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25¢

A Proud Mother, A Turn-A-Round Son



Kelly J. Gaskin is pictured with her son, Jacques Hampton II

photo by the Pinellas County Urban League

SEMINOLE - Kelly Gaskin shares a proud moment with her son, Jacques Hampton II, who was recently selected by Osceola Middle School as a "Most Improved Student of the Year." Several months ago, this picture was far from being imagined.

Hampton had been moving in a direction of being totally out-of-control with his anger. His rage at home made it impossible for him and his twin sister to get along. Gaskin said they were constantly fighting and arguing over the smallest matters. She was afraid that the fighting would soon lead to serious injuries. "His sister would often have to barricade herself in her room to avoid his attacks," said Gaskin. It was to the point that she couldn't leave the two of them at home in the evening while she attended nursing school.

Subsequently, Gaskin received one of those most dreaded phone calls from the school resource officer

saying that Jacques had been arrested and transported to the Pinellas County Juvenile Assessment Center for fighting in school. After appearing in Juvenile Court, Hampton was court ordered to complete community service hours and attend an anger management course provided by the Pinellas County Urban League. This process did not intimidate Hampton. His worst fear was the wrath of his mother, once she decided what to do about his recklessness. Teenagers are confronted with these issues everyday such as making good grades, or backing down from a fight to stay in good graces with their peers. Not fighting could mean being called names and belittlement for the rest of the school year.

For Hampton, these consequences led to some positive results. After his arrest and attendance of the Urban League's anger management course, Jacques turned his life around according to his

mother. He made new friends and his grades improved from "Ds" and "Fs" to 5 "As" and a "B" for the last grading period. Hampton now has better control of his anger. He and his sister are getting along much better. In fact, Hampton is now mentoring his sister on how to control her anger as well.

According to Hampton, his biggest eye-opener came from the Urban League counselors and the Anger Management Program. Hampton said he learned self-respect, how to avoid negative peer pressure, and that fighting not only reflected badly upon him, but his family, too. The visit to the Pinellas County Boot Camp had great impact. It's a place Hampton said he never wants to return. Hampton's mother says that her son is very gifted, "learning comes very naturally for him. He is now more relaxed without the scowls or frowns, and he has the smile of a champion. That's what I enjoy seeing." According to his school counselor, Hampton was recently selected as a Turn-A-Round Student due to his improved grades and positive demeanor.

For a mother who feared losing her son to the vicious streets, now can only gleam over his honors. She sees a son with a bright future - one that she and the community can be proud of - one who will be successful in his endeavors.



Tyrone Johnson

by Candace K. Clarke

ST. PETERSBURG - It was a day to look back on fond memories, a day to forge new beginnings. At the center of it all was one man's love for music and his passion to educate, paired with a local organization's desire to motivate youth. From this, a new foundation is being built, as one lucky student at Perkins Elementary School will be receiving the "gift of music."

Thanks to the efforts of the Coalition for a Safe and Drug Free St. Petersburg, Perkins was awarded a \$500 check last Tuesday afternoon, officially initiating the first donation of the Tyrone Johnson Musical Instrument Scholarship Award. With the first of what hopes to kickoff an annual event, the award will go to one African-American music student at the school, one who could not otherwise afford the expense of an instrument but dedicates the drive to play. The scholarship honors the legacy of Johnson,

a former music instructor at the school, passed away in April of 2001, as complications from diabetes caused an early death at the age of 54. Johnson was the son of *The Weekly Challenger's* late founder, Cleveland Johnson. Several surviving members of his family, including his mother, siblings, and two children were in attendance at the dedication.

"He was the joy of my life," said Tyrone's mother, Christine McCray. Johnson's enthusiasm and love for music took him around the world. Known for his saxophone playing, Johnson also mastered the piano and oboe. His performances took him everywhere, from his church family at Mount Zion Progressive Church, to touring with renowned acts such as Sam and Dave and Sammy Davis Jr.

"This is one of those things that comes full circle for me," said Watson Haynes, president and CEO of the Coalition. Growing up, Haynes and Johnson were good friends. During the ceremony, Haynes recalled how he always looked to closely to his friend's family for guidance, including both McCray and Cleveland Johnson. McCray, who led



L-R: Steve Vutsinas, Strings Instructor; Robert Lister, Principal; and Coalition President/CEO Watson Haynes.



Tyrone Johnson's family: (L-R) Melissa Givens (aunt); Yvette Lerverne (sister); Christine McCray (mother); Arlene Edwards (sister); and Grant McCray (brother).

photos by Bill Thomas

him in his church choir as a little boy, always watching out for him, proved to be an inspiration. "She raised us all in the church," he added, "she raised us all as if we were her own." Of Cleveland, he said that he always remembered where he came from and was firm about giving back to the community.

"I could not help but to remember what Tyrone and Cleveland Johnson had done," said Haynes, as he spoke of the scholarship's cause. "We've lost a lot of kids in this community because nobody cared," said Haynes. "Our way of giving back is in making sure that the kids who cannot get an instrument have that opportunity..."

Providing entertainment for the ceremony was the Perkins Elementary strings students, comprised mostly of fourth and fifth

graders. Led by instructor Steve Vutsinas, the students performed two pieces, Duke Ellington's "Don't Get Around Much Anymore," "Fiddler on the Roof's" and "If I Were a Rich Man." The second selection, with accompaniment by and the vocals of Michael Rosen, led to a light-hearted, inspired moment as he conducted the Coalition's Vice President of Health Services, City Councilwoman Rene Flowers, in an impromptu dance.

"I'm really happy to be a part of this," remarked Perkins principal Robert Lister. "I'm looking forward to this being a lasting relationship." With this latest scholarship, Perkins' music program continues to flourish. During the ceremony, strings conductor

Vutsinas revealed that with help from the school's PTA, Perkins was able to raise \$10,000 over the past year. With this money, he said, the school was able to purchase violins for every single first and second grader to take violin lessons.

For one fortunate student who is still unaware, he is soon to be rewarded. "The young man we've chosen to receive this Tyrone Johnson scholarship has a natural gift, and this will really solidify it," said Vutsinas. He thinks of the opportunity his student will now have to take his instrument home, practice, and enjoy his music. Adds Vutsinas, "This will take him so much further."

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Gibbs' Class Reunion of '53

ST. PETERSBURG - The Gibbs High School Gladiators from the Class of '53 will celebrate their 50th Anniversary during a weeklong celebration May 21-25 at the Downtown Hilton Hotel. Reunion Chairperson Eunice Burgess hopes that most of her classmates will turn out for the event.

"I'm very excited about it because it's our 50th. A very special time," Burgess said. "Last year we had so many of our classmates pass away so that further inspired us to have this anniversary celebration. Burgess is hoping the community will help her with the identification of the 113 graduates pictured in the photographs by calling her at (727) 866-1865.

Registration is \$65 per person and includes registration packet, souvenirs



Gibbs High School Class of '53

photos provided by Eunice Burgess

and a commemorative class coffee mug. Deadline for registration is April 25.

Reunion Activities Schedule:

Wednesday, May 21 - 12:30 p.m. Graduation with

the Gibbs Class of 2003, Bayfront Center Arena, 400 First Street South.

Thursday, May 22 - 10:00 a.m. Breakfast/Brunch and tour of Gibbs High School, 850 34th

Street South.

Friday, May 23 - 10:00 a.m. Tour of the City; 6:00 p.m. Registration and a

"Get Re-Acquainted" So-

Gibbs

continued on pg.5

*We welcome our new
Editor, Teresa D. Brown.
She can be contacted at
wceditor@tampabay.rr.com*

CORRECTION

Sickle cell anemia is a genetic blood disorder that is characterized by the sickling of the red blood cells which affects over 2.5 million persons. In a story from the 3/27 - 4/9 edition, entitled, "Evening of Jazz and Dinner," an incorrect statement was attributed to Founder and President of the St. Petersburg Sickle Cell Disease Association, Mary Murph.

All advertising-related business, including inquiries, invoices and ad materials should be sent to *The Challenger's* administrative assistant, Shirley Morgan, at smfaith@tampabay.rr.com.

All media-related inquiries should be sent to tchallen@tampabay.rr.com

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

OPINIONS

A Living Memorial to Cleveland Johnson, Jr.

"Black People Must Sell As Well As Buy Else Remain A Beggar Race"

by Barry A. McIntosh

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!

