greater example of the black church ministering to both spiritual and social needs than the role it played during the civil rights movement of the 1950s and '60s. Martin Luther King, Jr., was particularly adept at articulating the philosophy of non-violent protest to a people grounded, as one historian puts it, in 'folk religion and revival technique'. The Montgomery Improvement Association, a coalition of ministers and community leaders, had been formed during the massive boycotts sparked by Rosa Parks's refusal to give up her bus seat to a white passenger in 1955. In King's first speech during the boycott, he linked the fledgling civil rights movement to the long tradition of black Christian activism.

Far in time and space from 1920s New York, college students visit the re-created world of the Harlem Renaissance. Although the Harlem of the 1920s is only a memory, the sights and sounds of that legendary place live again, not in

New York City but on the sedate campus of the University of Missouri-Columbia, home of the VEIL-the Virtual Environment Instructional Lab, a state-of-the-art virtual-reality classroom. The VEIL offers a form of group virtual reality: a 50-seat auditorium equipped with digital surround sound, a high-definition video projector and a wide, slightly concave screen that, when viewed through special goggles, endows even two-dimensional images with an uncanny sense of depth.

Virtual Harlem is a computer-generated cityscape which Bryan Carter, a 36-year-old instructor, presents as part of an undergraduate course he teaches on the literature of the Harlem Renaissance. The Cotton Club is the most detailed part of Virtual Harlem and, so far, the only indoor space. The performance by the Duke Ellington Orchestra is actually several minutes of archival film footage converted into a hundred megabytes of digital video. In the future, Virtual Harlem may include a recreation of Orson Wells's all-black production of 'Macbeth'.

The Black Church: Keeping Faith With Its Historical Mission

The Christmas season, which should be an occasion for reflection and rededication, is an opportune time for Africans in America to examine the mission and role of the Black church in the rescue and restoration of the global Black community. The Black Church is Black America's most venerable, vital and enduring institution. The question is will it remain faithful to its historical mission as we enter the 21st century.

When Richard Allen, Absalom Jones and William White walked out of the Old St. George's Methodist Church in 1787 in Philadelphia to protest the discriminatory and insulting treatment of Black parishioners, it set the stage for the organization of the first Black church denomination in America, the African Methodist Episcopal Church. This dramatic event also helped to shape the mission and role of the Black church as a vital center for the rescue of a battered race of people and the forging of a new African community in this country. Born out of protest, the AME Church and many of the denominations that followed

viewed Christianity differently than the vast majority of their White counterparts. Most Whites viewed Africans as second class Christians, unworthy of equal treatment within "their" Church. Worst still, for some Europeans, Christianity was used as an instrument to justify slavery and pacify the enslaved Africans.

On the other hand, Africans like Richard Allen, Nat Turner, Denmark Vesey, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth and Bishop Henry McNeil Turner saw Christianity as a religion of human/spiritual liberation and a foundation for the creation of a new African community. Out of this understanding of Christianity was born a more African centered religious practice which spawned slave revolt, protests and the Black Church as a restorative, community-building institution; an institution which provided valuable opportunities for Blacks to manage business and community affairs and gain experiences in leadership positions within the church and community. In addition the early Black Church created

African free schools to promote education among a largely illiterate population and developed mutual benefit societies to assist the needy and help families provide a proper burial for their deceased loved ones. Indeed, these mutual benefit societies eventually gave birth to Black banks and insurance companies.

Abolitionists, Black and White often met in Black churches and houses of worship were key stations on the Underground Railroad. The first Colored Peoples Conventions, where Black leaders gathered to assess the state of the race and plan strategies for the defense and development of the Black community, were held in Black churches.

Unfortunately, for a period of time the Black church seemed to have lost its way as an institution ministering to the entire needs of its Black parishioners and the Black community. And "other worldly" focus on matters purely "spiritual/religious" and an aversion for matters considered "political," stripped the Black church of its mission/role as the principal

Please see pg. 14

PEACEFUL ZION M.B. CHURCH

2051 - 9th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Rev. F.G. Jackson, Pastor
(813) 822-2455

Church School.....9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
B.T.U.....5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Evening Bible Class.....7:30 p.m.
Wednesday Youth Rehearsal.....5:30 p.m.
Thursday Prayer & Church School Study.....7:30 p.m.
1st & 2nd Saturdays SR.
Choir Rehearsal.....11:00 a.m.

The Church Where Christ Is The HEAD

Merry Christmas To All

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

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.

Rev. Calvin Hopkins

"To God Be The Glory"

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



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 ServicesWed., 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study.....Wed., 7:30 p.m.

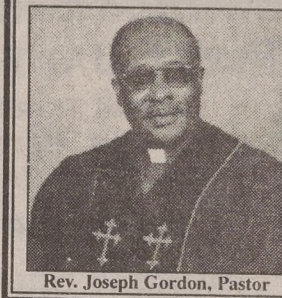
Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church

2550 9th Avenue S. • St. Petersburg, FL

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"

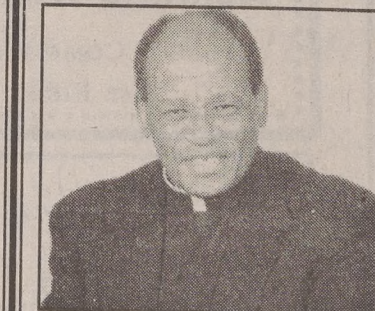


Rev. Joseph Gordon, Pastor

St. Joseph Catholic Church

2101 - 22nd Ave. S., St. Petersburg

Sunday Services Are At:
9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Gospel Choir



Father Callist Nyambo, Pastor

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.



First. Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church

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

Church Services

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

"THE LITTLE CHURCH WHERE EVERYBODY IS SOMEBODY"

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CENTER INTERDENOMINATIONAL

4240 Central Avenue • St. Petersburg, FL 33711 • (813) 328-9412

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CENTRAL

F E L L O W S H I P

Except God build the house they labor in vain that build it. Ps. 127:1

GRACE

CENTER

SERVICE
Sunday School
9:30 - 10:30
Morning Worship 10:30
Evening Worship 6:30
Wed. - Pray 7:00
Bible Study 7:30

Phone
(813) 328-9412
NURSERY AND
CHILDREN'S
CHURCH
AVAILABLE

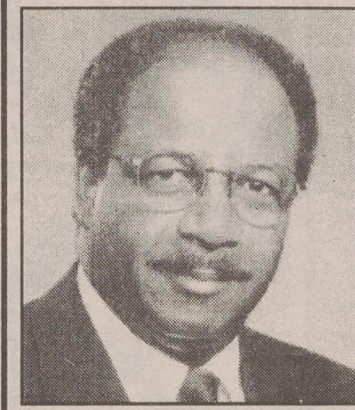
Pastor Leonard Wilson • Phone: 536-1890

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





CHURCH NEWS



Season's Greetings To All

Pastor Donald Browne and the members graciously invite you to our spirit-filled services held each Sunday beginning with Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. along with new member orientation followed by morning worship at 11:00 a.m.

Our Mid-week services includes praise and worship on Wednesday beginning at 7:00 p.m. followed with Bible Study session. Mid-day Bible Study is held every Thursday beginning at 11:00 a.m. These sessions are designed for a deeper, in-depth study of God's word. Come and join in with us as we allow the spirit to teach us what thus saith the Lord.

Travelers Rest is pleased to announce that BTU is being incorporated back into the weekly services again. BTU will be held the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month beginning in January. We have classes designed for all ages. Everyone is cordially invited to attend.

The Quarterly Business Meeting will be held on December 29, 1998 beginning promptly at 7:00 p.m. all members are asked to be present.

Watch Night Service will

be held on Thursday, December 31, 1998 beginning at 10:30 p.m. everyone is cordially invited to attend.

Other Activities

*Mass Choir Rehearsal, Tuesday/Thursday, 7:00 p.m.;
*C.Y.Y.A. Choir Rehearsal, 3rd/4th Saturday at 2:00 p.m.;
*Evangelism Ministry Meetings, 1st/3rd Saturday at 10:00 a.m.;

*Missionary Society Ministry, 3rd Thursday at 7:00 p.m.;
*Christian Education Ministry, 2nd Saturday at 11:00 a.m.
*Pulpit Aide Ministry, 2nd Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Deacons and Deaconess Ministry, 1st Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

*Senior Citizen's Fellowship, 4th Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

*Usher Board #2 Rehearsal, 2nd Saturday at 10:00 a.m.

If you are seeking a church home, we extend Travelers Rest to you. We are the church where Christ is the Center of Attraction and the Word of God is preached!

Transportation is available for Sunday services and all other services by calling the church at 822-4869 no later than 12:00 (noon) on Saturday by leaving a message.



The Holy Ghost Church of God Purchased With His Blood

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

SUNDAY SERVICES

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

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

Emmanuel Christian Fellowship Inc.

1948 49th St. S. • St. Pete, FL 33707
Church: 327-8072

Pastor: Elder. Franklin Evans

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:15 a.m.
Bible Study (Monday) 7:00 p.m.
Prayer & New Comers Class (Wednesday) 6:30 p.m.
Daily Prayer (M-F) 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.
"All Are Welcome" • "Bring A Friend"



Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church

532 - 33rd Street S. • St. Petersburg, FL

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

Evening Worship 6 p.m.

Baptist Training Union 5 p.m.

Tuesday Night

General Bible Study

Thursday Night Prayer Meeting & Teachers Meeting

We welcome you at all times.

Bible Holiness Church of God in Christ

419 - 5th Street S., St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Phone: 898-3838

The members would like to invite you and your family to worship with us. Our services are:

Tuesday Morning Prayer 9:00am
Weds.-Family Worship 7:00pm
Sunday School 10:00am
Sunday Morning Worship 11:15am
Sunday Evening Worship 7:00pm

Pastor: Elder B.O. Walker



Prayer Tower Church Of God In Christ

1135 37th Street South, St. Pete, FL
Elder Clarence Welch, Pastor

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



Bethel Metropolitan

Pastor Lyons and the church family invite you to join us for services at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. The Ordinance of Baptism will be administered during the 11:00 a.m. service. The Praise Team, Sanctuary, Male Ministry Choirs and Youth will serve.

You are encouraged to attend our Thursday Noon Day Bible Study 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Currently we are studying the book of I Timothy. Bring your Bible, writing tools and a thirst for knowledge, then

grow with us each week.

The church is making preparation for the annual Watch Night Services, on December 31, 1998. The sisters of the church are asked to bring cakes, pies and cookies to serve doing the repast. Elder Anthony P. Conage will be preaching at the 8:00 p.m. service, and Pastor Lyons will preach at the 11:00 p.m. service.

-December Calendar-
*31-Watch Night Service 8:00 and 11:00 p.m.

Watchnight Service At Lake Vista Community Center

ST. PETERSBURG -- "By His Grace Christian Ministries" cordially invites you to the New Year's Eve Watch Night Service on December 31, 1998 at 9:00 p.m. at the Lake Vista Community Center, 1401 62nd Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712

Come and hear what the spirit is saying to the church. There will be prayer, praise,

preaching and testimony service. Understanding the seasons and the times in 1999. To everything there is a season and a time.

Pastor Quentin J. King, Pastor. By His Grace Christian Ministries is located at Howard Johnson Hotel, 4601, 34th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL



Antioch Church

Ph # 866-3842
4601 34th Street South
(Howard Johnson's)

Rev. Michael A. Hawkins, Pastor
Sunday School 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study

..... Tuesday 7:30 PM

Church Theme: "Rise Up And Walk"

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

Macedonia Freewill Baptist Church

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

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

Communion is observed quarterly the first Sunday after every 5th Sunday.
For transportation to the church, call 327-8196 or 327-2391.

The Church Where Everyone Is Welcome

FIRST BAPTIST INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH

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

REV. WAYNE G. THOMPSON, PASTOR

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A.M.

