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VOLUME 34 NUMBER 32

April 11 - 17, 2002

25¢

Final Broadway National Tour of Ragtime Makes Local Star Shine

♦ "...it's been my ministry...I believe the arts is the greatest tool that can be used for building character"



by Barry A. McIntosh
Entertainment

In the 8th grade, Quentin Darrington wasn't much different than many other teenagers. In his own words, he was "huge into athletics, football, wrestling, basketball," you name it. That all changed with one elective, a drama class. He's never looked back. It prompted him to join a summer community arts

ensemble, *The New Beginnings Dance Troupe*, started by Dr. Abigail Mobley, out of Lakeland and Bartow, Florida. There he performed in *The Wiz*, playing the part of the Lion.

This would lead Darrington to the Harrison's Performing Arts High School in Lakeland, and then on to the University of South Florida, majoring in

theatre. And though, he is a mere 23 years old, he's been a professional actor for 4 1/2 years now, juggling undergraduate studies with his current national tour of *Ragtime*.

During a time when so many find it difficult to decide what they want to do with their lives, Darrington is a focused young **Ragtime** continued on page 15

Mayor Baker Visits Maximo's Micro Society



Photos by Bill Thomas

Maximo Elementary Mayor Lorenzo Hogans

by Candace K. Clarke
Challenger Staff Writer

ST. PETERSBURG--

At 11 years old, Lorenzo Hogans is already thinking about what legacy to leave. As mayor of Maximo Elementary school, he has seen his popularity grow, especially among the kindergartners. So has Cheena Pongase, as Maximo's deputy mayor. Along with the popularity however, has come responsibility, with the enactment of official duties. Last Friday, part of the responsibility for these two lucky students included meeting with St. Pete's

own mayor, Rick Baker, as well as police chief Chuck Harmon.

As the curriculum of Maximo's Micro Society program gets underway, it allows students like Hogans and Pongase to participate in "real world" experiences, getting a taste of politics and campaigning, and the popularity factor. Sponsored by a Magnet School Assistance Program (MSAP) grant at a little over \$2 million, Micro Society is run with a focus of setting up kids with preparation for the future. Under a business

structure with their own specialized projects, as well as developing a legislative system, all the students participate in an organizational system that comes complete with a newly drawn-up Constitution. Above all, the students uphold the importance of their own Lifelong Guidelines such as trustworthiness, truthfulness, and respect.

So what did these two officious students consider to be their top qualities of a mayor? "Honesty, being nice, and making good grades," they responded. If only it were that easy. A little nervous, and at the same time anxiously excited, Mayor Hogans and Deputy Mayor Pongase stood up and shook hands with Mayor Baker. Quickly putting them at ease, Baker asked questions about their duties, and about the system of the school, that is, until 5th **Micro** continued on page 7



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Youth Skills Spotlight: PTEC Student and Mother of Three Taking Life's Lessons Seriously



Taguna Reid

by Terri P. Murph
Youth Skills Program Pinellas Technical Education Center

Taguna Reid has a lot of responsibility. How she manages it all is admirable. She's 18, the mother of three and is a recent GED graduate of PTEC (Pinellas Technical Educational Center). Through WORK-Net Pinellas, one of PTEC's partners, she is working at PTEC's Youth Skills Program office while she awaits entry into the Pharmacy Technician's

program. Taking care of three toddlers - Dimitri, 3; Ariona, 2; and Sabrina, 1, Taguna says is not as bad as some may think, and she says she has no regrets about having her kids at such an early age. To make it to PTEC on time, Taguna's day begins around 6:00 a.m. After getting up and dressing, she then awakens and dresses the kids and walks the two oldest to daycare around the corner while a friend looks after the youngest. The sitter will feed them breakfast. She then returns to get her things and head out to catch her 7:45 a.m. bus. Sabrina stays with the friend until her daycare bus arrives. When Taguna's classes are over at 11:45 a.m. she picks up the children, winds down for a bit and then begins preparing **Spotlight** continued on page 16

What Are They Doing Now?

by Baheenah Hazika-Zuna

Do you have a son or daughter that can't keep their feet, body or head still the moment they hear music? Do you often observe your daughter dancing on tippy-toes to every song she hears whether it's rap, hip-hop, or pop? If so you may have the making of a dancer on your hands.

Suzanne Pomerantzeff, affectionately known as "Ms. P" has just moved her dance studio, the Academy of Ballet Arts Inc. from 6735 First Ave. South to the midtown address of 2914 First Ave. North.



Suzanne Pomerantzeff

Ms. P expressed her sadness in leaving her old site as she recounted some of her memories including the fact that her only child, son Andrei Nikolai, took his first steps on the dance floor of the old studio. "It

was hard to say goodbye but looking forward to the new site was exciting too," she stated. "I had been at the old studio for 25 years but once we became a federal non-profit school of the arts, I decided it was time to move into a location more accessible to public transportation and more ethnically diverse. The non-profit status allows me to help with scholarships and bring in master teachers so that my students can get the same experiences as students who can afford to go to **Suzanne** continued on page 7

Super Wal-Mart Supports Local Not-For-Profit, EYU



Photos by Barry A. McIntosh

Top: Eric green and the youth who are part of EYU's program, gather around and show off their t-shirts for sale.

Left: The Super Wal-Mart Store at 8001 US 19 N., where EYU raised funds for their non profit program.

by Barry A. McIntosh

Challenger General Manager

Recently, Everyone's Youth United, Inc. (EYU) received approval from Wal-Mart to have the prime position adjacent to the entrance to sell clothing to help raise funds for the Not-For-Profit organization. President and founder of EYU Eric Green said Wal-Mart is one of the

most recent corporations added to EYU's growing list of over 50 sponsors. The super Wal-Mart located at 8001 U.S. 19 N. further agreed to donate additional funds to whatever EYU was able to raise. The clothing commemorated recent sports teams who were crowned champions in their respective sports. All of the shirts were

donated by All Tickets and Tours. Green says that they are more dates slated on Wal-Mart's calendar for EYU to sell their wares and raise funds. EYU is a not-for-profit aimed at helping disadvantaged youth through participation of special programs, training and positive behavioral modification classes.

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For your musical listening pleasure tune into WTMP (pg 8). When you select a summer camp this year for your child, see what the USF Oasis program has to offer (pg 17). For all your home office and business supplies, go to Office Depot (pg 7). If you are a burial policyholder you may have rights to protect says attorney Tom Vaughn (pg 20). They have a million dollars to lend, and can meet your real estate needs, Point of Beginning Realty (pg 20). Toonari has a content rich web site of African-American history for students and teachers (pg 20). Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is hosting a Prayer Breakfast at the Vinoy Resort (pg 14).

The Weekly Challenger appreciates the fact that advertisers spend their precious dollars with us. It is a privilege to offer their services to our readers. And we hope that as readers, you patronize their businesses since they are investing in a product that is targeted specifically to our communities. As an added bonus to advertisers who put their trust in the power of The Weekly Challenger, we want to call attention to them as they begin to appear in our paper.

Jordan Park Hope VI Update

(Special to The Weekly Challenger)

♦ Attorney for Jordan Park Residents' Lawsuit Dismissed Over Ex-Employee's Hiring

(In 1997, the St. Petersburg Housing Authority received a \$27-million federal HOPE VI grant to redevelop Jordan Park, the city's oldest and largest public housing complex. The grant, now leveraged to more than \$60-million, was also sought to help residents of the 334-unit project become economically self-sufficient during the four-year program. This is one in a series of articles The Challenger will publish periodically on the successes and problems of revitalizing the buildings and improving the lives of current and former Jordan Park residents. The Editors.)

ST. PETERSBURG---The attorney representing Jordan Park residents in their lawsuit against the St. Petersburg Housing Authority and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has been dismissed by the federal judge handling the

case for improperly hiring a former housing authority employee.

Geneva Forrester, who took the residents' case pro bono, was disqualified by U.S. District Judge James Moody last month. At the request of the authority, the judge ruled that Forrester's employment of Roger Clendening as a legal assistant for five months last year was inappropriate because his work with the authority "exposed him to information relevant to this litigation," and he is "potentially a material witness in this case."

Clendening held positions at the authority from November 1997 until March 2000 as "community relations and marketing offi-

cer" and "community builder." His position was contracted out to a private consultant.

In his ruling, Judge Moody noted that the payment of compensation to a "fact witness is a violation" of the Florida Bar Code of Professional Conduct, and is a "clearly identifiable impropriety."

Jordan Park residents filed the suit on their own against the authority two years ago. HUD was added as a defendant last year. The federal agency approved the authority's original application to tear down only nine buildings and renovate the remaining 54 buildings. It awarded **Jordan Park** continued on page 6

CORRECTION: Last week John Meiners, Herbie Castro, and Michael Norvell were incorrectly identified as YES Board members. Meiners is an Investment Banker, Castro, a technical person for the Foundation, and Norvell is the Foundation's attorney

The Spies Who Came in From the Art Sale

♦ Weekly Planet has obtained a report detailing alleged Israeli spy activity in the United States.

by John F. Sugg

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PART 2 of 3 (Part 1 Published 4-4-02 Issue)

The document also links the Israelis to possible drug investigations. The report states: "DEA Orlando has developed the first drug nexus to this group. Telephone numbers obtained from an Israeli Art Student encountered at the Orlando (district office) have been linked to several ongoing DEA

MDMA (Ecstasy) investigations in Florida, California, Texas, and New York."

Much of the Israeli activity, according to the report, centered on Florida. In addition to attempting to gain access to government installations, the document states that the Israelis approached many intelligence agents, prosecutors and federal marshals at their homes — including one incident on Davis Islands.

Spies continued on page 8

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THERE'S A REASON TO READ THE WEEKLY CHALLENGER!

OPINIONS

The Weekly Challenger

Cleveland Johnson, Publisher
(1967 - 2001)

Barry A. McIntosh General Manager

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Florida Ready to Prescribe an Overdose of 'Big Brother'

by Budd Bell

As Florida struggles with a loss of revenue, battles over tax reform and worries about the impact of redistricting, we shouldn't try to find ways to increase the size and cost of government and slip in a measure that would result in a loss of privacy to citizens.

But that's exactly what Florida's lawmakers appear to be doing this session. A measure in the Florida legislature, which proposes to address a problem with abuse of prescription drugs, would subject citizens to the watchful eye of Florida's attorney general and law enforcement.

Floridians may ask whether it's any coincidence that the sponsor of the measure is also running for the Florida Attorney General?

No one disputes the

need to stop any and all problems with the abuse of prescription drugs. But everyone should question the wisdom of creating a massive bureaucracy that will track everyone's legitimate prescriptions to do so. The cost of simply getting the database established is estimated at more than \$1.5 million, and at least \$1.5 million annually to maintain it. Since a lot of the abuse is by people who do not have legal prescriptions, this plan will invade the privacy of people who legally possess prescription drugs.

If approved, the measure calls for the automatic transmission of a patient's name, address and prescription information without the consent or knowledge of the patient into the attorney general's database.

We all expect our med-

Few individuals make a major impact on others during their lifetime. Even less accomplish things that remain in memory after they pass. Mr. Cleveland Johnson is an exception to both. His philosophy was clear and simple. One could not argue about his focus and how it was the catalyst that influenced the vision of countless people who met him.

Mr. Johnson was an entrepreneur in the truest sense. He created a successful newspaper, *The Weekly Challenger*, out of virtually nothing, and in doing so he controlled his destiny, and helped others do the same. That is what

he preached incessantly; be in control of your own destiny. To achieve that sort of freedom, one must sell, and even more importantly, sell what belongs to them, not someone else's product or service. In other words, find yourself a business, work it, be successful at it, and thus dramatically reduce your dependence upon others for support. Working for someone else, and having them control your income, has relegated many African-Americans to a beggar race, in some cases more severely than others. Nevertheless, as Mr. Johnson experienced it, working for someone else, and buying and spending

more than selling has perpetuated some level of subjugation.

An often-repeated story from those who tried as they could to write stories for him was his response to essentially "go sell an ad, and keep your story." He promoted the participation in commercial enterprise, controlling your destiny. In addition, he backed up what initially seemed like a harsh request by taking so many under his wings and training them to "sell." This town is filled with people who took his advice, and are forever indebted to Mr. Johnson for the success they've achieved.

For those of us who were not privileged to meet Mr. Johnson and fully understand his philosophy, it does us well to understand the import of the words, "Black People Must Sell As Well As Buy, Else Remain A 'Beggar Race.'" This is critically important when we look at this equation from the buying side. For example, the National Urban League reported that during the decade of the 90s, "African-American buying power increased almost 73 percent." The challenge we face with that increase in disposable income is the problem with too much spending.

Moreover, a 1997 U.S.

Census Bureau report showed that Blacks spent from .5 - 15% more money, on average, than all American consumers for necessities like Food, Telephone, Utilities, Clothing, and Major Appliances. Another study by the National Tour Association showed that the Black family median income was 54% - 65% of white families in the four age groups 35-44, 45-54, 55-64, and 65+. Conversely, the same study reported that a Black family earning \$30,000 a year spends as much as a white family earning \$50,000. No wonder that Mr. Johnson stressed "Selling" over "Buying."

The net result: a negative net worth for a significant majority of African-Americans when compared to white Americans with comparable incomes.

"Cleve," as many affectionately called him, is no longer here, but the stark reality of our plight remains. It thus does us all well to reflect heavily on what motivated him, his legacy: "Black People Must Sell As Well As Buy, Else Remain A 'Beggar Race'." lest we find ourselves failing to heed Mr. Johnson's warning issued out of love and respect for all of us!

Midtown Residents Beware

by Maria Scruggs Weston

The majority of African-Americans living within St. Petersburg are hard working and God fearing people. While these are attributes which will certainly lay the ground work for our entry into the Kingdom of Heaven, they are attributes which most often bring a false sense of security that man, here on earth will watch over us and do right by us, just as our Father In Heaven. These attributes result in us perpetuating a pattern of behaviors which will ultimately lead to our demise as an effective force. Examples of such behaviors include: supporting ministries that don't feed

us spiritually; electing people to public office, merely on the basis that they look like us; judging people based on looks and rhetoric...not by their actions or track record; dressing our children nicely for school and sending them on their way, not questioning what and how much they're being taught; supporting businesses that don't support us...snubbing our noses at those who are running legitimate businesses; squandering in petty isms...particularly sexism, fighting black women who have historically been the back bone of our communities, while our men were mentally and physically tied in bondage.

These are the attributes municipalities and other poverty pimps continue to perpetuate into the very fabric of our community. Take for instance during the last municipal elections the hot ticket item was "economic development" for south St. Petersburg, now affectionately called "Midtown." Candidates walked the streets in the African-American community, attended prayer meetings, kissed babies, while promising better economic times for the predominantly African-American community. Yet, when the first plan for Midtown, approved by our illustrious City Council and put forth by our newly elected

Mayor Rick Baker and his appointee, Deputy Mayor Goliath Davis on Thursday, April 4, 2002, the plan said absolutely nothing about how Midtown residents will have access to higher paying jobs, have opportunities for starting or expanding businesses, how our streets will be safer or how our houses can be restored as opposed to being demolished and replaced by cheap in-fill housing. In summary the plan merely:

- Defined Economic Development;
- Asked for a budget for the Midtown Strategic Planning Office
- Said City officials will develop a 1, 3, & 5

year plan for Midtown and allow Midtown residents to have input (which in the plan meant Midtown residents having a script they were to follow and when they spoke outside of their script their input was merely omitted from the plan

• Said City officials will continue doing what they're doing, whether effective or not

• Said City officials will help the black churches and organizations start some economic development programs

• Said Private investors will take the lead on economic development (the clincher)

While the entire plan lacks specifics or direction

the latter point is clear, if the pattern is allowed to continue, developers/private investors will receive public money (your tax dollars), add it to their own money, making their money go further resulting in higher profits. Depending on the nature of their business, the developers may or may not throw a hand full of Midtown residents a job but, be assured it won't be anything substantial in most cases. Developers then will take their profits and spend them in their communities. Midtown residents beware!

School Choice Gets Supreme Hearing

by Jeanne Allen

The issue of school choice is now finally in the hands of the U.S. Supreme Court. On February 20, the scene there was exhilarating. In front of the Court, several hundred parents and reformers talked, sang and shouted in favor of school choice, the educational reform that brought them there that day. Across the street, the People-Who-Misunderstand-the-American-Way stood shoulder to shoulder with a mainly non-parent, elite group of lawyers and students. But inside, the most important developments occurred. As we brace for a late June ruling, we are confident that the Court viewed the Cleveland school choice case in the

best possible ways: an education, not a religious program.

Pundits and observers reported in days leading up to oral arguments that the issue of religion would be the key to the arguments over school choice currently under review by the U.S. Supreme Court. As we predicted, they were wrong. The issue that most consumed the Justices in the oral arguments for and against the Cleveland school choice program was education. The Justices asked repeatedly about the number of options available to parents, the quality of available schools, the opportunities children have to attend them, and whether the Court should look at the entire array of

options in determining whether this program is permissible under the U.S. Constitution.

First, it is particularly useful to know the dialogue of, and questions posed, by the Justices. More than a dozen times, the Justices asked the lawyers arguing the case to address the nature and scope of options available to Cleveland's children. Charter schools, known as community schools in Ohio, came up numerous times. CER argued in an amicus brief filed on behalf of more than 25 state and local business and civic groups that in order to rule fairly in this case the Court needed to look at all of the educational programs that had been tried, and failed, in

Cleveland. Those facts were left unacknowledged by the Sixth Circuit Court.

Such questioning indicated that CER's approach in its amicus was clearly on target. That is, the educational landscape of Cleveland over the last 30 years must be the central issue that guides the Court as to whether the state acted constitutionally.

An attorney for one of the school employees' unions, General Counsel Robert Chanin of the National Education Association (NEA), was chastised by the Justices more than once during his argument. A certain arrogance, that we see in play in battles across the country, was clearly evident by this union attorney, when he

called the parents' role in choice "meaningless," "inconsequential" and "ritualistic."

After the arguments, the unions did appear resigned to a loss for their side. Just a short time after the case was heard by the court, the NEA called upon the public to speak out against vouchers. "However the Court rules, we do not anticipate an expansion of voucher plans, given strong public opposition," said union president Bob Chase.

Clearly the game plan is to fight the political battles against choice in the states even harder, knowing there is a strong chance that the Court will find in favor of, on some level, the kind of arrangement that is

in place in Cleveland. A decision is likely by the end of June and, along with the parents of Cleveland's children, CER will be anxiously awaiting the ruling.

Jeanne Allen is President of The Center for Education Reform, which is a national, independent, non-profit advocacy organization providing support and guidance to individuals, community and civic groups, policymakers and others who are working to bring fundamental reforms to their schools. For further information, please call (202) 822-9000 or visit our website at <http://edreform.com>.

ical records to be private and confidential. How many of us want our names and addresses secretly added to a database of potential drug abusers?

Supporters of the measure claim that there will be safeguards for protecting who gets the information. They claim that a provision will prohibit the attorney general from sharing your health care information beyond the prescribing practitioners, pharmacists and law enforcement agencies.

But no matter what the fine

print may say, under this plan, information that has always been considered confidential will now be sent to the Justice Department without your consent.

Creating a public record's caveat after destroying the long-standing tradition of medical confidentiality is like closing the barn door after the horse ran out.

Among the drugs included are controlled substances, such as codeine, hydrocodone, morphine and any other drug desig-

nated by the attorney general as a "drug of abuse." This includes common pain medications that are routinely used after dental work or surgery and for relief from very painful diseases or conditions.

Those touting the measure have failed to mention just how it will stop the problem of people who steal these drugs. Or how prosecutors can find the time to chase the real criminals if they are spending so much of their time and money monitoring

legitimate patients. Florida residents should also ask elected officials why the plan omits asking for consent or even giving notice before sensitive medical information is given to law enforcement agencies.

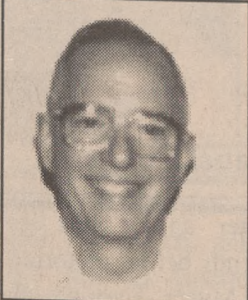
People in Florida who have health needs shouldn't be made to feel like criminals when they go to fill a prescription. Our law enforcement agencies have enough on their hands without overdosing on red tape that could undermine our privacy.

The abuse of prescription drugs is a serious problem and needs serious answers. Elected officials

need to come up with a new solution that won't put our privacy at risk.

On March 26 Richard Allen (71) died, who was nominated by author Vernon Loggins for the title "Father of the Negro." Allen and representatives from four other black Methodist congregations met to organize a new denomination, the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Allen was chosen as the first bishop of the church, the first fully independent black denomination in America. He had succeeded in charting a separate religious identity for African-Americans. Allen also recognized the importance of education to the future of the African-American community. In 1795 he opened a day school for sixty children and in 1804 founded the "Society of Free People of Colour for Promoting the Instruction and School Education of Children of African Descent." By 1811 there were no fewer than 11 black schools in the city.