The Weekly Challenger

Cleveland Johnson, Publisher
(1967 - 2001)

Ethel L Johnson Owner/Publisher
Ylonda Powell Administrative Assistant

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Shame on America

by Ron Daniels

March 17 when President Bush issued his ultimatum to Saddam Hussein to take his family and the top Iraqi leadership and leave the country, the world knew that war was imminent. The vast majority of the people on this planet watched, listened and wondered why America was defying world public opinion; why was America stubbornly and arrogantly prosecuting a war that untold millions of people had taken to the streets in various countries around the world to stop? No matter how despicable the despotic rule of Saddam Hussein, people from around the world could not understand why America utterly refused to give peace a chance. But absolutely nothing it seems would stand in the way of Bush the younger. Arrogantly throwing his weight around like the world's "top dog," Bush defiantly pressed ahead despite the refusal of the United Nations Security Council to sanction his war against Iraq. By March 19th, George

Bush's war was on!

In my capacity as Executive Director of CCR, I worked to coordinate/facilitate an African American led, multiracial, interfaith Pilgrimage for Peace which made strong moral appeals to the United Nations and U.S. State Department before journeying to Iraq to make the same appeal to religious and secular leaders in that beleaguered country. Led by Rev. Herbert Daughtry, the esteemed pastor of the House of the Lord Church in Brooklyn and a founder of the National Black United Front, the Honorable Walter Fauntroy, former Congressman from the District of Columbia and pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church and Imam Mahdi, President of the MAS Freedom Society, this delegation was able to extract major eleventh hour concessions from the Iraqi regime, particularly on the critical question of granting more favorable access to its bountiful oil reserves to American companies. When Rev. Fauntroy returned to the

U.S. with a proposal from Vice-President Tariq Azziz (he stayed behind after the rest of the delegation departed for the States to have the meeting with Azziz), it was cavalierly rejected by Colin Powell's representative at the State Department. By now Bush had decided that, the U.N. and world public opinion be damned, the most powerful nation on the face of the earth would no longer disguise its true intentions -- America would simply take what it wanted - the huge oil fields in Iraq.

Shame on America. In His obsession to launch a "pre-emptive strike" to topple Saddam Hussein, occupy Iraq and seize control of the second largest oil reserves in the world, in their quest for hegemony and world domination, Bush and company failed to heed the call of members of the Congressional Black Caucus, other members of Congress and the progressive movement that the Congress of the United States, under Article I, Section I of the Consti-

tution, fully debate the issue of whether war with Iraq was necessary and vote up or down on the question of declaring war. Moreover, launching a "pre-emptive strike" for the purpose of "regime change" is clearly a violation of the U.N. Charter and international law. But in the quest to oust Saddam Hussein and impose democracy on the Iraqi people, the "greatest" democracy in the world cast aside its own Constitution and international law as cumbersome and unnecessary inconveniences. Flexing its awesome muscles as the world's only remaining super-power, Bush was signaling that "might makes right," that no nation dare stand in the way of the U.S. or defy its wishes on matters of "vital national security" like the control and free flow of oil to this ravenous nation.

Shame on America for abandoning and undermining the principles of democracy, multilateralism and internationalism in narrow pursuit of the

interests of the oil and energy industries in this country; Shame on America for not giving Hans Blix and the U.N. weapons inspectors a chance to finish their job or to keep Saddam Hussein so off balance that even if Iraq were shielding weapons of mass destruction, the regime would have been powerless to further develop or use them; Shame on America for revealing that the rebuilding of Iraq would be done exclusively by U.S. corporations, including a \$3 billion contract to a subsidiary of Haliburton, a company with ties to the Bush and Cheney families; Shame on America for being out of step with the rest of the world in crying out against this immoral and irrational war, for engaging in exercises of national chauvinism by branding long standing allies like France and Germany enemies because of their principled anti-war stance.

Shame on America for sending "smart bombs" on a "dumb mission," a war that will result in

untold "collateral damage" in terms of the death of untold thousands of innocent civilians, a war that will foster hatred towards the U.S. in the Middle East and the world for generations to come; Shame on America for squandering all the good will towards this country that swelled after the September 11th terrorist attacks; Shame on America for instantly discovering hundreds of billions of dollars to launch a war against Iraq when those resources are desperately needed to alleviate hunger, poverty, disease and illiteracy among the suffering masses in the U.S.; Shame on the American people for being incapable or unwilling to decipher misinformation and propaganda, for being so "loyal" and "devoted" to this country, so blinded by false patriotism that the machinations of Bush and company can proceed with the "consent" of the majority of the American people; Shame on America!

Of Conflict and Conversation: Talking to Children About War

by Walt Larimore

My wife and I were dining with friends recently when their young son, a first-grader, looked up from dinner and asked, "Will they be dropping bombs on us tonight?"

Needless to say, there was a very uncomfortable silence for a moment. I waited to see how my friend would handle the situation. He slowly put down his fork and looked at his son. "What do you mean, son?" His little boy answered, "I've been watching the war on TV. And, when Mommy and I were in the store, we saw soldiers." He was quiet for a moment. Clearly he thought the two were connected.

My friend smiled at his son. "The folks in uniform you saw are here in town all the time. They train at Fort Carson. Haven't you seen them

before?" His son thought a moment, then smiled and exclaimed, "Yep!" Then, with a flourish, he turned his attention back to supper.

Concerns and fears are common in children-even more so in a time of war. So how do we calm their fears while dealing with our own? How do we talk to them about difficult issues? How do we maintain a sense of normalcy in a climate of uncertainty? Not an easy job, to say the least, but one that is very important.

Here are some tips I have given to parents of the children I have delivered and cared for during my many years in family practice. They can serve to open lines of frank discussion that make it easier to talk about war or other sensitive topics:

Conversations with children about war and

conflict should be understandable, age-appropriate and reassuring. Dinnertime discussions should be based on your child's age and temperament.

For young children, the war may not even be an issue. You could choose to not even bring up the topic or ask simple questions like, "What have you heard about the war in Iraq?" or "What do you think about war?"

Realize that too much detail could be frightening. Experts recommend we "go easy on the details." Some children can handle complex or disturbing information at seven or nine years of age. Others are not ready until they are a bit older. Gear your discussions to your child's age and developmental level. You may need to repeat information several times for

younger ones and some children may ask the same question over and over. It may be their way of asking for reassurance.

Remember that television images also can be highly traumatic. After the attacks of 9/11, some children who watched constant replays of the planes striking the World Trade Center thought each replay was live. Instead of two planes flying through the buildings, they thought there were many more. Parents should insist that the TV news stay off when very young children are around and limit their TV time and that of older children and teens.

School-age children are likely to have heard discussions at school, on the bus or on the schoolyard at recess. Your response should be to carefully listen to their con-

cerns, ask clarifying questions and discuss the matter carefully.

For older children or teens, watching and examining news about the war is a great way to gauge their thoughts and reactions. This allows parents to learn how their children are processing the information and how they feel about it.

Reducing the TV time can be highly healthy for the entire family. When it is watched, preferably it is watched with parents who are ready to listen to their children and answer their questions. Studies show that parents who eat more than five meals a week with their children, at home, without the TV on, are much better off in many areas of their lives.

As much as possible, talk together as a family. You may notice if you have more than one child,

that each one will have different concerns. Not only is there nothing wrong with the children hearing one another's questions and fears, the entire family will learn from them.

If appropriate, bring God and the Scripture into the discussions. Many parents believe it is important to cultivate a child's faith and to plant seeds to help children learn to pray. Surveys indicate family prayer has become even more important in the past two years. Studies show that families that pray together feel a greater sense of peace and reduced levels of stress and anxiety. Certainly, our president's dependence upon daily prayer has been an example for millions.

I advise parents to be ready for questions when you least expect them. For

example, my son Scott is most likely to talk while we are sitting side by side-riding in the car or sitting on a pier or bench. My daughter, Kate, on the other hand, is more likely to talk over dinner or tea. For both children, bedtime is an ideal time to talk to each other and to pray.

Questions, concerns and fears about war can be the beginning of an open and honest dialogue that will deepen as the

years go on.

Discussions between parents and children have the incredible potential to calm a child's fears; because when parents take the time to listen-really listen-to their children, the impact is immense.

Dr. Walt Larimore is vice president of medical outreach at Focus on the Family in Colorado Springs, Colo., and the author of *Ten Essentials of Highly Healthy People*.

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TAMPA BAY AREA NEWS

12th Annual Clean-up

ST. PETERSBURG — Clean Sweep, a free pick-up by the City of St. Petersburg, will start early Saturday morning, April 12, for trash, furniture, appliances and brush. Brush must be in four-foot lengths. Leaves must be bagged. Loose piles will not be picked up. Do not put out old tires, paint, batteries, etc.