MORNING WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

COME WORSHIP WITH
THE FIRST BAPTIST FAMILY



Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

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

Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service: 8:00 a.m. • 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Prayer Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Bible Study - 8:00-9:00 p.m.
(Adult and Youth)



Rev. Wilkins Garrett, Jr., Pastor

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

Moore's Chapel

Rev. Quintin Parker and Moore's Chapel church family welcome you to their services this 4th Sunday in December, the 27th during both 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. Rev. Parker will preach during both services. Music will be provided by the E.M. Blocker Male Chorus directed and accompanied by Minister of Music, Geraldine Mays. The Stewardess Board and the Usher Board will serve. For transportation to church you may contact the bus transportation ministry team members. Willie Frank Bryant at 894-6067, Robert Golden, 867-0156 or Anthony Macon, 328-0022, 328-8303 Work, 981,3527 Pager, Saturday Evenings before 9:00 p.m.

Church School will begin at 9:30 a.m. All parents are asked to have their children present and on time. Mose Bell is Church School Superintendent.

Breakfast will be served by the E.M. Blocker Male Chorus Sunday morning following the 8:00 a.m. service. You may eat in or take out please enjoy the fellowship donation \$3.00 Brother M.B. Bryant, President.

The Young People Department have both cassette and

video tapes of all services for sale. Please contact Wesley Smith of the Youth Department, Sister Sandra Williams, Y.P.D. Director or Sister Maria Hardaway during church services.

The Young People Department is planning to attend Black Heritage Weekend in Tampa, FL February 27th and 28th, our youth need your support please make your donations to Sister Janice Howard.

The Daisy Pierce/Fannie Williams W.M.I. is sponsoring a campaign to assist with the distribution of smoke detectors along with the St. Petersburg Fire Department. Anyone needing a smoke detector please contact Sister Nancy Harrell.

Rev. Parker and Moore's

Chapels officers and members will share in Watch Night Service with Rev. Harry Dawkins and Bethel A.M.E. Church family, Rev. Robinson and Greater Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church family December 30th, to be hosted by Bethel family. Rev. Parker will deliver the sermon. Music will be provided by Moore's Chapel combined choirs. Moore's Chapels Stewardesses and Ushers will serve.

Services/Meetings/Rehearsals

*Noon Day Prayer Service Wednesdays 12:00 noon;
*Prayer Service/Bible Study Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.;
*African Freedom Singers Rehearsal Thursdays, Inspirational Choir Rehearsal December 29th.

The Black Church

from pg. 13

institution promoting liberation and community-building.

The Black church should be at the very forefront of the African-centered education movement sponsoring after school and Saturday school programs to re-educate African youth and equip them with the philosophy and skills to be of service to the global Black community.

Civic and political education should also be an integral part of the preaching and teaching in the Black church. If ballots and boycotts are the twin bullets of Black liberation, then Black churches should be consistently urging their congregations to use these weapons in righteous defense and pursuit of the interests and aspirations of Black people. Richard Allen and the early founders of the Black church had it right, the Black church must be prepared to minister to the total needs of African people and the Black community.

Merry Christmas To All

BY HIS GRACE CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

4601 - 34th Street South

St. Petersburg, FL

(Howard Johnson Hotel)

QUENTIN J. KING, PASTOR

Church Life Classes - Sunday - 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Evening Worship - Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

Bible Study - Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

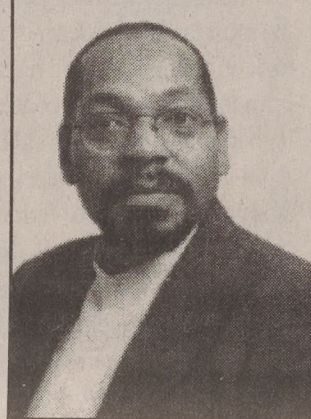
Men, Women & Youth Ministry 4:00 p.m.

(2nd Saturday Monthly)

Tape Ministry - All Services

"A Church Called To Equip and Empower

Through the Word of Truth."



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.



New Faith Free Methodist Church

2427 Irving Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL

Phone: 824-2814, Pastor • 323-1290, Church

THEME: Looking Upward, Searching Inward, Striving Onward

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:30 AM

MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 AM

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY WED. 6:30 PM

ADULT BIBLE STUDY & PRAYER SERVICE WED. 7:00 PM



Rev. Curtiss L. Long, Pastor

Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church

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

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:00 a.m.

Prayer Service/Bible Study Tues. 7:00 p.m.

Junior Church Fellowship Thurs. 6:00 p.m.

Tutoring Mon. & Thurs. 5:30-6:30 p.m.

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

TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE



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

GREATER MT. ZION AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

919 - 20th Street S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712

Rev. Charles Robinson, Pastor

Early Morning Worship 7:30 a.m. • Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. • All Male Bible Study Weds. 6:30 p.m.

Prayer Meeting Weds. 7:30 p.m.

Bible Study Mon. 6:00 p.m.

Co-ed and Adult Bible Study Thurs. 6:30 p.m.

Support Group Every Sunday 6:00 p.m.

Live Broadcast WRXB (Every Sunday 8:30 a.m.)

DIAL-A-DEVOTION (24 Hours) 822-1936 • Tape Ministry • Bus Ministry

Need a tape of a service or transportation - Dial 894-1393

("The church with a heart in the heart of the city")



Atty. Nobles

from pg. 3



Ramadan Mubarak!

"With The Name of God, The Merciful, The Beneficent."

by Allene Gammage-Ahmed

ST. PETERSBURG - The Adhan has been made (call to prayer) by Bro. Wilmore Sadiki for the Islamic community of the Greater Tampa/St. Petersburg area who attended the Fourth Annual Ramadan Announcement Saturday, December 19, 1998 at the Enoch Davis Center. The Holy Month of Ramadan is now upon us.

The month-long observance of Ramadan gives Muslims the opportunity to reflect, reinforce spiritual growth, rededicate their lives to almighty God, reach out to help those less fortunate through charity; demonstrate self discipline and development through prayer and fasting.

More than 30 Muslims gathered to officially announce the honoring of this sacred and

wonderful celebration towards mankind - Ramadan Mubarak!

The City of St. Petersburg proclaimed the entire month of January, 1999 as the Holy Month of Ramadan. The Proclamation was presented by Councilwoman Kathleen Ford.

