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Pitney Bowes Sponsors Conference



MIAMI - Pitney Bowes (NYSE:PBI) was a corporate sponsor of the recent annual

national Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) Conference in Miami.

The NMSDC serves as a link between corporate America and minority business owners. People of color represent approximately 38 percent of the Pitney Bowes U.S. workforce and 20 percent of managers.

Talking at the conference were (left to right) Ernest Green, Pitney Bowes board member; Harriett Michel, NMSDC president and Silas Carter, Pitney Bowes director of strategic resources and administrative services.

FAMU Graduate Recognized For Donating Kidney

TALLAHASSEE - Tracy Harmon, a chemical engineering major, was one of 600 candidates who graduated from Florida A&M University on Friday, December 11, but she shared something special with her mother, Joyce Harmon, that transcended graduation.

Joyce Harmon was diagnosed with kidney failure in 1992. An earlier transplant had failed, leaving her with few options. Tracy's brother was away in the military and her sister was not compatible.

When doctors told Tracy she was her mother's only hope, she jumped at the chance to save her mother's life.

Please see 'FAMU' in story below



(L to R): Joyce Harmon, Tracy Harmon, President Frederick S. Humphries, & Allie M. Wilson

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IN PEOPLE



TRI-COUNTY CHALLENGER

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January 2, 1999

WHY A STRIKE ON IRAQ JUST BEFORE RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS?

By Akbar Muhammad

A world gone mad, a President who is obviously not focused and can't make decisions which reflect sound judgement. Bad advice and bad judgement are blinding President Clinton. His blindness is now clearly seen, as the President called for strikes on Baghdad and the Iraqi people nine days before the Christian Holiday and three days before the Muslim world begins its holy fast of Ramadan. Mr. President, your blindness has caused many countries to turn against America, as seen by the demonstrations and protests in capitals around the world. A country as great as America should never be seen as a bully bombing a nation that cannot defend itself and killing innocent women and children.

The two largest religious communities in the world have gone into their holidays with the specter of America and its only follower Britain, bombing and killing.

The Christian world would much rather sing peace and good will to mankind, shop, give gifts, listen to holiday carols, visit with family, friends and celebrate the birth of the man of peace, Jesus Christ.

Muslims would love to start their holy fast of Ramadan (not eating or drinking, from sun up to sun down) in peace and wishing peace to all. This is the time of the year for reflection, prayer, and asking God for guidance and forgiveness for our shortcomings and sins.

Ironically, during our holy days, we have been forced during this sacred time of year to listen to the news of the killing of women and children. We've also been forced to take sides on the impeachment issue and moral questions surrounding the President.

Why would you President Clinton turn the majority of the nearly 1.4 billion Muslims around the world against America and your administration? The world is a little smarter today. If

the masses of American people were told the truth, and then asked the question whether you should or should not bomb Iraq at this time, they would say No! It has been enough - we have had to deal with you and Ms. Lewinsky, you don't have to live out "Wag The Dog" (the movie about a war being started to take the attention off a president who gets involved in an act that would discredit him and his office).

The sober and fair minded would say: let the Muslim world enjoy their holiday, the fast of Ramadan and let the Christian world enjoy their holiday and the New Year season. Mr. President you have made enough enemies on the inside of your country, now your blindness has caused you to increase your enemies on the outside.

We know that your trip to Palestine/Israel was a failure. Some members of the press are saying that you discussed your intentions to bomb Iraq with the Israeli leaders. The American people are pouring over ten billion dollars in aid to Israel every year, in the form of loans, gifts, military aid, etc. If one-third of that amount was spent on the problems of the Black community, we could re-direct millions of lives, increase employment, and decrease the growing prison population that is now out of control. The untimely bombing of Iraq is like an arrow that has left the bow and you cannot call it back. The writers of history will say that President William Jefferson Clinton flew to Palestine/Israel in December of 1998 to save a failed peace accord that he initiated, returned to America in the middle of an impeachment hearing and made a decision to bomb Iraq, he failed in all three. He failed to save the peace accord, he failed to save himself from impeachment, and he failed to eliminate Saddam Hussein the leader of the Iraqi people. The author of the book *The Tragedy of Lyndon Johnson* will have the opportunity to write a real tragedy, *The Tragedy of William Jefferson Clinton*.

FAMU

from above story

"In spite of all my personal concerns, I could not watch my mother suffer anymore," Tracy said. "It was taking a toll on me and my family."

A year after Tracy enrolled in FAMU, her father died of kidney failure. This was particularly life altering for Tracey, because she had also lost her grandmother and an aunt to the disease.

Tracy, the first in her family to earn a college degree, was in tears Friday. Not because she was sad, but because graduation brought with it two gifts - her mother who was watching her from a wheelchair near the podium, and her bachelor's degree.

During commencement, President Frederick S. Humphries recognized Tracey and Joyce Harmon. Both received a standing ovation for

their courage.

Norma Solomon White, the keynote speaker, was recognized for her accomplishments. White received an honorary doctorate from the university.

A graduate of FAMU, White was honored as a distinguished music educator, administrator, community leader and humanitarian.

As International President of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., she is the first Floridian to hold this position in the 90-year history of the organization.

The University also honored Jeff and Abbie M. Dixon, who have five children with degrees from FAMU, including Stephanie J. Dixon, who was a candidate for the Master of Arts degree in the Fall of 1998 class.

1998: The Year In Review



"What happened in 1998 will either be remembered as a year of lost opportunities or as a year that a strong foundation for future tobacco control action was established. The key is what happens next. The states must invest their tobacco settlement funds wisely, and Congress must implement a national policy to reduce the pediatric epidemic of tobacco use among kids. The stage is now set; we cannot lose this unique opportunity." - Matthew Myers, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids.

1998 was a watershed year in the tobacco wars. It began with the hope that Congress would enact the most sweeping legislation to reduce tobacco use in history, but the effort was thwarted by a massive campaign by the tobacco industry. Nonetheless, 1998 will be seen as a year of important firsts and as a building block for significant change in the future.

"No one could possibly have imagined all the twists and turns the tobacco issue would take in 1998," said Bill Novelli, president of the Washington, DC-based Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, the largest non-governmental initiative ever undertaken to reduce tobacco in the United States. "While national legisla-

tion was beaten back, the increased awareness of the issue, new revelations of the industry's manipulative marketing and tobacco's impact on health have helped propel us toward greater protection of kids from tobacco." "For years, the tobacco industry has won fights in Washington by throwing money at politicians and hiring high-priced lobbyists and advertising experts. The McCain bill's defeat was no exception," said M. Cass Wheeler, CEO of the American Heart Association.

Within weeks, the industry would win another victory. The U.S. 4th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the FDA had no jurisdiction to regulate nicotine or the tobacco companies' marketing practices or even the sale of tobacco products to kids. The government plans to appeal the ruling to the Supreme Court. If Congress does not act, the Supreme

Court's ruling will be crucial. The year closed with yet another dramatic development; on November 16, the \$206 billion settlement between 46 states and the tobacco industry, the largest financial recovery in the nation's history was announced. The settlement, negotiated by the state Attorney General and the industry, settled all pending state cases against the industry aimed at recovering damages for the billions of dollars in state Medicaid funds spent on treating tobacco-caused illnesses.

"While a step forward in protecting public health, the settlement is not a substitute for a national policy. Nor can it effectively counter the industry's billion dollar marketing campaigns," Wheeler said. When announcing the settlement, the AGs called for Congress to do what they could not, and pledged to help pass national legislation in 1999.

Court's ruling will be crucial.

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News Slamming Rules Go Into Effect

TALLAHASSEE - Under new rules set to go into effect this week, telecommunications companies that practice "slamming" in Florida will find the climate much less appealing.

Slamming is the illegal practice of changing a consumer's telephone service without permission. The Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) has adopted some of the toughest rules in the nation to combat slamming that should turn up the heat even more on companies that don't play the rules.

Among the new rules taking effect immediately are the following:

• Only a customer, or other authorized person 18 years of age or older who lives in the household, can authorize a

change in residential phone service. Telecommunications companies may create toll-free customer service numbers separate from their general customer service numbers for consumers with slamming complaints.

Other new rules also go into effect, although telecommunications companies will have six months to enact them. They include the following:

• The customer must be given notice on the first or second page of his or her next bill, in conspicuous bold-face type, when the provider of local, local toll, or toll service has changed.

• The toll-free numbers for slamming complaints must be placed on welcome packages sent to new customers.



The Tri-County Challenger Staff Wishes Everyone A Safe And Happy New Year!

Marion County NAACP Celebrates Jubilee Day

OCALA - The Marion County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will celebrate Jubilee Day on Sunday, January 3, 1999 at 6:45 p.m. at St. Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church, 822 NW 7th Street, Ocala where Reverend Dr. James D. Sykes is Pastor.

Jubilee Day is a celebration of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln. The theme for this year's celebration is "Building Better Relations in Our Community."

The speaker will be Mr. Derrick Feacher, Political Science and Theology Student at Bethune-Cookman College,

Daytona Beach, Florida. Music will be rendered by New Chapel Baptist Church Mass Choir.

The administration and Jubilee Day Committee of the Branch is asking all churches and community-based organization to make a liberal donation to the Branch at this special program.

Attendees are asked wear African Ethnicity attire. Ministers and pastors are asked to be timely to form the procession.

For additional information you may contact Mandy Montgomery, Program Chair-lady, 237-9870 or Loretta Pompey Jenkins, Publicity Chair-lady at 351-0824.

NEWS DEADLINE IS 4 PM MONDAY

Shining Light Chapter 19 O.E.S. Presents Check To ACS



From L to R: Mary Clowers, Bertha Williams, Pearce Kelly, Glen Brown, Carrie M Avery & Emanuel Kelsey

ST. PETERSBURG — Last week the Shining Light Chapter 19 Order of the Eastern Star presented a check to Mrs. Mary Clowers, who is president of the Pinellas Unit

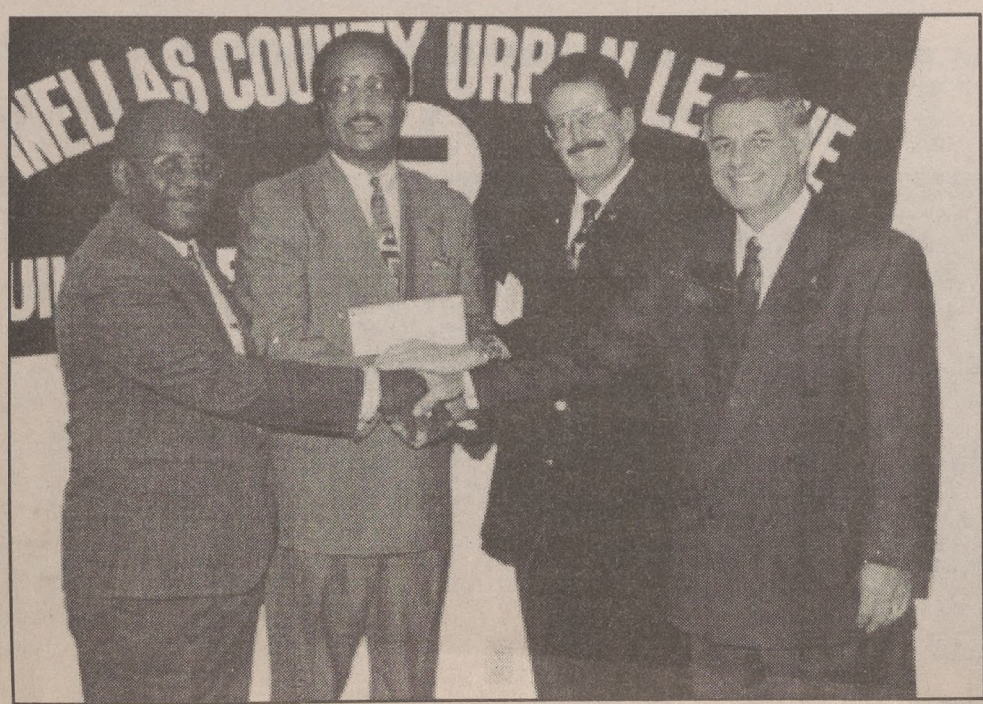
of The American Cancer Society.

There are many concerns that we should be aware and knowledgeable about.

Through research many things can be accomplished.

Presenting Mrs. Clowers with the check is the Worthy Matron, Sis. Bertha Williams.

Walgreens Makes Donation To The Urban League



ST. PETERSBURG—The Pinellas County Urban League is the recipient of an early Christmas gift from the Walgreen Company. An unrestricted check in the amount of \$2,500 was presented recently to Mr. James O. Simmons, President & CEO, by Walgreens District Managers, Mr. John W. Ford and Mr. Jim Huntington. In addition to this magnanimous gift, Walgreens officials pledged to assist the Urban League with medical supplies and health tests kits to be used in conjunction with

free health screenings available to the community using the recently donated Health Mobile.

Mr. Simmons expressed his sincere appreciation to the Walgreens representatives and thanked them for their company's continued support of the Urban League's community services and programs. He further stated that it is of utmost importance for social service agencies, such as the Urban League, to be joined by corporate partners to fulfill the many and varied needs of the low

income, elderly and disabled populations of Pinellas County. The Walgreen Company is applauded for its generosity.

Pictured from left to right in front of the Pinellas County Urban League banner are: Mr. William Gale, Coordinator of the Minority Skills Bank, Mr. James Simmons, President and CEO of the Urban League, Mr. John Ford, District Manager, Tampa South and Mr. Jim Huntington, District Manager, Tampa West presenting the check from Walgreens.

Openings Available In SPJC's Fire Science, Related Studies

ST. PETERSBURG — Opening in St. Petersburg College's Fire Science Program and related studies are available for the coming spring term, Session II.

A degree (Associate in Science) from the two-year program has wider application than its title might indicate. Besides providing ideal academic

training for fire fighters and fire department officers, the program prepares individuals for careers as emergency services administrators, hazardous materials specialist, safety technicians, insurance investigators or fire equipment sales and service representatives.