Everyone in the Harbordale neighborhood is invited to participate. Just put your trash at the curb or in the alley on Friday, April 11. There will be no commercial pick-

ups. This clean-up is sponsored by Your Harbordale Neighborhood Association working for a better community.

For more information on the Clean Sweep or the Association, call President Theresa at 823-6390.

Community Representatives Needed for Juvenile Welfare Board Councils

PINELLAS COUNTY — The Juvenile Welfare Board is inviting Pinellas County residents interested in children, youth, and families to serve on one of three Community Councils. The councils, representing south, mid, and north Pinellas County, include lay citizens, human service professionals, and high school students.

Members of the councils meet monthly and are involved in gathering and

distributing information concerning children and families; expressing community needs and trends affecting children and families; evaluating issues affecting families and neighborhoods; organizing special projects; developing position papers; staying abreast of community initiatives; and making recommendations to the Juvenile Welfare Board.

Individuals wishing to volunteer service on a

Community Council may get further information by calling Dorothy Whitlock at 727-547-5638, or e-mail dwhitlock@jwbpinellas.org. Information forms and youth applications are available at the Juvenile Welfare Board, 6698 68th Avenue North, Pinellas Park, or by logging on to www.jwbpinellas.org. Inquiries and completed forms are requested by May 31.

International F.&A.M. Masons Inc. and the Order of Eastern Stars to Observe 49th Annual Grand Lodge Convention

TAMPA — St. James Grand Lodge and Mary McLeod Bethune Grand Chapter, and the Sunshine Grand Youth Court of International Free and Accepted Modern Masons, Inc., and the Order of Eastern Star in the state of Florida will be observing the 49th Annual Grand Lodge Convention, April 11 - 13, 2003, at the Doubletree Hotel, 4500 Cypress. The theme for this year is, "Love Conquers All."

Grand Master Renford Brown and Grand Matron Christine Hayes, along with the Youth Grand Master Terrance Baker and Youth Grand Matron Mattie Adams, will be hosting Supreme and National Officers from around the world, along with delegates of this state.

The Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter Educational Workshops for the Masons and Eastern Stars will begin at 7:00 a.m. Friday and Saturday mornings. The Grand Youth Court meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. each day. The General Assembly will begin at 9:00 a.m. each day.

On Friday at 7:00 p.m., the Welcome Program featuring a minigospel concert and the Administrative Degree Graduation Ceremony will take place.

On Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m., the annual banquet will be held. Grand Master Brown will be honored for 22 years of service as Grand Master, and Grand Matron Hayes will be honored for 20 years of service as Grand Matron.

The attire for this event is formal. Tickets for the banquet are available and can be obtained from any member of the organi-

zation. The public is invited to attend the General Assembly and all of the evening affairs.

Ill. Dr. James O. Dogan, 33° Supreme Grand Master and Dgt. Patricia Hollowell, Supreme Grand Matron, will be conducting all Grand Executive Board elections and appointments for the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, and Friend Aline Matthews and Friend Alonzo Burgess will conduct the elections and appointments for the

Grand Youth Court. The Supreme President and CEO of this great organization is the Ill. Dr. George Mathews, 33°.

The corporate office is located at 2101 Gratiot Ave., Detroit, Michigan 48207.

If you are interested in becoming a member, learning more about the organization or would like to attend these events, please feel free to call (727) 867-1218 or (727) 894-2969.

DIPPER Project Presents its 3rd Annual Community Health Festival

ST. PETERSBURG — Join in the free neighborhood celebration as the Dipper Project hosts its health fair on Saturday, April 12, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The fair, held at 18th Avenue South, between 17th Street and Russell Street, will include spinal

checks, blood pressure, HIV and glucose testing. Other activities will promote entertainment, refreshment, prize drawings, and more.

This event is sponsored by the Pinellas County Health Department and several other supporting

organizations including the City of St. Petersburg, Florida Blood Services, the Pinellas County Urban League, and the Sickle Cell Association.

For more information, please call (727) 897-9129.

Poet Nikki Giovanni to Speak at Clearwater East Library

CLEARWATER — Internationally renowned poet Nikki Giovanni will read selections of her work at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 24 at the Clearwater East Library, 2251 Drew St. She will also read the winning entries from the library's Poetry Challenge, a National Poetry Month program.

With a career spanning thirty years as a poet, Giovanni stands as one of the most celebrated and luminous voices to grace America's poetic landscape. She has written more than two dozen books



Nikki Giovanni

for adults and young adults including *Black Feeling*, *The Women and the Men*, *Love Poems*, and her most

recent work *Blues: For All the Changes*. She has received 19 honorary doctorates, and her numerous awards include two NAACP Image Awards in 1998 and 2000. Most recently, she was named the first recipient of the Rosa Parks Woman of Courage Award.

The Friends of the Clearwater Library are funding this event. Copies of her books will be available for sale and autographing. For more information on this free event, please call (727) 462-6800, extension 245.

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Pinellas County Head Start / Early Head Start

Pinellas County Head Start will be having its Enrollment for Expansion for the Jordan Park Head Start Center.

Head Start is a Federally funded program serving children and their families of low income.

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IMMEDIATE OPENINGS



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Head Start Welcomes Children With Disabilities



For Your Reading Pleasure

Syndicated feature column



by Valder Beebe

You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis: The Seven Steps to Getting the Relationship You Want



by Dr. Grace Cornish, Ph.D.

Publisher: Crown Publishing - January 2003 (3 of 5★) Valder Beebe

You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis: The Seven Steps to Getting the Relationship You Want by Dr. Cornish, Ph.D., a spiritual psychologist with keen insight into the power of women. **You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis** opens the doors for women to discover, embrace and master their true potential.

Dr. Grace Cornish, the author of "10 Good Choices that Empower Black Women's Lives" "10 Bad Choices that Ruin Black Women's Lives" "Radiant Women of Color" "The Fortune of Being Yourself" and "Think and Grow Beautiful" returns with another successful book in the same truthful and revealing style that Dr. Cornish is known to deliver. **You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis: The Seven Steps to Getting the Relationship You Want** has the continuing assurance as Dr. Grace's preceding books; to elevate the hopes and dreams of women by exposing the truth of our full capabilities for success in life and love.

You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis is on target! It's a 21st century book that brings to light problems and challenges with solutions for today's women. Dr. Grace Cornish's newest book is universal when addressing love relationships for women. Key success factor of **You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis**; problems are analyzed, plans for changing situations with self-love and spiritual healing are promoted throughout the book. Readers can be voyeuristic or identify with problems that are presented in **You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis**.

Dr. Cornish (a relationship expert) in **You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis** examines letters, case studies and surveys of intelligent women in various interactions of intimate relationships. Dr. Cornish continues with her

previous personal growth books success formula; offering realistic advice, candidly addressing problems and presenting solutions that are obtainable.

The letters sent to Dr. Cornish that are reprinted in this book, go to the center of issues presented and are addressed with enlightenment and clarity. The overall theme in **You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis** is to investigate why successful, educated, sa-voir-faire women are not finding the healthy love they deserve. Scores of African American women are experiencing bad relationships and Dr. Grace supports these women with advice, real life situations and questions that individuals can analyze to make healthy love choices. **You Deserve Healthy Love, Sis** provides women with information to develop and enhance; self-reliance, self-worth, and self-esteem to continue winning at life and love relationships.

Chapters: First and Above, You Must Begin with Self-Love, Check Your Signals Before You Wreck Your Choices, Don't Be Fooled-Read Him Well and Remove the Mask, To Understand One Another, You Gotta Bond with a Brother, Refusing the Wrong Date and Choosing the right Mate, Connecting with Respect Has the Best Effect, ending with Learn to Affirm Healthy Love in Your Life. Copyright 2003 PIP Productions

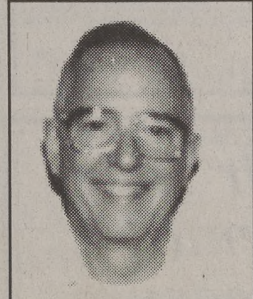


Dr. Grace Cornish

About the Author

Dr. Grace Cornish, Ph.D., author and owner of Cornish Worldwide Productions. Dr. Cornish has appeared on television talk shows and radio programs. She lives in Bronxville, New York.

For Your Reading Pleasure is written by Valder Beebe, CEO of www.photography-by-james.com, a Dallas newspaper Editor and a syndicated Freelance Writer. "Living the life of her dreams" with her husband, James and their four kids. Review more of her writing at: www.photography-by-james.com.