Speakers for the Fourth Annual Ramadan Announcement included, Bro. Wilmore Sadiki who made the melodic call to Prayer, Imam Abdul Aziz, Imam Karim Abdul Ali, Martha Nialah Williams, Jeanie Blue who blew the minds of many and did an excellent job with her Libation Statement on Kwanzaa and her solo of "We Will Not Bow Down to Racism, Injustice and Exploitation - I'm Gonna Stand"; Qur'anic Recitations in both Arabic and English was rendered by two marvelous, very talented little sis-

ters, Kalima and Komaria Haneef, the family of who was focused in a recent article in the *St. Petersburg Times* on Ramadan and also Dr. Batrawy of Batrawy's Dental Clinic

Keynote speaker for the Fourth Annual Ramadan Announcement was Bro. Wali Shabazz from the Bismillah Islamic Center, Tampa Florida. Bro. Shabazz explained the importance of honoring Ramadan and the guidance given to each of by Almighty God. Bro. Shabazz said that Muslims must physically, emotionally and psychologically give themselves to fasting from dawn to sunset, not partaking of food, drink, smoking and intimacy

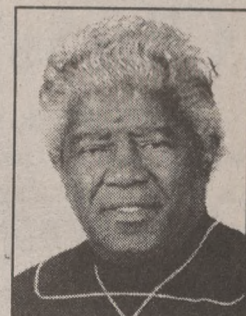
Sis. Raushana Ali explained to us "What Ramadan Means to Her in the Woman's World Section of The Weekly Challenger.



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

In 1994 I started "Ways To Stretch A Dollar." This was the latter part of September. It went like this: The average family or individual spends more money every month on housing than on any other single item. Fully one quarter of every pay check goes to the landlord, bank, or mortgage company. But although shelter is a basic necessity, masochistically throttling one self with a gargantuan monthly rent or mortgage payments is not naturally, if you're able to forsake the usual amenities and make your home in a cave, yurt, tepee, or tree - which constitutes the life-style of more people around the world than we'd care to realize-you're sure to unburden yourself of such a ponderous obligation.

In reality, though, one needn't go to such spartan extremes in order to stretch the shelter dollar. There are places in the world where the cost of a roof over one's head is truly negligible. A few years back on the idyllic Balearic Island of Ibiza, we rented a house in the country for a paltry \$15 per month. Of course, the structure was devoid of everything except roof, walls, and doors.

But a cozy fireplace, the use of candles at night, and water from a nearby well made living bearable even comfortable at times. Even in this country, you'll soon see, one can buy a modern, completely built two bedroom home for under \$13,000 or cheaper yet, a house can be purchased in a kit form, then assembled, thus saving additional thousands of dollars. So join us now in exploring the many possible ways in which you can share your shelter costs to the bone - and still have your home as your castle.

Happy Birthday

Today, December 24th - Gina N. Sims "Xmas Eve."

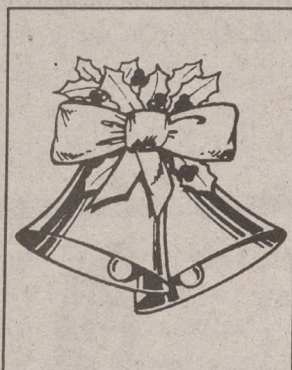
Merry Xmas Today

Dec. 25th and Happy Birthday John Taylor, Mittie Mills, Mary Nell Macon, 26th thru 30th: Willie Curry, Jovan Scott, Celeste Edwards, Willie L. Hutley, Raldayja Jackson, Cornelius Anthony Grayson, Leon Turk, Charlette D. Cunningham, Eugenia D. Herring.

Happy Anniversary

Wedding Bliss, December 26, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Walker. Until Next Week

Merry Christmas and Have a Happy New Year "1999"



HIRES

The Only thing that pleasure will bring is permanent separation and double pain.

True happiness does not come from carnal pleasure, but from freedom and the pursuit of virtue and wisdom.

Our son's and daughters are sliding off the cliff because they are attacking moral values and defending their own views.

A doctor can change the feverish condition of our body which cause us to be abnormal, but only God can make our minds normal.

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(AT THE DOOR AFTER 1:45 AM)
(NO CHARGE BEFORE 1:45 AM)

BYOB AFTER 1:45 AM (NOT BEFORE)



Christmas Luncheon And Gifts For Sickle Cell Families

ST. PETERSBURG — The annual Christmas Luncheon for families with members who suffer from Sickle Cell Disease, was held at Enoch Davis Center on December 5, 1998. The local Sickle Cell Association Board was responsible for providing the luncheon and gifts. Santa was on hand to give the children and adults their gifts.

In addition to enjoying good food and receiving gifts, everyone was treated to an evening of excellent entertainment. The program included a musical extravaganza performed by a youth singing and dance troupe called "Pizazz" directed by Gidget Cross. Derrick Isham and the Messengers In Christ Singers sang soulful spirituals and Ciara Allen did a tap dance routine to the tune of "Moving On Down the Road."

Vicki Quintana, Sickle Cell Case Manager at Bayfront Medical Hospital, elaborated on the improved protocol for Sickle Cell patients. Acting as Santa's little helper by passing out candy canes was Shontre Allen, our 1998-99 Sickle Cell Poster Child.

Shontre is a beautiful 8-year old with lots of charm and personality. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Carolyn Pool served as chair person and Bessie Kims was mistress of ceremonies. Contact persons Mary Murph 895-3101 or Daphne Porter 825-0256.



Shontre Small
1998-99 Sickle Cell Poster Child

"I BELIEVE THAT THE UNARMED TRUTH AND UNCONDITIONAL LOVE WILL HAVE THE FINAL WORD IN REALITY. I STILL BELIEVE THAT WE SHALL OVERCOME."

-MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



Merry Christmas To All



NEWS DEADLINE IS 4PM MONDAY

"My Christmas Wish"

by Bernice Powell Jackson

CLEVELAND, OH — Some years I have written a wish list of what I'd really like for Christmas beyond hitting the lottery or such. This year my list is one item long, one word long, I wish for peace. Even just one day of peace would feel like my wish was granted.