TAMPA BAY AREA NEWS



OPINION

by Fenn Ellery

Racial Monoliths and Distribution Curves —

The major premise behind this series of columns is that racism and America's skin-related problems are one of the key drags upon our democratic nation. And, that differences between Black ACTs (American Citizen Tax-payers) and white ACTs are being poorly handled/resolved.

We will take a crack at racism and a lot of other problems which it spawns in future weeks. The goal of this series is to go beyond talking. It is to get people to consider acting, to jump up and down and get angry, and then to work together to take a whack at some real change.

The average Black ACT and the average white ACT are both getting shortchanged by some aspects of today's systems in the U.S. Admittedly it is a lot easier to feel a sharp grievance against politician's abuse of tax resources if your median family income is twice as large. But a modern slavery is imposed upon all of us, and we thus share a need to exert pressure toward a shaped-up U.S.

Modern Slavery? Yes, it grows to the extent that we allow power, control, influence, etc., to increase into the hands of special interests which prefer that we would slumber, watching television (commercials), etc. More on that later, including the increasingly critical need for young voters to register, be heard, and be active.

Black ACTs are not a monolith. Look around. White ACTs are not monolithic. A MONOLITH - a single block of stone - is nearly the OPPOSITE of a normal DISTRIBUTION CURVE, a bell-shaped spreading out of real people.

The heart of American racism is MONOLITHIC STEREOTYPING, being trained to think of another racial group as "them", "those people...", and so on. Fill in the blank - pick

a stereotype! We are American, and our attributes are spread all over the map. Kids are not born with racism. They don't get a choice to use free will.

Count on this column going there, and discussing it. The problem is too central, and a critical core to the racial income gap. Too many people, white ACTs and Black ACTs are hurt by it. Too many special interests seem to need racial divisiveness.

If we measure racial attitudes of either Blacks or whites, we will have a distribution curve with good and bad ends, with the 1-10% best or most positive on one end and the 1-10% worst and most negative on the other end. Who is good, and who is bad? That could depend in part on whether an ACT goes to church on "the most segregated day of the week" (Sunday?), or what came out of a mouth at the "Klan rally".

Writing what this columnist considers could be perceived as divisive, Bill Maxwell of the *St. Petersburg Times* did us no good, concerning Black and white tails on April 2nd. He pitted what may be considered by many on both sides to be extremes, against each other.

Who likes the Klan? Who needs racial divisiveness? Mr. Maxwell was dealing in extremes, the seemingly bad 1-10% in each group (though there were some excellent CUSP people attending). Later we will talk about the good 20% in each racial group - and how to extend the percentages of positive Americans - as well as average ACTs.

Fenn Ellery - (727) 866-2540. Email: patnfenn@aol.com

(The views expressed by The Challenger columnists are not necessarily the views of The Weekly Challenger. Fenn Ellery, is a resident of St. Petersburg, and is a member of AAVREC, the African-American Voter Research and Education Committee, and CUSP, Citizens United in Shared Prosperity.)

Gospel Exposure

ST. PETERSBURG — Second Chance Life Skills, a non-profit organization, presents "Gospel Exposure", featuring live music and fundraising barbecue dinners, at beautiful Lake Maggiore Park. This event will be held

Saturday, April 20, 2002 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Requested donation is \$6.00 (must be purchased in advance).

For more information, call (727) 328-3633.

Creating A Water Garden

ST. PETERSBURG — Sunken Gardens is proud to present Bill Waterman of Watermark Ponds and Decks, April 13, 11:30 a.m., for their Home Garden Series.

Mr. Waterman will be sharing how to tips on creating water gardens and says that water gardens "are attractive, unique and will improve the quality of your leisure moments."

Free with admission into the Gardens, members free.

SPRING INTO FAMILY FUN! Families are invited to come enjoy spring at Sunken Gardens, April 14, 12:30 - 2 p.m. during Spring Into Family Fun Day.

The entire family will delight in fun activities, nature programs and wildlife presentations. Best of all, children will receive a FREE hot dog and soda. Come join the fun. For more information call (727) 551-3100.

Free Arthritis & Joint Pain Seminar

ST. PETERSBURG — The African People's Education and Defense Fund invites everyone to a FREE Arthritis & Joint Pain Informational Seminar on Saturday, April 20th at noon at the Wellness Center at 1327 9th St. So. (Rear) in St. Petersburg.

About 50 million people in the United States suffer from some form of arthritis. There are more than 100 types of arthritis. The most common types of arthritis are osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, and gout. For more than 20 million of these people, the symptoms are severe enough to cause them to seek medical attention. Are you tired of letting this and other health conditions control your life? Come out on April 20th to the APEDF Wellness Center at noon to find solutions to help you or a loved one battling with arthritis or joint problems. We will

have several presenters including, Dr. Ricky Lockett; Miles Reed, Reflexologist; and Maceo Wylie, Acupuncture and Massage. We will also have FREE Health Screenings (Blood Pressure, Cholesterol, Blood Sugar, Kidney Disease & more) done by the Pinellas County Urban League's Health Mobile.

Arthritis & Joint Pain Informational Seminar is one of a series of monthly health and fitness seminars sponsored by the Wellness Program of the African People's Education and Defense Fund (APEDF) to promote exercise, proper nutrition and wellness, and to address the grave disparities in health and health care for the African community.

Please call 727-821-2437 for more information or to volunteer. "A Healthy African Community is Good For Every Body!"

Tampa Bay Area Faith-Based Alliance Meeting

TAMPA — The Tampa Bay Area Faith-Based Alliance is holding its annual membership meeting on Tuesday, April 16th, at 6 p.m.

It will be hosted by the Jesus People Family Worship Center at 4802 Gunn Highway, Suite 216 (next to the Water

Department office).

Dues-paying members will elect the Alliance Board of Directors, and refreshments will be served.

For membership information or directions, please call Reverend Nancy Mitchell at (813) 264-4656.

Southern Heritage Music Festival

ST. PETERSBURG — Juneteenth of Tampa Bay, Inc. presents Southern Heritage Monthly Music Festival, featuring Against the Grain, one of Tampa Bay's top bands, along with Hip Hop Sensations LUCI Boys of Luciano Family.

Eat, drink, and party to Paid Dues hit single "What Cha Know" and more...

For a swinging good time, come out every second Saturday of the month, starting April 13, 2002, from 4:00 - 8:30 p.m., on the corner of 16th Street and 18th Avenue South.

See you there!

(All beer sales will pay for event with one percent donated to a non-profit organization.)

"Tocobaga and Menéndez: The Archaeology and History of Safety Harbor"

SAFETY HARBOR — The Safety Harbor site, located in what is now Philippe Park, is a time capsule of Florida history. In the 1500's, it was a thriving Native American village that had been occupied for several centuries. It was the principal town of a powerful chief named Tocobaga. Tocobaga ruled over much of the area around Tampa Bay, and was involved in an ongoing power struggle with the Calusa Indians to the south. Into this volatile situation came Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, the first Spanish governor of colonial Florida. Menéndez wanted to expand Spanish influence from his base in St. Augustine to the Gulf

coast, and he saw Tocobaga as an important ally. Menéndez's efforts to court Tocobaga and to establish a Spanish garrison at Safety Harbor ultimately failed, but also contributed to the demise of the Tampa Bay natives. Twentieth century excavations at Safety Harbor and surrounding sites yielded artifacts and other physical evidence of these interactions, a microcosm of Spanish/Indian relations in all of Florida.

Following the lecture at the Museum will be a tour of the Safety Harbor Mound at Philippe Park.

Admission is free, but advance reservations are required. Please call 727-726-1668.

RAMBLING

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

896-2152

by Charles Howard

MORE UNIQUE WAYS TO STRETCH A DOLLAR TAX FAX DIVIDEND DOLLARS

If you have sizable savings but no stocks as yet, cut down on taxes by transferring some of your savings to dividend-producing taxable domestic stocks. All your interest is taxable income, but the first \$100 of dividend income is deductible! This is a tax savings of \$25 for those in the 25 percent tax bracket. Before you make this move, ask your local Internal Revenue Service office if the stock you're considering buying qualifies for the deduction.

For further information: How to Pick a Perfect Growth Stock, William Gemmell, New York (New Rochelle), NY Windsor Books (orders to Arlington House), 1995.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

April 12th through 18th - Yvette Battle, Eula Ford; April 13th - Ashley Bryant, Alvin Wynn, Jr., Frances T. Taliferro, Lee and Bobbie; April 14th - Michael Reece, Tamara N. Williams, Edwin (Jay) Osborne, Jr., Charles Newson, Shequire A. Gammage; April 15th - Sheryl N. Robinson, Jahbria; April 16th - Joan Bliss.

P.A.C.K. "PROFESSIONALS AND ATHLETICS WHO CARE ABOUT KIDS"

Was what it was all about last weekend on Sunday the 31st of March, Easter. There were kids with signs advertising "Car Wash for Donation" and "Donuts for Sale". Kids were on each corner of 34th St. and 18th Ave. with their signs. Donuts sold for \$5 a box. I got my van washed and a box of donuts. To me \$10 was well spent.

P.A.C.K. is dedicated to creating better relationships between teachers, students and parents by creating a community in which we all can live and succeed. Through volunteers and grassroots groups their plans are to be the link that brings parents, teachers and students closet together to form a stronger community of successful self-confident and happy people.

Kids enrolled as P.A.C.K. members will enjoy: academic monitoring, tutoring, life skills development and athletic camps. Parents of P.A.C.K.-enrolled kids are assisted with: PTA attendance, parent-teacher conference, parent techniques and life skills development.

Teachers: P.A.C.K.-enrolled kids in their classrooms will have a volun-

teer base to tap into for assistance, field trips, classroom activities and stand-in parents when needed. P.A.C.K. academic monitoring and life skills have been developed and administered by a master prepared teacher.

C.E.O. President is Dennis Savage, Jr. P.A.C.K. is a non-profit organization funded through community support.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Was held at Zion Hill Mortuary, Inc., 1700 - 49th Street S., St. Petersburg, for Hiram Harrison Church, Jr., Friday, April 5th. The service was held at 4 p.m. The order of service: processional, invocation, scripture, "solo", expressions of love, "Solo", words of comfort and benediction. Officiating was Rev. Dexter McCree, Dwayne E. Matt, L.F.D.

Big Wine's eulogy was held in Colorado Springs, CO, several weeks ago, and this memorial was for our St. Pete family members and friends. He was one of Gibbs High School's finest in sports. He held the championship in basketball and football for about four years straight. Sleep on, Big Wine.

RECUPERATING

Is brother T.C. Stockton of 32nd St. S. He's home on the mend after a stay in the nursing home for rehabilitation. He's coming along fine. I talked with him Monday at 9:45 a.m. He was watching TV and on the phone rapping. So, T.C., hurry up and go to kicking high again. We care.

HOME VISITING MOM

Was Gregory Williams of Ft. Lauderdale, FL. His stay was for a week and a half. He started health care on Friday, March 29th, for his mom, Annie Sue "Martin" Brinson whose birthday was celebrated that Friday. So, Greg's nursing skills became evident because he had to care for her until this Monday, April 8th. Greg motored back to Fort Lauderdale (4:45 a.m. saying he will see us in a couple of weeks. Yours truly will be her private duty nurse until further notice. "Sue" is manual wheelchair confined. With assistance she's perking pretty good. Hang in there, Sue. Start back to motivating and kicking medium high (smiles). We love you.

Give a man a fish and he eats a day. Teach a man to fish and he eats for a lifetime.

UNTIL NEXT WEEK
JUMP TO IT!

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97 Pontiac Gran Prix GT Was 13995 Now \$10525	98 Chrysler Concord LXI Was 13995 Now \$10745	98 Dodge 1500 Pickup Was 15995 Now \$10941
97 Honda Passport Was 14995 Now \$11967	99 Dodge Dakota Extra Cab Was 18995 Now \$12993	98 Dodge Dakota Extra Cab Was 17995 Now \$13508
98 Olds Silhouette (Loaded) Was 17995 Now \$13645	01 Dodge Intrepid ES Was 19995 Now \$15443	01 Dodge Dakota Extra Cab Was 19995 Now \$15958
01 Chrysler PT Cruiser Limited Was 19995 Now \$16518	97 GMC Extra 4 WD Was 21995 Now \$16948	01 Dodge Ram P/U 1500 Was 21995 Now \$17887
01 Dodge 1500 P/U Was 21995 Now \$17936	99 Dodge 2500 Turbo Diesel Was 24995 Now \$19633	01 Dodge 1 Ton Dually Was 32995 Now \$27947

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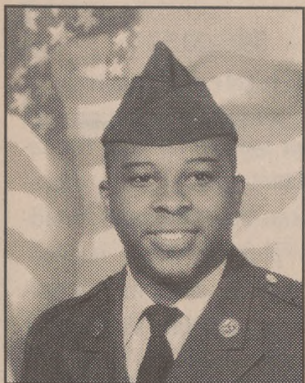
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WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW?

by Baheenah Hazika-Zuna



Sydney D. Lynche

Sydney D. Lynche, 17, recently graduated from basic training at the United States Army's base in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He distinguished himself by earning a medal in marksmanship, and one each in expert handling of grenades and bayonets. He will continue his advanced individual training at Fort Lee in Virginia.

Lynche, the youngest of four, did not find it easy competing with his older siblings. A happy-go-lucky kind of guy he always looked for a way to have fun while everyone else was hitting the books. To say he stayed in trouble because of his "club med" ways is putting it mildly.

His nine weeks of basic training was filled with stories of the hard work he was putting forth as well as the funny things that happened along the way.

I have heard many a tale about basic training and the conduct of the drill instructors but I have never heard anyone explain it exactly as it was supposed to be told. "I never took anything personal. The drill instructors were there to train us to think and do

things the army way. Some of the soldiers in my platoon are going overseas. The drill instructors were responsible to teach all of us how to survive and prepare us for the next level of training."

For a Florida boy the only thing he did not enjoy for the first few weeks was the cold weather. "I got a bad cold but I got over it pretty quick. I really did not know just how cold other places could be, I am used to wearing shorts all year round," he said.

Lynche is one of those kind of people who makes friends easily and comfortably. A joy to be around, this young man will go far as he cares to.

His brother Marque said, "We all looked at Sydney as the baby of the family and we were not that happy that he wanted to go into the army. My mom reminded us that she had supported our choice of careers and she expected us to do the same for Sydney. She was right. I think we were a little surprised that he adjusted so quickly to army life."

Every student is not college bound and thank goodness in America our children have more than one option once high school is over. The military is just one but there are many technical schools, and job internships that will train and mobilize our children. Parents with just a little bit of help from you, your student can explore all of their options. Harambee!

"Homecoming" Convention

TAMPA - The International Free and Accepted Modern Masons and Order of the Eastern Star will hold their 48th Annual Grand Lodge "Homecoming" Convention on

April 11th, 12th, 13th and 14th.

The Convention will take place at the Doubletree Hotel, Westshore, in Tampa.

American Cancer Society April Support Group Listings

• April 11, 18 and 25: 8407.

Cancer Support Group - Support group for patients of all diagnoses, family members and caregivers. Meets every Thursday, 11 am to noon in the Psychosocial Clinic Group Room, #1118. Call the Psychosocial & Palliative Care Program at (813)972-

• April 17 and 24: Breast Cancer Support Group will meet every Wednesday at 11:00 am to 12:30 pm, at the H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, Psychosocial Clinic, room #1118. Call 972-8407 for more information.

Henderson-Aiknes Wedding



Mr. & Mrs. W. C. Henderson

ST. PETERSBURG - W.C. Henderson and Elizabeth Aiknes were united in marriage March 21, 2002, at 2511 Kingston Street S. at the home of his mother, Leola Scott. Rev. Alvin Miller performed the ceremony.

Blessings from God on a beautiful wedding.

"Rouson and Dudley Law Firm in the Dominican Republic"



Attys. James Ross (Louisiana) and wife, Attys. Dudley, and Attys. Darryl Parks of Parks and Crump, (Tallahassee)

PUNTA CANA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - From March 21 - 24, 2002, Attorneys Darryl Ervin Rouson and Tamara Felton Dudley attended and participated in the National Bar Association Small Firms and Solo Practitioners Division Conference. Several years ago, it was determined that approximately 70% of minority lawyers practice in small firms or as solo practitioners. They have much in common as it relates to marketing, legal service delivery, staffing and management.

Annually, representatives of these firms gather to discuss strategy, exchange ideas and support each other.

Some of the sessions included, 60 Tips in 60 Minutes and Marketing the Benefits of Small Firms. Attys. Rouson and Attys. Dudley were able to compare firm administration concepts and actually found out that they are on par with similarly situated law firms. The conference



Attys. Dudley and Tyrone W. Williams, General Counsel for Dade County Police Benevolent Association

was energizing and encouraging as they continue to fulfill their mission in the Tampa Bay area.

Rouson and Dudley, P.A. is a three year old firm that concentrates its practice in the areas of Personal Injury and Criminal law. Personal Injury includes automobile accidents, premises slip and fall and wrongful death cases. They have co-counseled with large firms and have extensive contacts in the profession. They are also engaged in the representation of attorneys and others with substance abuse issues. Attorney Rouson is Chair of the Addictions and Substance Abuse Taskforce for the National

Golden Key International Honour Society Inducts April Raynette Davis



April Raynette Davis

ATLANTA, GA - April Raynette Davis of St. Petersburg has accepted membership in Golden Key International Honour Society and was individually honored during a campus ceremony.

"It is only fitting that a high academic achiever like April be recognized by Golden Key," said Kali Boatright, Golden Key assistant executive director. "Our members are inspired and motivated by the challenge not only to be recognized for their outstanding accomplishments but also to make a

positive impact on our world through the Society's commitment to service."

April is the daughter of Leon and Margaret Solomons. She has a dual Major in Accounting and Finance from the University of South Florida-St. Petersburg where she is a Senior.

Golden Key International Honour Society is a non-profit, academic honors organization that provides academic recognition, leadership opportunities, community service, career networking and scholarships.

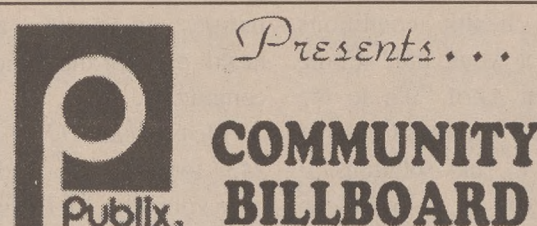
The Society has more than 300 chapters in the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Australia, Canada, Malaysia, South Africa and New Zealand. Membership into the Society is by invitation only to the top 15 percent of juniors and seniors in all fields of study.

There IS A Reason To Read The Weekly Challenger!



L-R: Malcolm Robinson, President Elect of the National Bar Association, Attys. Tamara Felton Dudley, Michael Rosier, Patricia Rosier, Chair of Small Firms and Solo Practitioners Division, and Attys. Darryl Ervin Rouson

Bar Association. Attorney Rouson has been invited to present a workshop next year at the Small Firms Conference. Congratulations to both St. Petersburg attorneys.



- Spring Student Dance Happening, April 11, 12 and 13, 8:00 p.m. each night, UT Dance Center, Tampa.
- Ragtime at Ruth Eckerd Hall, April 12, 13 and 14.
- Juneteenth Southern Heritage Music Festival, April 13, 4:00 - 8:30 p.m., corner of 16th St. & 18th Ave. So.
- Tampa Bay Rays Baseball at Tropicana Field, April 12, 13 and 14.
- Free Arthritis & Joint Pain Seminar, April 20, Wellness Center, 1327 9th S/S.
- Gospel Exposure, April 20, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Lake Maggiore Park.

For more information about Community Billboard, call us at (727) 896-2922

THIS & THAT



by Mabel Cooper



Miracle Blackshear
Hi Folks!

Hooray for this youngster! Six-year-old Miracle Blackshear, daughter of Malo and Lavasyetta Blackshear of 16th Ave. S. - so to speak - walked away with the cake on March 22nd when she was crowned "Little Miss Wildwood" at the Wildwood School pageant, along with the crowning of the Wildwood court.

Miracle was judged by her talent. She raised the roof when she sang "The Grand Ole Flag" and modeled her beautiful sport and evening wear which was out of sight, according to someone in the know.

In addition to her parents and grandmother, Estena Lambert, another supporter was Rodney Bennett of New Beginning Developers. They said the pageant was fabulous and enjoyable.

ATTENDED B'DAY CELEBRATION

Theresa T. Mosely of our town spent the Easter weekend in Atlanta, GA, with her two sons and families. They all joined in a big celebration for her little two-year-old great grandson on his birthday. She said there were all kinds of food, sodas, desserts, gifts, cards and money. Also, she said the motor trip was rewarding and also the celebration.