OPINION

by Fenn Ellery

Living Wage vs. Corporate, Baseball Salaries

If readers do not pay more attention to the concept of a living wage there is a strong probability that income gaps could continue to get much larger. Wages at the lowest levels are mired at \$5.15 to \$7 per hour - and Jeffrey Barbakow of Tenet Healthcare gets \$22,785 PER HOUR. Plus potentially \$72.4 million in stock options!

The SECOND AMERICAN CIVIL WAR is, as a concept, worth looking at. This column aims to do that now and into the future. Using television as the opiate of the masses, and advertising on TV as a form of electronic home invasion - these only work so far, only for so long a time. INCOME IS FOCAL! It is becoming essential to talk about the values of our Democracy, and Capitalism, and the conduct of the fewer at the top of our leadership structures!

Black ACTs - American Citizen Taxpayers - and Midtown residents are already on the short end. Capitalism is using the few - the pathetically small group of Black ACT athletes, politicians, and celebrities - as a form of tokenism. Convincing some Black ACTs and some White ACTs that the race problem has been solved. If someone tries to sell you that - remember to count your fingers if you shake hands! Assume that Black ACTs total 40 million in the U.S., now or soon. One percent of that, or one cent in the dollar, would be 400,000. Chop that penny into 100 parts (?) - 1% of the 1% - to get 4,000. Can you name 4,000 Black ACTs getting those top incomes? If you manage to get to 400 then you can chop your sliver of one cent into ten parts. One tenth of 1% of a penny. You get the point. The far smaller average income is the Real World!

For sports fans, let's digress a minute. The Associated Press did a recent survey of baseball salaries. The Devil Rays have a 25-man roster costing \$19.6 million. Yet A-Rod (Alex Rodriguez) the Texas Rangers shortstop gets \$22 million this season. ALONE. Pity the Rangers if A-Rod gets hurt or has a bad year (and it hurts fan attendance). The Yankees spend nearly \$150 million. ALONE.

For each millionaire in the major leagues there are 10-100,000 good lifetime jobs in medicine, finance, government, education, on and on. The odds are almost reversed for a student who relies solely on an athletic career/dream. Even though the average shorter-term salary in the

major leagues rose 7.2% - above \$2.5 million - the number of players making \$1 million or more dropped from 413 to 385, due to the "economic slowdown."

Problems can get much worse, and there is evidence that this is on its way. The International Balance of Payments indicates that we have for years been spending much more on imports than our exports have been earning. A debtor nation? Our National Debt is moving toward \$7 TRILLION.

More than \$300 billion of our taxes get sucked into this "dead zone" of paying off the interest on debt. Our surplus has become a deficit - DEBT. President Bush has asked for another \$80 billion for his war, and he is likely to get it.

The total, with all the rebuilding of Iraq, foreign aid, payments to countries which did not support us in Iraq, etc. is likely to total up to \$200 billion. Can all this go on forever? A better balance must be worked out between Capitalism and Democracy - a balance taxpayer/ACTs can live with!

The national newspaper USA Today has brought the gap into a sharp focus. Their March 31, 2003 article also claims that the average worker gets \$16.23 per hour. Do you think that applies to Midtown? How large can the work force - below the poverty level - become without serious damage to American unity? And even that \$16.23 only sums to approx. \$35,000 annually!

The movement, and the demand, to move a LIVING WAGE onto the front burner where it can be made a political imperative FOR VOTERS is becoming critical. How on this planet do you justify honestly that one worker/CEO is worth more than a thousand times as much as another. Or 5-6,000 times as much in the case of Barbakow's \$22,785 per hour, plus, plus.

"CEOs running 100 of the USA's biggest companies pulled in median 2002 compensation of \$33.4 million." Minimum wage people have to struggle - generally without perks and stock options - to net \$15,000 per year. The Chief Executive Officers are invariably not worth that much, but they are in a much better position to "manage" their largess. No, the LIVING WAGE MUST GO UP, just as corporate ripoffs need capping!

Fenn Ellery - (727) 866-2540. E-mail: patn-fenn@aol.com

Resource Center for Women Teaches Life Transition Program at Enoch Davis

ST. PETERSBURG - Building responsibility and improving relationships will be the focus of series of discussion sessions beginning at Enoch D. Davis, April 24, 2003 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sessions will continue on May 1 and May 8, from 11 a.m. to 2

p.m. Leading the Personal Growth/Life Skills discussion is Dianne Speights. Discussion topics will include: "Change Your Thinking," "Change Your Behavior," and "Change Your Life." Other subjects are assertive training,

stress management, relationship and healthy personal interaction, and personal responsibility for one's actions. Group and individual sessions are available.

The Enoch Davis Center is located at 1111 18th Ave. South. Personal

Growth Career Development sessions are also available daily. However, you must be pre-registered. Call Barbara Simmons at (727) 893-7134 or Dianne Speights at (727) 981-7267, ext. 1110 to enroll.

In the Face of Summer and Afterschool Cuts, Non-Profit Community Groups Work to Help Each Other

CLEARWATER - Faced with a lack of funds for their educational programs, two Pinellas County non-profit agencies are pooling resources to continue to provide educational services to at-risk youth. With the recent cuts in the federal 21st Century Community Learning Center program, organizations established to provide services to at-risk children will face further hardship.

Undaunted by these budget cuts, the privately funded Community Learning Center of Pinellas County has been operating in the Greenwood neighborhood of Clearwater for over five years. Sharon Hillestad, the Executive Director, has decided to extend her organization's success and help to other non-profits in Tampa Bay.

"I understand how difficult it can be for these groups to continue to provide these vital services for young people in our community," stated Ms. Hillestad. "I have been doing this type of work off and on for over 20 years."

Specifically, 21st Century Community Learning Center cuts in the state of

Florida mean that of the 123,215 students that would have been serviced under the originally proposed No Child Left Behind legislation, only 41,253 students may be serviced. This is a difference of almost 82,000 children who will have no meaningful afterschool or summer school program.

At a recent event in Clearwater, Hillestad was introduced to Marva Dennard, a recipient of an honorary award from the Ebony Awakening organization for her work in the St. Petersburg community. During this brief meeting, Dennard expressed to Hillestad her need for materials for a reading lab for the school. The result

of their collaboration, with the help of some of Sharon's corporate supporters and contacts, was to get all of the materials necessary to complete a reading lab for the Bishop Academy.

"I was more than happy to donate materials," stated Brendan Haggerty, CEO of Bright Sky Learning, LLC. "Our company was founded to work with programs just like the Bishop Academy as well as the Community Learning Center. Without the vital and established skill of reading the rest of a child's education can become a blur of non-comprehension."

The reading lab donated to the Bishop Academy

contains Bright Sky Learning's Smart Way Reading and Spelling™ program. This program is based on the most effective methods of teaching reading as outlined by the National Institute of Health and now mandated by the No Child Left Behind act.

"We use these materials effectively everyday," Hillestad stated. "I see the amazing and often life changing results we get with our students in terms of reading and comprehension skills everyday. How can you not want to share that?"

For more information about Bishop Academy, please call Holly Haggerty at 727-647-6701.



In back on left: Ms. Dennard, Founder of the Bishop Academy in St Petersburg; In back on right: Sharon Hillestad, Executive Director of the Community Learning Center in Clearwater
Front row: students of Bishop Academy

News Briefs

• **NAACP Retreat:** The St. Petersburg branch of the NAACP will hold its Second Annual Retreat on Sat., April 12 at the Friendship M.B. Church, 3300 31st Street South. The retreat will include a status report on Pinellas County schools and redistricting students. For more information, call Darryl Rouson at (727) 327-2222 or (727) 906-8300.

• **Open House:** Congressman Jim Davis will hold an Open House on Monday, April 14 from 10 a.m. to noon at 1186 62nd Avenue South. Come meet Davis' district staff, learn about available constituent services and discuss issues for the 108th Congress. Call (727) 867-5301 for more information.

• **Oprah Tour:** *O, The Oprah Magazine* will bring its 2003 "Live Your Best Life" Tour to Tampa on Saturday, June 21. Oprah Winfrey will host the day-long event at the Tampa Convention Center. Tickets are \$185 and will go on sale Monday, April 14 through TicketWeb (www.ticketweb.com). The price includes workshop materials, a gift bag and lunch. For information on ticket sales, check the Oprah Web site at www.oprah.com or call (212) 903-5312.

• **Disability Services:** Abilities of Florida will hold an Open House on Wednesday, April 16 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Bethel Community Baptist Church, 2901 54th Avenue South. This is an opportunity to learn about the services that Abilities provided to persons with disabilities throughout the state of Florida. Contact David Misra at (800) 244-0817 for more information.