I've been centering my prayer time over the past two months on peace after spending a few days with some brave and powerful young sisters and brothers. Sisters and brothers dedicated to making peace in our cities. It was the fifty anniversary of what they called the gang summit at that first meeting in 1993, when gang leaders from around the nation came together to talk and plan and met and pray for peace in our communities. This time it was called the National Summit for Peace and Justice because they realize now that the violence of gangs is but one piece in a larger puzzle and that peace is the only viable way for our communities.

And so they came back together again, some of the old faces and some new ones, all dedicated to the belief that there can be, there must be peace in our communities. They came from the east coast, from the midwest, from the west coast. They came speaking several languages and calling God by several names. They came—African American, Latino and Native American. They came trusting each other and trusting that the power of good can overcome the power of evil.

And if there was any doubt in their minds about whether this summit was needed it evaporated the night before they arrived in Kansas City when a 10 year old child was killed in that city while playing in her front yard. And so they piled in cars and vans and went to the child's home and surrounded her family with prayers and love and pleas for peace not retaliation.

I'll never forget that child's mothers eyes that night. I'll never forget the pain which seemed to reach down into her

heart and her womb. I'll never forget that child's father's tears, running freely down his cheeks, as he recounted his shortcomings and told of the pressure to seek revenge. I'll never forget the poem recited by a brother from California that night and I'll never forget the prayer circle we formed in that front yard.

And so my journey to my single wish for peace Peace so that no more children might die by bullets anywhere in this world. Peace so that no more children might die in drive-by shootings. Peace so that no more children might die in war. Peace so that no more children might die in ethnic cleansing. Peace so that no more children might be maimed by land mines. Peace so that no more children might die at the hands of their mothers or their fathers. Peace so that the children of the world might laugh and play and smile and run and skip and giggle and live without fear. What a Christmas gift that would be.

Kings And Queens Whist Club Adopts Head Start Class

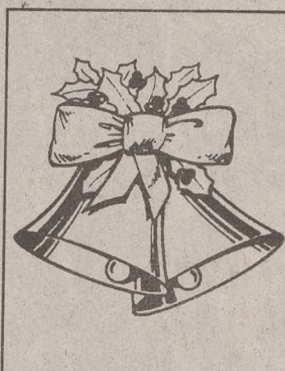


(standing) From L to R: Shantae Wilson, Richard Richardson, Don Nichols, Linda Reedy, Bob Fuller & Linda Wilson

ST. PETERSBURG — Members of the Kings and Queens Whist Club adopted an entire class of the Forest

Hills Head Start Program for Xmas and are shown distributing presents to the kids on Wednesday.

Members from left to right are Don Nichols, Linda Reedy, Linda Wilson, and President Bob Fuller.



NEWS DEADLINE IS 4PM MONDAY

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- Hillary Williams

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

City Facilities To Observe Holidays

ST. PETERSBURG — During the upcoming holiday weeks, the following city facilities will be open on Christmas Day and New Year's Day:

Open on Friday, December 25:

- Coliseum Ballroom, open for 8 p.m. Nite Rider's Van Club Dance
- The Pier retail shops, food court, and restaurants
- Sunshine Center, open 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for special event.

City facilities closed on December 25 include the Bayfront Center Box Office, Boyd Hill, Nature Park, City Hall and the Municipal Services Center downtown, City Hall in the Mall at Tyrone Square Mall, Enoch Davis Center, three municipal golf courses, six public libraries, municipal marina, municipal beach concession stand, North Shore Pool, recreation & adult centers, St. Petersburg Tennis Center and Sanitation Department Brush Sites/Recycling Mats.

Open on Friday, January 1:

- Boyd Hill Nature Park;
- City Hall in the Mall at Tyrone Square Mall;
- Enoch Davis Center, open for 6 p.m. Karamuu Feast/Kwanzaa Celebration;
- Three Municipal Golf Courses-Mangrove Bay, Twin Brooks & Cypress Links;
- Municipal Beach Concession Stand (at 11260 Gulf Blvd. Treasure Island);
- The Pier retail shops, food court, and restaurants;
- St. Petersburg Tennis Center, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.;

•Sanitation Dept. Brush Sites/Recycling Mats;

Facilities closed on January 1 include Bayfront Center Box Office, City Hall and the Municipal Services Center downtown, Coliseum Ballroom, six public libraries, municipal marina, North Shore Pool, recreation & adult centers, and the Sunshine Center.

Sanitation Pick-Up Service:

During both holiday weeks, the Thursday collections will be made on Wednesday; and the Friday collections will be made on Thursday. All other collection days remain the same.

Other:

For water or sewer emergencies, call the Public Department at 893-7261. For police, fire or medical emergencies, dial 911.



Womans' World

By: Allene Gammage Ahmed

Designed Specifically for the Woman That You Are



Our Plans For The Next Millennium

"The Master's Plan - In Him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of Him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of His will." - Faith Enterprises

by Allene Gammage-Ahmed

As an African American woman at the close of the century, how do you feel? Write *Woman's World* and we'll share your views - from a woman's perspective in our next issue.

Woman World Editor would like to reflect on some of the many changes witnessed this year. Some of these were major changes that related to our friends, economy, health and nutrition, self evaluation and development, prayer, getting closer to God, our husband and family.

There are many circumstances that certainly will be both good, bad and ugly. This is the time of year where we jot down what our new year's resolutions will be. It is also a perfect opportunity to remember God's love to us and all He's done to bring us to the close of 1998.

I'd like to recommend that all of us women take it easy on our hearts this holiday season. Be kind, giving and caring in all that you do. Be sensible as we partake of the delicious foods during the holidays. Appreciate who you are and whose you are. Care for your beauty and uniqueness. As we prepare to step into the new year, embrace simple rituals from hair-care control to wisdom and inspiration for your soul. The ability to adjust becomes vital during the holidays, when we experience many changes in our routine. By being flexible, we "flow with the changes" instead of letting them throw us off track."

Keep the spirit, keep the faith and keep your eyes on the prize. For surely God has a master plan for each of you. Enjoy the holidays with your family and friends, and May God's Blessings for a Happy, Safe and Prosperous Holiday Season follow your every footstep.