Openings also are avail-

able in the Emergency Administration and Management Program. Like Fire Science Technology, it is administered at SPJC's Allstate Center, 3200 34th Street South in St. Petersburg.

For details call, 341-5429. Registration for all courses at SPJC currently is under way. Session II classes begin Jan 11.

Olender Foundation Honors Judge Joe Brown



WASHINGTON, D.C. — On December 2, hundreds of celebrities, civic leaders, judges and other guests packed the Kennedy Center's Terrace Theater for the 13th Annual Olender Foundation Awards. The stirring and inspiring event paid tribute to the Honorable Joe Brown, featured in the nationally syndicated television courtroom series, "Judge Joe Brown"; Baseball Hall of Fame journalist Sam Lacy; Nobel Peace Laureate Jody Williams, the trailblazing founding coordinator of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, and D.C. Councilmember Hilda Mason and her husband Charles Mason.

"Master of the Mike" Larry King was joined by Tracey Neal of the Fox Channel 5 Ten O'Clock News in serving as masters of ceremonies. Hosted by Washington malpractice lawyer Jack

Olender and his wife, Lovell, the event was captured by local and national media, and featured song and dance by Washington, D.C.'s own Debra Tidwell, the Duke Ellington School of the Arts show choir, and a riveting tap dance performance by Miss District of Columbia 1998. As in past years, the show began with D.C. Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton who greeted the audience and thanked the Olenders for their philanthropy and numerous other contributions to life in the District of Columbia.

Judge Joe Brown, a Memphis, Tennessee judge who is also featured in a nationally syndicated television courtroom, "Judge Joe Brown," received the 1999 Advocate for Justice Award from D.C. Superior Court Chief Judge Eugene Hamilton, a past Olender Award recipient, for his

creative and compassionate sentencing to discourage crime and reform offenders. Raised in South Central Los Angeles, Judge Brown escaped the fate of most of his friends who were killed or jailed. According to Olender, "Judge Brown is known for his solid mix of fairness and justice, streetwise style of judging, and tough love approach to 'turning around' perpetrators." An Olender grant was given in honor of Judge Brown to the Luke C. Moore Academy which helps young people who have dropped out of school achieve a high school education.

The Foundation gives support to a wide array of local and national organizations that service the public interest and awards scholarships to students.

Rambling With Charles Howard

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

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More Unique Ways to Stretch A Dollar

Togetherness! If you're in the process of selecting house plans, consider this. A plan with the kitchen back-to-back with the bathroom will allow the same waste water and fresh water main lines to be used for both. What's it to you? More than \$100 in your pocket.

For further information: The Owner-Built Home and Preliminary House Design, Ken Kern, P.O. Box 550, Oakhurst, CA 93644, Owner-Built Publications, 1961.

Happy New Year

Is what it will be about tomorrow, January 1, 1999 when everyone will be enjoying the New Year!

Happy Birthday

December 31, 1998, Crosby Jackson; thru Jan. 8, 1999, Fahran A. Franklin, Kurt Watkins, Kathryn L. Grayson, Classie W. Grayson, Pastor Antwoyn Mells, Rev. Alvin Miller, Katina Wiggins, Earlene Smith, Vincent Campbell, David J. Herring, Carla Smith, Tommie W. Lee III, John C. Foreman, Damian M. and Gabriel L. Wallace.

Tennessee Visitors

Mary Jordan of 24th Avenue and the love of her life, "Hook" motored via Lincoln Town Car to Spring Hill, Tenn.

to the homegoing service of Hooks aunt, Julia, who passed away Sunday the 13th. The loving couple left on Wednesday the 16th arriving Thursday.

After the service, they visited with family members and good friends. The next day, traveling to Nashville to visit Mary's mothers' birthplace, "Delia Rainey" who passed in 1994. Returning back to Spring Hill the couple were feted with a surprise Xmas party where they were the guest of honor. Leaving Spring Hill Sunday morning for Montezuma, GA, where they visited her birth place and family after a nights stay and by-passing Stone Mountain, GA. The lovers were homebound.

Christmas Parties

The 19th of Dec. Drew Hordes of Classmates and Friends to the "Spotlight" on 16th Street South. It was Rose-na Ashwood and the Gibbs Class of '52s annual blast.

At the VFW on 49th St. and 18th Avenue South, it was a Birthday Party for Richard Woods and Robert Fuller. Also the Kings and Queens Whist Club Xmas Party "Bob" is the president. An after-party held at their 25th Ave. So. home - "The Woods." Until next time, Have a Happy New Year!

Mortgage Ready Partners



This new home could be yours. Register for SPNHS Mortgage Ready Partners Program.

ST. PETERSBURG — If you'd like to buy a house, but don't know where to start, there's help available. You can become a "Mortgage Ready Partner."

"Mortgage Ready Partners" is a new and comprehensive one-stop-shop home buyer program provided through the Home Ownership Center of St. Petersburg Neighborhood Housing Services. Here you can receive all the information you'll need to become a knowledgeable and informed home buyer.

The "Mortgage Ready

Partners" program will provide counseling on clearing credit problems, family budgeting, and debt reduction. You'll determine the price range of a home you can afford, navigate the mortgage application process, and learn to choose a house that fits your needs. A home buyer plan will be designed to address your specific needs and problems. Down payment and closing cost assistance is available to qualified buyers.

Many families that think home ownership is out of their reach will be surprised to find that often their mortgage pay-

ment is less than the rent they used to pay, and they're living in a nicer place and putting down roots in their community.

You can enroll in the "Mortgage Ready Partners" program by calling 821-6897 and registering for a home buyer orientation meeting.

The first orientation meeting will be held on Thursday, January 7, at 5:30 p.m. at the St. Petersburg Neighborhood Housing office, 1640 - M.L. King Street South. It's the first step to owning a home.

NEWS DEADLINE IS 4 PM MONDAY

To get a better idea of what kind of person wins the Florida Lotto jackpot, look in the mirror.

Over the past nine years, more than 450 people just like you have become Florida Lotto jackpot winners. For your chance at winning, get your Florida Lotto ticket today.



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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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CPUS



NNPA FEATURE
**CHILD
WATCH**

BY
MARIAN WRIGHT
EDELMAN



Some Good News

Newspapers and television news programs are often accused of reporting only the tragic and terrible news in our world. As the festivities of the holidays and the New Year are fresh in our minds, let me tell you about a reason to feel a little optimistic.

The U.S. Justice Department added a little additional light to our Hanukkah, Christmas and Kwanza celebrations this year. The arrest rate for juveniles involved in violent crimes fell 23 percent from 1994 to 1997 and included a drop of more than 40 percent in the juvenile murder arrest rate.

"While no one is claiming victory, we are clearly moving in the right direction," announced Attorney General Janet Reno. "We are making a difference."

Robbery, aggravated assault and rape crimes are down. I was also immensely pleased to note that weapons law violations are down 24 percent from 1993 to 1997.

Unfortunately, violent crime arrest rates increased for females by 111 percent between 1987 and 1994 and only decreased by 12 percent between 1994 and 1997. This compares to a 23 percent decrease for males in that period. Would that we were closer to achieving parity between men and women in areas such as salaries and job opportunities instead of crime!

There are some good reasons for the lower crime rate for young people, and we should take note of some programs that work. Eleven states have recently enacted laws that provide for alternatives to traditional incarceration. Newly authorized projects reduce the burden on state-run juvenile correction facilities.

"State and local governments are willing to experiment to develop a juvenile justice system that takes into account the security requirements of communities and the individual treatment needs of the youth," said Shay Bilchik, administrator of the Justice Department's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP).

At an OJJDP national conference in Washington, D.C., recently, Attorney General Reno cited community involvement and mentoring as factors in reducing crime.

I would like to offer personal testimony on the importance of mentoring. I am profoundly grateful to those special people in my childhood and youth who gave of their time, wisdom and love to guide me on the paths I believe God meant for me to talk. I could not have done it alone. Nobody can.

The ancient Greeks gave us the word 'mentor'. In the Odyssey, Homer named Odysseus' older and wiser friend Mentor. The goddess Athena later pretended to be Mentor, giving advice and encouragement to Odysseus.

In every culture throughout history, the older generation has mentored the young people coming up. Today when families and communities are disintegrating, when single mothers and both mother and father in two-parent families must work to make ends meet, when our children are living with inadequate child care, violence in their schools, neighborhoods and homes, and drugs are everywhere, the role of a mentor is more important than it has ever been.

Mentoring is widely acknowledged as one of a short supply of tools that can and does help children, and there are many, many programs across our country that are working miracles. I'm going to be writing about some of them in the coming months. Right now, I just want to encourage you think about how you might be able to contribute your time to a young. There are programs in your community that can show you the way, give you the training, support your work with a young person and match you with one of the youths on their often pathetically long waiting lists.

As we enter this last year of the 20th century, let us all take steps that will guarantee that a child will have reasons to look forward to the 21st century.

Grand Jury Indicts Six Civilians For Million Youth March Melee

by Herb Boyd

Six African-American men have been indicted in the melee following the Million Youth March. Late last month, a Grand Jury, impaneled to investigate the acts of violence that occurred at the Sept. 5 rally, indicted James 'Shaheed' Washington and five other 'John Does', who are unknown and variously identified as 'Yellow Shirt', 'White Turban', 'White Shirt', 'Black Hat' and 'Green Shirt'. The charges range from attempted assault to reckless endangerment.

Washington turned himself in to the police shortly after the rally, when he was notified that a warrant was issued for his arrest.

"They did not contact us prior to announcing the in-

dictments," said Roger Wareham, Washington's attorney. "And, we are going to look into this matter, as well as others related to these findings."

"Furthermore, because this is the lowest level of misdemeanor against by client, it is a demonstration that the entire process is politically motivated. And the process is additionally suspect since the Grand Jury is used to bring the indictments."

Wareham charged that the photographing of the rally by the police (before any indication of a confrontation) is against the law. "This is a violation of the law which prohibits the police from taking photos unless a crime is being committed or an arrest is being

made."

"When we saw the cameras on the rooftops, we talked to the commander-in-chief, and he promised to remove them, but obviously this was not done," Wareham said.

According to the district attorney's office, interviews were conducted with 50 witnesses, including civilians and police officers. Investigators also reviewed dozens of video tapes of the rally obtained from news organizations, amateur and professional videographers.

Assistant District Attorney Leroy Frazier, chief of the Special Prosecutions Bureau and attorney in charge of the district attorney's Harlem office, and Assistant District Attorney Raymond Marinaccio, de-

puty chief of the Special Projects Bureau, supervised the investigation and conducted the Grand Jury presentation.

Manhattan Borough President C. Virginia Fields said she is satisfied with the Grand Jury findings. She commended the behavior of the crowd and the police, and she is grateful that no one has been charged with inciting to riot. "Numerous civilians and police officers were interviewed, and dozens of video tapes of the rally were reviewed," Fields said. "I had called for a full and careful investigation of the incidents that occurred as the rally ended. I appreciate D.A. Morgenthau's quick and thorough response to this matter and accept the Grand Jury's find-

ings."

New York Assemblyman Keith Wright, however, registered a different reaction. According to his chief of staff, Terrence Tolbert, "The assemblyman is disturbed about the absence of accountability on the part of the police, who acted harshly and inappropriately at the event. If they had not rushed the stage as the rally was drawing to a peaceful close, none of this would have happened. They misjudged the situation and are now seeking to place the blame on others. One of the reasons there were no charges for inciting to riot is because they would have to indict the police."

A similar concern was voiced by Councilman Bill Perkins, who feels that the

investigation is incomplete and has promised to conduct his own. "The DA's office has no authority to look at the behavior of the police at the rally, and for all intents and purposes, this was a police riot," he asserted. "We tried to keep the tension down, and thanks to a number of houses of worship and community leaders, we were successful."

Perkins was also disturbed by the list of 'John Does'. "Given the descriptions, based on turbans, hats and shirt colors, they could very easily arrest you and me," he said. "But, in the final analysis, it was not the green, yellow or white shirts that posed the greatest danger to our community. It was the blue shirts in the riot helmets."

Our Debt Of Gratitude To Kwame Ture

by Barbara Reynolds

For those who think Black Power died with or even before Kwame Ture, the black activist who coined the phrase during a freedom march in Mississippi in June 1966, think again.

Those who think Black Power is dead never fully understood it in the first place. Black Power is both an offense and a defense. It means resisting as well as building. It is more than a protest. It is anger grown from a powerful outcry to run cities, win class-action suits against recalcitrant corporations like Texaco, influence the election of Bill Clinton and beat off attempts to impeach him. Even though Black Power, based on the efforts of a numerical minority, often cannot call its own shots, it can sometimes check

raw unruly white power.

Unfortunately, the term 'Black Power' became synonymous with violence and was condemned as 'racism in reverse', even by some blacks. Yet like democracy, it is not a perfect slogan.

In reality, for blacks back then, it meant little more than to achieve the self-reliance, respect and political and economic clout of other ethnic groups before them. It meant that blacks should do for themselves, defend their rights, develop their own culture, elect candidates who would reflect their interests and support and own black businesses and schools.

In a real sense, Black Power was a very logical reaction to an unbearable situation that resulted in a civil rights battleground littered with the bodies of martyrs.

They included four little black girls in Birmingham, Medgar Evers, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Viola Luizzo, a white civil rights worker in Detroit, who was killed by Klansmen in Mississippi.

Even though the slogan was more defensive than offensive, the very idea that blacks could come up with such a saying shocked white America. Besides its terrifying tone, it also broke a cardinal rule in power politics by not disguising its ends in political rhetoric as other groups had.

"To hell with the laws of the United States. If you don't wake up, man, your brothers in the ghettos are going to wake up with matches. If a white man tries to harm you, kill him. One match and you can retaliate. Burn, baby, burn," said Ture on April

1967 before a group of students at a Birmingham college.

Ture also tried to convince the masses to reject the negative violent stereotypes they had been spoon-fed. At Bethune-Cookman, a black college in Florida, he said, "We must stand up and say our noses are wide, our lips are thick, our hair is nappy, we are both black and beautiful."