• **Leadership Conference:** Students ages 13-18 are encouraged to participate in a national leadership development conference hosted by radio host and author Tavis Smiley. "Redefining the Image: Preparing African-American Youth for Leadership" will be held Aug. 7-12 at Catholic University of American in Washington, D.C. The cost is \$425 and includes meals, housing and ground transportation. The deadline is April 16. The late registration fee is \$500 with a June 13 deadline.

For more information or to register, call (322) 290-1888.

• **Did You Know?** The Florida Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles is authorized to sell and distribute personal information of Florida residents. However, the law requires that the DMV gives residents the opportunity to block their information from being sold under the Driver Privacy Protection. Visit www.hsmv.state.fl.us and click on "Online Driver License Check" to determine whether a license has been blocked. If it has not, you have the opportunity to block your information by following the instructions given on the Web site.

HIRES

Keep an open mind. A closed mind closes you off from all you can become. Why is it that some folks are content with doing nothing? Some are content poisoning the mind of others with verbal cyanide.

Some folks scrutinize your goal and eulogize their own goals and are very suspicious of the ambitious. You may not like the man, but you know where he stands. Unfortunately, because of the attack, we will all have to share the serious consequence of Iraq.

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South St. Petersburg Democratic Club Meeting

ST. PETERSBURG — The South St. Petersburg Democratic Club meeting will be held Saturday, April 12, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., at the James B. Sanderlin Neighborhood Family Center.

This group meets the second Saturday of each

month, with a featured speaker for the meetings. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. Refreshments are available.

For more information, please call (727) 866-2312.

USF St. Petersburg Search for Excellence Yields 30 New "Stars"

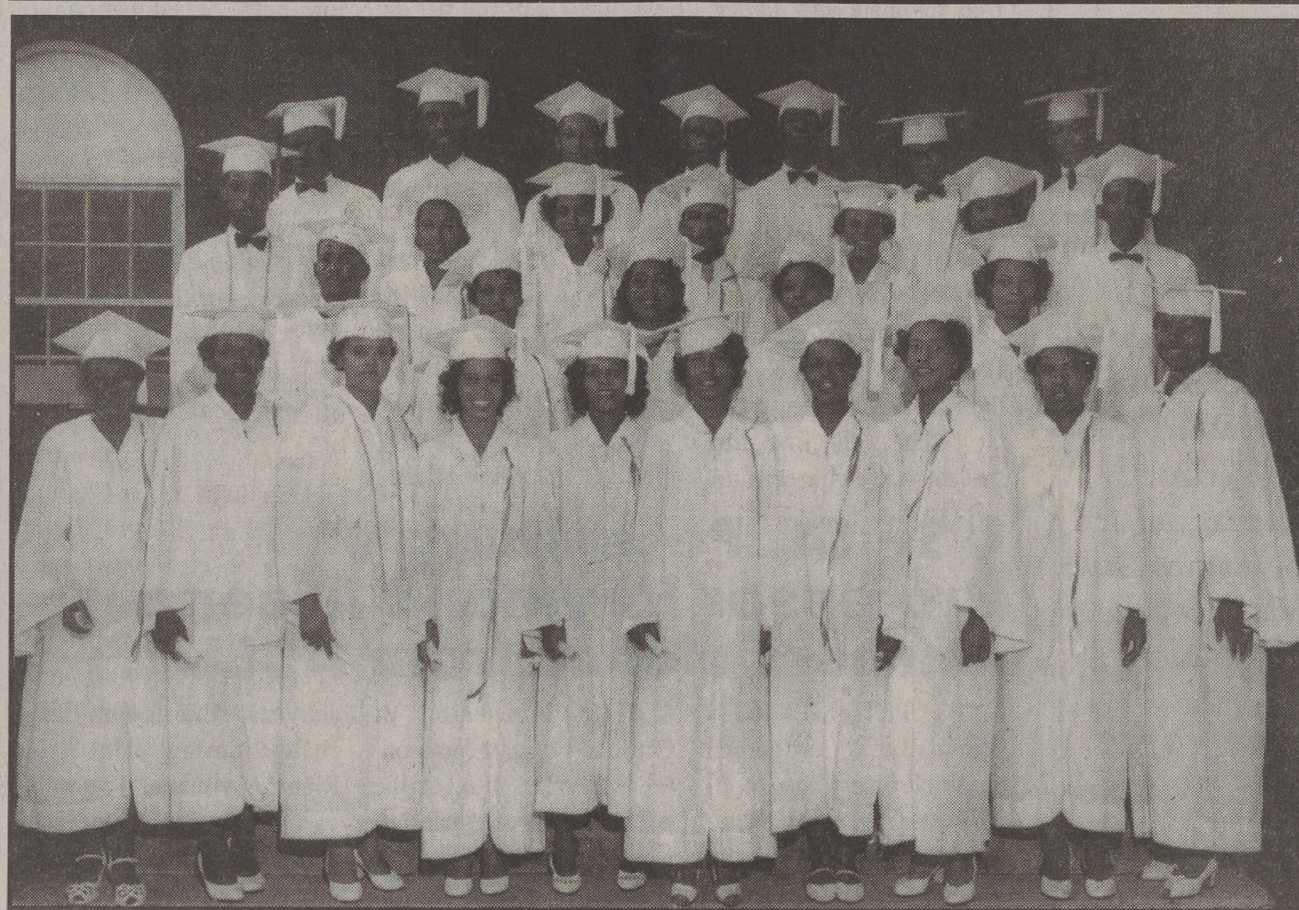
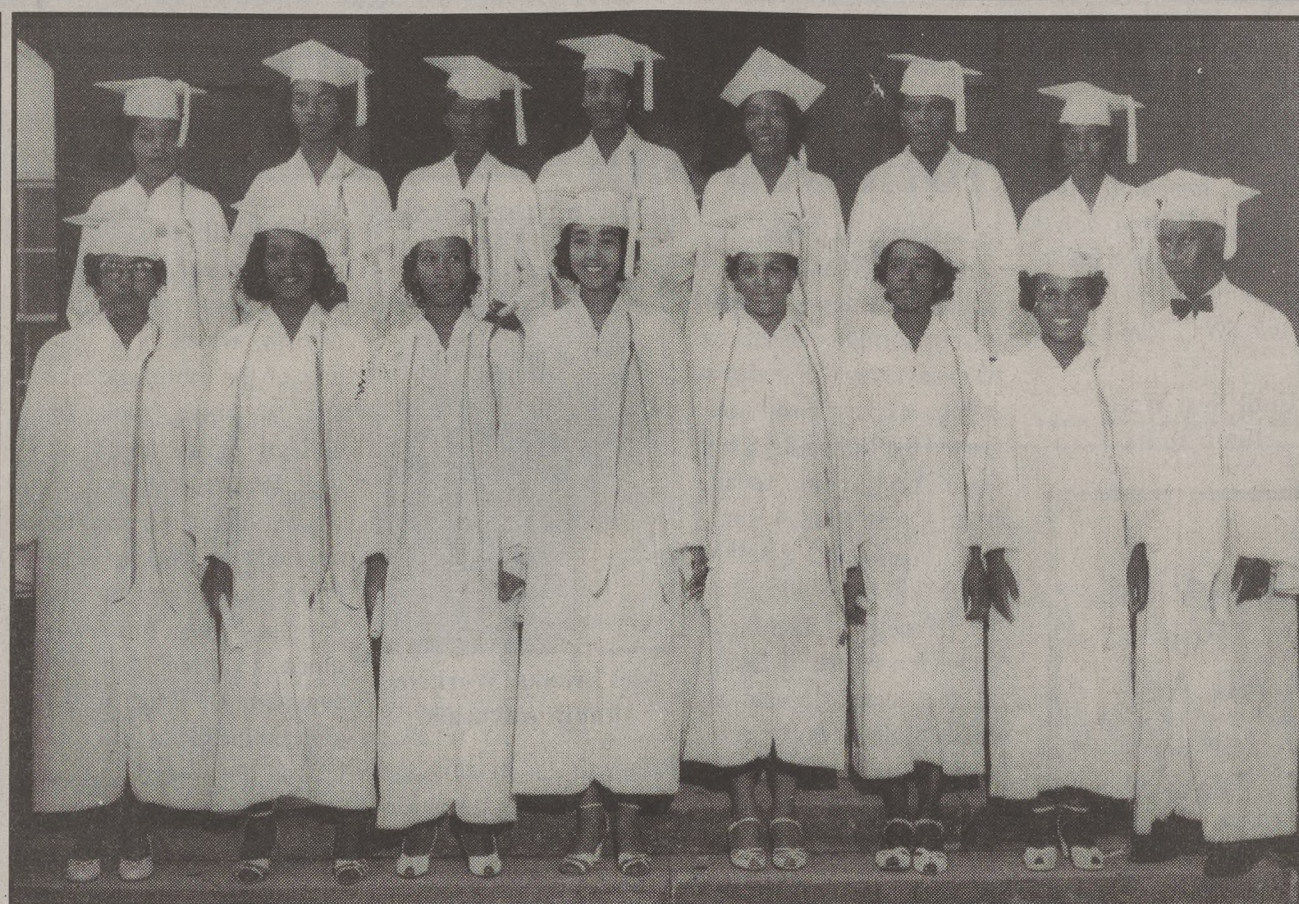
ST. PETERSBURG — The University of South Florida St. Petersburg's search for excellence in academics and leadership has made great strides in the past weeks. The five-month search that has spanned the nation has resulted in hiring 30 of the "finest, and most qualified experts the country has to offer," said Gary Olson, interim associate vice president for Academic Affairs.