To all of our advertisers and supporters of The Weekly Challenger's Woman's World Segment - Thank you!

Birthday Girl Celebrates 83rd



Cora Lee Gammage

ST. PETERSBURG - December 6, 1996 was a wonderful day for this beautiful, God-fearing woman.

This was a day that Cora was very happy to see and felt blessed to be celebrating another year. It was shared with loved ones, church family and friends. She was showered with lots of gifts, cards, Birthday cake, hugs and kisses from all those whose life has been touched by her wonderful smile and disposition - She is really a "jewel".

Mrs. Cora Lee Gammage was joined by her sister, Mather Lee Mills who she shares a room with; daughter, Allene Gammage-Ahmed; grandchildren, Bart, Rene, Felecia, Jermaine and wife. Great grandchildren, De'Angelo, Bart IV, Shawn, Rashad and Baby Jada; her cousins, Annie Mae and Barbara Raines, Mrs.

Mary Reed and all of the 2nd grade classes from Campbell Park/Bay Park Elementary Schools and many of the residents and employees at the Laurels Nursing Home. Her grandson, Samuel "Red" Savage sent greeting and gifts from Los Angeles, California.

"We are truly blessed to have her in our lives, she has meant so much, given so much and cared for us all while she was able to. There was never a time when she wasn't giving something to someone," her daughter shared.

Cora is the wife of deceased "Shoeshine Shorty" Gammage who was well known for the 'spit-polished' shine he brought to the shoes of many.

Happy Birthday Mom, From all of your children - We Love You!

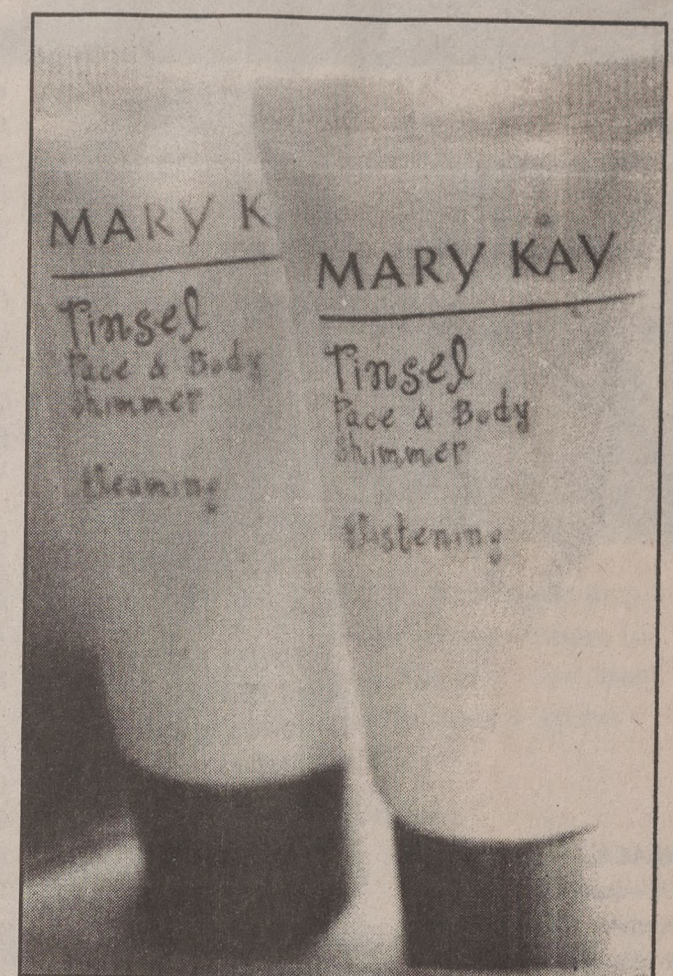
Mary Kay Adds Sparkle To Your Look This Holiday Season



DALLAS - 'Tis the season to look your best with new Mary Kay Holiday Color Collection. This dynamic collection, designed to add a beautiful shine to your face, body and lips, will help you to light up the room at this year's Christmas party or Kwanzaa celebration.

Mary Kay's new Tinsel Face and Body Shimmers are a fun way to add a glistening glow to your face and body

and add radiance that will live up any holiday look. Available in two tones, Glistening and Glistening, the Tinsel Face & Body Shimmer adds a warm, subtle shimmer to the shoulders, décolleté and face. Glistening, with its pearlescent golden shade, especially complements bronze skin tones, illuminating the natural glow of deeper complexions. Glistening's sheer pearlescent beige-like shimmer adds a sparkling



sheen to lighter complexions.

You'll fight to stand under the mistletoe this year with lips that glimmer with Mary Kay's new Lip Shine Inkwell. These exciting new lip colors offer glossy shimmer that goes on easily because of the built-in applicator. Lip Shine Inkwells are available in four on-trend, jewel-toned shades: Blazing, which gives a coppery luster to the lips; Daring, a beautiful red, Dazzling, a rich

violet/deep purple; and Twinkling, a hologram-type shade that can be worn alone or over another lip color.

Mary Kay is one of the best-selling brand of facial skin care and color cosmetics in the United States, based on the most recent published industry sales data. There are more than 500,000 Mary Kay Independent Beauty Consultants operating their own Mary Kay businesses in 27 countries worldwide.

Ramadan Mubarak - What Ramadan Means To Me

by Raushannah Ali

The Observance of fasting in the month of Ramadan

What do I mean by observation of fast? By observation of fasting, I mean the act of abstaining from eating, drinking, smoking, allowing anything whatsoever to enter what is understood to be the interior of the body. As also voluntary resurgence, self-pollution, sexual intercourse, etc. from the break of dawn until sunset.

During the month of Ramadan, the Muslim empties his or her stomach of all the material things to order to fill his or her soul with peace and blessings; to fill his or her heart with love and sympathy; to fill his or her spirit with piety and faith and to fill his or her mind with wisdom and resolution.

In Islam the time comes with the month of Ramadan, the ninth month of the year. The Islamic Calendar is a lunar one and months go according to various positions of the moon.

This means that over a period of a limited number of years, the Islamic fasting covers the four major seasons of the year and circulates back and forth between the summer and the Winter through the Fall and Spring in a rotating manner.