The declaration of black is beautiful was a rallying cry of the Black Power movement. It pumped life into an oppressed people who responded with an outburst of new plays, poetry and filmmaking. Black Power carried with it an economic unity. In the late sixties, there was an explosion of black businesses. And leaders such as the Rev. Leon Sullivan and Rev.

Jesse Jackson directed the militancy into forcing white businesses to hire more black workers and support community development.

If there was any flaw in Ture's vision, it was that it did not include an equal place for women. Once asked where was the correct place for women in the civil rights movement, he was quoted as saying: "prone!"

It was in politics where the cry for black power actually became institutionalized and was seen as a much more palatable option. On June 1967, the first National Conference on Black Power was held in Newark, NJ, with the help of Adam Clayton Powell, one of the country's most militant politicians. He was a brash and effective representative from Harlem. In that same year, as black rebel-

lion broke out in scores of cities, Carl Stokes of Cleveland and Richard Hatcher of Gary became the first black elected mayors of major U.S. cities. That became the symbol of Black Power.

When white power, through the effort of J. Edgar Hoover and the FBI, harassed and murdered members of the Black Panther Party, a militant wing of Black Power was destroyed.

Black Power and Black Pride have become so much more than a slogan. They have also become a lifestyle, something indestructible. We will forever owe Kwame Ture a debt of gratitude.

**WE WELCOME
YOUR LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR**

Forget The Past, Step Over The Threshold

by Butch Miller

In the past 99 years, Americans have stood on untold thresholds. From the threshold of flight, to the threshold of the space age. From the threshold of Democracy, to the threshold of Equal Rights for both men and women. From the threshold of the Age of Computers, to the threshold of the information super highway. Each of these thresholds represented a step toward another frontier as America continued to grow.

Now we are on the threshold of a new millennium. The 21st century. It's exciting to look to the future and imagine so many things for our children and grandchildren. For they are the generations that will shape America for the 21st century.

I don't claim to be a visionary. I don't know what the future holds. I do remember something my mother told me often, "Son, these are the best days of your life." She was right. These are the "good ol' days" that can never be regained. That's why you and I must capture the moment—each and every day—and make it count.

What you and I do as Americans this year sets the tone for the 21st century.

That's not a thought to toss away as idle rhetoric. It's a belief each of us must embrace.

The values, ideals and commitment to American we inherited from our ancestors must be relayed to those young visionary minds of tomorrow.

Values of a belief in God, a need for a family foundation, respect for others and for our government. An understanding that America does not owe us something; instead we owe our country something for protecting freedom and allowing all citizens to achieve to the best of their ability.

Not much more than 100 years ago, my ancestors came to America seeking a better life. They were part of the great American melting pot of the late 1800s. Brave and industrious men and women, they embraced this land the American flag from the first moment they set foot upon its soil.

Our nation experiences constant change. We've had good times and bad. Yet, when united toward a common goal, we have risen to every occasion. We did it with grit and determination. We did it learning from the mistakes of the past. We did it because we were Americans—and proud of it.

Now, it's time for you and me to tackle our role for the future. A role that demands we stop pretending that there is no right or wrong, just shades of gray. For if we continue making that mistake, we destroy the values that will strengthen our future.

It is right that Americans demand an end to a continuing erosion of our military at the same time we expect more from our men and women in uniform. The cost of isolationism is much heavier in currency and blood than the price of eternal vigilance.

It is right for citizens of this great land to honor their promises to veterans of the 29th century by improving access to the Department of Veterans Affairs health care system.

And, it is right that a constitutional amendment be passed restoring the people's right to protect the U.S. flag. It is a right taken from us by a narrow Supreme Court decision in 1989. It is a right that must be restored.

For the better part of the 20th century, the men and women of The American Legion, today 2.8 million strong, have been working quietly in your hometown, striving to keep the dream alive for millions of young citizens.

These same men and women have always been there for their fellow veterans needing a hand-up, not a hand-out.

I promise you that for the 21st century, The American Legion will be there to keep the dream alive. It'll be there because veterans of Bosnia, the Persian Gulf, Panama, Grenada and Lebanon are ready to do their part. They've sacrificed for America. They've left family and friends behind and endured the loneliness and fear that comes from deployments.

This is a promise I am confident in keeping, for the men and women I represent in The American Legion understand what my mother always told me. These are the best days of our lives.

What you and I do this very day will have an impact on the 21st century. Let's step over the threshold and get to work.

Butch Miller is the national commander of The American Legion, the nation's largest war-time veterans organization. He was born and raised in Minnesota and now makes his home in Woodbridge, VA. He is a U.S. Army veteran of the Vietnam War.

Ghanaians Say Gold Mining Companies Destroying Their Land

Communities, led by youth, in Ghana's western gold mining region are mounting frequent protests against the destruction of the environment and villagers' farms by mining companies.

There have been frequent protests and clashes with the mining companies. The youth in Wassaw District recently blocked the roads to prevent the mining trucks from taking workers to the mines. They also joined the traditional rulers of the district in a march through Tarkwa, the district capital, to protest against the increasing environmental degradation in the region.

More than seven gold mines are located in Wassaw, but citizens in the area say the operations have brought little benefit to them.

Changes in mining operations have also led to a loss of jobs. In Prestea, the whole town took to the streets in red armbands to protest a South African company's decision to close a deep pit mine which has provided jobs to the town's residents since 1928.

The South African owners want to operate an open cast mine instead, because it is cheaper and more profitable. Besides costing people their jobs, Prestea's residents argue that an open cast mine will adversely affect the environment because of the cyanide emission.

This wave of environmental activism among communities comes at a time when the government is reaping good economic benefits from the mining sector.

Gold has replaced cocoa as Ghana's major foreign exchange earner, bringing in \$580 million in 1997. The 17 mines and 200 prospecting companies have brought \$3.6 billion into the economy since 1983, when the Economic Recovery Program (ERP) was launched.

**WE WELCOME
YOUR
LETTERS
TO THE
EDITOR.**

Do You Remember ?

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"Remember, Jesus is the Reason for the Season." The Earth Mission family extends to our church family and the community a warm and heartfelt Christmas Greeting and a Blessed New Year.

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Elder James C. Butler, Asst. Pastor

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

Rev. Mother Superior Williams
3716 W. Horatio, Tampa, FL 33609
(813) 874-5581

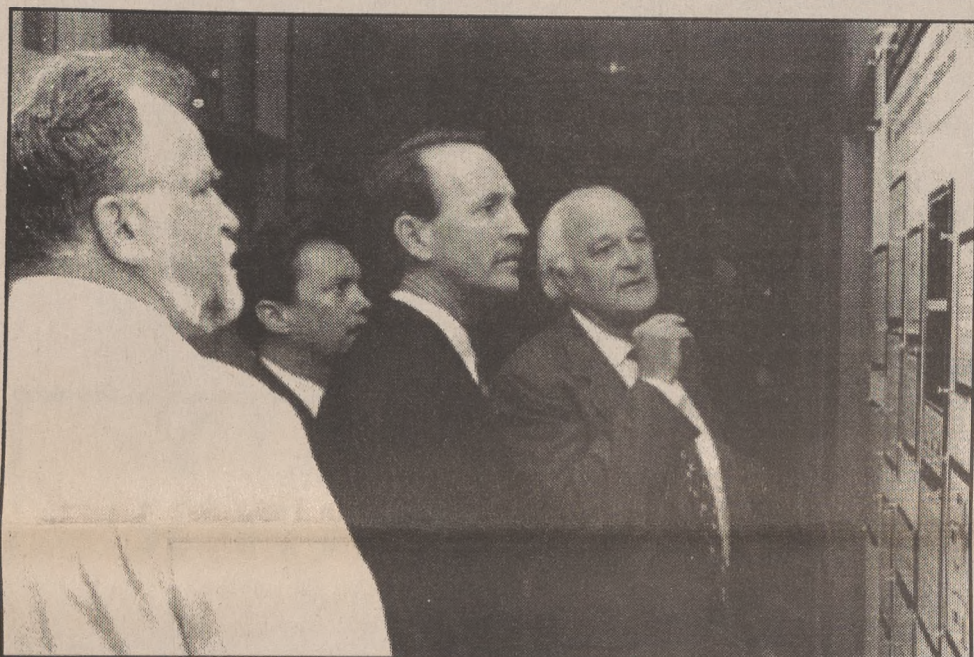
I was having bad luck, miserable and it seemed like everything was against me. Just a few visits to Rev. Mother Superior Williams and now I'm doing fine with a good home and good man who loves me.
- Hillary Williams

Lomax Edison Elementary Holds X-Mas Party



TAMPA — The children at Lomax Edison Elementary School held their Christmas play and party on Thursday, December 17 at Lomax Elementary School. Ms. I Rodriguez was the coordinator for the event which was a great success. Scene-settings for this event was completed by Brittany McAllister, Devon Turner, Re'Kale Hill and John Brown.

Tampa Bay Lightning Announces Cancer Research Campaign With Moffitt Cancer Center



From L to R: Dr. Ruckdeschel, Billy McGehee, Timm Harmon & Dr. Warren Pledger

TAMPA—The Tampa Bay Lightning are proud to announce the creation of the Tampa Bay Lightning Cancer Research Fund at H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute. The fund is part of the Lightning Cancer Research Campaign, featuring radio ads, public service announcements and charitable programs designed to raise awareness and help raise funds for cancer research.

Lightning General Manager and Head Coach Jacques Demers will serve as spokesman for the campaign. The Tampa Bay Lightning has seen cancer touch the lives of three "family" members in recent months—player John Cullen, scout Peter Mahovlich and Debbie Demers, wife of Jacques Demers.

"I've personally seen what cancer can do to families, and I encourage everyone to help in fighting this relentless disease," Demers said.

The campaign is being led by the Lightning and Tampa's Healthcare Creditline to benefit cancer research at Moffitt. Healthcare Creditline President Timm Harmon has pledged to donate a minimum of \$10,000 to the fund, beginning with a pledge of \$400 each time the Lightning wins a game during the 1998-1999 season. Harmon and the Lightning are challenging other businesses and individuals throughout the Tampa Bay area to make similar pledges and donations.

"This fund has been created to fight back against a disease that has become very per-

sonal to us," Lightning President and CEO Billy McGehee said. "It is our goal to encourage our corporate partners, fans and friends to get in the game and join us in fighting this disease together."

Harmon is a Tampa Bay Lightning season ticketholder, a member of the Moffitt Cancer Center Foundation board, a Moffitt donor and a cancer survivor. Harmon has survived testicular cancer twice—which he credits to cancer research.

"If someone out there hadn't supported the research that led to Timm's first successful treatment in 1979, he wouldn't have been able to beat it," said Harmon's wife, Anita. "Maybe he wouldn't have made it this time around. Timm might not be the walking, talking success story that he is if it wasn't for cancer research."

The Tampa Bay Lightning Cancer Research Fund was officially announced to fans

last month.

"We are very appreciative and humbled by this generous effort," says Moffitt's Center Director John C. Ruckdeschel, M.D. "It's very encouraging to see businesses joining together to fight this disease. And it's only through combined efforts such as this that Moffitt Cancer Center can make an impact by conducting research that will truly contribute to the prevention and cure of cancer."

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Kersteen Appointed To Chair Of Pinellas Planning Council



Robert Kersteen

ST. PETERSBURG — At a recent morning meeting, members of the Pinellas Planning Council appointed St. Petersburg Councilmember Robert A. Kersteen chair of the council, effective for a one-year term beginning January 1, 1999.

This year, Councilmember Kersteen will lead the Pinellas Planning Council as it continues preparation of a strategic plan, addresses annexation issues and works to streamline and clarify the way local and county plans are reviewed and amended. The Pinellas Planning Council is a county-wide body of 13 local government leaders representing all 24 counties municipalities, the unincorporated areas, and the

school board. It oversees county planning issues and advises the Pinellas County Commission when seated as the county-wide planning authority.

Councilmember Kersteen represents St. Petersburg's District One, and was elected to City Council in 1995. He also represents the city on the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, chairs the city's Legal Subcommittee, and serves on the External Audit and Landscape Subcommittees, and the Florida League of Cities Intergovernmental Relations Committee. He is a 35-year veteran with GTE Wireless of the South, Inc. and has been a resident of St. Petersburg since 1963.

"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.

KIDS CORNER

by Khana A. Riley



I am Khana Riley, age 11, grade 6. This new column, "Kids Corner" each week will feature comments from kids. So if you are between the age of 5 and 12, write me about what you've learned in school, or for advice about making friends.

This is a letter written by W. Theodore Henderson of Gainesville, FL.

Dear Khana Riley, My name is W. Theodore Henderson. My mama home schools me. I want to tell you about home schooling, it is fun. My favorite subject is art. I love working on things for my grandma. One good thing about home schooling is you can reschedule class if you need to go somewhere. One bad thing about it is you do not get to play with kids. But I am not crazy about kids anyway.

Signed W. Theodore Henderson

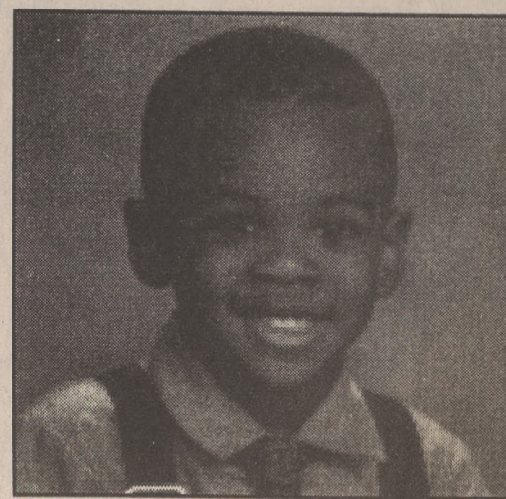
Here is my reply:

Thank you very much for writing me. This week was the first time that I had heard about home schooling. I thought it was rather interesting when my grandmother explained it to me. When I go to school, I also like forward to going to art. It's sort of like my second to first best subject at school. I think that being able to reschedule class is cool. I think that it's not so much fun not being able to play with friends. I love having someone to play with at school.