THEY ENJOYED THEIR VISIT

James and Ernestine Floyd of Ft. Myers, FL, spent the past weekend in our town with her sister, Moudstine Bennett, of Melrose Ave. S. They were lavishly entertained by her

sister and a few good friends before motoring to Ft. Myers. They are planning to return soon. They enjoyed themselves so much.

B'DAY WISHES TO

The Rev. Braggs Turner and Rev. Joseph Gordon, whose birthday was April 8th.

UPDATE WELL WISHES TO

Our friend T.C. Stockton, who was shuffled home to Francis and family where he is taking his ease following a bout with a bed in Mariner Health Care Center, 5601 - 31st St. S. Here's hoping he continues to improve daily. T.C. welcomed his legion of friends and acquaintances to visit him at his home, 1111 - 32nd St. S. or cheer him up with a phone call.

IN THE SAME VEIN

Let us remember the sick and shut-ins everywhere. Remember them in our daily prayers, cash donations, visitations and other acts of thoughtfulness.

AND NOW A BIT OF HUMOR

Storming into a frontier saloon, the fire-eating temperance evangelist boomed: "Repent, you vile sinners! Drinking that devil's brew will send you straight to hell! Join me - all who want to go to heaven and stand on this side." All but one drunk staggered to his side. To the holdout the evangelist shouted, "Don't you want to go to heaven?" "No, I don't," replied the drunk. "You mean to tell me that you don't want to go to heaven when you die?" "Oh," the drunk replied, "when I die. I thought you were making up a party to go right now!"

Until next write around, phone your news note to me, 823-6092.

STAY LOOSE!

Spring Student Dance

TAMPA - The UT Department of Speech, Theater and Dance invites the public to its popular Student Dance Happening Thursday, April 11 through Saturday, April 13 at 8 p.m. each night, beginning in the UT Dance Center.

The Student Dance Happening features choreography and performances by more than 15 UT students and two adjunct faculty members. Dance styles include modern, lyrical, hip-hop, Latin, tap, ballet and jazz. Choreographers include Joe Adorno, Lauren Gilbert, Kristin Glickman, Victoria Lazuka, Serena Lee, Erika Malteniecks, Kelly Novic, Natalia Rakowitsch, Jennifer Rodriguez, Cory Santos, Charlene Seda, Silvia Simeone, Elizabeth Smith, Kendra Varnado, Monique Wilburn, Erick Williams, Alison Woodbury, and adjunct faculty members

Sandra Sears and Debra Loran.

This semester's production features a dance based on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s famous "I Have a Dream" speech choreographed by Silvia Simeone, a dance by freshman Victoria Lazuka that portrays the mentoring relationship between freshmen and senior dancers, and a farewell dance by senior Alison Woodbury to "Last Dance"—an appropriate ending for dancers and choreographers who have put their hearts and souls into their four years of contributions to the UT dance program.

The event is free. Reservations are not required, but seating in the Dance Center is limited.

For more information, contact Susan Taylor Lennon at (813) 253-3333, ext. 3745.

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Please call 822-8996 to
find out
further details!

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PAR provides substance abuse and mental health services for families who receive cash assistance or are low income families. Services are offered at no cost to individuals and are confidential. Services are available to adults and children.

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SERENDIPITY

by Hugh Clay Paulk

Don't Call This Trivia!

Q. What is "the only product sold in America that kills when used as directed by the manufacturer?"

A. Tobacco. One out of every two long-term smokers will ultimately be killed by tobacco. In developed countries, half will be killed by tobacco after seventy, and those who die from smoking before seventy will lose more than 20 years of life expectancy. One woman smoker, when told that she would probably die ten years earlier, shrugged it off. "For ten years," she said, "it's worth it." But she overlooked one extremely important thing: The last ten years of many smokers' lives are pure hell. Think wheel chairs and oxygen tanks. Tobacco is a known or probable cause of some 25 different diseases. For some, like lung cancer, bronchitis and emphysema, it is the major cause. If current trends continue, 500 million people alive today will be killed by tobacco.

Q. From what language do we get the word, "tobacco"?

A. The American Indian.

Q. What other words do we get from the American Indians?

A. Tennessee, Mississippi, Tallahassee, Massachusetts, and hundreds, if not thousands, of place names. I am surprised at how few Indian words I know that are not place names: moccasin, barbecue, toboggan, kayak, parka, and canoe.

Q. How many words can you think of that come from India?

A. Bungalow, khaki, veranda....

Q. Japan?

A. We have probably been using "kimono" for ages. Then there is haiku. "Sayonara" was made famous by a movie starring Marlon Brando, and "kamikaze" by World War II.

Q. Arabic words?

A. Alcohol, assassin, algebra, sheriff. More?

Q. African-American?

A. I can think of only one, okra, and I'm not sure if it.

Q. German?

A. I know the word you say when someone sneezes, and the one that means "goodbye," but I can't spell them. We use thousands of French words, many Italian, and many Spanish. A few Spanish: amigo, manana, sombrero, rodeo, siesta, fiesta, adios, etc. I am drawing a blank. So I guess it is time to change the subject.

Q. How many fruits and vegetables can you name that continue to ripen after they are harvested?

A. Citrus fruit do not.

(Or should I say "does not?") Tomatoes do. Grapes don't. Bananas and peaches do. Onions and potatoes sprout.

Q. Name one food that people eat that hogs won't.

A. Citrus. Others?

Q. When does a pig officially become a hog?

A. When it attains the weight of 120 pounds. (Ken Signor, Lodi, Ohio.)

Q. What is a pullet?

A. An adolescent female chicken.

Q. Old country joke: When does a pullet become a hen?

A. When she loses her first footrace. (Get it? No? You would have had to be there....). I know you won't believe this, but some people actually call ME corny! After reading further you may agree with them:

Q. Do you know what the little lightning bug said when he got his tail cut off?

A. "I'm de-lighted, no end."

Q. What did the little monkey say when he sat down on a cake of ice?

A. "And now my tale is told."

Hint: Some public speakers might be well advised to quote that little monkey, and the earlier the better.

Q. What animal hears with its tongue?

A. A snake has no ears. However, its tongue is extremely sensitive to sound vibrations. By constantly flicking its tongue, the snake picks up these sound waves. In this sense, a snake "hears" with its tongue.

Q. What is the Latin word for stone?

A. Calculus. Anthropologists believe stones were one of man's first calculating devices, aiding in addition and subtraction.

Q. From whence derives the word "vaccinate"? (How's that for fancy writing!)

A. From Latin for cows, which were first used in experiments testing vaccinations.

Q. Where does the word, "capricious" come from?

A. Latin, for goat.

Q. What do the years 1991 and 2002 have in common?

A. They are both palindromic numbers. (They read the same forward and backward.) We are the last generation for more than the next thousand years to experience two palindromic years in a lifetime. In the English language there are very well-known palindromic words, like "rotator" and "reviver," and there are also sentences that are palindromic, like "Madam, I'm Adam," and "A man, a plan, a canal; Panama?"

ACS Health Fair



Carroll Edwards, Elections official, showing Diane Stevenson how to use new voting machine



Catherine Pearson, RN and Ann Bell

TAMPA - The American Cancer Society's Reach to Recovery Plus Outreach program and the New First Union MB Church Deaconess Ministry sponsored a health fair on Saturday, March 23rd, at 3707 E. Chelsea Street.

Supporters included the City of Tampa Community Affairs, Moffitt Lifetime Screenings, Florida Blood Services, Students Working Against Tobacco

Suncoast Health Council, Inc. was one of five agencies to receive funds from The Able Trust during the third quarter of the 2002 Fiscal Year. The Able Trust has granted over \$763,000 to agencies and individuals in Pinellas County. It currently grants approximately \$1 million each year to individuals with disabilities and nonprofit agencies supporting employment-related programs for people with disabilities throughout Florida.

THE DIPPER CONNECTION



Bettye Burnett-Scott, R.N., M.S. Project Coordinator

Do you know your numbers?
(per the Florida Diabetes medical guidelines)

Blood Glucose	80-120
Blood Pressure	130/80 to 140/90
Cholesterol(less than)	200
Triglycerides....	200
LDL	100
HBALC	7%

Living with Diabetes requires knowledge of what the Healthy number ranges are. Diabetes is a serious disease. It occurs when the pancreas doesn't make enough insulin or the insulin isn't working right.

Come out and hear about the consequences of diabetes and how diabetes impacts on the total body system: The keynote speaker for the April 15th session will be Dr. Frederick G. Guerrier. Come out and join community residents and Neighborhood Association members and be rewarded by gaining valuable information to keep yourself, family, and friends healthier. Your body is a temple, bless it with a healthy lifestyle. Hope to see you there!

Free Screenings Enoch Davis Center 1111 - 18th Ave. So. Every Monday 6-8 PM Free Refreshments

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Funded by State of Florida Department of Health



Colette Vallee, Senior HIV Prevention Specialist, with Brittany Hodgins and Katrina Osborne



Kathy Brookins, Cora Marshall, Sarah Barnum and Dorothy Huggins

(SWAT), Sickle Cell Association, Women of Vision and many more.

The purpose of this event was to educate the community on health issues, provide health screenings and a day of family fun.

For more information, please contact Kathy Brookins at 254-3630, ext. 317.



Min. Charlie Sampson, Youth Minister

Suncoast Health Council, Inc. Receives \$50,689 Grant From The Able Trust

ST. PETERSBURG--Suncoast Health Council, Inc. was recently awarded a grant in the amount of \$50,689 from The Able Trust. Grant funds will be used to develop a program that will assist adults with cystic fibrosis with acquiring marketable skills, provide access to tools that will help them enter the workforce and provide resources that will help ensure sustained employment.

Jim Saunders, Board Member for The Able Trust said, "By funding these types of projects, The Able Trust can assist individuals with disabilities in reaching their employment goals and help employers find a new market of qualified workers."

The Able Trust, also known as the Florida Governor's Alliance for the Employment of Citizens with Disabilities, is a 501(c)(3) public-private partnership foundation established by the Florida Legislature in 1990. Its mission is to be the leader in providing Floridians with disabilities fair employment opportunities through fundraising, grant programs, public awareness and education. The Able Trust is celebrating its 10-year anniversary in 2002, marking a milestone achievement in grant making. In just 10 years, The Able Trust has awarded over \$10 million to individuals with disabilities and nonprofit agencies throughout Florida for employment-related purposes. Its programs enable over 2,000 Florida citizens with disabilities to enter the workforce each year.

For more information about The Able Trust Grants Program, call (888) 838-2253 V/TDD or visit the website at www.abletrust.org.

There IS
A Reason
To Read
The Weekly
Challenger
Newspaper!



BUSINESS IN THE BLACK

by Janet Manuel-Atwater

Every year I watch, with interest, our celebrations during Black History Month. Many social groups and political organizations in our community host a myriad of events. Parades, banquets, balls, picnics and talents exhibitions encourage our attendance to honor historical sacrifices on behalf of forward progress in civil opportunities. We have the opportunity to enter through the front door of public facilities that a few years ago were restricted to us because of our race. Many of the people that fought for this achievement believe, devoutly, that this is the pinnacle of our civil rights accomplishments. Even so, as many of the baby-boomer and generation X era struggle with the submerged strains of race preference and the gauges used to balance centuries of race-beneficial economic separatism, they hear the question, "Why are you whining? Don't you now have all you need to become successful?"

How do you answer that question without sounding ungrateful? Sure, we don't go in back doors, eke out a living off of maid or porter wages, walk past signs that restrict our activities based on race or squirm past snarling police dogs, but where is our thinking about our own self worth and the quality of lives we want to have? Some of us are not satisfied with being able to walk through the front door into a bastion of racial subterfuge. The jobs and opportunities that were supposed to be so important for us to have are actually breeding grounds for feigned socialization and minuscule career advancement. After work everyone goes to his or her respective "side" of the city and too many African-American workers can still, with a little digging, find a white counterpart making more money for the same work.

The ability to have access has signed the death Nell for too many African-American businesses, many times before the idea of their birth is even conceived. Our roots are as great thinkers and builders that conceived of the Sphinx and the Great Pyramids. Yet, today, we see the need for remodeling our communities and reshaping our self-worth, but we wait. We wait for others to develop a concept of what businesses and services can best serve our communities. Wait for others to remodel outdated housing resources. Wait for others to build public facilities that we desperately need for those balls, banquets, and other social functions. Wait for others to see there needs to be at least one African-American owned resort on the beach, at least one African-American owned corporate center in the downtown area. And we wait for others to allow us access to their elitist social clubs, when we should build a centralized anchor building for the clubs, fraternities, and sororities we already have.

The elders say "Wait broke the wagon" and it's true. Our wagon has been broken with misplaced spending, ill-advised priorities and declining self-worth. We have let others set the barometer of excellence for us that should not just be represented by "hip-hopsters." We have to look to our philosophers, teachers, pastors, doctors, nurses, lawyers, architects, judges, statesmen, parents, students and all the others. We have to teach them to teach others about what's important to us. How great a people could we be if we used the pre-civil rights resources of our communities in conjunction with the access we've been granted? It should lead to a new way of thinking. When you see a new building going up in another part of town, you should be inspired to think, "We need one of those too." Let's build one! Stop waiting. Fix the wagon.

You may email comments on this column to jmatwate@hotmail.com. (The views expressed by The Challenger columnists are not necessarily the views of The Weekly Challenger. Janet Atwater has a BA in English Literature from USF and has taught reading for three years at SPC. She is co-owner for the past twenty-five years of American Sunday Plate Catering.)

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READER'S CHOICE

by Tangelia Murph



Best Seller

You Know Better

Critically-acclaimed author of *Baby of the Family*, *Ugly Ways* and *The Hand I Fan With*, Tina McElroy Ansa takes us on an unforgettable journey into the lives of an extraordinary family. Written with power, wisdom and humor, this touching novel explores the inexhaustible passion that fuels family ties.

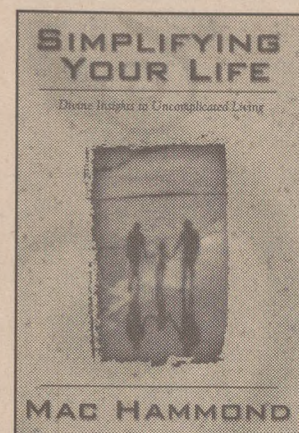
It is the Spring weekend of the Peach Blossom Festival in the tiny middle Georgia town of Mulberry, but things are far from sweet for the Pines women. LaShawndra, an eighteen-year-old hoochie mama who wants nothing more out of life than to dance in a music video, has messed up...again. But this time she isn't sticking around to hear about it. She plans instead to hitchhike out of Mulberry with her arms wrapped around some handsome stranger on a motorcycle - avoiding repercussions for her actions.

Not that her mother seems to care; after all, Sandra is busy working on her flourishing real estate career and on a slender relationship with the local minister.

It's LaShawndra's grandmother, Lily Paine Pines, a former school teacher, principle and highly-respected cornerstone of the Mulberry community, who is scouring the streets at midnight looking for her granddaughter.

Over the course of one weekend, these three disparate women, guided by the wisdom of three unexpected visitors - the ghosts of Miss Moses, Nurse Joanna Bloom and Miss Elizabeth Dryer - will learn to face the pain of their lives and discover that with reconciliation comes the healing they all desperately seek.

In this magical, deeply resonant novel, Tina McElroy Ansa goes straight through to the heart of women's relationships to reveal the everlasting soul that bonds us all.



Christian

Simplifying Your Life

Pastor and author Mac Hammond provides divine insights to uncomplicated living.

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- Managing your expenses
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- Loving God and others the way God loves you
- Managing your emotions
- Resolving interpersonal conflicts

In a world of hand-held organizers, cell phones, voice mail and laptops - all of which are intended to help organize - is your life just the opposite? Do you need to simplify? If so, the wisdom found in this book can easily be implemented into any daily routine.

These books are available at: Reader's Choice Books and Gift Expressions, 4301 - 34th St. S., Suite 102, Maxi-Mall (next door to the nail shop). Open 7 days a week. 867-3696.

Ebony Scholars Committee Presents Intermediate College Workshop

ST. PETERSBURG - The Ebony Scholars Committee will be presenting their annual college workshop for intermediate students (7th, 8th and 9th grade parents and students) on Tuesday, April 16th, at 7 p.m.

The workshop will be held in the student auditorium on the campus of Lakewood High School, 2400 - 54th Avenue South,

St. Petersburg.

Dr. Richard Hallin, Dean of Admissions for Eckerd College, will be the presenter. Dr. Hallin will address a variety of topics concerning college preparation which will include:

1) Preparing for college admission, proper course taking, test preparation, extracurricular activities and choosing a college major.

2) How to pay for college (types of scholarships, grants, available aid from the state and federal government).

For planning purposes or for more information, please contact the Ebony Scholars Committee at 327-2027 or 327-9869.

This is a very valuable meeting for college preparation. Please plan to attend.

Teen Summit 2002

CLEARWATER - Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Youth Development Initiatives, Inc.), Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., City of Clearwater, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast and Minority Tobacco Control Project are sponsoring Teen Summit 2002 on Saturday, April 13th, at the Harborview from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

The Teen Summit is being offered to Pinellas teens free of cost. The theme for the conference is

"America's Youth: Our Bridge to the Future". The Teen Summit 2002 will emphasize a smoke-free lifestyle and also focus on healthy choices designed to build teens' self-esteem.

Teen Summit 2002 is open to teens that are currently in 6th-12th grades. Registration will be open to the first 350 applicants. Applicants are being sent to groups with youth programs such as civic, churches, sororities, fraternities and others throughout Pinellas County.

An exciting day has been planned for the teens that includes a plenary session, workshops, lunch and an opportunity to meet other teens. The topics will include anti-tobacco use, alcohol and drug awareness, self-esteem, effective communication, anger management and sexual responsibility.

Each participant will need a registration form.

For more information, please contact Karalia W. Baldwin at 462-5550.

St. Petersburg Team Second In Statewide Brain Bowl Tournament



Second-place finishers

The Bay Point Middle School team, representing SPC, receives its trophy from Pinellas County Commissioner Ken Welch after finishing second in the Fifth Annual Statewide Brain Bowl, sponsored by the College Reach-Out Program. Members of the team from left, are: Alicia Mosley, Christine Lukowski, Lacey Paiva, Kevin Belcher and Andrew Dill. Standing next to Welch is the team's coach, Ms LaCrecia Wright. Twenty-six middle and high school teams came to the St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus March 9 for the event, which was hosted by the Tampa Bay CROP Consortium.

ST. PETERSBURG -- Students from Bay Point Middle School finished second in the Fifth Annual Statewide Brain Bowl, March 9 on the St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus of St. Petersburg College.

The students on this award-winning team are Alicia Mosley, Christine Lukowski, Lacey Paiva and Kevin Belcher. The team's coach was Bay Point Middle School counselor/mentor LaCrecia Wright.

The event was sponsored by the College Reach-Out Program (CROP), which is designed to motivate and prepare public-school students in sixth through 12th grades for obtaining high-education goals. Those accepted into CROP must meet certain academic and economic criteria.

CROP, administered in Pinellas County by St. Petersburg College, is located at four middle school and 10 high school sites. Mentors at each site meet participants one-on-one and as a group.

Through this program, students participate in workshops, study skills sessions, and other sessions to prepare them for college. To help students maintain an academic mindset during the summer, CROP offers a week-long Summer Residential Program at the University of South Florida.

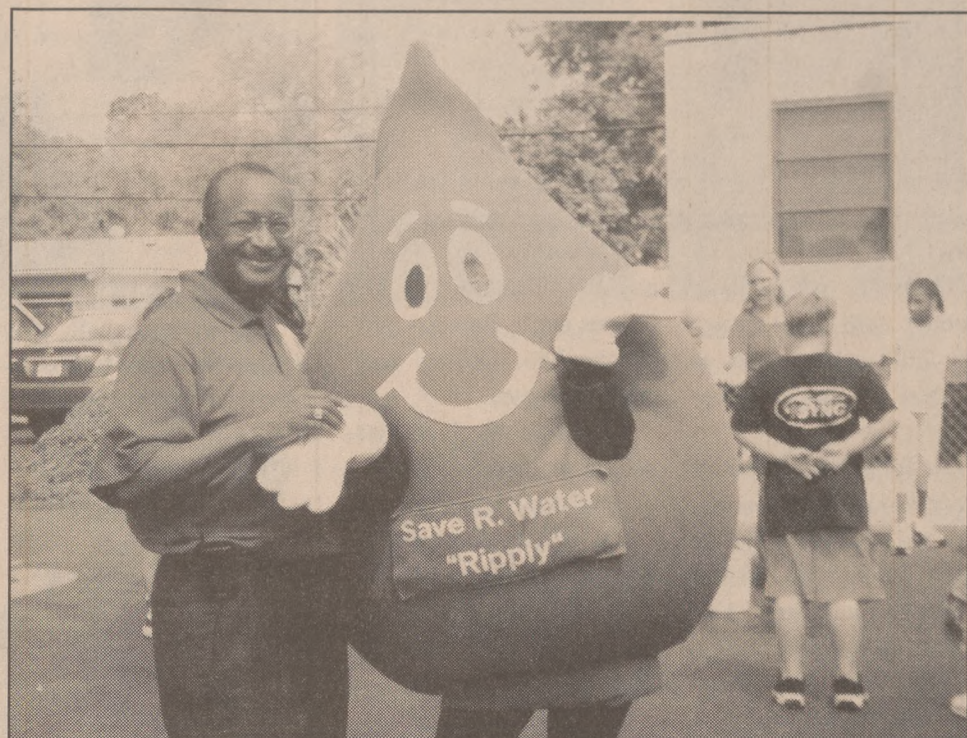
"CROP is an excellent program that provides academic support for the students that are eligible for

the program, as well as a mentoring component that motivates students to complete high school and post-secondary education" said Linda Hogans, director of Special Programs at St. Petersburg College.