"The faculty search is nearing completion, and the level of quality in all of the searches has been uniformly high," said Olson. The College of Arts and Sciences has hired a total of 15 faculty members in fields including anthropology, criminology, Florida studies, journalism, government and psychology. The College of Business filled 10 positions in the fields of accounting, finance, management and marketing. And, four new instructors have joined the College of Education with specialties in educational leadership, instructional technology, science education, and measurement and research.

"The searches have been a monumental effort," said Olson. "These new members of USF St. Petersburg's faculty will only increase the university's standards of excellence and help us forge the educational path of tomorrow."

In addition to the far-reaching faculty searches, the university is also conducting an executive search for several of its key positions. "We are preparing to make offers to candidates for the position of dean of the College of Business and dean of Enrollment Services," said Olson. The candidates for several other leadership positions will be interviewed in the upcoming weeks, while yet other search committees, including that for the vice president and CEO of the St. Petersburg campus, are nearing final decisions.

As the University of South Florida St. Petersburg keeps its eye on the future and the promise that lies ahead, it is paving the road to excellence with "the highest qualified, most innovative and dedicated team possible," said Olson.



Gibbs High School Class of 1953

Gibbs from pg. 1

cial. Hilton Hotel, 3341 First Street South; 7:00 p.m. "Get Re-Acquainted" Night with music and games, Hilton Hotel.

Saturday, May 24 - 6:30 p.m. Memorial Services for Classmates; 7:00

p.m. Program and Dinner; 8:00 p.m. Dance and Social.

Sunday, May 25 - 11:00 a.m. Worship Services, Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church, 1022 20th Street South; 1:00 p.m. Dinner, TBA; 3:00 p.m. Closing.

Fred Seay, Class President of '53.

Technology Center Continues its Commitment to Youth

ST. PETERSBURG-- The Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance (IMA)/PowerUp Campbell Park Technology Center, located at 601 14th Street South, is pleased to announce its 2nd year opening.

The Technology Center offers several FREE services for students grades 5-12, college students, adults and the elderly. Training services include Word and Excel

software, as well as typing, flyers, Adobe computer graphics Arts. Personal computer use is available for Internet job searching, emailing, and more. Other programs include: GED online, tutoring (math, algebra, reading), and job referrals.

For additional information contact Mamie Hall 898-7315 or email her at: mhall77@tampabay.rr.com

North Greenwood Pool Opens April 12 —

CLEARWATER — Listen at noon on Saturday, April 12, for the biggest splash ever heard in Clearwater. That's when the pool at the North Greenwood Recreation and Aquatic Complex opens. And, for the first time, the community will get to use the 140-ft. long, 20-ft. high water slide - the only one of its kind in the county.

But going down the slide isn't the only fun thing to do at the pool. Other attractions are an activity pool for children ages 8 and under, with sprays, fountains, a minia-

ture water slide and climbing area. The 5-lane, 25-yard lap pool will provide gallons of fun for the whole family. The pool also features a one-meter diving board and a ramp entrance area for people with disabilities. There is a total of 8,000 square feet of water surface area.

Opening day pool admission is \$1 per person. The North Greenwood Recreation and Aquatic Complex is located at 900 N. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. Call (727) 462-6276 for more information.

The Weekly Challenger thanks our sponsors for the I.M.P.R.E.S.S. program - Edward White Hospital and AmSouth Bank. Their contributions allowed 12 Pinellas County students to showcase their writing talents.

The Wealth Building Coalition and IRS Work Together to Offer Free Tax Help

Area residents can get free, last minute assistance

ST. PETERSBURG — The Wealth Building Coalition, in partnership with the IRS, will provide Pinellas residents with free, last minute tax help at the James B. Sanderlin Center, 2335 22nd Ave. S., on Tuesday and Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., or at other locations throughout the county.

"We'll help people prepare their federal income tax returns and

provide free electronic filing," said Lounell Britt, Wealth Building Coalition Chairperson. "Assistance is provided on a first come, first served basis, so we encourage people to come early."

People should bring this year's tax package, wage and earnings statements (Forms W-2), interest and dividend statements (Forms 1099), a copy of last year's return

(if available), Social Security Numbers (or individual Income Tax Numbers) for each person shown on the return and any other information concerning their income and expenses for 2002. For joint e-filed returns, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms.

E-filing provides the highest degree of speed, accuracy and security in filing tax returns. Last

year, more than 2.2 million Florida residents e-filed their federal tax returns. E-filing is one of the most popular innovations ever introduced by the IRS and its use continues to grow each year.

Please call 1-800-829-1040 for the dates and times of the nearest free tax preparation location in your area that offers e-file.

Choice Update for New Student Registration

The Choice Plan, the new student assignment plan for Pinellas County Schools that replaces "zoned" schools, begins in August 2003. Parents of students entering a Pinellas County school for the first time (such as incoming kindergarteners, former private or home-schooled students, new residents) who have not yet registered their children to receive a school assignment must visit a Family Education and Information Center. They need to bring

the following documents to a center for new student registration:

- Child's birth certificate (original or certified copy). Note: a birth certificate is not required for children in Head Start or a Pinellas County Schools' PreK program.

- Proof of residency (such as a utility bill that includes the parent or guardian's name and street address).

- Declaration of Domicile (if parent/guardian has not lived in Florida for

a year, is not in the U.S. military or has not purchased a home in Pinellas County).

- Child's Social Security number.
- Recent report card (for students entering grades 1-12).

The Family Education and Information Center will assign the child to a school in the attendance in which the family lives. The school registration process (presenting the required physical exam report and the certificate of immu-

nization and filling out other forms) will be completed at the child's assigned school.

Students must be 5 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2003, to start kindergarten. School starts Aug. 5, 2003.

For more information, call a Family Education and Information Center: 1101 Marshall St., Clearwater, (727) 298-2858; 3420 Eighth Ave. S., St. Petersburg, (727) 552-1595.

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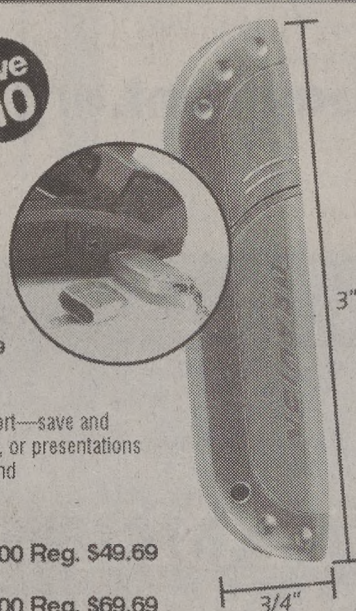
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RAMBLING

"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

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You could start small, perhaps with one assistant, then hire others as the business grows. Contract building managers in person, dressed in a neat, professional-looking uniform or business suit.

You will have to size up each establishment and estimate the fee which will cover your employees' wages as well as your com-

mission.

Experience is the best teacher. If you have no experience in this field, get a job with an established agency in another city and learn the ropes.

And Now, It's That Time of the Week Again When We Share With You Newsy Tidbits About Past Happenings

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Today, April 10, 2003: Leon Miller, Paul Scott, Ophelia Paige, Emalya Whitter; 11th thru 16th: Lois Marshall, Janis Nelson, Angela Battle, Eula Ford, Yvette Battle, Ashley Bryant, Tyree McClendon, Frances T. Taliaferro, Michael Reese, Tamara N. Williams, Arthur Shannon, and T. C. Stockton.