I hope you had some great holidays and I wish you and your family a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Again thanks for writing.

Until we meet!!!

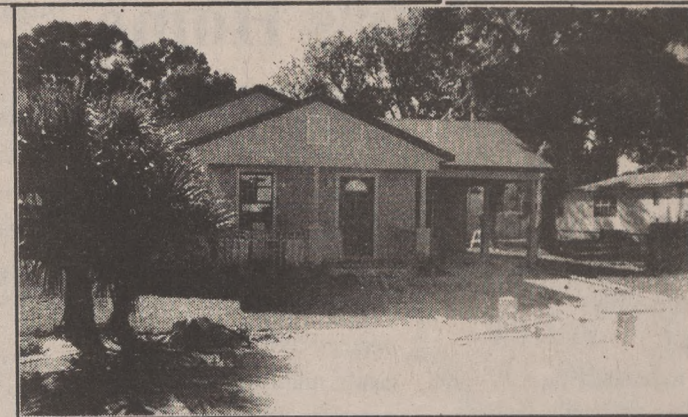
Send your letters to: Dear Khana c/o The Weekly Challenger, 2500 Dr. Martin Luther King Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33705



W. Theodore Henderson



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Bartlett Park is now enjoying a refurbishing that promises to add a new chapter to this storied neighborhood. To be a part of it, call or visit today.

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Call Askia Muhammad Aquil at 727-821-6897.

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Womans' World

By: Allene Gammage Ahmed

Designed Specifically for the Woman That You Are



Woman's World had an overwhelming response to our question last week "As an African American woman, what are your aspirations for the new millennium? Read what some of our readers shared:

"It's good to see so many women in their prime going back to complete their education, I think they've inspired me to the point that I'm enrolling in January to get my Masters. I am now 53 years of age and was afraid age would keep from going back." A.L.S., Tampa, FL

"This year my goal is to work hard on changing my dietary habits and focus more on getting my health under control. Within the last six months, my primary care physician has seen me over 8 times for different ailments. I am really concerned about that." W.P.T., St. Petersburg, FL

"For 1999, I am trying to set achievable goals for me and my family. The first thing on my list is become financially solvent by saving something out of each pay check I earn this year. Welfare-to-work has really helped me to see things in a much different light." Jill J., Clearwater, FL

"Out with the old, in with the old. What I mean is out with the old year and a lot of old and bad habits that I had, and in with the 'old' fashioned, simplistic ways in which to do all things. Being very basic and doing things like we used to can make life so much better and keep one out of a lot of trouble. I remember my mother warning me about this and she used to sing a song - "Let's go Way Back, Way Back in God" J.T., St. Petersburg.

"This year, I would like to

become healthier, wealthier and wiser; keep my grades up in school and plan to go to college and get a part-time job to help my mom out with bills. She works hard and does a lot but we know that she is struggling. In 1999, if I could only just help her to do more for herself, it would make me feel like I've accomplished something during this year." K.T.R., Brandon, FL

These are very interesting comments and we realize that if one desires to accomplish certain goals in life, we must first be committed to take the necessary, positive steps to achieve them. We must have faith in God and faith in ourselves. Making things happen in life will never always be easy, it's going to require will and determination.

We can all reach our goals, our new year's resolutions or whatever we'd like to call it. •We must be encouraged and stay strong for your change will soon come.

•Take each day, one day at a time; affirm your goal(s) audibly.

•Find another sister who sets a good example and one who may be able to keep you inspired. We all need that support from time to time - I know I did when I was going through some things. Thanks to those many sisters, I'm still hangin' - Thanks Sis!

•Remember that we can do all things through Him who strengthens and keeps us from falling.

In 1999, the challenge to achieve is yours. Remember the song, "I'm every woman, it's all in me," and it is all in you.

Have a blessed, healthy and prosperous New Year!

I Never Gave Up



Kaenya Cohen

ST. PETERSBURG - Koonya Harrington, daughter of Luetta and Clifford Thomas never gave up her dream of becoming a cosmetologist.

She recently received her State License on December 12, 1998. She is a 1993 graduate of Dixie Hollins High and has also obtained a CNA and

HHA Certificate in nursing as well as a Chauffeur's License.

Her hobbies include reading, skating and cooking. She is grateful for the love and support of her long time companion Chris Cohen. They have two lovely daughters, Shantiya and LaRonda.

Top Ten Ways To Keep Holiday Pounds From Adding Up

The secret to keeping weight off during the holiday season is planning light meals around the larger holiday meals and treats. Deprivation sets dieters up for failure. The new way of thinking about dieting is much freer in terms of what you can eat. No food should be off limits if eaten in moderation.

The following Top Ten tips have been developed by Weight Watchers to help keep holiday pounds from adding up.

•Start the day with a light breakfast such as a cup of non-fat yogurt flavored with aspartame, half a small bagel with jam and a piece of fruit.

•Never to to a holiday party hungry. Eat a filling snack at home, especially before attending a buffet party. A light snack or glass of skim milk will help keep your blood sugar level steady and head off the urge to binge.

•Nibble on high fiber foods instead of chips, nuts or cheeses. Raw vegetables are high in fiber and satisfy longer.

•Sample every food you like, but in modest portions. The first taste is as good as the last, and you'll actually feel better after the meal for not having overeating.

•Pace yourself during the party or meal. You'll still feel satisfied eating less and can look forward to dessert.

•Drink ice water or a non-caloric beverage between courses. Add cracked ice and a fruit garnish to create a festive cocktail.

•Eat a light supper later in the day, possibly a green salad with non-fat dressing. you'll wake up hungry if you skip your evening meal and feel tempted to overeat at breakfast.

•Get active. Take an after-dinner walk. Better yet, start a daily routine of morning or evening walks.

•Treat yourself and enjoy the day. Focus on the joy of the holiday season - the glow of the candles and your children's happiness.

We welcome your letters to the editor.

HIRES

God will guide our soul, but Satan will lead us to our final hole.

Does what you do increase or reduce you?

Our lives display the visible fruits of our spiritual roots.

The way we spend our time is a reflection of the thoughts on our mind.

My Mother's Home Made Ice Cream

1 large box vanilla pudding (or any flavor you desire)
3 cans of milk (4 cans if you want it creamy)
1 egg
2 1/2 cups sugar
1 tablespoon vanilla flavor
1 can fruit (optional)
6 cups of water

Bring sugar and water to a boil. Beat pudding mix, 1 egg, 2 cans of milk together; add to boiling water. Simmer for 10 minutes; cool, add flavor and 1 can of milk. Add desired fruit or make plain vanilla. Put cool mixture in churn.

Pecan Puffs

1/2 cup butter or oleo
2 tablespoons sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 cup flour
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup chopped pecans:

Cream oleo and add rest of ingredients. Bake 325 degrees 30 minutes. Roll in XXX Sugar while hot. Double the recipe, this doesn't make many.

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Company Promotes Good Health & Healthy Hair For African-Americans

BRANDON, FL—Ms. O. T. stated in a recent letter to Gold Medal Products that she had tried every product in the beauty supply stores that said it would help her hair grow, but nothing worked.

"Once I tried...the Herbal Tame™ System..." writes Ms. O. T. "my hair has not been the same. It is growing thicker and I can comb it without breakage. I can go longer between touch-ups on my perm. I Just love it, it's a miracle from God."

With changing attitudes about health and fitness, there appears to be a growing concern among African American women about the use of chemical relaxers and hair and scalp damage. That concern has precipitated a gradual trend back to natural and afro-centric hair styles.

For 56 years, Gold Medal Products has been in the forefront of research and development of products that promote healthy black hair. The company's focus has always been on products that are natural, safe and effective in cultivating strong texture and good hair health and growth.

Gold Medal Products is the only direct to consumer catalog specializing in a wide range of products for African Americans. Their 56 page color catalog is filled with

Clearwater Neighborhood Housing New Year's Resolution For You

CLEARWATER - "Number 1" New Year's Resolution - Start A Business." So you've made your New Year's Resolutions and #1 on your list is to finally start that new business that you have always dreamed of starting. Well, you're in luck. Clearwater Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. has developed a set of business development seminars titled, "How To Start & Run Your Own Business - Profitably".

The seminars are held at the Clearwater Chamber of Commerce, 1130 Cleveland Street on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. The next seminar is on Wednesday, January 13, 1999.

For more information contact Stephanie M. Brown at 530-0074 or John Maloney at 442-4155.

Shortcuts To Cleaning

Making less work out of housework makes it easier to work in more leisure time.

These quick tips from Merry Maids, the nation's largest provider of residential cleaning services may help:

• Eliminate clutter. An uncluttered home appears cleaner.

• Clean as you go. New dirt is easier to remove.

• To keep your home smelling fresh, leave baking soda on carpeting overnight.

• Use only one entry into your home. A sturdy nylon mat can catch an amazing amount of dirt.

• Work from the top of a room down. Dust first, vacuum last.

• Give cleaning solutions time to work. Spritz the light fixtures and mirrors in the bath and let the cleaner work while you scrub the tub and toilet. Then come back to them.

• Defy dust. Change furnace filters and replace vacuum bags monthly.

• Kill germs. Always disinfect doorknobs, switch plates and telephones.

• Know when to say "help!" If you can't get the job done the way you want, check the directory for the nearest Merry Maids or call 1800-WERVE or check the Website for more information at www.merry-maids.com.

Study Looks At Relationship Between Obesity & Asthma

TAMPA—Obesity may increase the risk of asthma, suggest two new studies presented recently at the American Lung Association/American Thoracic Society International Conference. In one study, researchers using data from a study of more than 100,000 nurses found that the more overweight a nurse was, the greater her risk of developing asthma in adulthood. The second study found that the most overweight 26-year-olds were more likely to have asthma than the thinnest ones.

Obesity and asthma are both on the rise in developed nations. As estimated 14.7 million Americans, including 4.8 million children, suffer from asthma. Between 1982 and 1994, the rate of asthma rose 61% while the rate of pediatric asthma rose 72%. According to the National Institutes of Health, one in three Americans is obese. Obesity is second only to smoking as a risk factor for disease.

THE WEEKLY CHALLENGER

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- Makes Hair Manageable & Silky
- Protects hair from Damage

If your hair has become dull, dry, falling, thinning from chemical relaxing, the time has come for you to help it back to health. You don't have to use chemicals to have manageable hair. Enjoy the beautiful way nature intended your hair to be with just the right help from Herbal Tame. Made from herbs grown in Africa, it is not like any other product made. Herbal Tame will free your hair from chemicals and let it grow long and strong.

With the Herbal Tame System, your hair maintains its natural texture, but becomes more manageable, smoother, easier to comb and a little straighter each time you use it. Free from the chemical relaxers that dull and damage, your hair begins to exhibit a healthy shine, more body, strength and flexibility. If you choose to keep your hair chemically relaxed, Herbal Tame can be used in-between relaxing to let you use chemicals less frequently. Try Herbal Tame on this Money Back Guarantee. Herbal Tame will improve your hair, rest it from chemicals, and let you enjoy your hair healthy and natural or your Money Back.



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Wishing You Every Blessing This Holiday Season!

BROTHER ROBERT SMITH

20th Street Church of Christ



Charmettes

From Page.1



Crisis Center Needs Volunteers

TAMPA—Some people in the community suffer from mental fears and anguish so intense that they consider doing harm to themselves and/or others. Some are innocent victims of rape, sexual abuse or other brutal crimes, while others are very lonely or alone.

These people need a safe place to call when life hurts. Your time and talents could help a person return to feeling safe and secure.

To learn more about our Volunteer programs and the next training class beginning

February 1, please call: Brenda Martin, Coordinator/Volunteer Services, Crisis Center of Hillsborough County, Inc., 238-8400

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T-A-N Offers "Red Ribbon Ride" Orientations

TAMPA — Individuals interested in participating in the Walgreen's Red Ribbon Ride can learn more about this One Extraordinary Journey for Life! by attending a Tampa AIDS Network's (TAN) Red Ribbon Ride Orientation. Orientations are scheduled for Saturday, January 9, at 11 a.m. and Tuesday, January 12, at 6 p.m.

The Ride, scheduled for Friday, March 26 through Sunday, March 29, 1999, is a three-day event designed to help people living with HIV/AIDS through fund raising and awareness. Each rider is required to raise a minimum of \$1,250 prior to beginning the trek and will transverse the state, from Orlando to Fort Lauderdale, covering 275 miles on a three-day cycling adventure.

Produced by Clear Channel Communications and sponsored by the Sun-Sentinel Children's Fund, a fund of the McCormick Foundation, the

ride is the first of its kind to be completely organized by Floridians. The Red Ribbon Ride is presented by and benefits the six organizations of the Florida AIDS Consortium: Tampa AIDS Network, CenterOne, AIDS Resource Alliance, Action for AIDS, Community AIDS Resource and Comprehensive AIDS Program.

Both the Saturday, January 9, and Tuesday, January 12, Orientations will take place at TAN's North Tampa Office, 11215 N. Nebraska Ave., Suite B-3, and will conclude with an informative fund raising seminar by a highly experienced local rider.

TAN offers Red Ribbon Ride Orientations on a monthly basis.

For more information on becoming involved in this One Extraordinary Journey For Life, call the Tampa AIDS Network at (813) 979-1919, ext. 227, or 1-888-658-BIKE.

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Season's Greetings and a Prayer for the New Year

My Lord! Make this a city of Peace, Justice, Unity and Prosperity and feed its people with fruits — such of them as believe in The Creator of the heavens and the earth and believe in the Last Day.

Our Lord! Accept this service from us, for Thou art The All-Hearing and The All-Knowing.

Our Lord! Make of us a faithful and obedient believing people who bow our wills to Thy Supreme Will. And make of our offspring a faithful and obedient believing people who bow their wills to Thy Supreme Will. And show us our places for the celebration of due rites of devotion and worshipful service. And turn to us in Thy Divine Mercy, for Thou art The Oft-Returning, The Most Merciful.