CROP is in its 10th year at SPC, and serves 350 Pinellas County students.

For further information about the College Reach-Out Program, call (727) 341-3537.

Watson Haynes Promotes Water Conservation Education



ST. PETERSBURG - Southwest Florida Water Management District Treasurer Watson Haynes pro-

motes water conservation education.

Here he is shown at Northwest Elementary

School in St. Petersburg with "Ripply", the District's mascot.

Jordan Park

from pg. 1

the authority \$27-million in October 1997 to renovate and redevelop Jordan Park.

The grant included about \$2.3-million for the authority to provide up to \$5,000 in services for each Jordan Park household to help families become economically self-sufficient over the four-year life of the HOPE VI program.

However, the residents' lawsuit alleges the authority changed the nature of the original HOPE VI application, requiring demolition of 54 of the 63 buildings, but did not "meaningfully consult" with residents about the changes before seeking HUD approval.

The residents amended complaint also alleges that the authority has effectively evicted a substantial number of Jordan Park tenants and set them "a drift" with little or no support, and remaining tenants were forced to relocate during the demolition process and are now living in dangerous and hazardous conditions. Residents also have maintained that self-sufficiency services are not being effectively provided.

They also complain that the authority violated the federal Fair Housing Act, alleging they should be awarded damages be-

cause the "direct actions" of the defendants, "SPHA and (Darrell J.) Irions as Executive Director" have "intimidated, disenfranchised, and terrorized the tenants when they have attempted to speak out for their federally protected rights to participate."

The authority's board of commissioners is appointed by the mayor and approved by the City Council. Its current chair is realtor Walt Smyth.

Delores Fletcher, Felicia Trammer, Ray Plummer and other Jordan Park residents have asked the court to stop the authority from operating and administering the HOPE VI-financed project, and to have a court-appointed receiver manage the complex.

Meanwhile, the residents have been unable to raise money to pay Forrester, hire another attorney, or pay required consultants, investigators, and expert witnesses. They now face the daunting challenge of finding another lawyer to represent them.

"At the inception of this case, both Ms. Forrester and the plaintiffs contacted multiple attorneys in an attempt to find representation for the Plaintiffs," Judge Moody noted in his order. "When

the search proved unsuccessful, Ms. Forrester agreed to take the case on a pro bono publico basis.

"Finding competent counsel willing to represent a class of plaintiffs on a pro bono publico basis in a case involving civil rights is a matter of great social importance," Judge Moody concluded.

In his order, the judge found it "significant" to note that Attorney Forrester alleges she was unaware of Clendening's prior position with the authority when he was hired, and there "is no indication that the impropriety was deliberate."

However, even if the hiring was "coincidental and not intended to advantage" the residents' case, "the appearance of impropriety is unchanged," the judge wrote.

Given that impropriety, he ruled, the Court "finds the potential damage to public faith in the legal system and the integrity of the judicial process mandates disqualification."

The judge stayed action on the lawsuit for 30 days, until April 22, 2002, to give Jordan Park residents time to find a new attorney. If they are unsuccessful, they will handle their lawsuit on their own.

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On April 01, 1950, Charles R. Drew died at the age of 45, after an automobile accident near Burlington, North Carolina. He was a surgeon and developer of the blood bank concept.

NAACP Endorses Smoke-Free For Health

Civil rights group cites health, jobs, in backing smoke-free workplaces

TALLAHASSEE — The NAACP recently endorsed Smoke-Free for Health, adding a powerful voice to the rising chorus of support for the citizen initiative to protect Floridians against second-hand smoke.

"We are pleased to support this major public health effort," said Adora Obi Nweze, president of the Florida State Conference of NAACP Branches. "Tobacco's toll is especially heavy on people of color. African-American men suffer 50 percent more lung

cancer than their white counterparts. Asthma is skyrocketing among African-American children, and tobacco contributes to our continued high incidence of low-birth-weight babies. Minorities will benefit most of all by reducing second-hand smoke in the workplace."

Added Nweze: "The tobacco industry and its front group, the Committee for Responsible Solutions, will no doubt claim that they're speaking for our jobs and our interests by opposing this initiative and pushing their own. To that we say simply, 'No thanks.

We'll speak for ourselves.' The tobacco industry has targeted the African-American community with their lies before, and we no more trust their phony economic statistics than we do their phony health statistics. If someone tells you that Smoke-Free for Health will cost minorities or anyone else their jobs, don't believe them."

Martin Larsen, volunteer chairman of Smoke-Free for Health, welcomed the NAACP as the 91st group to endorse the initiative and praised the organization for its commitment. Said Larsen, "The NAACP adds much prestige and

influence to our cause and we are grateful for their support. As the NAACP's endorsement proves, the cause of smoke-free workplaces recognizes no racial or ethnic boundaries. Everyone who breathes has an interest in this initiative."

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), smoking contributes heavily to the three leading causes of death and disease among African-Americans — heart disease, cancer and stroke. HHS also points out that the tobacco industry targets special messages to minority communities to

encourage addiction to tobacco among other risk-taking behaviors.

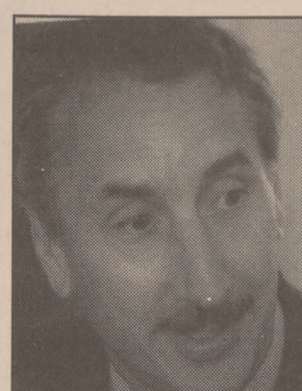
Smoke-Free for Health represents a coalition of non-profit groups committed to the passage of a ballot initiative in November that would make most Florida workplaces smoke-free. These groups include the American Cancer Society-Florida Division, American Heart Association-Florida/ Puerto Rico Affiliate, American Lung Association of Florida, AARP of Florida and the Center for Florida's Children.

Micro from pg. 1

grader Hogans jumped in with his own mayoral curiosities, asking what the position was like. "Hey, I thought I was the one who was supposed to be asking the questions," joked Baker, smiling.

Pongase, who is also leader of the school's Crime Stopper's group, took the opportunity to chat with Chief Harmon, telling him about the steep fine of \$25 friendship dollars for running on school grounds, or walking in the grass. "We watch out for the kids that do bad stuff," she told Harmon.

During the Q&A session between mayors, Baker learned about the "friendship dollars" that the students earned throughout the school year, for things like good behavior, completed homework assignments, and the student run-businesses such as the bakery and dance programs. Hogans also



Mayor Rick Baker



Chuck Harmon, St. Petersburg Police Chief

explained about their "Market Days," for which the money could be spent on different booths retailing books, plants, and more. In turn, Baker discussed his challenges of being mayor to the students, briefly talking about budget issues and taxes.

Hogans certainly seems up to the task of being Maximo's mayor. And Pongase is right there to back him up. Already, they have had to deal with a dispute — one of the students was ready to quit his dance group, and there was

a bit of arguing between the teacher and himself. After a trial, explained Hogans, the student realized that he should stick with his original commitment. "He was happy about it in the end," said Hogans.

Baker's visit was complete upon receiving a larger-than-life key to the Micro Society city, with an exchange of two key pins presented to the students as well. As the talks were over, the kids escorted the mayor on a grand tour of the school.

Eckerd College Students Devote Spring Break To Service and Studying Social Issues

ST. PETERSBURG — For most American college students, spring break was a time to seek out relaxation, white sandy beaches and tiki bars. However, instead of staying here in the Bay area for spring break vacations, three groups from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg spent their week off in Chicago, Immokalee, or Savannah to do volunteer work.

About 30 students signed up to spend the week in one of three locations. 12 students traveled to Chicago to serve the city and to learn what the issues are for those in poverty in a large metropolitan area. "Chicago is a great labora-

tory in which to study urban issues," said Brian MacHarg, Director of Service Ministry at Eckerd College and the leader of the group to the Windy City. "Although the Tampa Bay area has similar social problems, Chicago offers unique experiences as we examine immigration, city politics, ethnic communities, and social services." The students were scheduled to meet with agency representatives from Cook Co. Hospital, Kolbe House, Chicago REST Home, World Relief, and The Children's Place Association. In addition to speaking with representatives, the students committed

themselves to volunteering at each of these agencies. The service ranges from serving food to homeless men and women at the Chicago REST home to playing with children infected with AIDS at The Children's Place Association.

An equal number of students spent the week in Immokalee. Students were scheduled to spend a day in the tomato fields, working alongside migrant farmers. In contrast to the work of the typical migrant worker, students were able to serve at Harvest for Humanity — a farm set up on the Habitat for Humanity model where farmers work towards own-

ing the land. Other experiences include tutoring children and serving at a center for transient residents. The students spent the week sleeping on the floor of the United Methodist church in Immokalee.

A smaller group of 5 students served in Savannah, Georgia. The group paired with the Montgomery Presbyterian Church to spend the week doing physical work to help refurbish its community center. Students also served at the City Homeless Shelter in Savannah. Students spent time studying the social issues relevant to Savannah as well. "Savannah's historic for-

tune was linked to slavery; its current fortune (is linked) to tourism. What is the relationship between these two vis a vis use of resources, especially people?" is the question posed by the Rev. Mona Bagasao, Director of Campus Ministries and leader of this spring break group.

Each group of students lived together for the week, reflecting each night on the service work and the social issues that the agencies address.

For more information: Contact: macharbd@eckerd.edu Phone: 727-864-7512

Suzanne from pg. 1

summer workshops," said Pomerantzeff.

Some of Ms. P's better-known students include:

Briana Reed who is with the Alvin Ailey Dance

Theater, started at the academy at 5 years old; Marque Lynche who has worked in Las Vegas and is now in starring in the Broadway production of the Lion King, came to the studio at age 12; Charlotte Johnson who just found out she has a scholarship to Juilliard has been dancing with Ms. P since she was 7. Erik Wagner and Eileen Gerdes are both in the San Francisco Ballet. There many more too numerous to name in this small space.

"Ms. P" is one of those soft-spoken, demure women with nerves of pure steel. I have never known her to be unkind to anyone but beneath that calm sweet exterior is a woman who walks a path of iron determination to open doors and offer opportunities to anyone willing to work for them.

The doors of the Academy of Ballet Arts are open to students as young as 3 years old but one of her cardinal rules is she never has recitals. "What happens is you work with a child all year long doing the same routine over and over just for a recital but not all students are ready to perform at the same time. So I have class year round and performances year round. That gives the younger ones an incentive to learn and perfect their basic techniques so that they can get a part in the ensemble."

Parents are always welcome to come and watch their child during any class so that they may see his or hers progress.

One of the few dance instructors in this area who has a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in performance and teaching, she has taught dance since she graduated in 1969.

"Every child is an artist though not every child will want a career in dance. However every child should experience the joy of movement through dance, she explained. "We are one of the few countries who separate the arts from the everyday life of a child. In Africa no one goes to school to learn the tribal dances. They learn them at home from their family members. When we separate the arts from our everyday life we lose the ability to trust our emotional reaction to other people because the arts are a form of communication," says Pomerantzeff.

The studio though open, is under renovations and will be in full operation in very short time. The academy offers classes in classical ballet, Russian character, modern, and jazz. "I am going to have African dance but I will not begin that class until I have the absolute right teacher for my students," she said emphatically.

If you have a little one or a not so little one that may enjoy the exciting arena of a dance studio give Ms. Pomerantzeff a call at 727-327-4401 or stop by the Academy of Ballet Arts and have a talk with her. It may be one of the best decisions you'll ever make. Harambee!

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Spies from pg. 1

In researching this story, the Planet has learned of other encounters not included in the 60-page report. For example, a member of Congress from Georgia recounted to the Planet of being targeted by the art students. A Hillsborough County judge was also approached. Neither the member of Congress nor the judge wanted to be named.

In an era where CNN CEO Walter Issacson says it would be "perverse" to televise Afghan babies killed by U.S. bombs, it's not surprising some stories go unnoticed by a press that embraces "patriotism" by ignoring sacred cows.

One such sacred cow is what's happening in Israel and Palestine. Reporters know that to criticize Israel — to point out, for example, that wanton killing of innocents is equally devilish, whether committed by Ariel Sharon's soldiers flying U.S.-made helicopters, or by a Hamas suicide bomber who pushes the button — is to risk being called an anti-Semite. It's a tired canard meant to bludgeon debate into silence, but it's often effective.

Even with that background, however, it's a little hard to understand the media's avoidance of the

spy story. In 1999, word began spreading among intelligence agencies about bands of Israeli "students" doing very strange things, such as popping up around federal buildings and military establishments marketing artwork.

According to Planet intelligence sources, low-level alerts began being flashed around to offices of the FBI, DEA, federal prosecutors and others. By March 23, 2001, counterintelligence officials had issued a bulletin to be on the watch for Israelis masquerading as "art students." The alert stated that there was an "ongoing 'security threat' in the form of individuals who are purportedly 'Israeli National Art Students' that are targeting government offices selling 'artwork.'"

At the same time, American intelligence services were increasingly worried by the dominance of many highly sensitive areas of telecommunications by Israeli companies. Converse Infosys (now called Verint) provides U.S. lawmen with computer equipment for wiretapping. Speculation is that "catch gates" in the system allowed listeners to be listened to. Software made by another Israeli outfit, Amdocs, provided exten-

sive records of virtually all calls placed by the 25 largest U.S. telephone companies. The relationship of those companies to the detained Israelis is detailed in the 60-page document.

The DEA's intense interest in the case stems from its 1997 purchase of \$25-million in interception equipment from Israeli companies, according to a March 14 report by Intelligence Online, a French Web-based service that first revealed the existence of the 60-page document.

"In assigning so many resources to the inquiry (all DEA offices were asked to contribute)," Intelligence Online stated, "the agency was clearly worried that its own systems might have been compromised."

Often the Israeli "students" sold their artwork on street locations near federal buildings. In Tampa on March 1, 2001, a DEA agent heard a knock on his office door. According to the government report: "At the door was a young female who immediately identified herself as an Israeli art student who had beautiful art to sell." Knowing about the security alert, the agent began questioning the "student." After several con-

tradictory statements, the agent concluded "her responses were evasive at best."

A few days earlier, on Feb. 27, law enforcement officials had become suspicious when another Israeli showed up at the Davis Islands home of a U.S. Marshal selling artwork. The reported noted that the Israelis were "persistent in trying to get inside" intelligence agents' homes, often asking to use the telephone.

Altogether, the list of Florida incidents accounts for about eight pages of the 60-page report.

One of the first encounters to raise suspicions was in December 2000 in Atlanta. A DEA agent was approached at his home by two Israelis who wanted to sell him artwork. The agent became suspicious when the "students" wouldn't provide him with contact information — and his angst was heightened when he later saw the same artwork for sale at the suburban Mall of Georgia.

Many of the apparent operatives had set up shop at addresses only stones' throws from Arabs in San Diego, Little Rock, Irving, Texas, and in South Florida. The Planet also has obtained a watch list of mostly Arabs under scrutiny by the U.S. government. The addresses of many correspond to the specific areas where the Israelis set up operations.

(End of Part 2 of 3. See conclusion in next week's issue.)

Jack and Jill Sponsors "Family Literacy Night with a Beat"

ST. PETERSBURG — The Pinellas County Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., will be sponsoring an evening of poetry and storytelling.

Valada Flewellyn, noted author and poet of "Poetically, Just Us" and "The Mosquito" will be the featured guest on Thursday, April 18th, from 5-7 p.m. at the Wildwood Recreation Center in St. Petersburg.

Family Literacy Night with a Beat will be a fun-filled evening that encour-



Valada Flewellyn

ages the entire family to read. Valada Flewellyn will present a lively oration of her poetry to the children. As a nationally-rec-

ognized poet she has spell bound children throughout the country with her colorful delivery.

In addition, there will be make and take crafts for the children, and the St. Petersburg Library staff will be on hand to sign families up for library cards.

Join us as we celebrate "National Poetry Month" as we also feature the works of Langston Hughes, the most celebrated African-American poet

and writer in the 20th Century. We will also hear from other young poets in the community.

This community event is sponsored by the Pinellas County Chapter of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., in conjunction with READ Pinellas, Inc., and St. Pete Reads.

The evening promises to be entertaining with book giveaways, pizza and drinks.

Sue Brody Elected To Statewide Association Board Of Trustees

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (March 14, 2002) — Sue Brody, president and chief executive officer of Bayfront Medical Center was recently installed to the Florida Hospital Board of Trustees for a three-year term.

Elected by her peers from around the state, Ms. Brody recently was recognized at the 74th Annual Meeting of the Florida Hospital Association in Orlando.

Ms. Brody joined Bayfront Medical Center — a 502-bed community and teaching hospital in St. Petersburg — in 1987 as executive vice president and chief operating officer. She became president and



Sue Brody

CEO in 1995, and since that time, has increased Bayfront Medical Center's market share by 35% and implemented a \$100 million capital improvement program, including the addition of high-tech services such as MRI and cardiac cauterization. She has created a family-friendly

workplace, including on-site childcare, care for sick children of employees and a K-4 partnership school for children of employees. During Ms. Brody's tenure, charitable care has grown to an annual level of \$17 million.

Numerous organizations have recognized Ms. Brody's professional accomplishments, including the St. Petersburg Area Chamber of Commerce (1995-1996 Paul Getting Award); the International Association of Business Communicators (1996 Excel Award Nomination); and the American College of Healthcare Executives (1997 Robert S. Hudgens Memorial Award). Most

recently, she received the Tampa Bay Business Journal's Women in Business Award (2000).

Ms. Brody holds an undergraduate degree in business from Illinois State University. She graduated from Duke University with a master's degree in health administration.

The Florida Hospital Association is a not-for-profit statewide association representing over 230 hospitals and over 1800 professional members throughout the state. The association is a source of advocacy, information, education, and service concerning health care issues. FHA has offices in Orlando and Tallahassee.



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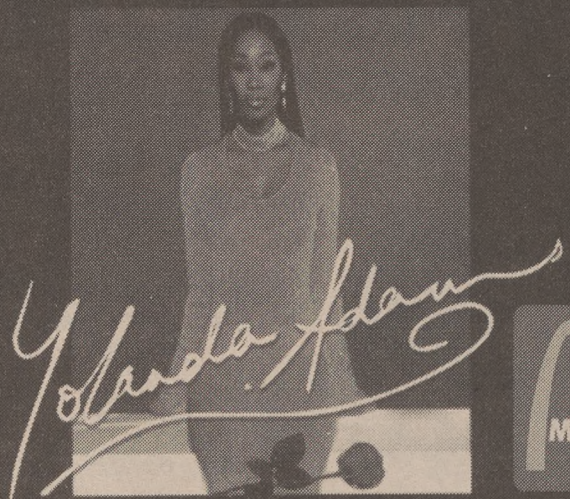
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— Hillary Williams

WOMAN'S WORLD

Shirley Murdock Returns to Gospel in a Powerful New Play

by Baheenah Hazika-Zuna

The speaking voice of Shirley Murdock is as melodious as her singing voice. Quick to let out a joyous laugh, as she is to praise the Lord, Murdock is truly one of God's chosen people. She's as real as they come.

"I have worked hard to bring the music of the Lord to the people who need to hear about the goodness of God," said Murdock. "I see the church as a hospital for the spiritually sick not as a social club for the saints. We have to be real about the things of God."

At the age of 9, Murdock was singing in the teen and young adult choir at her church in Toledo, Ohio. "I can't ever remember a time when I wasn't singing. I used to go to choir practice with my older sister and we would sing duets, from there I just started singing with the choir too," she said.

Murdock who has been married to her husband/manager Dale DeGroat for 14 years has one son, Devin Alexander. Murdock said, "You can pay people to say 'yes' all the time but you can't pay them to love you. Having my husband and my brother, Bill with me is more of a blessing



Shirley Murdock

than I can possibly explain in words. They keep me on track and put up with me but most of all, everything they do for me is out of love."

Many of you may remember Shirley Murdock from the R&B charts but she says, "When I was in the secular world I was still singing gospel music and I never released an album that I did not honor the Giver of my gift. But what began to happen was I felt like I had lost my family

and I missed singing God's songs to the body of Christ."