What Ramadan means to me is that fasting was something new and exciting in the beginning of my first experience. In becoming a new convert to Islam, but in the converting from one faith to another, it came with much discipline and effort on my part.

In the beginning fasting was very difficult because I was not born and raised in a Muslim environment. So, therefore, fasting was not part of my early life. When I accepted Islam in 1977, I was taught the five (5) pillars of faith and one of those was to fast during the month of Ramadan.

My first few years, it was very hard getting my body adjusted to not eating or drinking during the daylight hours, especially during the long hot summer days. I was used to drinking and eating. In our Holy Month of Ramadan, the Qur'an teaches us with diffi-

culty there comes ease. So the more I began to study my faith and learn how to prepare my body and mind for the month of Ramadan, the easier it became. The key is being a good Muslim which means to submit to and do the will of almighty God (Allah).

During my fast and when making my prayers, I ask Allah to give me strength and courage to start and complete my fast because Islam teaches me that fasting is for Allah. In obeying Allah, I seek His pleasure, His mercy and forgiveness and seek the reward that come with fasting which are many. We are rewarded mentally, physically and spiritually.

Fasting helps one to focus on the needy, poor and the suffering world. In our prayers, we ask Allah to forgive us for all of our sins.

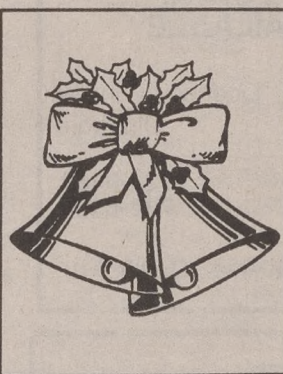
Fasting is also a cleanser for our mind, body and soul, it prepares us to travel on a journey for the next year.

As a Muslim, I look forward to the blessed and sacred month. During the 29 or 30 days of the fast, we read the entire Holy Qur'an. We also make extra prayers during the night at home or at our place of worship where the fast is broken. This is a special month for many reasons, the most important one is our Holy Book - Qur'an was revealed to Prophet Muhammad.

In closing I invite all of my sisters to join in with me and my fellow Muslims of the world in fasting during this special month.

May God's Peace Be With You, Your Sister in Al-Islam.

NEWS
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4 PM
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Obituaries

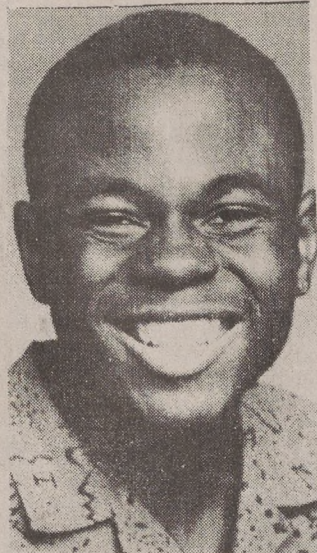
St. Pete Final Rites



BLACK, MARY LOU—departed this life December 12, 1998. She leaves to cherish her memories her daughters, Cassandra Lewis, Christina Lewis Scott; cousin, Teresa Easley and a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral services entrusted to McRae Funeral Services, St. Petersburg, FL.



CALDER, ARTIE C. BRAXTON—passed December 11, 1998. She leaves to cherish her memories her husband, Steadman Calder; brothers, Lewis Braxton, Raymond Braxton; sisters, Mezzette Mackey and Olivia King and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and loving friends. Funeral services entrusted to Smith Funeral Home, St. Petersburg, FL.



GIBSON, LEON, JR.—passed December 9, 1998. He leaves a legacy of beautiful memories with his mother and stepfather, Mary and Kenneth Small; Father, Leon Gibson; Son, Corey D. Gibson; sisters, Maria and Sarah Gibson; brother, Kenneth Small, Sr. and a host of other loving family and friends. Funeral arrangements provided by Smith Funeral Home, St. Petersburg, FL.



GILES, PHILIP E. SR.—departed this life December 7, 1998. Left to keep his precious memory alive are his loving parents, Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Giles, Sr. his wife Miriam Clinton Giles; his sons, Lance and Philip Giles, Jr. granddaughter, De'Asia Nyree Giles; brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Giles; sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Nelson

and a host of other loving family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to McRae Funeral Home, St. Petersburg, FL.

MARTIN, VANDELIA G.—departed this life December 10, 1998. Survivors include her husband, Carl Martin; daughters, Evelyn Johnson (Baynard), Virginia Cratic (Calvin), Christine Martin (Willie Frank); sons, Joseph Martin (Mary Lois) Carl Martin, Jr. (Gloria), Eddie Lee Martin (Carolyn) Macon, Marvin Martin, Earl Martin, Robert Martin (Debra), Dennis Martin and David. Sister, Louella Riley; brother, J.H. Godwin and a host of other loving family and friends. Funeral services.

Ocala Final Rites

KINCADE, MARGIE BELL—departed this life December 1, 1998. She leaves to mourn her passing two sons, Isaac Kingcade, Peter Kingcade; one daughter, Catherine Arnold; one stepdaughter, Dollie Mae Brown and a host of great grandchildren and many sorrowing friends. Funeral services arranged by Summers Funeral Home, Ocala, FL.

RANDOLPH, JEANETTE—passed December 10, 1998. Those left to cherish her memories are her children, Ruthette Cooper (Merlin) Ricky Whaley and Steven Randolph; one sister, Willie



Mae Washington and a host of other family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Cunningham Funeral Home, Ocala, FL.



TAYLOR, CLARA BELL NORMAN—passed December 11, 1998. She leaves to cherish her memories her supportive children, Howard Randolph Taylor (Gail) Wanda Fulton; four grandchildren, Varyne L. Taylor, Regena Y. Taylor, Howard S. Taylor (Melissa) and Mario L. Chatman, Jr.

(Tonja); her great grandchildren; brother, Henry C. Norman and a host of other loving family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Summers Funeral Home, Ocala, FL.