Our Lord! Send amongst them a messenger of their own who shall rehearse Thy Signs to them . . . and instruct them in Scripture and Wisdom . . . and sanctify them. Surely, Thou art the Exalted in Might, the Wise. Amen.

Season's Greetings, Happy Kwanzaa, Blessed Ramadan and a Prosperous New Year to all from
Imam Askia Muhammad Aquil, Family and Friends



North Central Florida

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 contributing 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 pun-

its, 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 Americans was 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.

There were many groups and individuals who contributed significantly to the full realization and nationwide recognition of the potential power of the black vote. They too, deserve special commendation.

Reading is Vitamins For The Mind

NAACP Mobilizes To Save Social Security

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND—NAACP President and CEO Kweisi Mfume vowed to protect Social Security by committing the Association's resources to petition Congress to publicly sign a pledge against privatization.

"We must protect Social Security as we know it and are prepared to use every resource available within the NAACP's 1700 branches across the country to fight privatization of America's most successful retirement fund and anti-poverty program," Mfume said.

Mfume pointed out that

proponents of privatization offer only vague, general terms and fail to mention that administrative expenses under their proposal will far exceed the current expenses. "For over sixty years the benefits from Social Security have kept generations of people out of poverty by providing a base for retirement and a true sense of security. Privatization introduces unnecessary risks."

Mfume's remarks were delivered at a press conference held by the New Century Alliance for Social Security last week in Washington, D.C. New Century Alliance is

endorsed by a wide ranging coalition of national organizations and public policy experts that supports a "Statement of Principles" by which Americans can judge any plan for Social Security.

Some of the issues addressed by the New Century Alliance principles include supporting a benefit structure that guarantees monthly benefits that are adjusted to keep up with inflation; is not subject to market fluctuations; provides risk-free disability insurance

protection for workers and their dependents and does not increase the retirement age.

NAACP units nationwide will convene town hall meetings, public forums and debates informing citizens that if the competing plans to change Social Security can't meet the New Century Alliance principles, then "it doesn't really save Social Security."

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A Voteless People Is a Hopeless People!

Society In Ocala

by Florence Williams Ray

Blessed With Good Times

The holiday season left many brimming over with beautiful memories to cherish through the days and months ahead. Here's praying that God will continue to bless you with lasting love and happiness in the things you plan to do.

May the new year be a time for new optimistic views and for reshuffling of dreams; a social awareness time; of getting involved and realizing your self worth. Let it be a time for love sharing, a free spirit and a positive feeling about yourself and the world around you. Let it be that time of life when all things are possible.

We've been blessed with some good times. This is a statement of fact. Some measure good times by the amount of love conveyed. To do something worthwhile for a fellowman and enjoy the results is both proper and right. Still others measure good times by being full of love and a sense of being safe in the holy spirit. However you want to measure it, we've come into good times! Be happy in the mixing of your past and present and your hopes for the future.

"Good times" is also looking beyond your short comings and enjoying the real you! **Happy New Year!**

Nelson/Williams Wedding
On Saturday, November 28, 1998, Dana Nelson and Matthew Williams were united in marriage by the Rev. Tommy L. Brooks at New St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Ocala, FL.

The wedding ceremony included: Pre Nuptial Music; Lighting of Candles; Seating of Parents; Procession; Entrance of Bride; Exchange of Vows; Ring Ceremony;

Lighting of Unity Candle; the Lord's Prayer by Darren Robinson; Parents' Dedication and the presentation of the Bride and Groom.

The wedding party included: Parents of the Bride, Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Nelson; Parents of the Groom, Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Williams; Maid of Honor, Dawn Nelson of Orlando, FL; Best Man, Kenneth Smith, Atlanta, GA; Bridesmaids Kaya McNeil, Gainesville, FL; Sylvia Burch, Reddick, FL; Nakisha Ponder, Orlando, FL; Angela Williams, Tallahassee; Tarteashia Williams, Tallahassee and Tanya Young, Monticello.

The Groomsmen were John Smith, Thomasville, GA; George Young, Charleston, SC; Tommy Wallace, Tallahassee, FL; Landarrell Young, Monticello, FL; Kerrick Bradley, Tallahassee and Dycart Smith, Tampa, FL. Flower Girls were Britani Smith, Orlando and Akya Boone, Reddick, FL. The Ring Bearer was Donnavan Siplin, Orlando; Ushers were Shawn Rollins, Tallahassee, and Ardie Scott, Monticello, FL. The hostesses were Oni Sadiki, Tallahassee and Toya Davis, Tampa, FL.

The wedding consultant was Barbara's Personal Touch and the wedding cake was by Cora Williams.

Birthday Greetings

Happy Birthday greetings go out to Jamaal Tracy Blocker, Jan 3rd; Sheila Jackson, Jan. 5th; James 'Bo' Jackson, Jan. 6th; Kemesha Reynolds, Jan. 7th; Rev. Doc. Fred Maeweathers and Shenita Hickenbottom, Jan. 8th; Latiffany Owens and Torri Crockett, Jan. 9th.

To All Who Love Our Lord And Savior Jesus Christ

Jesus is wonderful, counselor, mighty God, everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, He is the Great I Am. He is Lord of Lords, King of all Kings. It's my pleasure to tell you about the miracles Jesus Christ has done, through using his servant and son, Ronald Eugene Mathis, Sr. A man at the USP Beaumont Prison, named Arnold Eperez Johnson, found out for himself the power of prayer, he asked Bro. Mathis to pray for his son, who was on death row for murder and robbery. Mr. Johnson was also in prison, doing a fifteen year sentence. Both Sr. and Jr. were arrested on different cases. Arnold Sr. gave his life to Jesus Christ and pleaded for mercy for his son, who had not become a Christian. Arnold asked Ronald Eugene Mathis Sr. to pray for his son, to be delivered from the death penalty. Bro. Mathis agreed with Arnold Sr. and other Christian brothers, to pray for Arnold Jr. from the death penalty, but we are not asking God to set him free, because he was guilty of the crime. We could only pray that God might spare Arnold Jr.'s life, for the glory of Jesus Christ.

The prayer group touched and agreed in prayer, and Arnold Jr.'s case was overturned. This was truly a miracle because it happened in Texas, and everyone knows that when the state of Texas sentences someone to die, it is considered done. The state of Texas has executed more people than any other state.

Again, Jesus would use Ronald Eugene Mathis Sr., this time to prophesy a message to a young lady named Roshell Darby. This also happened while Mr. Mathis was at the USP Beaumont prison. One Thursday night, after the church service was finished, brother Mathis asked Mrs. Darby how many children they have. She said two, a boy and a girl. Mr. Mathis looked

My Testimony

by Ronald Mathis Sr.

at her and said: "you are going to have another child and it is going to be a boy," Mrs. Darby laughed at Brother Mathis and said "you are crazy." Then she went to get her husband, and he laughed when he heard the prophesy message. Mrs. Darby told Mr. Mathis "you better go find out where you got that message from. Brother Mathis told Mrs. Darby to write down the date when he gave her this prophesy, but she didn't. Weeks later, Mrs. Darby became sick and was not able to come to the Thursday night service. Between Mrs. Darby's friend, the doctor and the tests she took, she found out that she was pregnant.

The first thing that came into her mind was: the man at USP Beaumont prison, named Brother Mathis. She told her father and mother, who also was a part of a ministry team that goes to the prison. But she had to tell Brother Mathis, and she did on July 23, 1998. Mrs. Darby came before the congregation at USP Beaumont Prison and shared with them how she had received a prophesy message from Bro. Mathis, but she didn't believe it, nor did her husband. She told the congregation how they had laughed at him and said he was crazy. She said that when Bro. Mathis gave the prophesy, she was on birth control pills, plus she had said that she would never have any more children, but God proved her wrong, because she said that I am pregnant with a boy, just like Bro. Mathis had told me. Mrs. Darby had to admit that Bro. Mathis was truly "The man of God."

Organ Transplant Programs Ok'd At Mayo Clinic

JACKSONVILLE — The Florida Agency for Healthcare Administration has granted approval for kidney and pancreas transplantation programs at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville/St. Luke's Hospital. The new program will complement Mayo/St. Luke's growing range of transplant services and help meet the demand for multi-organ transplantation in the Southeast. The target date to implement the programs is spring 1999.

"Receiving the approval for these programs gives us the opportunity to help the people who need multi-organ transplants such as kidney/pancreas of kidney/liver transplants," says Dr. Jeffery Steers, surgical director of the programs. There is a definite need for additional kidney and pancreas transplant programs in the state, and we have the infrastructure to put them in place."

The cost to implement the programs will be minimal because of the existing transplant programs in place at Mayo/St. Luke's. No additional beds or operating rooms will be added, and no remodeling is anticipated. Some additional staff will be added to support the increased volume of transplants.

An additional center in the state gives added hope to the increasing number of patients who need these transplants. The rates of multi-organ transplantation in the Southeast currently are among the lowest in the country because patients are not being placed on waiting lists in numbers that reflect the demand.

"The addition of these programs fits into our plan of becoming one of the most comprehensive transplant programs in the Southeast," says Dr. James Spivey, a Mayo Clinic Jacksonville hepatologist and medical director of the programs.

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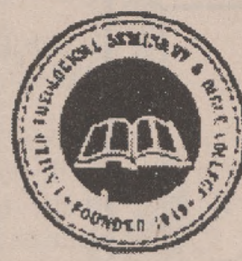


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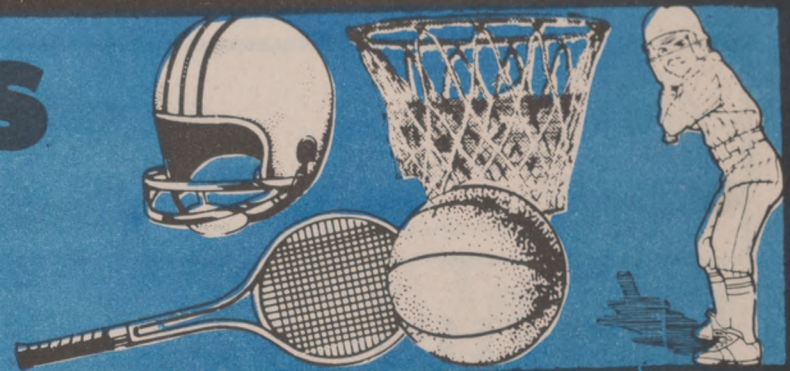
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CHALLENGER SPORTS



The Lake Vista Tennis Team



ST. PETERSBURG — The Lake Vista Tennis Team won the 12B-K-Davis Tennis League by defeating Tampa Palms at Hunter Greens in Tampa, Florida on December 19, 1998.

Upon winning, the 12B team will move to the 12A Team, and a new 12B Team will be formed. The team was coached by Doug Woods, a VSPTA Tennis professional, and the team was transported

to the matches with the help of team captain, Bill Bonner.

The 12B team players are Jeremiah Haynes, Anthony Williams, Jonathan Bonner, Nichelos Gardner, Debra Watkins, Sonny Kennedy and Mario Walters. A new tennis league will start up in February and Lake Vista will try to fill 4 teams 10B, 12B, 12A and 14B teams. Those who are interested in participating should contact Doug Woods at 867-5004

or team captain Bill Bonner, 864-3070.

Coach Woods states that the main purpose of the tennis team at Lake Vista is to get children exposed to and interested in the sport and to develop tennis in our community, which can be very extensive.

The Lake Vista Tennis Team was organized to play the K-series team tennis league.

Major Taylor -Superstar: American In Black History



He was the fastest man alive - a world champion bicycle racer in the most popular sport of the early 1900s. A vibrant Belgian poster advertises a 1902 match in which the cyclist defeated the Nation's champion.

One midsummer in 1895 an African-American teenager known as Major Taylor pedaled a bicycle in a seventy-five mile race over the dusty roads of central Indiana. His white competitors, Taylor noted, "made things disagreeable for me by calling me vile names, and trying to put me down, and they even threatened to do me bodily harm if I did not turn back."

But the sixteen-year he made a choice emblematic of

the spirit that was to carry him to world prominence: "I might just as well die trying to keep ahead." He spun his aching legs faster and pulled away from the pack.

Born in poverty in 1878, Marshall W. Taylor became America's first great black sports figure. Half a century before Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier in baseball, forty years before the era of Joe Louis and Jessie Owens, a decade before Jack Johnson claimed the heavyweight boxing title, Taylor ascended to the

SPJC In Final Four As NCAA Basketball Clinic Host

ST. PETERSBURG — When the NCAA's Final Four collegiate basketball package comes to St. Petersburg in March, St. Petersburg Junior College will be right in the thick of it.

The college has been chosen by the NCAA to act as host for the youth/parent basketball clinics that accompany the showdown tournament that decides which two Divisions I college or university teams meet for the national title.

The YES (Youth Education through Sports) Clinics will take place Saturday, March 27 at the St. Petersburg/Gibbs and Clearwater campuses.

SPJC Athletic Director Ed Long said between 300 and 500 youngsters and their parents will attend the clinics and workshops that morning, under the guidance of NCAA representatives, college staff, student-athletes and community volunteers.

"After a number of meetings over the summer with University of South Florida and NCAA representatives," Long said in a memo to President Carl M. Kuttler, Jr. and other administrators, "both SPJC campuses were selected over such other sites as Eckerd College and the Long Center (athletic complex in Clearwater). We were the only two sites selected in Pinellas County."

The selection sets up national exposure for the college, Long said, and "poses another opportunity for us to put our best foot forward and promotes SPJC."

He said he hopes to receive full support from the various college departments, "to ensure that SPJC will be viewed as a "first-class operation."

peak of the most popular sport of the day.

When Major Taylor was thirteen years old, Tom Hay entered him in a ten-mile Memorial Day handicap race, to "please the crowd." Hay told the boy to ride only a short way and to "come back as soon as you get tired." Taylor got tired but didn't come back.

Please See Major Taylor In Story Above

Tobacco Settlement Money Available For Youth Sports Groups

TALLAHASSEE — A sports program underwritten by Florida's Tobacco Pilot Program is accepting applications to fund youth sports events and programs that provide a positive sports experience with strong anti-tobacco messages.