This February she released her first full gospel CD called "Home" on Bishop T.D. Jakes' spin off label Dexterity for EMI. Its debut on the gospel charts was at number 9. "I was surprised but I know that God makes room for you and your gift and will bring you to the attention of great men." Husband, DeGroat produced many of the songs on the new CD

although Murdock is skilled at writing melodies and lyrics herself.

At 8 pm on April 17th in the Mahaffey Theatre Shirley Murdock will appear in the excellent play "A Woman's Revenge" written by Minister Derrick Brinkley and his wife Celeste.

The play deals with a happily married man's ex-girlfriend re-entering his life and wreaking havoc on him, his family and his loyalty to his God fearing and prayerful wife. Murdock plays the long-suffering Rose Cane who, no matter what, does not abandon her faith that God will work it all out in the end.

"What I love about this production is that when it is over and everyone goes home they will have ammunition to fight the good fight of faith," she said.

The show stopping song "Leave Me Alone" is sung with such emotional passion that it will leave you standing on your feet and hollering for more! Many shows have come through our area over the years but this one-night-only production should not be missed. Harambee!

Sweet Honey in the Rock Releases Latest CD

WASHINGTON, D.C. -

On her newest release, Give the People Their Right to Vote!, D.C.'s own Grammy Award-winning a capella sextet, Sweet Honey in the Rock has created a new theme song for the drive for full voting representation in Congress for residents of the District of Columbia.

D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton calls the song's lyrics - composed by Nitaju Bolade Casel - "a musical history lesson that encompasses all the indignities that have been heaped upon District residents since the founding of the nation's capital".

The song, in Norton's words, will make it "easier to educate people across the country and around the world about our drive for full congressional voting rights and full democracy for District residents, who suffer the unhappy and unique distinction of being the only residents of a capital city that are denied their rights of full citizenship and representation". The song's chorus declares: *No Taxation Without representation!*

Two hundred years of exploitation

In the capital of this nation!

No Representation!

In the capital of this nation Two hundred years of exploitation Give the people their right to vote!

The spirited chant We Want the Vote!, the other selection on the compact disc, was composed by Ysaye Maria Barnwell. "I just felt it was important. Sweet Honey is based here, we were formed here. D.C. is truly the last colony and as we travel around there is no reason why we can't musically talk to people about this issue. It has come before the public before, it was voted down."

Speaking of Give the People Their Right to Vote!

on WAMU's syndicated talk show Public Interest hosted by Kojo Nnamdi, political commentator Mark Plotkin observed that "it should be our state anthem...every movement needs a great song. It's a long time coming but this is the right group to have done it. I hope it means the movement takes off - now that we've got a song".

Crusading for social justice for nearly 30 years, this capella ensemble of six women always brings to its audiences strong messages about remedying social injustice and the redemptive qualities of universal love.

When it comes to the future, there are three kinds of people: those who let it happen, those who wonder what happened and those who make it happen!

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We have an amazing legacy to offer our youth. However, if you smoke near children or allow others to smoke around them, you may be jeopardizing their chances for a healthy future.

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Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Each time a smoker exhales, this is what everyone around them inhales!

Let's pass on our rich history and proud heritage to our youth. For information on how to share a healthy future, contact the Florida Department of Health, Division of Health Awareness and Tobacco at 850-245-4144 or visit the website at www.state.fl.us/tobacco. For information on how to quit smoking, call the Department of Health's Florida Quit-For-Life-Line at 877-U-CAN-NOW (877-822-6669).

Teen Summit 2002 America's Youth: "Our Bridge To The Future"

Dear Fellow Youth Professionals:

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Youth Development Initiatives, Inc), Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc, City of Clearwater and Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast are sponsoring Teen Summit 2002 on Saturday, April 13, 2002 at the Harborview, from 9AM-1:30PM. The Teen Summit is being offered to Pinellas teens free of cost. The theme for the conference is "America's Youth: Our Bridge To The Future". The Teen Summit 2002 will emphasize a smoke-free lifestyle and also focus on healthy choices designed to build teens' self-esteem.

Teen Summit 2002 is opened to teens that are currently in 6th-12th grades. Registration will be opened to the first 350 applicants. Applicants are being sent to groups with youth programs such as civic, churches sororities, fraternities and others throughout Pinellas County.

An exciting day has been planned for the teens that include a plenary session, workshops, lunch and an opportunity to meet other teens. The topics will include anti-tobacco use, alcohol and drug awareness, self-esteem, effective communication, anger management, and sexual responsibility.

Please find enclosed a registration form to be duplicated as needed. Each participant will need a registration form. If chaperones are coming, we will need to know how many and their names.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please feel free to contact Karalia W. Baldwin at 462-5550 or kwb122979@cs.com.

Sincerely,
Karalia W. Baldwin - Registration Chair

Please mail registration forms to:

**Youth Development
Initiatives, Inc**

**1932 Drew Street,
Suite 8
Clearwater, FL
33765**

Name _____	Age _____	Sex _____	Grade _____
Youth Organization _____	School _____		
Home Address _____	City _____	Zip _____	
Parent(s) Name _____	Tel # _____		
Please print			
Cell # _____	Alternate # _____		
Parent Signature _____	Date _____		
Teen Signature _____	Date _____		
Some topics will cover sensitive issues of sexuality and relationships.			
Emergency contact person to be notified in case of emergency when parent(s) or guardian(s) cannot be reached:			
Name _____	Tel # _____		
Cell # _____	Alternate # _____		
Address _____	City _____	Zip _____	
Is Teen currently taking any medication(s)? Yes _____ No _____			
If yes, please list medication(s) and instructions.			
Any other medical concerns? _____			

Funded by the Florida Department of Health, Division of Health and Tobacco and Juvenile Welfare Board

Please mail registration forms to:
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Teen Summit: Harborview, Clw
Sat., April 13; 9-1:30PM

STATE NEWS

Florida DOH Speaks At The Faith Leaders Training Institute



(Miami, Florida) — The Florida Department of Health, HIV/AIDS Program, presented a two-day training session providing news, information and innovative study guides to empower men, women and youth in the congregation at the Faith Leaders Training Institute, recently in South Florida. Over 50 ministers from throughout the state attended the event, organized by the Florida HIV/AIDS Ministries, Inc., featured Atilia Blum (pictured left) of the Florida Department of Health. Blum served as keynote speaker during the luncheon ceremony. Joining Ms. Blum is Rev. W.J. Bailey (pictured right), President and CEO of Florida HIV/AIDS Ministries, Inc.

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Publix Pharmacies Accept Discount Drug Cards

LAKELAND, Fla., March 19, 2002 — Publix pharmacies in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama are now accepting prescription-drug discount cards offered to low-income seniors by major drug manufacturers. Retail pharmacies and manufacturers jointly contribute the discount.

"Customers simply show their discount cards when dropping off prescriptions at their local

Publix pharmacies. Publix processes each claim electronically to verify eligibility and determine the final cost based on that manufacturer's plan," said Publix Spokesman Lee Brunson.

Pharmaceutical manufacturers currently offering prescription-drug discount cards include Eli Lilly, Glaxo-SmithKline, Pfizer and Novartis.

"We're pleased to support these convenient pro-

grams for eligible seniors who do not have prescription drug benefits. These discount cards provide help to those who need it the most," said Brunson.

Publix has 434 pharmacies in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and Alabama. Publix is owned and operated by its more than 122,000 employees. The company has been named one of Fortune's "100 Best Companies to Work For in America" for

five consecutive years. In addition, Publix's dedication to superior quality and customer service is recognized as tops in the grocery business, most recently by an American Customer Index survey. For more information, visit the company's Web site, www.publix.com.

Florida Democratic Party Chair Bob Poe Regarding End of 2002 Regular Legislative Session

"Jeb Bush and the Republican Legislature once again have proven they can't lead. Under Jeb Bush's direction, the Republican Legislature left Tallahassee without doing an important job they were elected to do — finish the state budget. Instead of completing work on a responsible budget to better educate children, provide economic and health security for families and protect our environment, the Republicans wasted taxpayer time and money playing political games for their own benefit.

"Throughout the session, Democrats offered common-sense solutions to the important problems

facing our state. But with the Bush Legislature, partisan games apparently win out over responsible solutions.

"With Jeb Bush playing the role of absentee parent, Republican lawmakers — led by Tom Feeney's naked lust for a Congressional seat — shamefully chose to protect their own selfish political interests over serving Florida's people. If Jeb Bush had decided to lead rather than focusing on his re-election by roaming the state, posing for photo ops and campaign fundraising, maybe the Bush Republican Legislature would have completed its work on time."

Bethune-Cookman College Professor Wins Awards Excellence In Scholastic Journalism

DAYTONA BEACH, FL — Bethune-Cookman College Assistant Professor of Journalism, Dr. Elsie Wanjohi, received the Wilton C. Scott Award for Excellence in Scholastic Journalism at the 51st Annual Southern Regional Press Institute held recently at Savannah State University in Savannah, Georgia.

The Wilton C. Scott Award is named after one of the founders of the Southern Regional Press Institute (SRPI) in 1952. Scott received numerous honors for his works in scholastic journalism.

"It was an honor to be selected," stated Wanjohi, who serves as advisor to the B-CC student newspaper, Voice of the Wildcats. "I hope that what I do gets the students excited about a career in journalism."

During her eight-year tenure at B-CC, the Voice of the Wildcats has secured the first place position for the four-year college newspaper competition at SRPI, three years consecutively. Wanjohi has also served as a consultant for the high school feature writing and advisors' roundtable workshops at the SRPI, under the theme "Public Relations and Global Communications in Terroristic Times."

"Her award was well-deserved and long overdue for the countless hours she dedicates to cultivating students at B-CC," said B-CC Mass Communications student Carsceal Turner, who also attended the conference.

Wanjohi, a native of Kenya, Africa, earned her bachelor of science in agricultural communications, a

master's degree in public relations and a doctorate in education from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma. She desires to help B-CC develop a training and mentoring news-writing program for community youth. With over 15 years of journalistic experience, Wanjohi believes that 'advising on a one-on-one basis with students is the most rewarding part of her job.'

The Department of Mass Communications offers a degree program leading to the bachelor of arts in mass communications with concentrations in news editorial, broadcast, and public relations/advertising, all under the journalism track. The programs are designed for individuals interested in editing and writing careers

in print, radio, and television media. It is also designed to prepare individuals in the creation, sales, management and production of advertising in all aspects of communications (written and spoken) with important concepts in the social sciences. Bethune-Cookman College is a private, liberal arts, United Methodist Church-affiliated school with a diverse and international student population of more than 2,700 and a solid reputation for academic excellence. As evidence of its outstanding program, the College has been listed in the Templeton Honor Roll of Character Building Colleges and Universities, and it was ranked by Black Enterprise magazine as one of the "Top 50" schools in the nation for black students.

Rep. Joyner Pays Tribute To Teens For Returning \$4,000

TALLAHASSEE — On Tuesday, March 19th, Jarvarious Jones and Oscar Carter were flown to Tallahassee as guests of Rep. Arthenia Joyner, of Tampa, to receive a tribute from members of the Florida House of Representatives for setting an example of integrity and honesty for all citizens. The young boys found \$4,000 on their way to school Feb. 13th and turned it over to authori-

ties. The money was promptly returned to Andrew Pride from Chicago who was vacationing in Florida.

"I am very pleased that the community has inundated these young men with positive recognition," Rep. Joyner said. "These young boys have set an example of the importance of being responsible, respectful and trustworthy citizens and deserve the highest recognition."

Rep. Joyner drafted a Resolution to honor Jarvarious' and Oscar's good character. The young boys were presented with the Resolution from the Florida House of Representatives honoring their outstanding behavior. They also met with Gov. Jeb Bush, who had previously congratulated them by telephone. Accompanying the boys were Jarvarious' mother, Jacqueline Jones, and Patricia

Cooper, assistant principal at Greco Middle School where the boys attend school.

"I am truly proud of Jarvarious and Oscar and commend them for their exceptional behavior, said Rep. Joyner. "It is great to know that there are young men with such integrity and dignity living in the great state of Florida. They have truly set a precedent for other young children to follow."

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RELIGIOUS NEWS

Greater Mount Zion AME Church

Jesus said, "If ye abide in Me and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. On Sunday, April 7th Pastor Williams' spoken word to the congregation was "Do You Know the Living God? God is Alive, and He is the giver of Life" (Jeremiah 10: 6-10).

Pastor Clarence Williams, the Official Church Staff, and the entire Greater Mount Zion AME Church Family invites you to worship with us on this second Sunday, April 14th at our 7:30 and 11:00 AM Worship Services. Rev. Williams will proclaim the gospel at both services. Music for the day will be provided by the Richardson Special Chorus. Our Church School begins at 9:30 AM.

Stewardess Board #1 is now taking ads for their Annual Mother's Day Souvenir Booklet. The Board of Christian Education is taking orders for Mother's Day Flowers. Stewardess Board #3 would like for you to worship with them at their Annual Night in Black and White on Friday, April 19th at 7:00 PM. Rev. J. D. Johnson, Pastor of St. James AME Clearwater is the guest speaker. The Progressive Usher Board is

sponsoring a "Talent and Family Night" on Friday, April 26th at 6:00 PM.

We invite you to join us for any of our weekly services:

Bible Study - Monday - 6:00 PM
Vintage Bible Study for Seniors - Wednesday - 11:00 AM
Mid Week Prayer Meeting - Wednesday - 6:00 AM and 7:30 PM

Prayer Tower Church of God in Christ

Supt. Elder Clarence Welch and the Prayer Tower Church family welcome you with open arms at all times to worship with us in the presence of the Lord! We truly appreciate your prayers, support and patronage of our church. May God forever smile upon you at all times!

On April 20th, we will host our Duals Day Committee Fish Fry. On April 21st, Prayer Tower will sponsor and host our annual "Prayer Tower King and Queen Pageant". This pageant is featuring some of the city's best youth performers, and it is sure to be a spectacular event. Everyone is invited!

As part of the Souls Harvest Praise and Worship Festival that will take place April 11th-13th, Prayer Tower COGIC will

New Philadelphia Community Church

Focus for Sunday at New Philadelphia is continued observance of Eastertide. Sermonic proclamation will center upon the "Blood of Jesus." Members are reminded to bring Bibles in order to follow Pastor's exhortation from scripture.

Classes for candidates for baptism commenced last Sunday. Membership and Evangelism ministry

will continue these sessions until completion. Baptism will follow satisfactory completion of classes by prospective candidates.

Wisdom School volunteers are needed for senior high students. A team teaching approach will continue to be used. Persons interested in becoming involved in this vital ministry can contact

any member of Christian Education ministry.

Christian commendations to Membership and Evangelism ministry for spiritual strides being made in area of education and instruction to new members. The ministry methodology being used truly bespeaks a church family on "cutting edge" of ministry for twenty-first century!

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor Joseph Gordon and the Pleasant Grove Church family invite you to worship with them on Sunday, April 14th. Choir #2 will render Song Service, and Usher Board #2 will serve in the 7 a.m. Early Morning Worship Service.

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. with Superintendent Deacon Philip Carter presiding. Mid-Morning Worship begins at 10:15 a.m. Choir #2 and the Angelic Choir will render Song Service, and Usher Board #2 will serve.

The Bible Drill Team will rehearse on Friday, April 12th, at 6:30 p.m. with Commander Deacon Jim Anderson.

The Women's Intermediate Auxiliary shop for free bazaar on Saturday, April 13th, has been cancelled until further notice due to reasons uncontrollable. President Jura Philpot says they will reschedule at a later date.

Attention all 2002 high school graduates: next Sunday is the deadline for all information to the Education Committee. Chairpersons are Cynthia Tomlin, Ruth Johnson-Williams and Cynthia Durant.

Pleasant Grove cruises to Alaska June 11th-19th. Please see or contact Kay Curry at (727) 864-2937 after 7 p.m. for details. May God be with you until next week.

Thought for the week: "As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." I Peter 4:10

Deacon Lee D. Moore is publicist, and Rev. Joseph Gordon is pastor.

Earth Mission

On Friday, March 6th, Earth Mission went into a "shut in" believing God for great things. We had a great time in the Lord. The anointing of God was high in the building all night long.

What a word, what a word - the message brought to us Sunday, "No Passover, No Communion". The Lord anointed Minister Ernest Ervin to bring forth a dynamic word revealing the real meaning of the Passover and the communion. In his message he talked about the importance of the cup, the bread, the blood and the covenant. He also reminded us that God has brought us out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light, and we must celebrate this new liberty that we now have in Christ. "For where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty."

Next week our very own Minister Roger Stroman will be "Breaking the Bread of Life". You want to come and hear this great young man of God as he delivers a word to encourage our youth.

Once again, the presence of the Lord filled the house. But don't take our word for it. Come see for yourselves how the power of God is moving in this little church.

We welcome you to come be a part of what God is doing. There is something for everyone.

Outreach Ministry is under the direction of Rev. Robert Peak. Revival Ministry is under the direction of Minister Ernest Ervin. Youth Ministry is under the direction of Minister Roger Stroman. Minister Mamie Jones

Emmanuel Christian Fellowship Church

Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children. Ephesians 5:1

Pastor Evans allowed the Holy Spirit to use him in love, as the Word of God came forth with power from on high. It was just a reminder of the love the saints of God should have one for the other, and drop off the things of the world.

Choir #1 sang to the glory of God. The missionaries from England gave us a word of encouragement from the Word of God, for they will depart from the city on Tuesday going back to England. Our prayers are with them for the Lord has directed them to South Africa in the Fall. May God continue to bless them is our prayer.

We also thank God for our visiting evangelists, Pastor Lapoor and his wife, who also gave a

word to the people of God. Be obedient and praise God is the word for today.

You are welcome and invited to share in the services with us under the tent, on the lot. Please dress comfortably, as we are outside in God's creation. We are yet praising God.

The Youth Ministry will meet on Saturday, April 13th, at 11 a.m. Please be present and on time. If transportation is needed, please call Errika Rollins before the scheduled time. Thank you.

Our prayers are with Sister Evans, Barbara Williams, also Sister Houston and her mother in Sanford, FL. All sick and shut-ins, bereaved families - if you need prayer, please call the prayer line at the church.

Elouise Lindsey is the reporter. The pastor is Elder Franklin Evans, Sr.

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

Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church

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

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6 p.m.
Baptist Training Union 5 p.m.
Tuesday Night
General Bible Study
Thursday Night Prayer
Meeting & Teachers Meeting



Rev. Clyde Williams

We welcome you at all times.

Emmanuel Christian Fellowship Inc.

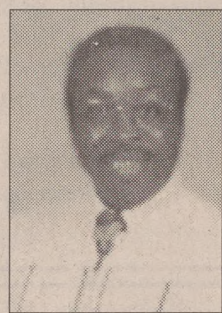
1948 49th St. S. • St. Pete, FL 33707

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.
Prayer (Tues. & Thurs.) 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

"All Are Welcome" • "Bring A Friend"



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 Wyvonna McGee

"A Church With Passion for God and Compassion for People"

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.

International Headquarters, Anderson, Indiana

FIRST BAPTIST INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH

3144 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH

ST. PETERSBURG, FL

PHONE: 323-7518

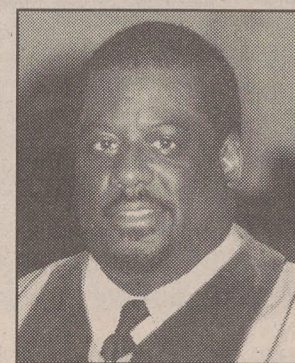
REV. WAYNE G. THOMPSON, PASTOR

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A.M.

MORNING WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

COME WORSHIP WITH

THE FIRST BAPTIST FAMILY



WINGS OF FAITH CHRISTIAN CENTER

309 - 15th Avenue North

St. Petersburg, FL 33704

Telephone (727) 893-1741

Bishop Ronald Moten, Pastor

Alfreda Moten, Co-Pastor

Bishop Ronald Moten and the Wings of Faith Church Family would like to extend to you a personal invitation to worship with us during our scheduled times:

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.

Morning Worship & Children's Church 10:45 A.M.

Prayer/Fasting Tuesday

Intercessory Prayer & Bible Class Wednesday, 7:30 P.M.



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

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 week."

BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

"We're Busy as Bees - But Sweet As Honey"

912 Third Avenue North

St. Petersburg, FL 33705

Phone: 727-822-2089

Church School 9:00 A.M.

New Member Class 9:00 A.M.

Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.



Rev. Roosevelt Hardy

Pastor

You are hereby invited to fellowship with



For more information, contact Pastor Jerome & Pastor Kisha Jordan at 727-865-7763 or 888-353-9555, ext. 2445



"...let the one that is thirsty come." (Revelation 22:17)

Sunday Worship Service 10:30 A.M.

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.

Bible Study, Tues. 7-8 P.M.

527 49th Street South

St. Petersburg, FL 33707

Ph: 727-327-2849 • Fax: 866-1896

Women's Conference 2002

The women of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church invite you to share with them in their Women's Conference. The theme is "Christian Women Greeting their Godly Purpose".