T'was so nice hearing from Patricia Williams of Elkins, PA Sunday night. We held a long conversation on the phone. Everything is going fine up North, and Pat tells me to give all family members and friends her and the boys' love. Another great call came from Tampa (Sister Joy) Ruby Byrd,

who is doing fine over there and promises to see me soon.

Life is something like this trumpet. If you don't put anything in it, you don't get anything out, and that's the truth. (W.C. Handy)

Until Next Week,
Jump To It!

**Deadline
For
All Ads
and
News
Copy
Is
4:00 P.M.
Monday.**

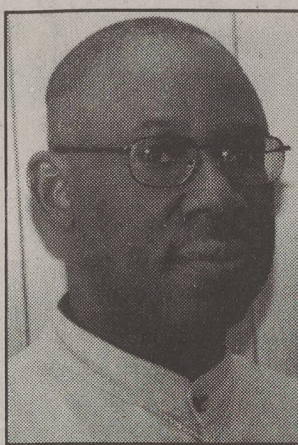
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thanks Badcock
Furniture, the
Verizon
Foundation, and
the Tampa Bay
D-Rays for their
contributions to
the
I.M.P.R.E.S.S.
program - bene-
fitting the youth
of our
communities.

More than Forty Businesses Seek to Hire Youths at April 10th Job Fair

by Candace K. Clarke

CLEARWATER — Youths looking for a great job opportunity need to take advantage of today's events, as key businesses around the Tampa Bay area are looking to hire. Today, from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., the WorkNet Pinellas Youth Job Fair will run at the Pinellas Technical Education Center (PTEC). At the center, located at 901 34th Street South, job-seekers can not only look to find the right employment, but also have the opportunity to benefit from free seminars and advice. Just some of the Bay area business participants include: the US Postal Service, FEDEX Express, Bayfront Medical Center, Bright House Network, Finish Line Shoe Stores, AmSouth Bank, the Don CeSar Beach Resort, St. Petersburg College, and the Job Corps Program.

"This is the first time that there is a concentrated



Mel Brooks, WorkNet Youth Advocate

effort to target this age group (14-21)," states Mel Brooks, a youth advocate with WorkNet. "With the combined efforts of the [WorkNet] Business Services and youth advocates, we feel we're putting together a good effort that we hope will benefit the youths."

"The job fair and workshops are going to help youth to identify some problems they might be having with their resume, as well as identify efficient interview skills."

The fair will also address the importance of appearance, attitude, and volunteerism, which is a vital part of the job experience and can prove crucial on college applications as well, Brooks explained.

Serving as a youth advocate from WorkNet's St. Petersburg offices on 3rd Avenue North, Brooks is quick to point out his availability. "Even if the kids are unable to find success at the workshop," he says, "I want them to know that I am still there for them at anytime for further job help or educational pursuits."

The next youth workshop is scheduled for the north Pinellas County area on May 7. For more information on this and other opportunities, contact the WorkNet Pinellas Business Services Office at (727) 570-3000, ext. 1, or log on to www.worknetpinellas.org.

USF St. Petersburg's Professor Raymond Arsenault Garners Honor from ACLU

ST. PETERSBURG — Nationally acclaimed chronicler of the civil rights movement and University of South Florida St. Petersburg professor Dr. Raymond Arsenault is set to be honored by the American Civil Liberties Union

(ACLU) Foundation of Florida. Formal ceremonies will take place at the ACLU's 24th Annual Nelson Poynter Civil Liberties Award Dinner on May 10. Arsenault, a noted scholar and former president of the ACLU of Florida, will be presented with the 2003 Nelson Poynter Civil Liberties Award for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of civil liberties. As the John Hope Franklin Professor of Southern History and the director of the University Honors College at USF St. Petersburg, Arsenault has taught political, social and environmental history of the American South since 1980.

Paul Pohlman, president of the Pinellas Chapter of the ACLU of Florida, stated, "Ray is an inspiration to all of us who are committed to defending the principles of social justice, equality and fairness." He called Arsenault "an outstanding leader" in Florida and in the Tampa Bay area who "captures the lives and struggles of the brave

activists who fought for change during the Civil Rights Movement."

Arsenault authored two prize-winning books, *The Wild Ass of the Ozarks: Jeff Davis and the Social Bases of Southern Politics* (1984) and *St. Petersburg and the Florida Dream, 1888-1950* (1988). In March 2004, Oxford University Press will publish his most recent book, *Freedom Riders*, focusing on the development of the civil rights movement in the 1950s and '60s.

Well known for his involvement in local and national organizations related to public policy, historic preservation and social justice, Arsenault served as president of the ACLU Pinellas Chapter (1985-97). During his term, he organized a lecture series to commemorate the bicentennial anniversary of the Bill of Rights and was a frequent speaker on the importance of preserving individual liberties under the U.S. Constitution.

The Heart of a Champion at Earthfest

LARGO — A champion exhibits strength, character, endurance, and perseverance. A champion withstands adversity and excels when others fail to become the best of the best. A champion stands very tall especially if the champion is a champion tree. Champion trees are recognized as the largest and best of their species and set the standards for all others of their kind.

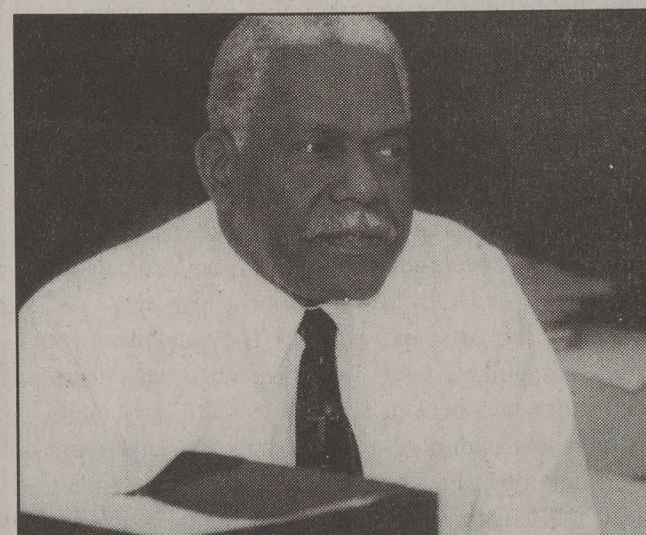
At the Florida Botanical Gardens, 12175 125th St. N., during EarthFest on Saturday, April 19 at 1:30 p.m., just south of the McKay Plaza, a Champion Tree of Remembrance, a genetic duplicate of the State Champion Southern

Magnolia, (*M. grandiflora*), will be planted to honor the heroes of 9/11.

Congressman Bill Young, subject to international events, and Pinellas County Commissioner Karen Williams Seel, are scheduled to attend. The Tree of Remembrance ceremony is a collaboration between 2-1-1 Tampa Cares, The Volunteer Action Center, The Champion Tree Project, and the Florida Botanical Gardens.

For more information or a schedule of events, contact the Extension Office at (727)582-2200, or visit the Florida Botanical Gardens web site at www.flbg.org.

A Champion for Children Retires After 42 Years of Service



Arlington Nunn

by Dianne Speights

ST. PETERSBURG — "If one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours." Henry David Thoreau

Arlington Nunn, Director of School Operations Area III with the Pinellas County School Board, has met with great success as he plans to enter into retirement after 42 years of service to Pinellas.

A native of Belleview, FL, Nunn graduated from Santon Junior Senior High School. He received the Associate of Arts degree from Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, and Bachelor of Science and Master's degrees from Florida A&M University.

Nunn began his teaching career as an instructor of business education in 1961 in Clearwater, Florida. After six years, he transferred to Pinellas Park Middle School and expanded that assignment to include teaching Business and English. The exemplary character and integrity of this gentle champion moved him quickly up the ranks within the Pinellas educational system, thus landing him a position as Dean of Boys at 16th Street Middle School in St. Petersburg, and then on to an Assistant Principal's position at Countryside High School in Clearwater.

"My overall most rewarding career was that of a teacher," Nunn said. "In our society, no areas are as essential to a successful future of our children as a caring and nurturing teacher. It is very important to me for our children to receive a high quality edu-

cation in order to gain the knowledge and abilities that will help them achieve in today's competitive economy."

After 20 years on the front line with children, Nunn was promoted to the position of Director of School Operations, where he has served for the past 13 years. Nunn served as a liaison between parents, the School Board and the Area Superintendent. "I have truly enjoyed this role, as my overall focus never changed," he said. "I was there to assist parents in helping students to make it through school and to redirect the child."