Gov. Lawton Chiles, who along with the Florida Cabinet endorsed the program before he passed, and urged organizations across the state to apply for funding through the nearest Regional Sports Commission. Organizations can receive applications for funding through Florida's regional sports commissions.

The Sports For Life program represents a partnership between the Tobacco Pilot Program, the Florida Sports Foundation, Florida's Regional Sports Commission, community-based youth sports organizations including the YMCA, Boys and Girls



Clubs, Police Athletic Union, and the Amateur Athletic Union, as well as the American Cancer Society, the American Health Association and the American Lung Association. In addition Florida's professional sports franchises and university athletic programs have joined in support of the program. The program funded with a \$2.4 million grant from the Pilot Program, awards funding and provides educational materials to sports and youth organizations that host tobacco-free sports events.

The Pilot Program is funded by the state's \$13 billion settlement with Big Tobacco.

"It's important for young

people to be aware that tobacco can not only affect how long they live, but also impede their athletic ability now," said Chuck Wolfe, director of the pilot program. "This project will help illustrate the fact that, if you choose to smoke, you choose to inhibit yourself."

Sports for Life is the first statewide, comprehensive program attempting to influence youth ideas about smoking through their involvement in sports. The program targets 9 to 17 year-olds the age when most people decide whether to smoke.

Professional and amateur athletes will serve as Sports for Life spokespersons and role

models. Sports for Life challenges youth attitudes about smoking by focusing on the dangerous, short-term effects with which many youth are familiar. All competitors and sports celebrities are asked to sign "Be Tobacco Free" pledge cards. The program anticipates it will collect pledges totalling over 25 million tobacco free days from Florida's youth by July 1, 1999.

if you're having a hard time reading this filler, think about how hard it is for our typewriters to read your handwriting. all articles submitted must be typewritten or neatly printed.

Major Taylor From Story Below

He was "determined to show my employer I could go the distance," he wrote in his autobiography. He came in first, "more dead than alive," and won a gold medal. It was his first race, the first of hundreds of wins.

In 1899 he won twenty-two of the twenty-nine races

he entered. Paced behind a steam-powered bicycle, he lowered the record for the mile to 1:19, a speed of more than forty-five miles an hour. He won the national spring championship, defeating the country's top riders.

In the last chapter of his autobiography, Taylor offered

advice to youngsters, "especially those of my own race," he hoped that the story of his life would give them inspiration, "knowing as I do, the many serious handicaps and obstacles that will confront

them in almost every walk of life." He regretted that he had had no one of his own color to look to for similar advice. "In a word," he wrote, "I was a pioneer, and there fore had to blaze my own train."

We welcome your letters to the editor.

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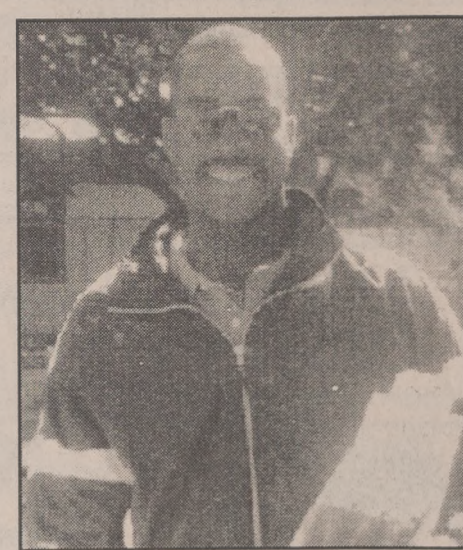
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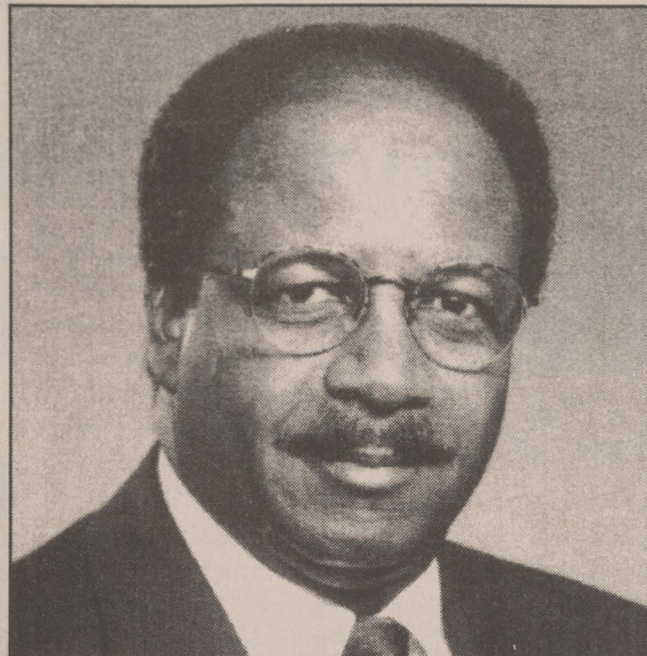
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CHURCH NEWS



Bethel Metropolitan Baptist



Dr. Henry J. Lyons

The church is looking forward to our annual Watchnight Services on December 31, 1998. Elder Anthony P. Conage, Pastor of Queen Street COGIC will be preaching at the 8:00 p.m. service. The Sanctuary Choir, Male Ministry Choir and Youth Ushers will serve. At 9:30 the Repast and Fellowship with members, family and friends will take place in the Fellowship Hall. The ladies of the church are reminded to bring cakes, pies and cookies. At 10:30 p.m. the Praise Team and special guest, The Gospel Creations will be in concert. Pastor Lyons will preach the 11:00 p.m. service. The Concord Choir and #1 Usher

Board will serve. We invite you to join us, as we praise and thank God for all His blessings in 1999 and effect us with a Spirit-filled Mind in '99.

Pastor Lyons and the church family invite you to join us for the first services in the New Year at 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. The Ordinance of Holy Communion will be administered during the both services. The Praise Team, Concord Choir and #1 Ushers 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 1 Timothy. Bring your Bible, writing tools



Elder Anthony P. Conage

and a thirst for knowledge, then grow with us each week.

The Pastor's Esteem Ministry will be hosting a Prayer Breakfast, Saturday, January 9, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. See any member for details.

The Installation Service for all officers is scheduled for Sunday January 10, 1999 at 10:00 a.m. All officers elected or appointed are required to attend this service.

The Deaconess Board has planned their third (3) annual workshop, Saturday, January 16, 1999 from 8:00 a.m. to

12:30 p.m. Theme for this years workshop is taken from Galatians 5:23, "The Spirit Controlled Woman." The guest speaker for this occasion will be the Honorable Judge Myra Scott McNary, Pinellas County Court Judge. The Deaconess Board will extend invitations to churches in the Tampa Bay area.

The CWIA (Christian Women In Action) are preparing for their Community Flea market, January 23, 1999 from 7:00 am to 6:00 p.m. at the corner of 26th Avenue and 34th

Street South. For space allocation see Mildred Mells, Anquetette Wilson or Sheila Gomillion.

January Calendar

6th -Sister, Sister -7:00 p.m.
9 - Prayer Breakfast - 9:00 a.m.
10-Installation Service, 10:00 a.m.
13-Sister, Sister - 7:00 p.m.
16th-Deaconess Workshop- 8:30-12:00 p.m.;
20-Sister, Sister- 7:00 p.m.
23-Community Flea Market- 7-7:00 p.m.
27-Sister, Sister, 7:00 p.m.

The Sweetness Of Peace

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

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

Impact Ministries

Doing Court Order Evaluations and holding counseling classes in Anger Management, Drug and Alcohol Education, Life Management Parenting class etc. this program is appropriate for Males and Females who need help to insure they will not re-violate. Spouse, children and friends are welcome. Restore and build our Love Ones Joy and Peace.

Classes for North County: Tuesday and Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. Classes for South County are Monday, 7:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 4:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 and 9:00 a.m.

Impact Care Centers are located at 300 Duncan Avenue in Clearwater, and 2066-7th Avenue South, St. Petersburg. See Advertisement for more information.

Pastor Bobby J. Patterson.

PRAYER HELPS

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

Friendship

Missionary Baptist

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



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."

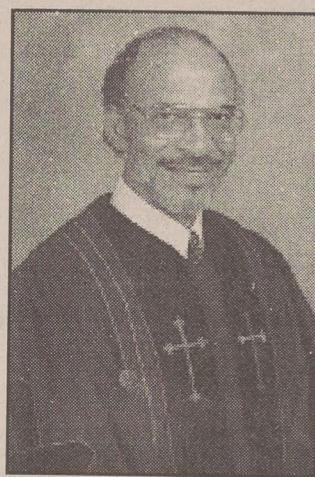
TRAVELERS REST

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

Bethel AME

Pastor Dawkins and the Bethlehem Church family invite all to join us this Sunday for Church School at 9:00, bring your children and come and learn more about the goodness of the Lord, the Morning Worship service will follow at 10:30. Communion will be administered by Pastor Dawkins and the Ministerial staff. Come and rededicate your life to the service of the Lord. Pastor Dawkins will deliver the spoken word. The Mass Choir will render the music. Come out and start the new year in the service of the Lord.

Family and Friends Day Committee is working diligently to make this day a big success. Members are urged to remember their pledges.

Join the Bethel family Sunday, January 27-29, 1999 at 7:30 p.m. nightly for our Winter Mini Revival. We have chosen as the minister, Bishop Willie R. Mincey, Pastor of

Church of God True Holiness and Tabernacle, Winter Haven, FL. Music will be rendered by guest choirs of the city, come and be revived and renewed.

January is Lay Membership Month. President Isaac Newton wish to extend an invitation to all members to sign up and become a full pledge member and be in the know, see any lay officer.

The Boy Scouts will be in charge of the morning worship service, Sunday, January 17, 1999.

Weekly Activities

Monday

Boy Scouts - 6:30
Official Board - 7:00
Board of Christian Education - 6:00

Tuesday

Prayer & Class Mtg. 6:30

Bible Study 7:00

Wednesday

Noonday Bible Study

Thursday

Youth Bible Study 6:00

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. BTU	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
Morning Worship 11:30 am
Baptist Training Union 4:30 pm
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!

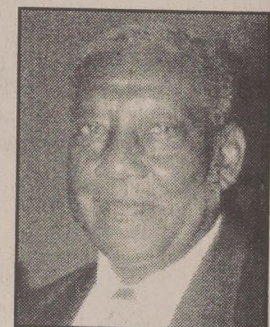
10th Street Church Of God

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

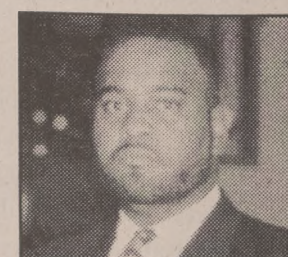
1301 - 37th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL

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."

Moore's Chapel AME 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

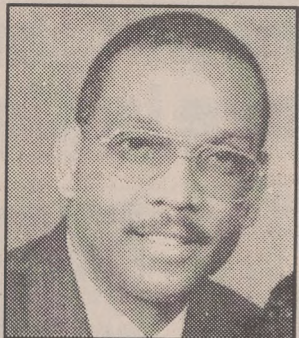
801 - 6th Avenue S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(813) 894-5246 / 823-1619

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.DIV., 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



Bro. Robert Smith

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.



CHURCH NEWS

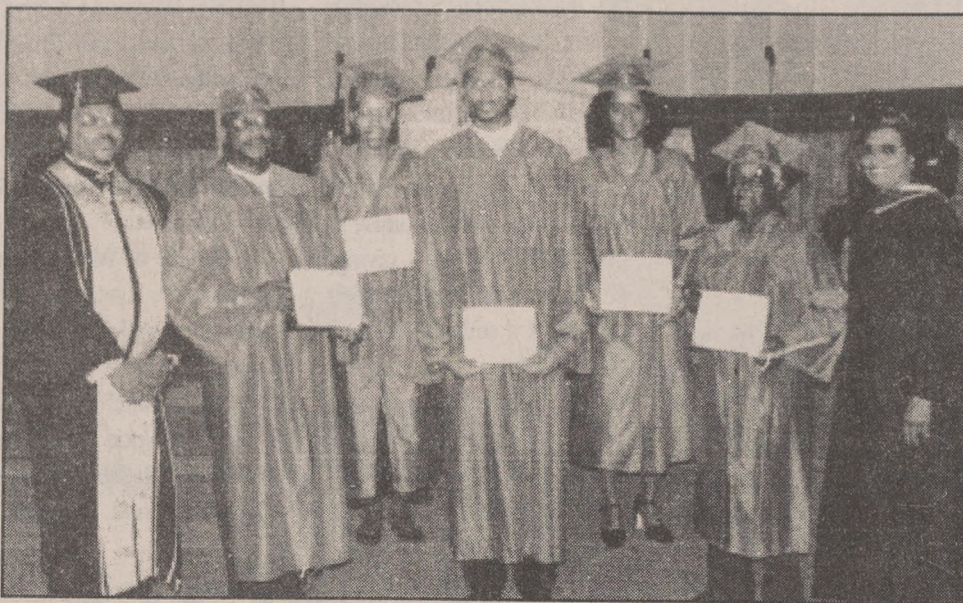


Bethel Community Seminary Holds First Graduation Ceremony

Bethel Community Baptist Church held its first graduation ceremony of its branch of the International Seminary and Bible College on Sunday, December 20, 1998 at Bethel.

International Seminary is a non-profit evangelical, interdenominational institution specializing in on and off campus theological and ministerial training for ministers, Bible teachers, and Christian workers.

The next classes begin Monday, January 11, 1999 at 6:30 p.m. at Bethel Community Baptist Church, 1045-16th Street South. There is still time to enroll. Call 896-6722, Ext. 21 for information.