The Women's Conference will commence on Friday, April 26th, at 7 p.m. with Elder Janice Bowling of Grace, Praise and Worship Center from West Palm Beach as the keynote speaker.

In addition, there will be a dynamic Prayer Breakfast and workshop session on Saturday, April 27th, beginning at 7:45 a.m. with Dr. Ada Davis, Pastor Lynette Hicks and Pastor Deborah Powe as workshop leaders. Plus, a special session for teen girls ages 12-17 with Minister Debra Green leading.

The finale will be on Sunday, April 28th, during the 11 a.m. worship service with a special men's and women's consecration.

This promises to be a spirit-filled life-changing experience that you don't want to miss! You may contact the church office at (727) 906-8300 for registration information.

Pentecostal Temple COGIC

"Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem... And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."

Pastor William Anderson excitedly led the congregation in some of the old songs of praise and allowed the saints an opportunity to tell of God's goodness. Three testimonies were given of commitment to living for God and obeying His Word and of supporting the ministry through the giving of tithes.

There was also a declaration of faith in God to work a medical miracle by one of the saints who is experiencing a painful physical problem. Pastor Anderson then preached from Luke 24:46-49.

Prophecy was fulfilled as Jesus suffered and died to bring us salvation. Because he rose on the third day morning, every provision was made for our salvation and victorious Christian living.

Christ offered Himself in a sacrificial, selfless act

of love so that we might not suffer the condemnation of our sins. It is up to us to respond and accept God's provision for us.

Through repentance our sins are forgiven and we are charged to be witnesses of our salvation and deliverance. But we must have power to be bold, dedicated witnesses of Christ's love.

The fullness of God's provision includes the power of the Holy Ghost. Jesus instructed His disciples to tarry (remain stay) in Jerusalem (the place where God's presence was manifested) until they were endued (clothed upon) with power (the enabling ability) from on high (God, the Father). Each of us can rejoice as we yield our lives to the Lord Jesus Christ as our Lord and Master and enjoy the provision and power of God for everyday living.

The work is under way to beautify our sanctuary. There will be no service at the church on Sunday, April 14th. Once again, we thank each of our family members, friends, neighbors, co-workers, business associates and saints from throughout the Bay Area for your spiritual and financial support during our fundraising drive.

We invite you to visit with us on Sunday, April

21st, for our Morning Worship Service at 11:30 a.m. to celebrate with us and see what God has done. The women of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church invite you to share with them in their Women's Conference. The theme is "Christian Women Greeting their Godly Purpose".

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Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

Mt. Zion will begin their "Tent Revival" Sunday, April 14th, 6 p.m., corner of 12th Street and 12th Avenue. Guest preachers will speak throughout the week. Services Monday-Saturday will begin at 7 p.m.

The Mt. Zion SAFE (Substance Abuse Freedom Education) Ministry presents two faith-based educational programs: Recovery Concepts and Christ-Centered Recovery. These classes will empower all persons in church leadership, lay persons and those who have a concern to heal our community. You will acquire a working knowledge of the addiction and recovery process.

This course will assist with the ability of family and friends to help those suffering from the hardships of drugs and alcohol abuse.

Classes will be on Thursday nights at 7 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. All classes are held in the Genesis building. For more information, contact A.J. Murphy, (727) 866-1297.

Mt. Zion Before and After Care program for ages 5-13 is now accepting applications. We offer pick up and drop off to school each morning and afternoon, early pick up on half days and all day care most

school holidays. Now hiring: Part-time Teacher needed for After Care program, 2:30-5:30, Mon.-Fri. If interested, contact Jan Smith.

Summer Kamp applications will be ready during the week of Spring Break. If you get your application, complete it and return it by April 15th, we will exempt the application fee. For Kamp rates, before and after care rates and hiring info, call Jan Smith, Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., ext. 402.

The Reading Enhancement Program is still accepting applications for children/students that are interested. Teachers and volunteers are also needed to assist in areas such as monitoring, one-on-one teaching, picking up supplies and kitchen help. Classes meet every Tuesday and Thursday, 6-8 p.m., in the Kings Kids Building.

Need a ride to church Sunday through Thursday? The church van will be happy to give you a lift. Please try to notify us one day in advance. Contact Deacon William Harris, 821-0041, Troy Ward, 452-4713, or Peter Smith, 895-9261.

Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church is located at 955 - 20th St. S. Rev. Louis M. Murphy, Sr., is Pastor.

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

The Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, under the leadership of Pastor John A. Evans, Sr., invites you to worship with us on this Sunday and to all upcoming activities and events during the week.

Services begin at 7:45 a.m. with the Deacon Ministry leading the Devotion. The Male Chorus will render songs of praise, the #2 Ushers will serve and Pastor Evans will preach the undiluted Word of God. Church School begins at 9:30 a.m. with the 2nd Assistant Superintendent presiding.

A second service is held at 10:45 a.m., opening with the Praise Team.

On Sunday, April 14th, the Auxiliary Ministries Anniversary will be celebrated at 4 p.m. Pastor Ben Adams and the St. John Primitive Baptist Church of Clearwater will be our guests. Each Ministry and Auxiliary member is asked to come in uniform. For additional information, see Marsha McKenzie.

Weekly schedule:
Thursday, April 18th - 7:45 p.m., Prayer/Praise Service and Bible Study; also, Youth Enrichment Hour. Bible Study theme: "Good News for All". (Luke Chapter 6).

Saturday, April 20th - 2 p.m., 55 Plus Ministry meeting.

Wednesday, April 25th - 12 Noonday Bible Study; also, each Wednesday from 12 noon-2 p.m., Bread of Life Ministry serving lunch to all needy in the community.

Upcoming events:
Auxiliary Ministry Anniversary celebration, Sunday, April 14th, at 4 p.m.

Third Annual Women's Conference, April 26th-April 28th.

55 Plus Ministry Memorial Weekend Tour to Charleston and Savannah.

Be sure to fear the Lord: Only fear the Lord, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider how great things He hath done for you. I Kings 12:24.

Dear Father, You Have Given So Much; Give One Thing More - A Grateful Heart. Amen

Earth Mission Miracle Temple Of Deliverance

"The Church Where The Anointing Makes The Difference"



Cultural Arts Programs After School Mon., Wed., Friday - 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Free Registration
For more information, contact Deborah R. Green, Executive Director at: (727) 821-9472

Sunday Morning Worship 10 a.m.
Church School & Prayer 9 a.m.
Weekly Bible Study Tuesdays 7 p.m.
Ministerial Class Thursdays 6 p.m.

2611 5th S. • St. Petersburg, FL 33711
Church Phone: (727) 323-3210
Pastor's Office: (727) 895-9591
Rev. Constance D. Samuels - Pastor

Bus ministry provided for all services • Your presence are welcomed

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"

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.

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

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2830 - 22nd Avenue South • St. Petersburg, Florida 33712
(727) 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

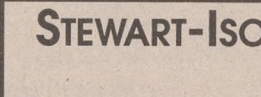
Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church

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



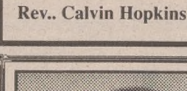
Rev. Joseph Gordon

STEWART-ISOM MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study: Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Calvin Hopkins



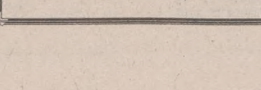
Rev. Calvin Hopkins

GREATER MT. ZION AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

Early Morning Worship 7:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
All Male Bible Study Weds. 6:30 p.m.
Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Bible Study Monday 6:00 p.m.
Vintage Bible Study Wednesday 11:00 a.m. - 12 noon
Live Broadcast WRXB (Every Sunday 8:30 a.m.)
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. Clarence Williams, Pastor



St. John Missionary Baptist Church

1500 N. Pennsylvania Avenue
Clearwater, Florida 33516

Church Phone: 443-1945 Parsonage: 446-6056

Rev. Fleming Tarter, Pastor

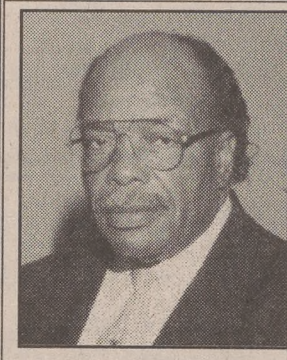
Sunday Services

Sunday Service 8:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Baptist Training Union 5:00 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.



Macedonia Freewill Baptist Church

930 - 18th Street 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

"Soaring Higher in Christ Jesus"



Pastor Keturah D. Pittman

Saint Mark African Methodist Episcopal Church

• Sunday- Church School, 9:45am
• Sunday- Worship Service, 11:00am
• Tuesday- Operation "BIG EAR", 6:00pm- 7:00pm

Spiritual Counseling

• Wednesday- Prayer Meeting & Bible Study, 7:00pm- Until 7:30pm

• Thursday- Tutoring for K thru 5th, 6:30pm- 7:30pm

• Friday- Great Book Review for Youth, 7:00pm

• Saturday- Young Men's Bible Study, "Teen Word" Each 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month

9:00am- 10:00am

2232 62nd Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33712
(727) 867-2400

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church

3455 - 26th Avenue South • St. Petersburg, FL 33711
(727) 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.

Rev. Joaquin Marvin

The Love of God Within Us Reaches Out to Others



Rev. Emily Gillespie

Unity Temple of Truth Church, located at 51 Prescott Street South, invites you to attend its Family and Friends Day this Sunday, April 14th, at 11 a.m.

Unity Temple of Truth Church is honored to have as its speaker Reverend Emily Gillespie. Reverend Gillespie is a natural, energetic and exciting speaker who has served as a minister for several Unity ministries. She comes to us from Inverness, FL, where she is active in community organizations and is well known for her activities within the community. She is Vice Chair of the Interfaith Council and has spoken at World Religion

Day, Winter Fest celebration and the African-American Black History events. Presently, she is Chairman of the Christ Center of Love and Light in Inverness.

Reverend Gillespie is a motivational speaker who will teach you to utilize your God-given potential in your daily life. Reverend Gillespie's meditations place one in a state of complete knowingness of God's presence. She will also help you to recognize the Bible as a source of strength and hope as well as how to improve your self-image. What better gift to give our loved ones than the tools needed to sustain us in our everyday lives.

As Eleanor Roosevelt once wrote, "Many people will walk in and out of your life, but only true friends will leave footprints in your heart."

If you want to be uplifted and feel renewed, don't miss this dynamic speaker. Come and be wondrously blessed!

Celebrate With Us



The Original Florida Spiritualaires

One of St. Petersburg's outstanding radio personalities and singers celebrate their anniversary - the Rev. Fleming Tarver, over 35 years in radioland, and the Original Florida Spiritualaires, singing for the same number of years.

They have traveled far and abroad over America and have recorded with some of the top companies in the U.S.A. They await their next CD release, "Where Have the

Missionaries Gone" this Summer.

The community will come together this Sunday, April 14th, at 7 p.m. to say thanks to Rev. Fleming Tarver and the Original Florida Spiritualaires at the Bethel Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church, 3455 - 26th Ave. S., St. Petersburg, featuring some of the best artists.

Give God Thanks This Sunday For Life, Health and Strength!!

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

505 - 35th Street S. • St. Petersburg, FL • 327-3186
Morning Worship 7:45 a.m.
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Mid-Morning Worship 10:50 a.m.
Baptist Training Union 5:00 p.m.
Mid-Week Worship Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Bible Study/Prayer Service Thursday 7:30 p.m.

Come join us at the Church where everyone is Welcome!



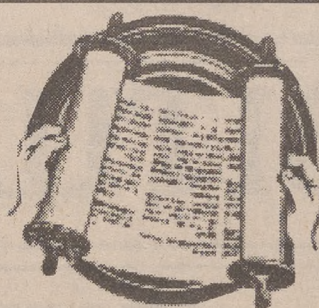
Rev. Earnest Jones, Pastor

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.

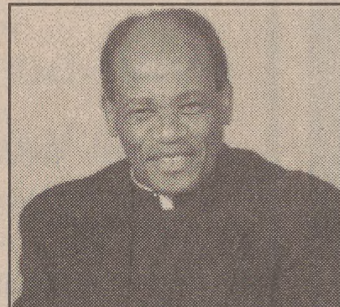
The church where everyone is welcome & the Spirit of Christ lives.



St. Joseph Church

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

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



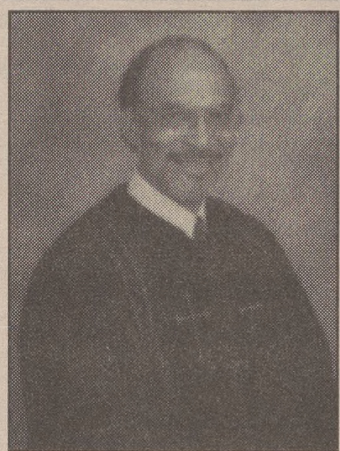
Father Callist Nyambo, Pastor

TRAVELERS REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2183 - 22nd Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Church Phone: 822-4869
Residence: 824-6021

Mid-Morning Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Prayer/Praise Service (Wk) 7:00 p.m.

Rev. Donald F. Browne



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

Mt. Zion Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

955 - 20th Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712

Phone: 894-4311
www.mzprogressive.org

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)

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist

Pastor Joaquin Marvin and the Bethel Metropolitan Church family invite you to worship with us on Sunday during the 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. services and Church School at 9:30 a.m. The Praise Team, Angelic, Youth Choir and #2 Usher Board will serve.

Our Midweek Bible Study (NBC) and Prayer Service on Wednesday at 7 p.m. are designed for the

spiritual growth of the entire family. Transportation is available. Call the church office, 327-0554, if you have a need. Noon Day Bible Study is held each Thursday at 12 noon.

Pastor Marvin and the church family will travel to Starke, FL, on Sunday, April 28th, to install Reverend Shawn Washington as Pastor of Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church.

Reverend Washington has been an associate at Bethel Metropolitan for ten (10) years. We are very proud of this young minister and know he will spread God's Word with eagerness and enthusiasm.

It is our desire to be a friendly people who offer a kaleidoscope of ministries for all ages and interest. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to

unite with us in giving a positive Christian witness in the spirit of worship.

April calendar:

April 19th - Fellowship Service at Traveler's Rest MBC, 7 p.m.

April 21st - Ordination Service.

April 24th - Installation Service, Starke, FL, 4 p.m.

Travelers' Rest Missionary Baptist Church

On Sunday, April 14th, Pastor D. Franklin Browne and the Travelers' Rest Church family extend warm heartfelt greetings to all who will worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. We invite you to attend our 8 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service. Life Development Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. followed by Mid-Morning Traditional Worship Service at 11 a.m. Deacons and deaconesses will lead us in our devotional service. The Ministry of the Word will be preached by Pastor Browne. Mass Choir, under the direction of Barbara Davis and our Minister of

Music Helen Williams, will be in charge of the Ministry of Music. Usher Ministry #2 will serve as our doorkeepers, and the Men's Ministry will welcome our members and visitors.

"Celebrating the Past, Appreciating the Present and Launching the Future" is the 58th Church Anniversary theme. We are grateful to the following churches who will share in the celebration: April 18th - St. Mark Missionary Baptist and Rev. Brian Brown; April 19th - Bethel Metropolitan, Rev. Joaquin C. Marvin; April 20th - "Brunch and Fashion Show" at the Regency Resort, Minister Shirley Thornton, guest speaker; and April 21st - Mt. Zion Progressive Baptist Church, Rev. Louis

Murphy.

Weekly activities:

Thursday, April 9th - Mid-Day Bible Study, 11 a.m. (an in-depth study of the scriptures and nursing home visitation at Bay Pointe Pavillion; 7 p.m. Mass Choir rehearsal.

Saturday, April 13th - Sunday School teachers' meeting, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, April 17th -

7 p.m., Prayer and Praise; 7-8:30 p.m., Youth Bible Study; 7:30-8:30 p.m., Adult Bible Study.

If you need transportation to church, please contact the office at 822-4869 by noon on Saturday.

If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join our fellowship. God bless!



Moore's Chapel AME Church

Rev. James T. Blount - Pastor

Sunday Worship - 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School (all ages) - 9:30a.m.

Noon Day Prayer/Bible Study - Wednesday - 12:00 p.m.

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

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Sunday Services:

Church School 9am

Praise & Worship Services 10:30am

Tuesday Services:

Prayer Service 6:30pm

Bible Study 7pm

Join us as we lift up the name of Jesus



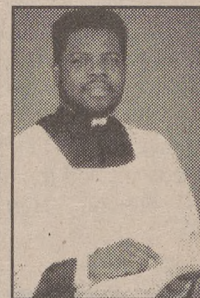
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Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ

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Elder William E. Anderson, Pastor



Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:30 a.m.
Community Bible Study Tuesday 7:30 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Intercessory Prayer Saturday 5:45 a.m.

"A church working together for the upbuilding of God's kingdom"

Masjid Al-Muminin

Islamic Services

Jumuah Prayer - Friday 1:30 p.m.

Qur'anic Study - Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Taleem - 12:00 p.m.

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TUESDAY "WORD EXPLOSION" - 7:30 PM

FRIDAY "JUBILEE SERVICE" 7:30 PM

"YOUTH IN ACTION" - Saturday, 6 PM

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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.



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Ps. 127:1

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Morning Worship: 11 am
Youth Hour: 1 Hour Before
Sunset

WEDNESDAY

Prayer Meeting: 7:30 PM

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Pastor John A. Evans

Sunday 7:45 AM and
11 AM Worship

Sunday School 9:30 AM

Wednesday Noonday Bible Study and

Bread of Life

Thursday Prayer and Bible Study 7 PM

also Youth Enrichment Hour

Moore's Chapel AME Church

"A church is as large as the lives that are touched through the congregation, by the love of God. Caring is the ultimate measure of a congregation size." - Carl S. Dudley

The Moore's Chapel AME Church family, under the leadership of Rev. James T. Blount, is constantly striving to be a help to our fellow man in the Palmetto neighborhood and St. Petersburg. Our doors are always open to those who desire to hear the Word of the Lord, need a helping hand or simply to come and worship with us.

Our Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. We invite children and adults to come and enjoy learning about

the Lord. Our worship services are 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. Rev. Ira Whitson will deliver the 8 a.m. sermon, and Rev. Blount will continue his sermons on Elijah at the 11 a.m. service. The Word of God will be made plain, and the Holy Spirit will reign supreme.

The Laymen Organization will present "A Tom Thumb Wedding" Saturday, April 13th, at 1 p.m. Simona Jones, chairperson, and the other members have worked diligently with this project. It promises to be a delightful and enjoyable affair. Please come out and support them. Ralph Brown is the President.

The Daisy

Pierce/Fannie Williams Women's Missionary Society invites you to their "Showers of Blessing" Tea April 14th from 4-6 p.m. at Lynn Lake Apts. Clubhouse, 2500 Lynn Lake Drive S. The youth of the church, along with invited guests, will present a fashion and talent show. Come and support the WMS in this effort.

The St. Petersburg District of the Tampa Florida Conference and a part of the Eleventh Episcopal District of the AME church will hold its annual Spring Revival at Moore's Chapel AME, 3037 Fairfield Ave. S., April 21st-25th nightly. Our theme is, "Total

Commitment with Praise". Rev. Denmark is the presiding elder, and Rev. James T. Blount is the host pastor. We invite you to "Come out and watch us burn".

Special events coming up:

April 20th - 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. - Food and clothing giveaway, sponsored by Moore's Chapel Outreach Ministry for the Homeless. Bridget Keeley is chairperson and will be assisted by her committee and members of the WMS with Malissa Danesphour, president, and her members.

April 27th - Share food distribution and sign-up, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Mae

Jackson and Margaret Butler, chairpersons.

April 28th - Annual Trustees Day, 11 a.m. services, Willie Frank Bryant and M.B. Bryant, vice-chairpersons.

Reminders:

Tutoring - Monday and Thursday, 6-8 p.m., Fellowship Hall (annex), grades 1-12, sponsored by the Daisy Pierce/Fannie Williams WMS.

For transportation to Church School, Bible Study and Church Services, please contact: Tony Macon, 328-0022; Willie Frank Bryant, 894-6067; or Mose Bell, 906-8225. For other scheduled events, please see our ad in the newspaper.

All Nations Church of God

Our entrance into our Fellowship Hall was awesome, and to God goes all the praise and glory. We thank everyone that participated in deed and in prayer, because we are laborers together.

Our first Sunday morning service began with a special anointed praise and worship that evoked testimonies of God's goodness to us today. We are aware of the many snares and pitfalls Satan has planned for us, but we know without a doubt that God, our true

and living God, is in control.

The Word came with power and might as God poured His spirit out upon His servant, Pastor Williams. She declared with all truth and righteousness that we are the righteousness of God.

The sermon came from Ephesians 2:1-8, and what a mighty sermon; and the church was added onto as we stood on one accord. We concluded the morning with the singing of "Lord, I won't go back. God has

been good to me, Jesus has set me free. No, Lord, I won't go back".