Gainesville Final Rites

DIXON, DELORES LOVETTE—departed this life December 9, 1998. Her memory will live on in the hearts of a loving husband, Fredrico Dixon, Jr.; three sons, Fredrico Dixon III, L. Enrico Dixon, Alfeo A. Dixon; stepmother, Carrie B. Lovette, and numerous relatives and caring friends. Funeral services entrusted to Chestnut Funeral Home, Gainesville, FL.



MCGOLLIE, BISHOP ERNEST J.—passed November 27, 1998. Those left to cherish his memory include his wife, and friend of thirty-four years, Rosemary Flowers McGollie; his children, Glen Dell (Audrey), Robert Lee (Marge) McGollie, Sharon (Willie) Simon; Amy (Michael) Wallace; Tiffany McGollie; one sister Ruby Lee McGollie Clayton one brother, James Earl (Rosie) McGollie and a host of other loving family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Chestnut Funeral Home, Gainesville, FL.

TERRY, CLARANELL—passed December 6, 1998. Her memory will live on in the hearts of two sons, Calvin V. (Jerline) and Earnest H. Terry (Barbara); three daughters, Dorothy J. Davis (Timothy), Antionette L. Hill and Joyce G. Terry (Gene); one sister, Mary H. Hadley (Charlie, Sr.); three brothers, Eamon Henry (Gertrude), Elmer (Minnie) and Robert (Willie Mae) and a host of other family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Chestnut Funeral Home, Gainesville, FL.



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given so much;
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more - a
grateful heart.
Amen.

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INTERVENTION SPECIALIST - Develop curriculum & teach youth in a school setting on substance abuse prevention, life skills, & conflict resolution. BA req. Send resume & cover letter to PAR Human Resources 6720 54th Ave. N. St. Petersburg, FL 33709 job code 960 or fax to 727-545-7561. EOE/DFWP

MAINTENANCE - repair & maintain equipment & buildings at various facilities for a substance abuse program. Two yrs. exp. in plumbing, carpentry & electrical. Send resume to PAR Human Resources 6720 54th Ave. N. St. Petersburg, FL 33709 or fax to 727-570-5083. EOE/DFWP

ACCOUNTANT - needed. BA in accounting & 3 yrs. exp. req. Excel & WordPerfect knowledge. Send resume & cover letter to PAR Human Resources 6720 54th Ave. N. St. Petersburg, FL 33709 job code 405 or fax to 727-545-7561. EOE/DFWP

RECEPTIONIST - busy front office of substance abuse/mental health facility. Multi-line phone, clerical skills, general office duties. Send resume & cover letter to PAR Human Resources 6720 54th Ave. N. St. Petersburg, FL 33709 job code 110 or fax to 727-545-7561. EOE/DFWP

OFFICE ASST. - busy drug testing lab. Clerical skills including phones, typing, filing & payment processing. Other duties will include monitoring urine drops. Send resume & cover letter to PAR Human Resources 6720 54th Ave. N. St. Petersburg, FL 33709 job code 130 or fax to 727-545-7561. EOE/DFWP

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- Warren Buffet

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DEADLINE FOR CANDIDATE(S) TO SUBMIT THEIR NAMES FOR THE BALLOT FOR THE JANUARY ELECTION IS DECEMBER 31, 1998. THE ELECTION WILL BE BY MAIL BALLOT AND WILL CULMINATE JANUARY 20, 1999 AT THE TAMPA CHAPTER MONTHLY MEETING. THE TIME & PLACE FOR THE JANUARY 20TH MEETING WILL BE ANNOUNCED.

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Aries

March 21 to April 19

Others may look to you for guidance and support on the 26th or 27th. Thanks to Saturn's forward motion, a career dream could come true over the next few weeks. On the 31st, don't just unwind—cut loose!



Taurus

April 20 to May 20

Thanks to Uranus' and Neptune's challenging aspect, you've grown in unexpected ways, relinquishing habits that have held you back in the past—and it shows! No longer content to stay home, you'll party nonstop on the 28th and 29th.



Gemini

May 21 to June 21

Moonlight in your sign on the 30th and 31st will make you the life of the party—you might even win a friendly bet on New Year's Eve! After all the hubbub's over, wow him behind closed doors.



Cancer

June 22 to July 22

Under determined aspects, your strength of purpose and ambition could surprise those who've taken you for granted. On the 1st, the moon makes your home the place to be for friends and family: keep plenty of extra goodies on hand.



Leo

July 23 to August 22

While the sun and Venus linger in Capricorn, you could become a bit teary-eyed with New Year's nostalgia. As you look to the future, you might resolve to spend more time with children, indulging in fun and games.



Virgo

August 23 to September 22

Passion—and how to experience more—now and throughout the coming year—has become your focus, thanks to Chiron in Scorpio. Positive financial aspects promise a credit or banking difficulty will be resolved in your favor.



Libra

September 23 to October 22

Now that Saturn's moving forward again, you'll be looking askance at all the emotional baggage you've been shoving to the back of your mind—throw it out; you'll feel better! An old flame could have eyes only for you.



Scorpio

October 23 to November 21

A whole new you: that's what you'll be focusing on in the next few months! From health habits to a new wardrobe or hairstyle, "makeover" will be your favorite word. Jupiter will make this New Year's celebration extra special.



Sagittarius

November 22 to December 21

While Mercury's in your sign, you could decide to pick up and travel at a moment's notice. A steady stream of wonderful financial news will make you feel like dancing. On the 31st, you could look into your partner's eyes and think: forever!



Capricorn

December 22 to January 19

With the sun and Venus in your sign, you look and feel amazing! By midweek, a long-standing delay will miraculously disappear. On the 1st, you and your man will get the new year off to a very romantic start.



Aquarius

January 20 to February 18

With Uranus and Neptune in your sign, you're looking to make a name for yourself—why not in lights? Confidence-boosting aspects are helping you nab whatever you want: a happier family, bigger paychecks, stellar romance!



Pisces

February 19 to March 20

Under Pluto's challenging influence, you've been learning to go with the flow and accept change gracefully. Afraid your holiday budget's gone bust? Hide your credit card for the next month. Your man may need some extra TLC on the 1st.

While you're at The Marketplace...

Only two days left 'til Christmas!

Items on this page are good Wednesday, December 23rd & Thursday, December 24th.

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