(L to R): Rev. Manuel L. Sykes, Pete Williams II, Constance D. Hills, Min. Grag Seay, Min. Kathy Williams, Rev. David Young Sr., Dr. Floris M. Armstrong

Franciscan Center Presents Live Beyond Clutter & Women's Wisdom Series

TAMPA—The Franciscan Center in Tampa presents Live Beyond Clutter on Wednesday, January 6, 1999, from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m., conducted by Helen D. Volk, J.D.

We can find serenity in our lives by decluttering our homes and creating our sacred spaces. Come, examine what keeps you stuck in clutter and explore your spiritual side to help lighten up the possessions that rob you of joy. Learn to let go of the unessential, to allow the emptiness that invites fulfillment so you can create your home as your sanctum sanctorum. Program includes presentation, discussion, reflective time and ritual.

To register contact the Franciscan Center, 3010 Perry Avenue, Tampa, FL 33603 (813) 229-2695.

The Franciscan Center in Tampa presents the

Second Series of Workshops for Women by Women, January 11, 1999 at 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., facilitated by Maureen R. Connors, Ph.D., and Sister Margaret G. Rumsey, O.S.F.

This evening entitled Rituals Of Our Lives, will explore the many ways women care, create and celebrate for others. But what about caring, creating and celebrating for ourselves? We need simple observances or ceremonies to mark life's passages which are unique to our gender (empty nest, menopause, special events.) Come, weave your wisdom form the daily fabric of your life.

Please register by contacting the Franciscan Center, 3010 Perry Avenue, Tampa, FL 33603 or call (813) 229-2695.

Season 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.

Travelers Rest Church

family will be observing their Watch Night Service 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.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 FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER!

Dr. Floris M. Armstrong
M. Div., MSW, LCSW, D. Min.
Mental Health Counselor/Therapist

Bethel Community Foundation, Inc.
1045 16th Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33705
(727) 896-6722

Individuals • Couples • Families • Groups
Psychological Testing & Assessments
Most Insurance Accepted

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.....7:30 p.m.
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

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"



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.

"To God Be The Glory"



Rev. Calvin Hopkins

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

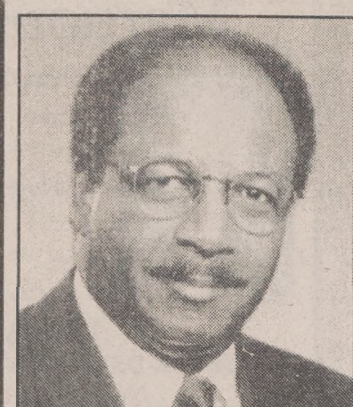
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Morning Service: 11:30 a.m.
Mid-Week Tues. Night: 7:30 p.m.
Counseling and Bible Teaching
For transportation: Call 866-2589



Bethel 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



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.

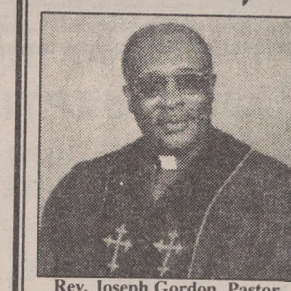


Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church

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"

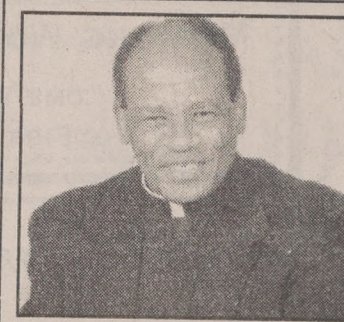


Rev. Joseph Gordon, Pastor

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.



HAPPY NEW YEAR

All Nations Church of God By Faith
3000 - 4th Avenue S. • St. Petersburg, FL
327-5926 • 327-2656

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

Rev. Johnnie Lee Williams, Pastor

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 they 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



CHURCH NEWS



Moore's Chapel

Rev. Quintin Parker and Moore's Chapel church family welcome you to their services this 1st Sunday in January, the 3rd, during both 8:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. Rev. Parker will preach during both services. Holy Communion will be administered by the Pastor during both services assisted by the Stewardesses. Music will be provided by the Inspirational Choir directed and accompanied by Minister of Music Geraldine Mays and Musician Anita Marson. The Usher Board will serve. For transportation to church, please contact the Bus Transportation Ministry Team members Willie F. Bryant, 894-6067, Robert Golden, 867-0156 or Anthony Macon 328-0022, 328-8303 work, 981-3527, Saturday evenings before 9:00 p.m.

Church School will begin at 9:30 a.m. with Superintendent Mose Phillip Bell in charge.

Breakfast will be hosted by the Daisy Pierce/Fannie Williams W.M.S. following the 8:00 a.m. service. You may eat in or take out please enjoy the fellowship. Donation \$3.00, Sis. Lynette Buchanan is president.

The Young People Depart-

ment have both cassette and video tapes of all services for sale. Please contact Wesley Smith of the Youth Dept., Sister Sandra Williams, YPD Director or Sis. Marie Hardaway during church services.

The Young People Department will be attending Black Heritage Weekend in Tampa, FL on February 27th and 28th, our youth need your support. Please make your donations to sister Janice Howard immediately.

The Daisy Pierce/Fannie Williams W.M.S. along with the St. Petersburg Fire Department campaign to distribute smoke detectors continues. Anyone needing a smoke detector please contact Sis. Nancy Harrell.

Moore's Chapel Inspirational Dance Group rehearsals are Wednesday January 6th 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, 9th at 3:00 p.m. Brother Sidney Johnson Choreographer.

Moore's Chapel's church family will honor their pastor and 1st family with an official welcoming celebration Saturday evening January 9th. The time will be announced later.

Rev. Parker and Moore's Chapel church family fellowship with Rev. Bessie Mohead

and Mt. Pleasant A.M.E. church family in Odessa FL during their Epiphany Brunch. The message will be delivered by Rev. Parker, Moore's Chapels Inspirational Choir will sing. Moore's Chapel Usher's will serve.

Rev. Parker and Moore's Chapels church family will have service with Rev. Harry Dawkins and Bethel A.M.E. church family along with other A.M.E. churches of St. Petersburg for Watch Night Service, December 30th at 10:00 p.m. to be hosted by Bethel 912-3rd Avenue North.

Services/Meetings/Rehearsals

Noon Day Services Wednesdays 12:00 noon;
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.
African Freedom Singers Rehearsal Saturdays;
Inspirational Choir Rehearsals Thursday Dec. 29 and January 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Parker and Moore's Chapel church family witnessed the ordination of Rev. Geraldine Gray and Rev. Ira Whitson on last Sunday as they were ordained deacons by Bishop Frank C. Cummings on last Sunday to God be the glory.

Greater Mt. Zion A.M.E.

As we approach the close of 1998, and look ahead to 1999, "We Thank God For His Marvelous Blessings."

Pastor Charles Robinson and the Mt. Zion church family will be in our Watch Night Service at Bethel A.M.E. Church located at 912 3rd Avenue North, where Rev. Harry Dawkins is the pastor. The service will begin at 9:30 p.m. We invite one and all to come together as we express our love and gratitude for 1998's journey for which God has brought us through, giving thanks To God for All Things!

Pastor Robinson and the church family invite you to join us for the first service in the new year starting with our early morning worship at 7:30 a.m. The Male Chorus will render song service and we anticipate a Hallelujah good time of praise. Sunday School will immediately follow. We invite everyone to join in as we grow and glow learning and sharing in God's Word. The 11:00 a.m. Worship Service has been set aside as The Service of Commitment and Holy Communion.

All officers of the church are encouraged to be in attendance. Let us start out a new year committing ourselves to the Lord giving Him the

Glory, Honor and Praise as a church body. Choir #2 will render song service, Holy Communion will be observed for both services and pastor Robinson will bring the word.

Make plans to join us in our Vintage Bible Study, on Wednesday, January 13th at 11:00 a.m. Ms. Helen Hilton will present an overview of the American Red Cross with emphasis on the following components: Transportation, vital-of-life and telephone re-surances.

On the fourth Sunday, January 24th at 11:00 a.m. hour, the Women of Power will be in charge of the service. We know they exist, just what is in their name, power. Everyone is cordially invited to join in as we lift high the Name of Jesus.

A Mini-Revival is planned for January 27th thru 29th at the church. The focus is "Families at Risk" and "Families in Crisis." During this day and time, you may be involved or may just know someone in this situation, if so we invite you and your friends to come out and join in as we are informed how to help and encourage one another and find comfort in the word of God.

Our doors are always open to all and we continue to

Please see pg. 15

New Philadelphia

Prayer gratitude and heartfelt thanksgiving for another year of life and commitment to Christian service, will be offered to God at midmorning worship on Sunday. The celebration of holy communion will be focal point of praise in sacrificial living and giving. The pastor will introduce first sermon of a series to be proclaimed throughout month. Members are urged to bring Bibles for study during this sermonic series.

The final two principles of

Kwanzaa will be observed on Thursday evening. Creativity (Kuumba) and Faith (Imani) will climax celebrations of seven principles of Kwanzaa called Nguzo Saba. Parents are urged to accompany their children to this event.

A Service of Watch Night will follow the Kwanzaa activity. Members will meet to offer prayers of thanks for God's goodness to church family for His blessings upon our edifice construction ministry. Prayers for guidance and instruction

will be expressed as He unfolds His perfect will for us in 1999. A corporate praise of worship will be offered for the great year God bestowed upon us in 1998.

The Bible Study focus group will commence its holy intention to read through Bible by year 2000. The first meeting will be held on January 6, at 7:00 p.m. Members and friends taking part in this sacred endeavor should begin reading through chapter 16 of Genesis. For further questions or information contact pastor.

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

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.

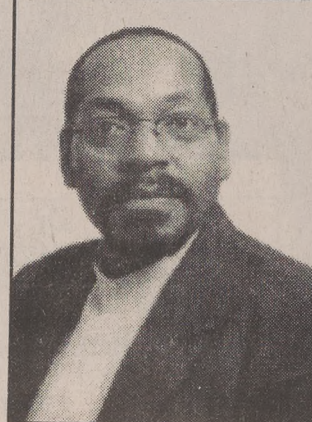
Bible Study - Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

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.

Monday - Bible Study 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday - Vintage Bible Study 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday - Prayer Meeting 7:30 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")



Rev. Charles Robinson, Pastor

Dear Father,
You have
given so much;
give one thing
more - a
grateful heart.
Amen.

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.

YPWW 5:30 p.m. Sunday

Church Service 6:30 p.m. Sunday

Night Services 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday Services 7:30 p.m.

Prayer Meeting, Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Bible Band, Thursday 7:30 p.m.



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.

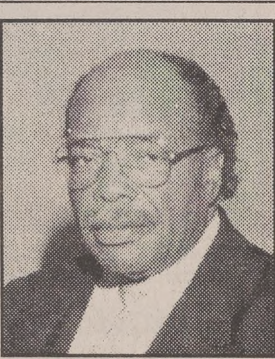
Mid-Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

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.

More Church News

Greater Mt. Zion

From pg. 14

extend an invitation to everyone to join us in our weekly services.

Monday - Bible Study at 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday - Vintage Bible Study at 11:00 a.m. and Prayer Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

January Calendar - 1999

3rd - The Service of Commit-

ment and Holy Communion- 11:00 a.m.

13th - Vintage Bible Study- 11:00, Ms. Helen Hilton of the American Red Cross;

24th - Women of Power Service - 11:00 a.m.

27-29th-Mini Revival-6:30 nightly.

By His Grace Christian Ministries

Pastor Quentin J. King and the members of By His Grace Christian Ministries cordially invites you to share in their New Year's Eve, Watch Night Services, December 31, 1998. The services will be held at Lake Vista Community Center, 1401 62nd Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712. Services will start at 9:00 p.m.

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying to

the church through the prophetic, anointed Word of God. The Word will be preached by Pastors Quentin J. King and Fredia King, Minister Delores Ross and Minister Fernander Ross, Jr.

By His Grace Christian Ministries is located at the Howard Johnson Hotel, 4601 34th Street South, St. Petersburg,

OHS Principals Brunch Recognizes Students



Dr. Jim Oliver Congratulates Ken Dixon



(L to R): Jocelyn Diaz, Annie Farr, Tatianna Hicks, Alecia Loder, Jennifer Martin, Kristen McCormack, Tanya Roth, Vanessa Zayas, Jamie Twigg, Kendall Boykins, Ken Dixon

ST. PETERSBURG - On December 9, 1998, eleven Osceola High School students were honored for their outstanding day to day efforts to perform at their highest level.

Students are nominated by their teachers to attend the brunch which occurs four times each year.

The brunch is sponsored by the Gulf Beaches Kiwanis

Club which also funds a scholarship for one of the principal's brunch honorees at the end of the school year.

Congratulations to these outstanding students!

Robert Half International Hosts Tampa Bay Accounting Career Fair

TAMPA-Robert Half International, the industry leader in specialized staffing for over 50 years will host a career fair at the Wyndham West Shore Hotel on January 6, 1999 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Over 40 of Florida's most respected businesses will be on site and available to meet with potential candidates. Many entry-level positions are avail-

able in the field of finance and accounting. College seniors are encouraged to attend.

The Tampa Bay Career Fair will be held at the Wyndham West Shore Hotel, located at 4860 West Kennedy Boulevard in Tampa.

Robert Half International has more than 225 offices throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. RHI is the

world's leading specialized staffing service and the first and largest specialist in the placement of accounting, finance and information technology professional. Its Internet address is www.rhi.com.

The event is free and open to the public. For further information contact Nancy Dolan at (727) 576-7717.

Environmental Management Service Enjoys Christmas Party



TAMPA-Just recently the Environmental Management Service of the Tampa V.A. Medical Center on Bruce B.

Downs held their Christmas Party in the auditorium from 11 to 1:00 p.m.

Staff was responsible for

complete planning and implementing what the group said was one of the best parties they've had in a long time.

There was plenty of food, pastries, a huge chocolate cake and drinks made readily avail-

able for everyone's enjoyment by Pete Judge - what a great time to take a break and enjoy

the company and holiday spirit of the employees in the department.

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

Free Skin Screenings Offered

CLEARWATER - The Senior Medical Center at Clearwater Community Hospital is offering two free skin screenings scheduled on Friday, January 8 and Friday, February 5, 1999.