Our church and pastors gave a beautiful and heart-moving letter of thanks to the various committees that worked diligently to make ready our Fellowship Hall. We give God all our praise. We give God all in the name of Jesus.

God's blessings upon you - from the heart of Pastors J&J Williams.

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Please Email All Religious News to The Weekly Challenger by Noon on Monday.

God Knows Best
Our Father knows what's best for us
So why should we complain
We always want the sunshine.
But He knows there must be rain
and so He tests us often with sickness and with pain.
Not to hurt or punish us, but so that we may gain strength to meet with courage life's troubles, trials and sorrow, knowing there awaits us the Joy of God's tomorrow.

The Lord looks down from heaven, He sees all the sons of men. - Psalm 33

"The Lord is great and is to be highly praised; His greatness is beyond understanding." *Psalm 145:3*

When You Wake Each Morning, Forget Not the Lord and His Many Blessings!

"The Lord is my shephard, I shall not want....." - Psalm 23

OBITUARIES

ST. PETERSBURG RITES

BROWN, EVELYN P., 97, died March 31, 2002. Survivors include a stepson, James Brown, St. Petersburg; a niece, Evelyn Seabrook, Gainesville; a nephew, Eugene (Ruth) Brown, Gainesville; and several grandchildren, great grandchildren, great great grandchildren and grand nieces, grand nephews, other relatives and friends. McRae Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

The Family That Prays Together Stays Together

OCALA RITES

DOUGLAS, SIDNEY P., SR., 64, died April 2, 2002. Survivors include two sons, Sidney P. (Myrtle) Douglas, Jr., Sarasota, and Dexter Douglas, Ocala; two daughters, Candi Wilder, West Palm Beach, and Sheila (JR) Douglas Smith, Ocala; two grandsons; three granddaughters; 13 great grandchildren; three sisters; his best friend, Issac Munroe, Newark, NJ; and several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala.

JONES, EDNIA, 74, died April 2, 2002. Survivors include two daughters, Hilda (Bobby) Richardson, Belleview; and Juanita Willis, Washington, D.C.; one son, Rondy Jones, Jacksonville;

two sisters; one brother; two granddaughters; one great grandson; one great great grandson; and several nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Summers Funeral Home, Ocala.

The Lord looks down from heaven, He sees all the sons of men. - Psalm 33

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So why should we complain
We always want the sunshine.
But He knows there must be rain
and so He tests us often with sickness and with pain.
Not to hurt or punish us, but so that we may gain strength to meet with courage life's troubles, trials and sorrow, knowing there awaits us the joy of God's tomorrow.

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Time is not measured by the years that you live
But by the deeds that you do and the joy that you give -

and each day as it comes brings a chance to each one

To love to the fullest, leaving nothing undone
That would brighten the life or lighten the load
Of some weary traveler lost on Life's Road -
So what does it matter how long we may live
If as long as we live, we unselfishly give.

Helen Steiner Rice

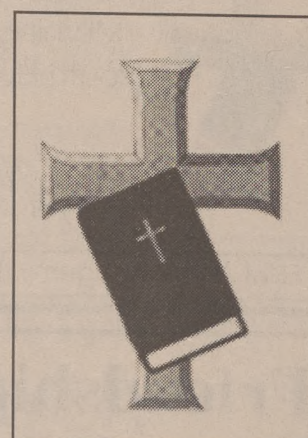


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EBONY SCHOLARS

On The Move



Martina S. Allen

Martina S. Allen is a senior at Boca Ciega High School in the Center for Wellness and Medical Professions Magnet Program. Martina plans to attend the University of North Florida after graduating in June to pursue a degree in Physical Therapy and Sports Medicine. She is a member of Del-Teens as well as the Ebony

Scholars Academic Club, a student athletic trainer, is listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students and volunteers for Hospice. Martina resides with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh H. Allen III.



Dennis Quan'tel Wright

Dennis Quan'tel Wright is a junior at Gibbs High School. After graduation he plans to attend Florida A&M or Florida State University to pursue a career as a doctor. Dennis is a member of S.T.E.P., Multi-Cultural Club, as well as the Ebony Scholars Academic Club. He resides

with his mother, Angela Murray.

**There's A Reason To Read
The Weekly Challenger!**



Ashley Nicole Ward-Singleton

Ashley Nicole Ward-Singleton is a senior in Lakewood High School's Center for Advanced Technologies Magnet Program. After graduation in June, Ashley plans to attend Spelman College or Florida State University to pursue a degree in Broadcast Journalism and Television Production. She is a member of the National Honor

Society, C.A.T.C.O.M., Del-Teens, Fox 13 Magazine, Pinellas County Schools Journal Package Producer and Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church Young Adult Choir. Ashley tutors at her church and volunteers at All Children's Hospital and is the Treasurer of the Ebony Scholars Academic Club. She resides with her mother, Sarah Ward.

Spotlight

continued from Front.

the evening meal. During this time, the kids are usually playing on the screened porch. After dinner and clean up, she says she may color or read stories to the kids and spend some family time before bathing them and putting them to bed. Next she begins preparing for the next day. After she has gone through this ritual, she is more than ready to go to bed.

This five day a week routine recently paid off for Taguna as she celebrated becoming the first Youth Skills student to receive her GED under the new format that was instituted in January. "I was

real happy," she says with a shy grin. "I called my mom, my dad and brothers in New Jersey. They were proud of me. And my friend was happy too. He said he knew I could do it."

Before Taguna became a mom, she lived in New Jersey with her father. She went to school everyday and graduated from the eighth grade. The summer after eighth grade Taguna went to visit her mom in Orlando, which is where she discovered that she was pregnant by her boyfriend back home. When her mom found out, she decided to keep Taguna in Orlando so that she could be with her during her pregnancy. Taguna didn't return to school the following fall, but dropped out to take

care of her baby son. Later, she returned to New Jersey and became pregnant again. After her daughter was born, Taguna decided to leave New Jersey. With her children in tow, she moved back to Orlando. After awhile the relationship with her children's father ran its course, and they broke up. "There was nothing wrong with him, I just didn't like him anymore."

Taguna got a job at Church's Chicken and struck a deal with her mom to babysit. She began dating again and soon learned that another baby was on the way. After her second daughter was born, she decided to move to St. Petersburg where she had a close friend. That turned

out to be a good move and Taguna says she will not have any more babies. "I'm officially done." What she wants to do is complete PTEC's Pharmacy Tech program and then transfer to a state university to become a pharmacist.

Managing responsibility is one lesson Taguna has truly learned. Her success in handling motherhood, Family Life 101, and working simultaneously has prepared her for even the most complex of tasks.

To her, becoming a pharmacist is just one more thing she will have to put on her plate. And eventually, she says, she will reach her goal.

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SPORTS NEWS

D-Rays Off To Their Best Start



Veronica Sandy and Logan Bell of Atwater's

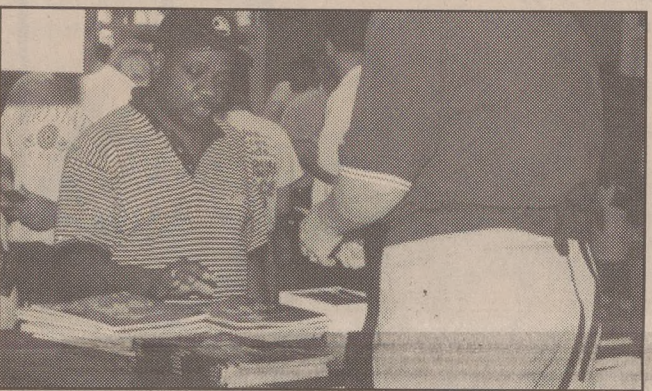


L-R: William Towns, Cynthia Sumter, Therese Bailey and Glerys Clarkson



Shonti Herman

L-R: Laurie and Syl Pearsall



All photos by Bill Thomas

A fan looks over Rays merchandise

by Barry A. McIntosh
SPORTS

For the first time in their history, the Tampa Bay D-Rays swept their opening season series, beating the Detroit Tiger in their first 3 games. Our photographer caught these shots at the Opening Day crowd.

The team's catch

"Wildwood Summer Basketball League

ST. PETERSBURG - The Wildwood Recreation Center Summer Basketball League, 1000 28th St. S., is now accepting registration for teams interested in playing league basketball. Registration cost is \$500 per team.

The league begins June 17, 2002 and ends on Aug. 7, 2002 and consists of ten teams. There will be five teams in two conferences. Each team plays a 14 game league schedule playing two games weekly.

The Wildwood Summer Basketball League is sanctioned by "The National Collegiate Athletic Association". Any College or Jr. College players wishing to play in the league can do so without risk of losing their eligibility. The deadline to enter your team in the league is Fri., May 5, 2002. Priority is given to the first 10 teams to sign-up and pay registration fees.

Contact Coach Ken Robinson or Lynn Murray at (727) 893-7750.

Fun League Programs

New Learn to Skate classes! Both figure skating and hockey lessons available in either 5 or 10 week sessions. Starting the week of April 8th at the Fun League Group Facilities. Sign up at any of the Fun League Facilities: TBSA Oldsmar 813-854-4010, TBSA Countryside 727-723-7785, TBSA Parkside 727-527-2276 and Ice Sports Forum, Brandon 813-684-7825

Fun League Challenge Figure Skating Competition: April 27th and 28th at TBSA Oldsmar. Open to all ISI members, all ages welcome, applications available at all Fun League Group facilities: Brandon, Oldsmar, Countryside and Parkside, or call 813-854-4010-x 109

Youth Hockey Mini Mite Programs available at Fun League Facilities:

Ice Sports Forum, Brandon (813) 684-7825, and TBSA Oldsmar (813) 854-4010. The program is an instructional league for hockey players ages 6 and under, teaching the necessary skills and teamwork which lead to recreational play. Call for more details.

Summer Hockey Camp, for players of all abilities at TBSA Oldsmar, July 8 - 12th. Cost is \$150 for the week or \$35 daily. Open to all ages and abilities. Call (813) 854-4010 ext 110 for details.

Summer Freestyle Camp, Level qualifications: Freestyle I or higher. Beginning June 3rd, Ice Sports Forum, Brandon

call 813-684-7825 x 235 for price levels and times.

Central Florida Youth Hockey League Spring Season starts April 6 thru June 16, at TBSA Oldsmar. All teams welcome: Mites, Squirts, Pee Wee, Bantam, Midget, call 813-854-4010 x 105 for details.

HOCKEY STANDINGS:

Southeast District Championships Tier II level were held at TBSA Oldsmar March 22-24. This event was co-hosted by the Greater Tampa Youth Hockey Association Stars and the Statewide Amateur Hockey of Florida.

Youth teams in ages 11&12, 13&14, and 15-17 from Virginia, South Carolina,

Tennessee, Alabama, Maryland, Georgia, and Florida locations competed for the titles in this tournament.

In the Pee Wee division, team the Junior Panthers from Coral Springs, FL became the champions by outscoring the Charleston, South Carolina Thunder 7-4 in the final game.

In the Bantam Division championship game, The Greater Hampton Virginia Whalers scored the game winning goal to defeat the Carolina Bantams in the fourth sudden death overtime period, 3-2.

In the Midget Division, team Carolina outlasted the Central Florida Flames 7-5 to be crowned Southeast Champions.

SPC's Bats Go Quiet; Teams at Home Today and Friday, Looking to Turn Things Around

by Jim Moorhead

The bats started coming up short for the St. Petersburg College baseball and softball teams last week as they posted eight consecutive losses between them.

The baseball team, after earlier winning three straight games over South Florida Community College, dropped a pair to Polk CC, got a pass on another game that was rained out, then lost on successive days to Manatee CC.

All were Suncoast Conference games, so SPC - after being tied for first

place with Manatee - suddenly found itself two games out and tied for second with Polk.

"We just got in a rut," said Coach Dave Pano. "We were not playing good defense, after leading the state in defense, and we were not swinging the bats. But at one point last year, we lost three in a row, so we'll just see. Hopefully, we can turn it around in the next couple of weeks."

Only the conference's top two teams at season's end later this month will advance to the state tournament.

The Titans (23-14, 11-8) played Manatee Monday. They play Pasco-Hernando CC Friday at 7 p.m. in a conference tilt at the Phillies' Carpenter Complex, just off Old Coachman Road about 1/4 mile north of Drew Street in Clearwater.

The softball team, after losing a doubleheader to Manatee, came back with twin victories against visiting Prairie View (Ill.) Community College. But then came consecutive losses, in a Gainesville tournament, to four Florida community college teams -

Tallahassee, Okaloosa-Walton, host Santa Fe and Polk.

Coach Lance Lamport's Titans (24-32, 6-6) will try to get things going in the other direction this afternoon at 5 in their final home game of the season. They take on Polk CC in a conference game at Clearwater's Eddie Moore Complex, a mile east of SPC's Clearwater Campus on Drew Street.

All of SPC's home games are free.

St Pete College Sports News

by Amelia Carey

Never before in the history of the college (75 years) had an athletic team won a state tournament. This year's men's basketball team decided it was time to change that. Last month, in an overtime game in Marianna, the Titans defeated Indian River Community College for the state championship. Although few SPC fans were there to see it, the team returned to the St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus

for a celebration befitting their accomplishment.

In the Quad one sunny afternoon, team members, carrying their winning plaques and other awards, were driven out on golf carts while the tune "We Are The Champions" by Queen blared from the public address system.

Students, staff and faculty gathered around to hear college President Carl M. Kuttler Jr. and Provost Charlie Roberts address the team, praising their

accomplishment.

"I'm so proud of my guys," Coach Earnest Crumbley said after the championship game. "They really hung in there."

Athletic Director Ed Long said the state title validated the program-building he and the coaches have been pursuing for several years.

"I've watched our basketball teams for 36 years and worked with them for 10 and this is without a doubt their finest hour,"

Long said. "My hat is off to all who played a part."

The team represented Florida's community colleges in this year's national tournament in Hutchinson, Kansas. The Titans were eliminated from the double-elimination tournament after a final defeat by Walters State Community College of Tennessee.

"This year we knocked on the door," Crumbley said. "Next year we're going to kick it in."

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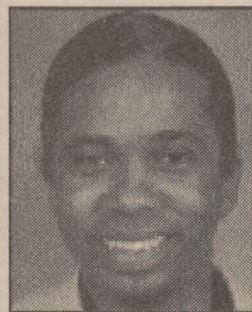
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NORTH CENTRAL NEWS



LIGHT OF THE WORLD

by Rev. Daniel Banks

Is it I or has everyone forgotten that the Jews are God's chosen people? It appears that the majority of the world is condemning Israel for its present occupation of the Palestinian city of Ramallah and for holding the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, hostage in his own office. However, the Israelis believe that they are doing what God told them to do in the Old Testament. That was to go into the Promised Land and drive out the heathen! Historically, the Lord has always fought for Israel and He always will! For those of you taking sides, the side to be on is the side of Israel! Any enemy of Israel is an enemy of God's, and it is bad to fall into the hands of an angry God!

God promised the land of Canaan to the children of Israel after He brought them out of bondage to Egypt. He opened the Red Sea and caused them to walk across on dry land. After their wilderness journeys, Joshua led them into the Promised Land across the Jordan River. Again, the Israelites passed through a large body of water on dry land because the Lord opened the Jordan, as He did the Red Sea, and allowed the entire nation to cross over on dry land.

Before crossing Jordan, Joshua reminded the people of God's intent with these words: "Hereby ye shall know that the living God is among you and that He will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites and the Jebusites." - Joshua 3:10

Palestinians today are descendants of all the heathen nations that God told Israel to drive out of the Promised Land. They come from these very tribes mentioned in verse ten. Does God still intend for Israel to be as aggressive today as they were in the days of old? Joshua 1:1-6 reads like this, "Now after the death of Moses, the servant of the Lord, it came to pass that the Lord spake unto Joshua, the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, 'Moses My servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast. There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them'."

After victories at Jericho and Ai, the children of Israel conquered Hazor. Here is the Biblical account: "And Joshua at that time turned back, and took Hazor, and smote the king thereof with the sword: for Hazor beforetime was the head of all those kingdoms (that opposed Israel). And they smote (killed) all the souls that were therein with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them: there was not any left to breathe: and he burnt Hazor with fire. And all the cities of those kings, and all the kings of them, did Joshua take, and smote them with the edge of the sword, and he utterly destroyed them, as Moses the servant of the Lord commanded. But as for the cities that stood still in their strength, Israel burned none of them, save Hazor only; that did Joshua burn. And all the spoil of these cities, and the cattle, the children of Israel took for a prey unto themselves; but every man they smote with the edge of the sword, neither left they any to breathe.

As the Lord commanded Moses His servant, so did Moses command Joshua, and so did Joshua; he left nothing undone of all that the Lord commanded Moses. So Joshua took all that land, the hills, and all the south country, and all the land of Goshen, and the valley, and the plain, and the mountain of Israel, and the valley of the same. Even from the mount Halak, that goeth up to Seir, even unto Baalgad in the valley of Lebanon under mount Hermon: and all their kings he took, and smote them, and slew them. Joshua made war a long time with those kings. There was not a city that made peace with the children of Israel, save the Hivites the inhabitants of Gibeon: all other they took in battle.

For it was of the Lord to harden their hearts, that they should come against Israel in battle, that He might destroy them utterly, and that they might have no favour, but that he (Joshua) might destroy them, as the Lord commanded Moses." - Joshua 11:10-20.

Pray my strength in the Lord, that like Israel, I will do as the Lord commands me, no matter how the whole world feels about it. President Bush has twice asked Israel to withdraw from its occupation in Palestine. However, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon called Bush and told him that he will continue his objective in the West Bank. It really takes courage to stand up and tell the world, "for God I live and for God I'll die!" Pray much for me.



SOCIETY IN OCALA

by Florence Wms. Ray

NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING MONTH

April is National Fair Housing Month. The Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination based on race or color, national origin, sex, religion, handicap (disability) or familial status (the presence of children under the age of 18, or a pregnant female.) Fair Housing laws apply to renting, buying, advertising, financing, mortgages, zoning, homeowners and renters insurance and harassment or intimidation.

To celebrate National Fair Housing and promote homeownership, Withlacoochee Area Legal Services, Inc., the City of Ocala Community Programs Department, the Ocala Housing Authority, Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Mid-Florida, Inc. and local financial institutions are co-sponsoring the Second Annual Ocala/Marion County Housing Fair. This event will take place on Saturday, April 20th, at the Edward D. Croskey Recreation Center. The Center is located at the corner of Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue and NW 4th Street, across from Madison Street School of Basic Plus. Admission is free.

The Housing Fair will give prospective home buyers an opportunity to meet local lenders, builders, realtors and other housing providers. Credit reports will be available.

For additional information, please contact Lena Smith with Withlacoochee Area Legal Services at 352-629-0105 or Jodi Pena with the Ocala Housing Authority at 352-369-2636 ext. 225.

PROJECT GRADUATION SET

Project Graduation, an alcohol and drug free party given by the community for graduating high school seniors, will be held May 21st.

The evening begins at Wild Waters with dancing, music, food and water fun, followed by all-night movies at Hollywood 16 Theater and games at Easy Street Family Fun Factory. It concludes with breakfast

and prizes, including a grand prize of \$5,000. Over 1,200 students attended last year. Volunteers and donations are needed. For additional information, call Matt Matthews at 629-8231 or Marjorie McGee at 629-0055, ext. 228.

COMMUNITY GROUPS PLAN CLEAN UP DAY

On Saturday, April 20th, community groups and neighborhood residents will participate in the second annual "Spring Clean Up."

The City of Ocala's Public Works Department and the Community Programs Department are sponsoring the citywide event, which will be held from 9 am until noon.

Place trash, yard waste and unwanted items at the curb for collection the following Monday, April 22nd. For additional information call 629-8231.

WIZARD OF OZ MUNCHKIN TO APPEAR

The Friends of the Ocala Library are hosting Meinhardt Raabe, one of the last surviving original Munchkins from the movie, "The Wizard of Oz."

You are invited to follow the yellow brick road to the Ocala Public Library and hear Meinhardt on April 19, 2002 at 3 p.m. Raabe is best known for his role as the coroner who uttered the words, "And she's not only merely dead, she's really most sincerely dead," after the wicked witch of the west met her demise.

Meinhardt will appear in costume and discuss the making of the movie.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

Birthday greetings go out to Glynn Richardson and Euggie Lee Thomas, April 1st; Laura Smith, April 3rd; Erma Rush, April 4th; Joyce S. Sanders, April 7th; Lena H. Smith, April 10th; CoLeka Owens, April 11th; Rose Lee Sims, April 12th; Annie Arthur and Cora Thorpe, April 13th; Catherine Woods and Derek Ponder, April 15th; Donvae Barnes, April 16th.

14th Annual Cultural Arts Festival

by Carleather Ponder

The African American Arts Festival Committee, Inc. announces the 14th Annual Cultural Arts Festival to be held May 3-5, 2002 at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Sports Complex.

The festival opens at 6:00 PM on Friday, May 3rd and concludes at 6 PM on Sunday.

For more information you may contact (352) 351-4732 or (352) 898-4593.

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church

On Sunday, April 14th, please join us! Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church (Mondon Hill), located at 8160 W.P.A. Road, Brooksville, is celebrating its anniversary by presenting an inspiring program featuring The Hopewell Baptist Church of Norcross, GA, with the Men of Faith Choir in concert.

Come out and witness a spirit of praise and worship like never before! The time of the concert is 11 a.m. Rev. Marvin Lowery is pastor.

For more information, please contact the church at (352) 796-1955 or Pastor Lowery at (727) 866-0126.

GOD BLESS AMERICA



OCALA NEWS

by Jim Thorpe

PASTOR ANNIVERSARY

Faith Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church will observe its pastor's 10th anniversary during the month of April. Saturday, April 13th, at 5 p.m., Rev. John Banks and Congregation of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church will be in charge - Reddick.

Next Sunday, April 14th, at 7 p.m. Rev. David Fountain and congregation

of Mt. Sinai Missionary Baptist Church will be in charge - Orange Lake.

Tuesday, April 16th, at 7p.m. Dr. Fred Maeweathers and the United Theological Seminary Students will be in charge - Ocala.

Sunday, April 21st, at 11a.m. Rev. Carl Gadson and Congregation of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church - Sparr, FL, will be in charge.



WORDS BY ROSETTA

by Rosetta Cohen Forshee

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

April 2nd - Rosetta Forshee; April 4th - Cyentria Laster II; April 9th - Theresa Heflin; April 10th - Kejuan Gadson; April 29th - Kedaja Coleman, Simone Forshee and Joseph Taylor; April 30th - Irvin Lake. Happy Birthday!

DISCOUNT DRUG CARD

Eli Lilly and Co. has become the fourth drug manufacturer in recent

months to issue a discount card for its products. The "Lily Answers Plan" allows eligible Medicare beneficiaries to pay a flat \$12 fee for a 30-day supply of prescription drugs made by Lilly.

Beneficiaries qualify for the card if they have no drug insurance coverage and their annual income is below \$18,000 (individual) or \$24,000 (household).

To apply, call toll free 1-877-795-4559.

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Donation canisters are located at each register in each of our Kash n' Karry locations.
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Thanks from all the kids who will benefit from your donation!

Prices Effective: Wednesday, April 10 - Tuesday, April 16, 2002

NATIONAL NEWS

FOX Sportscaster Is Named Recipient of APMA Executive Director's Award

AFRICAN-AMERICAN NEWSWIRE - BETHESDA, MD - James Brown, sportscaster for the FOX Network, was selected by American Podiatric Medical Association (APMA) Executive Director Glenn Gastwirth, DPM, as the recipient of the APMA Executive Director's Award.

The Executive Director's Award was established by the APMA to recognize significant contributions to the advancement of national foot health awareness and podiatric medicine. The award was bestowed upon Brown at the 82nd meeting of the APMA House of Delegates in Washington, DC from March 24-26, 2002.

The award is given at the discretion of the APMA Executive Director when an individual or an organization demonstrates extraordinary dedication to raising awareness about the importance of foot health.

"Tens of thousands of people suffer from foot complications related to diabetes. With James Brown's help, we are certain that podiatrists will have the opportunity to prevent many of these complications," said Dr. Gastwirth. "James Brown has been an important member of our team, and we are truly grateful for his help in delivering our message to

those most at risk for diabetic foot complications."

Brown is the spokesperson for the APMA's "Diabetes is a Family Affair" campaign and reached over an estimated 32 billion people with his message "It is important to check your feet daily and see a podiatrist at least once a year." He became involved in the campaign because of his mother's complications with the disease.

While completing his eighth year as a co-host of the FOX NFL Sunday pre and post game shows, Brown filmed a public service announcement about the importance of foot care for people with diabetes. A poster with Brown's image was also distributed to members of the National Association of Community Health Centers in an effort to target people affected by diabetes.

Founded in 1912, the American Podiatric Medical Association is the nation's leading professional society for foot and ankle specialists. The association has component societies in 53 locations in the U.S. and its Territories and a membership of more than 10,000 doctors of podiatric medicine. For free foot health information, contact APMA at 1-800-FOOT-CARE (1-800-366-8227) or visit www.apma.org on the Web.

TheraSeed® Treatment Offers Prostate Cancer Patients an Alternative

BUFORD, GA - When it comes to treating prostate cancer, men have options. TheraSeed® treatment, a product of Atlanta-based Theragenics Corporation® (NYSE: TGX), offers an alternative to surgery that has been demonstrated to deliver similar or better cure rates than surgery - and without the higher incidence of complications, including impotence and incontinence.

Information about treatment options may be welcome to African-American men in light of recent studies. African-Americans are twice as likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer and 30 percent more likely to die from it than other males. The American Cancer Society recommends that African-American men should be tested for prostate cancer at age 45.

TheraSeed® devices are radioactive seeds that deliver a highly concentrated, yet confined dose of radiation directly to the prostate cancer cells. The cells are destroyed, and the healthy tissue and organs near the prostate are spared damage from radiation. The procedure is minimally invasive. Most men resume their normal activities within 48 hours following treatment.

TheraSeed® implants represents an excellent option in the prostate cancer treatment category known

as "brachytherapy." Brachytherapy was developed in the early 1900s but did not gain popularity until the mid 1980s when advances in imaging techniques made it possible for physicians to place the seeds with much greater accuracy. These advances, plus the development of data over the past 10 to 15 years showing comparable or better cure rates than prostate surgery, have led to a significant increase in the use of brachytherapy.

TheraSeed® implants are comprised of the isotope Palladium-103, which has been shown to have fewer complications than other treatments.

Supporting independent clinical studies are available at www.thera

seed.com, or ask your doctor about TheraSeed® treatment.

This press release contains certain "forward-looking statements" as defined in the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. There can be no assurance that such statements will prove to be accurate and the actual results and future events could differ materially from management's current expectations. Such factors are detailed from time to time in Theragenics' filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and other regulatory authorities.

Protect Our Flag

ALEXANDRIA, VA - American adults overwhelmingly favor passage of a constitutional amendment allowing Congress to enact laws to protect the American flag from desecration. This finding comes from a recent national survey of 800 Americans over age eighteen conducted by Market Strategies, Inc., a Michigan-based public opinion research organization. Forty-three percent of those interviewed had already heard of prior Congressional debates regarding the flag amendment, which have so far not resulted in passage.

After being exposed to opposition claims, a major-

ity of respondents reject each of them. Sixty-six percent do not think an amendment would limit free speech; 53 percent do not think it is an inconsequential reason to change the Constitution; 55 percent do not think the infrequency of actual flag burnings is a reason to reject a flag amendment; and 90 percent think the American flag is a unique symbol deserving special status.

"It is time for the Senate to act," remarks Patrick H. Brady, Chairman of The Citizens Flag Alliance, Inc. Brady continues: "The House of Representatives has already passed the amendment. We are waiting for a small number of Senators to listen to the resounding voice of their constituents." According to the survey, half of all adult respondents say

that the flag issue by itself would be likely to lead them to vote against a senator who opposed the amendment.

In other findings, 49 percent said they value the flag more following the terrorist attacks of September 11th. This shift is most pronounced among younger Americans, with fully 65 percent of 18-24 year olds reporting that they value the flag more. Eighty percent of this age cohort favors passage of a flag amendment, making them the second most supportive age group. Only respondents sixty-five and older favor the amendment in higher proportions (i.e., 85 percent).

For further information contact Jeff Hayes at (703) 535-8512.

Watch Out for VISA Fraud

VISA USA Fraud Control has learned of a scam designed to obtain cardholders' personal data and account information. VISA reports this activity in Canada, but suspects it may spread to the United States. Anyone with a VISA credit card may receive the following letter:

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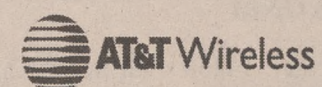
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Please report any such

contact to Visa at www.visa.com or to the financial institution which issued you the card.

The Florida Department of Banking and Finance reminds consumers not to give out personal information on the phone, through the mail or over the Internet unless you have initiated the contact or know who you're dealing with. Identity thieves may pose as representatives of banks, Internet service providers and even government agencies to get you to reveal information. If you suspect fraud, call the DBF Hotline at 1-800-848-3792.



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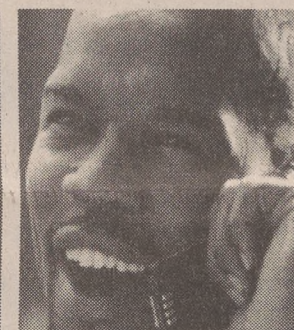
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727.865.9313

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS 6TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Senior Staff Attorney - Lead Staff Attorney responsible for coordinating staff attorney services to Judges throughout Circuit. Req. graduation from an accredited law school; membership in Fla Bar; 2 yrs supervisory exp; ability to digest and communicate concepts orally and in writing; ability to exercise discretion, confidentiality, impartiality and honesty in handling matters before the Court. Salary \$3,604 monthly + bnfts. Position located in mid-Pinellas, but will require intracircuit travel. Position closes April 19.

Staff Psychologist - Seeking licensed psychologist to evaluate delinquent children and advise the Court of assessments made and recommended placements. Requires PhD, license, 2 yrs clinical exper working with children. Must possess training and certification in competency issues. Min. salary \$2,146 b/wkly + bnfts. Position located in mid-County. Open until filled.

Court Applications ONLY

Available at:
Criminal Justice Center, 14250 49th St. N., 2nd flr, H-wing (HR Dept.), Clwr
Clearwater Courthouse, 315 Court St., Rm. 401, Clwr.
501 Building, 501 1st Ave. N., Rm. 729 (Alt. Dispute), St. Pete
Court Administration, Rm. 219, West Pasco Judicial Center, 7530 Little Rd., New Port Richey
<http://www.jud6.org>
EOE AA Drug-Free Workplace. Any person with a disability requiring a special accommodation to participate in the application process should call 727-453-7164.

Your HOROSCOPE

Aries Be discreet about any information you uncover. Pleasure trips will promote new romantic encounters.

Taurus You can bet that you'll draw attention to yourself. However, you may not attract the kind of interest you had in mind.

Gemini Opportunities for romance will develop through group endeavors. The association isn't likely to last.

Cancer You'll have problems with authority figures if you don't play by the rules. Secret enemies will be eager to spread rumors about you.

Leo Opportunities to meet new and exciting individuals will develop through attending lectures or signing up for courses of interest.

Virgo There'll be difficulties if you spend too much. You don't need to pay out in order to have fun. Get involved in volunteer work that will bring you satisfaction, not an empty wallet.

Libra You can make major gains professionally by completing projects on time. You will have additional discipline that will aid you in your objectives.

Scorpio Jealousy may get in the way of a good relationship. Be sure that you have all the facts before you take action.

Sagittarius Social activities that involve the whole family will be enjoyable. Take time to help children with projects that seem impossible to them.

Capricorn Travel in pursuit of pleasure and knowledge. You need excitement in your life.

Aquarius Romantic encounters will develop through colleagues. Minor health problems will cause set backs if you haven't taken care of yourself.

Pisces Secret love affairs may be enticing; however, you must be prepared for the restraints that will follow. Listen to the advice given by those with experience.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)

The Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA) requests statements of qualifications from Bond Underwriting Firms or Individuals interested in assisting the Housing Authority with Financial and Financing viability of multifamily properties as part of the agency's Affordable Housing Program.

The interested Firms or Individual must demonstrate their qualifications in assisting the Housing Authority in performing Tax Exempt Bond Financing for the acquisition of multi-family rental property within the Pinellas County Housing Authority jurisdiction as prescribed by Florida Statue 421.

Interested Firms or Individuals may obtain copy of the "Bond Underwriting Services RFQ" by mail, or in person, at:

Pinellas County Housing Authority
The Dean S. Robinson Administration Building
Attn: Angel I. Tua
11479 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida 33778

Visit our web site at WWW.PIN-CHA.ORG, to access this RFQ

Sealed qualifications statements and expected compensation will be received until 4:00 PM of April 26, 2002 at:

Pinellas County Housing Authority
The Dean S. Robinson Administration Building
Attn: Helen P. Piloneo, Executive Director
11479 Ulmerton Road, Largo, Florida 33778

The Pinellas County Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Housing Provider.

**We're looking for
people that care.**

RN SUPERVISOR
Full-time supervisory position available to experienced RN.
Tuesday-Saturday schedule (days)

LPN's
Full-time & Part-time for team players
and quality caregivers.

Excellent salary & benefits!

Please apply in person or fax resume to:
SOUTH HERITAGE HEALTH & REHAB

718 22nd Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33705
Ph (727) 894-5125 • Fx (727) 894-6839

**WRXB RADIO STATION IS
SEEKING AN ENERGETIC, SELF
STARTER WITH A MINIMUM OF 2
YRS. SALES EXPERIENCE. COM-
MISSIONED. MUST POSSESS
GOOD COMMUNICATION SKILLS
AND BE PERSONABLE. COMMIS-
SION ONLY. PLEASE FAX
RESUME TO (727) 321-3025**

ATTENTION

**ALL AFRICAN-AMERICAN
BURIAL POLICYHOLDERS
OF
METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE
AND/OR
LIFE OF GEORGIA
AND/OR
SOUTHLAND INSURANCE COMPANY**

If you purchased a burial insurance policy in the 1940's, 1950's, 1960's, 1970's or 1980's from Metropolitan Life Insurance, Life of Georgia, and/or Southland Insurance Company and you are African-American,

you may have certain legal rights you need to protect.

Please call for a free consultation:

**Thomas A. Vaughan
Attorney at Law**
Principal Office In Orlando, FL
(407) 648-4535
Toll Free: (800) 989-4535

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisement. Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.

**Please E-Mail
All Articles For
Publication**

GOD BLESS AMERICA!

**ATTENTION
SENIORS
Trinity House
Apts.**

**Opening May
2002**

**1 BR Apartments
Rent based on
income for 62+**

**Applications
available at**

**1600 54th Ave. S.
St. Petersburg
727 415-3886**



THE HOSPICE

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Caring for Pinellas County,
Florida since 1977

A Unique Profession!!
Hands-on care of the
terminally ill.
Accepting Applications
RNs, LPNs
(FL License Required)
&HHA/CNAs
(Both FL cert. needed)
586-4432
300 E. Bay Drive
Largo, FL 33770-3770

INVITATION FOR BID

Bids are requested from qualified, licensed general or paving contractors by The Pinellas County Housing Authority hereinafter referred to as the Owner, for the repaving of internal road-way and sidewalk replacement at:

Palm Lake Village, 1515 County Road 1, Dunedin, FL 34698

Minority Program: An MBE participation goal has been established for this project. The bidder is required to meet or exceed MBE participation goals or make a good faith effort to contract with Certified Minority Business Enterprises. The bidder is advised to review the contract documents immediately in order to schedule the necessary tasks to accomplish good faith efforts. A pre-bid meeting will be held for all interested bidders and certified MBE's on: April 18, 2002 at 10:00 A.M. local time at Palm Lake Village Recreation Building, 1515 County Rd. 1, Dunedin, FL 34698. All prime bidders interested in bidding on the project are encouraged to attend and address subcontracting opportunities for MBE's. Assurance of Completion shall be per clause 10 of HUD Form 5369.

All technical questions concerning this offering should be directed to Bessolo Design Group, attn: John Marrone, at 727/894-4453.

The Bid Package will be open for inspection after 10:00 A.M. on April 15, 2002 in the Central Administration Office of the Pinellas County Housing Authority, 11479 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33778. The Bid Package may be purchased for \$25.00 per set. No partial sets will be issued. Sealed bids will be received until April 23, 2002, at 10:00 A.M. local time at this same location.

Place: Commissioners Meeting Room, Central Administration Office, Pinellas County Housing Authority, 11479 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33778. Proposals: separate bids must be submitted in full accordance with the requirements of the specifications, bidding and contractual conditions which may be examined and obtained from the Pinellas County Housing Authority, 11479 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33778. The Pinellas County Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive minor technicalities; wherever such rejections or waiver is in the best interest of the owner. Contract award: the bid tabulation and notice of award recommendation will be posted at the Pinellas County Housing Authority, The Dean S. Robinson Administration Bldg., 11479 Ulmerton Road, Largo, FL 33778.

The Pinellas County Housing Authority is an equal opportunity housing provider.

NEWS DEADLINE IS 4 P.M. MONDAY

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

The Pinellas County Housing Authority (PCHA) is requesting statements of qualifications from firms or individuals interested in performing Property Management Services to PCHA's affordable housing development(s).

Respondents must demonstrate that their staff are trained and certified by means of an approved trainer or institution. In addition, the applicant must demonstrate experience and capabilities to perform Property Management Services. Expected compensation must be elaborated and descriptive of estimated cost.

The scope of work includes, but is not limited to, Pre-occupancy tenant selection, Unit Inspections, Affordable Housing and Tenant Assistance Determination, maintenance Management.

Interested firms or individuals may obtain a copy of the "Property Management Services RFQ" by mail, or in person.

Pinellas County Housing Authority
The Dean S. Robinson Administration Building
Attn: Angel I. Tua, 11479 Ulmerton Rd., Largo, FL 33778
Visit our website at: www.pin-cha.org to access this RFQ

Sealed qualifications statements and expected compensation will be received until 4:00 PM of April 26, 2002 at:

Pinellas County Housing Authority
The Dean S. Robinson Administration Building
Attn: Helen P. Piloneo, 11479 Ulmerton Rd., Largo, FL 33778

The Pinellas County Housing Authority is an Equal Opportunity Housing Provider.

OFFICE OF THE COURT COUNSEL 6TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

Part-Time Clerical Assistant - Office support work for staff attorneys. 20-25 hours per week. Req. HS grad and 2 yrs clerical exp. Salary \$9.52 hrly + bnfts. Position located in mid-County.

Court Applications ONLY by April 19 Available at:

Criminal Justice Center, 14250 49th St. N., 2nd flr, H-wing (HR Dept.), Clwr
Clearwater Courthouse, 324 S. Ft. Harrison Ave., Clwr.
501 Building, 501 1st Ave. N., Rm. 729 (Alt. Dispute), St. Pete
Court Administration, Rm. 219, West Pasco Judicial Center, 7530 Little Rd., New Port Richey
<http://www.jud6.org/jobs>
EOE AA Drug-Free Workplace. Any person with a disability requiring a special accommodation to participate in the application process should call 727-453-7164.

BUDGET & MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR City of St. Petersburg, FL

\$68,701 - \$98,365

The City of St. Petersburg, FL is seeking an innovative professional to play a key role on its management team. The Budget & Management Director oversees the development and oversight of the City's operating and capital improvement budgets, and interacts closely with the Mayor, City Council, and members of senior management on an ongoing basis.

Qualified candidates will at a minimum have a four year degree in finance, economics, accounting, public administration or a related field with at least five years of relevant budget experience in a public sector jurisdiction of comparable size. Preference will be given to candidates who can demonstrate experience in any of the following areas: performance measurement; public-private competition to provide public services; and/or activity-based costing.

The City of St. Petersburg operates under a Strong Mayor form of government and has a population of approximately 240,000.

Interested persons should direct a resume to the Employment Office, P.O. Box 2842, St. Petersburg, FL 33731-2842 no later than May 6, 2002, EOE

**City of St. Petersburg
POLICE OFFICER**
\$31,877 - \$48,170
NO CLOSING DATE

Police work involving the protection of life and property through the enforcement of laws and ordinances. Work involves responsibility for the prevention, detection and investigation of criminal activity, while assigned to a specific task or geographic area on an assigned shift. Work is performed with considerable independence under general direction of an administrative supervisor, with responsibilities to include problem solving activities while working in conjunction with community organizations. Includes the use and care of firearms, communications equipment, gas masks and other necessary equipment. This work involves the element of personal danger and requires the exercise of considerable independent judgement including application of policy and procedure and tact. Also, includes the use of computers to access information and generate reports. The Police Officer may be assigned to a specialized unit requiring specialized knowledge, training and work in units, such as vice and narcotics, community policing, criminal investigations, etc. Must be a high school graduate or possess a GED certificate. We require sixty (60) college hours however, applicants with thirty (30) college credit hours are eligible to apply. Must be at least 19, and meet all other criteria of the current "Selection Standards for Police Officer Positions" as set forth by the City of St. Petersburg.

Selection Process: Personal History Questionnaire, polygraph, vocational assessment/psychological evaluation, physical agility, background investigation, medical exam and drug screen. Applications will be received in the Employment Office, One Fourth Street North, 4th Floor, Monday - Friday.

Preference in appointment will be extended to eligible veterans and, in some instances, spouses of eligible veterans. To receive veteran's preference, documentation of status must be submitted at time of application.