Appointments are by reservations only as space is limited. Reservations are available through the hospital's Healthcare Referral Service (727) 444-4956.

The skin screening will include a full body screening by Senior Medical Center physician Rod Jurado, M.D.

The Senior Medical Center at Clearwater Community Hospital is located at 1521 Druid Road East, Clearwater.

Support Groups
Clearwater Community Hospital announces the following support groups scheduled in January 1999:

Pain Management - Thursday, January 14th at 6:30 p.m. at Senior Medical Center at Clearwater Community Hospital, 1521 Druid Road East, Clearwater. Guest speaker is Registered Pharmacist Connie Webb will discuss pharmacological interventions to aid pain management including a question and answer session.

Living with Diabetes - Monday, January 4th at 2:00 p.m. at the Conference Room at the hospital. Moderator will be Dennis Nelson, MSW.

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



NEWS DEADLINE IS 4 PM MONDAY

Bardmoor Elementary To Hold Information Night

ST. PETERSBURG-Bardmoor Elementary School is inviting all of its parents and the community to an Information Night that will be held on Tuesday, January 12, 1999 at Stewart-Isom Memorial Church, 1820-Walton Street South from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Information that will be shared will be Title I, Helpful hints for working at home with your child; FCAT Information; Tutorial Programs; Title I Advantage bus with check out materials for you to take home.

and JWB Caring for Kids Bus (Lots of free material).

We look forward to meeting each of you on January 12 1999. A flyer will come home with your child concerning this information. Please return the form to your child's teacher. Child care will be available. Please come, this is a wonderful opportunity to be involved in your child's education.

For more information contact Beth Woodard at Bardmoor Elementary School at 547-7734 or 547-7824.

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- Special Section Ads
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10 PCS DARK
\$4.99

10 PCS MIXED
\$6.99

Little Red Hamburger 99¢
Cheese 25¢ Extra
Big Red Hamburger & 1 Small Fry \$2.69
Cheese 25¢ Extra
LUNCH SPECIAL
1 Big Red Hamburger
1 Small Hot Fry & 1 16 oz. Soda
\$2.79 Cheese 25¢ Extra

2 Pc. Chicken (Dark) & 1 Small Fry \$1.99
2 Wings & 1 Small Onion Ring \$2.39
5 Pcs. Dark & 2 Rolls \$3.59
10 Pcs. Dark & 4 Rolls \$4.99
10 Pcs. Mixed & 4 Rolls \$6.99

All specials end at 11 P.M. except where otherwise stated. No substitutions on any specials.

"WHERE YOUR DOLLARS MAKE SENSE"
1701 16th Street South
St. Petersburg

Open 10:30 am until 3 am in the morning

NEWS DEADLINE IS 4PM MONDAY

Gibbs Class Of '68 Holiday Party



"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, shall keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." Philipians 4:7

May your spirit soar to new heights as you
experience God's peace this Holiday Season!
Have a Merry Christmas and a peaceful
New Year.



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TUES.-THURS. 9 AM-10 PM
• FRI. 9 AM-9 PM • SAT. 7 AM-8 PM
-- WALK-INS WELCOME --

A collage of 12 black and white photographs from a formal event. The photos show groups of people at tables, individuals in formal attire, and couples posing for portraits. The event appears to be a gala or fundraiser with a formal atmosphere.

So what will you recall as the being the greatest community event of all - *Gibbs Class of '68 Annual Holiday Extravaganza - they did it again!*

Classmate Gary James, who is a career soldier in the U.S. Army came as far away as Germany. Other places classmates traveled from were: Philadelphia, Cleveland, New York, Atlanta, California,

We the Staff of Zion Hill are Wishing Everyone A Merry Christmas



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Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas

Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas

Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas Merry Christmas

Obituaries

Ocala Final Rites

CHAPPELL, VALORIE ELAINE — passed December 17, 1998. She is survived by two sons and a daughter, Craig (Shawanda) Garrison and Lorenzo Chappell and Voquivia Chappell; a devoted father, Sinclair Chappell; one brother, Roosevelt Edwards; two aunts, one uncle; four grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and sorrowing friends. Funeral services entrusted to A.D. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala, FL.



THOMAS, ALPHONSO — passed December 21, 1998. He leaves to mourn his passing his children, Debra Thomas-Taylor, LaToya, Jean, Teresa Felix, Virginia and Sheena Ingram; Wayne Pete (Rebecca), Demetric Johnson, Willard, Rodney, Herman, Alphonso, Sr. (Eliza); his mother, Lula Mae Thomas and a host of other sisters, brothers, other family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Summers Funeral Home, Ocala, FL.

Gainesville Final Rites

GRIFFIN, ROSA BELL — departed this life December 15, 1998. She leaves to cherish her memories three sons, Arthur Griffin (Sandra); Lorenzo Griffin (Margaret Ann) and Henry Griffin (Clarissa); fifteen grandchildren, twenty great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a host of other sorrowing neighbors and friends. Funeral services arranged by Cunningham's Funeral Home, Ocala, FL.

CANTY, NETTIE MAE — passed December 16, 1998.



Those who will miss her are five daughters, Hilda Mulberry (Andy), Doris Washington (Bernard), Elder Ayoka Oluremi (Babatunde), Judy Cooper

(Charles), Cassie Davis (Johnny), Mablene Hicks; one son, Douglas Green (Trina) stepmother, Rosebud Williams; three brothers, Maxie McCoy (Bertha), Willie J. Williams (Maeola); Gilbert Williams (Odessa); two sisters, Lillian Kinsler (Pearstin), Thurnell Mulberry; special sister, Ruth Simmons and a host of other family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Chestnut Funeral Home, Gainesville, FL.

LONG, BETTY REBECCA — passed December 10, 1998. She leaves to mourn



her passing her husband, James B. Long; one son, Benji C. Long; mother, Rebecca Dougan; two sisters, Linda A. Dougan; Sheila D. Green; two brothers, James Dougan, Jr., Vernon Dougan; four aunts; one uncle and a host of other family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Chestnut Funeral Home, Gainesville, FL.



MARKS, GEORGE — departed this life December 17, 1998. His memory will live on in the hearts of a devoted wife, Bernice Marks; one son, George Jason Marks; one daughter, Leah Roberts; four grandchildren; two brothers, and a host of other family and friends. Funeral arrangements provided by Chestnut Funeral Home, Gainesville, FL.

St. Pete Final Rites

DAVIS, MARGARET — passed December 22, 1998. She is survived by two nephews, Marvin (Griffin) Davies and George Mason; four nieces, Jean Davies, Starretha Mason, Debra and Tanya Mason; two aunts, Minnie Butler and Edna Burney; a devoted cousin and caretaker, Evelyn Salter and a host of other loving family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg, FL.



LEE, MARVIN — passed December 13, 1998. His survivors are his daughter, Kimberly Boyd; brothers, Robert Lee (Mary Jo), David Lee (Evelyn); sister Rosetta Milton, Nieces, Makine Copland, Beverly Lee, Adrienne Lee, Annette Spries, Jackie Newkirk, Deborah Allambie (Antonia), Maritha Milton Wilson (Danny) and a host of other family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg, FL.

MARCHELL, JIMMIE NELL — departed this life recently. She leaves to cherish her memories her husband, Hilliard Marchell; three sons, Thornton Willis (Debrah), Minister Larry L. Willis (Minister Patricia) and Anthony Coles (Denise Edward); three brothers, Henry Warren (Gladys), Jimmie Warren (Erma) and Ulysses; eleven grand children; seven great grand children; a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other devoted relatives and friends.



MCCULLOUGH, ESSIE LEE — passed December 7, 1998. Survivors include three daughters, Bertha L. Slaughter, Lois Bacon, Ruth E. Carter (William); one daughter-in-law, Hilda McCullough; five sons, James F. Sr., David (Annette), William Sr., Jacob C., Leon S. (Jacqueline); one godson, Abraham Barber; one brother, Rev. Issac Frank Bradley; one sister Lillie Mae Brown; one sister-in-law, Rosa L. Davis and a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg, FL.



MORRIS, ISIAH — departed this life December 11, 1998. He is survived by one son, Clarence Morris; one daughter, Renee Miller (Elder James Miller); two stepsons, John Henry Rogers and wife Lydia, Melvin Rogers and wife Renee; two stepdaughters, Myra Bogle and husband, Leonard and Natalie Harris and a host of other family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg, FL.

MOULTRIE, JAMES EDWARD — passed December 21, 1998. He leaves to mourn his passing nine children, his eldest daughter, Cassandra M. Simmons (James), Bennie

Moultrie, James Jr., Nathaniel (Donna); daughter Sherryann M. Smith (Anthony), Brenda Moultrie, Stone, Darnell, Diane, Timothy and Christine Moultrie. These along with a host of other family and friends. Funeral services entrusted to Creal Funeral Home, St. Petersburg, FL.

Prayer is a tremendous force. It can heal a broken body...repair a severed relationship...or restore a joy that has been lost. The Gospels tell us of the times when Jesus would withdraw from the crowds to pray, and the times when He would enter the synagogue to worship. Have you been utilizing the power of prayer in your life?



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LOVE WILL HAVE THE FINAL WORD
IN REALITY. I STILL BELIEVE THAT
WE SHALL OVERCOME."
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2500 9th Street. S.
St. Pete, FL 33707.

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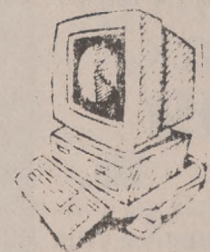
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the following projects:

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Stormwater/Habitat Improvements
BID DATE: January 19, 1999
ESTIMATE: \$225,165 DEPOSIT:
\$60 SCOPE: The project provides
for constructing a new one acre reten-
tion pond for wetland creation with
associated excavation, channel
restoration, drainage system modifi-
cations, piping, fencing, boardwalks,
PRE-BID CONFERENCE:
Tuesday, January 5, 1999, 2:00 p.m.,
Tampa Municipal Office Building,
4th Floor Conference Room. CON-
TACT: James E. Jackson, AIA, City
Architect, 813/274-8773

Pre-Bid Conference(s) are held in the
4th Floor Conference Room. The
Plans and Specifications for the work
may be examined at, or copies may
be obtained from, the Department of
Public Works, Municipal Office
Building, 4th Floor North, City Hall
Plaza, Tampa, Florida 33602, (phone,
(813) 274-8721) upon the refundable
payment of the indicated deposit for
each set. Copies of Standard Forms
and Provisions, (a part of the
Contract Documents, but not reprint-
ed in the Specifications), are avail-
able for an additional charge of \$15
each. Mailing is available for an
additional charge of \$10 per set.
Checks should be made payable to
the City of Tampa. Documents can
also be made available for review
(only) at the City of Tampa's
Community Affairs Office upon
request. Copies of the
Women/Minority Business
Enterprise Program and Directory
may be obtained with the Plans and
Specifications.

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Aries

March 21 to April 19

A Cancer moon on the 2nd
favors time spent at home. On the 3rd,
step out with your man for some quality
couple time. When word of your promotion
or raise comes through on the 7th, go
ahead and shout!



Taurus

April 20 to May 20

On the 4th, Uranus, Neptune
and Venus could cast you in a command-
ing role at work or in the community,
prompting others to follow your lead.
Revitalized romance will be a breath of
fresh air on the 5th and 6th.



Gemini

May 21 to June 21

Mercury keeps your festive
frame of mind going strong until the 7th,
making you feel like the holidays never
ended. Sustain your party mood with plen-
ty of rest. On the 8th, get away for the
weekend with your mate.



Cancer

June 22 to July 22

Thoughts of the past and cher-
ished loved ones may add a wistful note to
the 2nd. Fabulous financial news arriving
after the 4th could redirect your mind to
shopping. On the 7th, head out for bargain
hunting or sightseeing with friends.



Leo

July 23 to August 22

When the moon spotlights you
on the 3rd and 4th, you'll charm others
without even trying. Powerful stars en-
hancing your intuition could help you get
a jump on the competition at work. Knock
off early to cuddle on the 8th.



Virgo

August 23 to September 22

Make room for romance on the
7th. Mercury in your home zone could
keep you busy playing hostess to out-of-
town guests or relatives. Never mind those
post-holiday sales: give your wallet a
much-needed rest.



Libra

September 23 to October 22

Been too busy for love? After
the 4th, Venus in your romance zone calls
a passionate timeout. If your home doesn't
seem as bright after the holiday decora-
tions come down, choose a new color for
your walls or curtains.



Scorpio

October 23 to November 21

After the 4th, you'll finally feel
able to put your feet up and relax. Chiron
is helping you eat healthy and get
enough rest. An important phone call or
message could change your life for the
better on the 7th.



Sagittarius

November 22 to December 21

With Mercury, Mars and Venus
revving your energy, you're probably wish-
ing the holidays had never ended—take
advantage of your festive mood by plan-
ning a future bash of your own. Focus on
your career on the 5th and 6th.



Capricorn

December 22 to January 19

Treat yourself to a beautiful bar-
gain on the 2nd or 3rd. After the 4th, your
smart money maneuver could save a bundle.
Under the powerful influence of Mars,
Uranus and Neptune, you'll handle busi-
ness dealings with near-clairvoyant finesse.



Aquarius

January 20 to February 18

After Venus enters your sign on
the 4th, your love life will be fantastic. If you'd
like a new credit card, apply on the 5th or
6th. Splendid financial aspects are about
to make a dream come true. Try not to bite
off more than you can chew on the 7th.



Pisces

February 19 to March 20

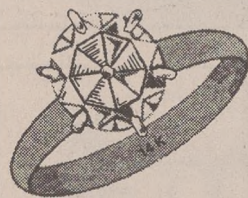
Moonlight in your romance sec-
tor on the 2nd could help recharge your
love life. Under career-minded aspects,
you may start looking for greener profes-
sional pastures. Partnerships or joint con-
tracts are favored on the 5th and 6th.

Carri Jewelers

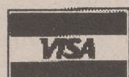
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