In Nunn's community, he has a passion for developing young lives as he serves on the Board of Directors of Young Life, Inc., and as an advisor with the 500 Role Models. He also serves on the Advisory Board of Brownfield Technical. "Through these organizations, my fraternity, Omicron Beta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, and my church, Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, I will always have my hands on the improvement of our youth," he said.

Nunn and his wife, Ruth, are the parents of four children and 10 grandchildren.



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or tribute in our May 8th
Mother's Day edition!

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for details.



ENTERTAINMENT

William Becton Releases New Gospel Album, 'Broken 2'

When one hears the name William Becton, immediately thoughts of urban-inspired songs filled with encouragement and hope flood the soul. This minister of the gospel has blessed the gospel community for years with his exceptional style of songwriting and an impassioned voice of faith.

Setting the stage for many of the R&B-influenced gospel artists of today, the Washington, D.C.-based artist has firmly made his mark on the gospel music industry. Known for such hits as "Be Encouraged" and "Bigger," he was one of the first artists to uniquely marry an urban flair with solid Christian lyrics. Projects like "Broken" and "B2K: Prophetic Songs of Promise" found their way to the top of the Billboard Gospel Chart. As a matter of fact, "B2K" debuted on Billboard's Top 200 Chart at number 59, and "Broken" reigned at the top of the Billboard Gospel chart for more than 10 weeks. Not only has Becton dominated the charts, but he's also mastered radio as an announcer. He can be heard on the ABC Network's "Rejoice Musical Soul Food." "Rejoice" is a nationally syndicated Gospel radio network broadcaster in over 50 markets within the United States. As a testament to the powerful reach of his ministry, Becton has received numerous

accolades during his impressive career. Although the two-time Stellar Award winner, two-time GMWA Excellence Award winner and Dove Award nominated artist suffered a minor setback when his label CGI went under shortly after the release of B2K, he found that God still remained faithful. With the hope that continues to inspire his songs, he was given a vision to start his own record label, WEB Records. Now this gifted recording artist is back with a new project entitled "Broken 2". It's quite evident that this man of God hasn't missed a beat.

"Broken 2," the follow-up to the smash project, "Broken," is a collage of inspiring contemporary gospel songs and lively praise and worship tunes. Becton says, "When we go through a broken period, many times we feel that God has forgotten all about us. But when you are broken, the ears of the Lord are sure enough nigh you." "Broken 2" is project destined to minister healing to those dealing with life's pains. The project delivers hope through the soul-stirring vocals from Becton himself and his group, Friends. Songs like "Next Level" and "Sacrifices of God" move the spirit with an ultra-contemporary vibe. But Becton knows how to take us to church, too. That fact is evident on the traditional sound of

"Joy In The Morning" the first single to be released from the project.

"Broken 2" features guest appearances by notables in gospel. Brent Jones, lead singer of Brent Jones and the T.P. Mobb, joins Becton on the laid-back funky groove of "Blessing Me." Also, you'll find Charisse Nelson-McIntosh of Richard Smallwood's group Vision lending her incredible voice to the powerful "Our God Can." Eric Matthews, formerly with John P. Kee's New Life Community Choir and now an artist on Crystal Rose Records, contributes to the song "Show Yourself Mighty In Me." Kim Rutherford, known for her impressive work with Fred Hammond on his Pages of Life projects, is included on "Broken 2" as well. Obviously gifted with exhortation, she uplifts the listener on the live versions of "Sacrifices of God" and "Next Level." Judah, a choir formed by Pastor Becton, delivers some power-packed vocals throughout this CD.

"Broken 2," recorded live in Greenville, North Carolina in March 2000, reacquaints the gospel music industry with this awesome Pastor, preacher, singer, songwriter and producer. The CD will be released on WEB Records. The CD will be in stores April 22.

Bill Bellamy Comes to the Improv

TAMPA — Currently starring in the FOX drama "Fastlane," Bill Bellamy has made his mark on comedy. Now you can catch him at Ybor's Improv's Comedy Club. He'll appear there from April 10-13, with shows starting at 8 p.m.

Bellamy can currently be seen in the comedy hit "The Brothers," starring opposite D.L. Hughley, Shemar Moore and Morris Chestnut. Bill's other film credits include his role in Oliver Stone's highly lauded film "Any Given Sunday," in which Bill plays "Jimmy Sanderson," opposite such talents as Al Pacino, James Woods, Cameron Diaz, Jamie Foxx and Dennis Quaid.

Also, in 1999, Bill starred in the independent feature "Love Stinks," opposite French Stewart, Bridgette Wilson and Tyra Banks. He successfully followed that with his leading man debut in the hit come-

dy, Def Jam's How to Be a Player. For tickets visit www.tampaimprov.com or call 813-864-4000.

Happy Mother's Day!

Show your LOVE for Mom with a special greeting or tribute in our May 8th Mother's Day edition!

Call The Challenger at (727) 896-2922 for details.

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African-American Attorney Debuts First Book

Sarasota attorney Michael Delphy Hunt knows how to write the perfect legal brief. Now the 1978 Howard University School of Law graduate has added the skill of short story author to his portfolio with the publication of his first book, *Chicken Fools Stew and Other Humorous Stories*.

Chicken Fools Stew and Other Humorous Stories is the first of a trilogy Hunt has in the works. The next two, *Perfect Turkeys and Other Amusing Tales*, along with *Suicide Muffins*, are scheduled for publication within the next two years.

The idea of writing comic short stories came to Hunt on New Year's Day, 2000 after overhearing a friend discuss the correct way to prepare chicken foot stew. "I had never heard of chicken foot stew until that day," laughed Hunt, who grew up in Raleigh, North Carolina. "That's a story in itself. That's why I always tell people they are going to have to read the book if they want to find out why the letter 's' is on the end of the word foot." The stories in *Chicken Fools Stew* are observations on family, life and love and are centered around the life and times of fictitious character, four-times divorced, Michael Devin Hughes.

Hunt's main objective in writing short stories was to discover something fun-

Michael Delphy Hunt
Chicken Fools Stew
And Other Humorous Stories



ny from every day situations. Stories titled Birthday Parties, My Ex-Wife and Plants, and Convenience Stores are three of his favorites in this first collection. "Writing about children's birthday parties allowed me to examine the lengths that some parents will go in order to achieve the so-called 'perfect party.'"

In My Ex-Wife and Plants, Hughes' first ex-wife, Marcia, discovers she has been banned from buying all plants at all area nurseries (due to the untimely death rate of plants she previously purchased).

"I wrote quite a bit of prose while I was in college and law school," said Hunt, who received his bachelor's degree in 1975 from Carolina. "But I continue to write because of my mother. She always enjoyed my work and always encouraged me to continue write, no matter what."

Michael Delphy Hunt has been a local government attorney in Florida since 1980. He and his wife, Colise, married in

1979. They have an 11-year-old son, and a 14-year-old daughter. Christopher L. Hunt Sr. continues to live in Raleigh, NC. His mother, Gladys Delphy Hunt, died in 2000.

To order copies of *Chicken Fools Stew* call, 1-877-823-9235.

The Weekly Challenger thanks Badcock Furniture, the Verizon Foundation, and the Tampa Bay D-Rays for their contributions benefiting students at John Hopkins Middle, Gibbs High, Boca Ciega High, St. Petersburg High, and Academy Prep.

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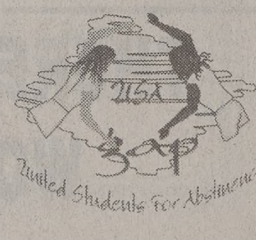


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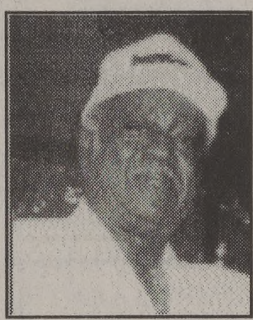
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USA - GAP



NORTH CENTRAL NEWS



OCALA NEWS

by Jim Thorpe

Don't let credit problems stop you from becoming a homeowner - There will be a Housing Fair at the Edward D. Croskey Recreation Center (Martin Luther King & NW 4th Street) Saturday, April 12, 2003 from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM. For more information contact: Jodi Pena-Ocala Housing Authority (352) 369-2636; Amiee Dirschel, Florida Low Income Housing Association (888-563-1110 or Shawna Chancey, Marion County SHIP (352) 620-3404

THE MOST WORSHIPFUL PRINCE HALL CONVENTION

MW, Alexander H. Smith, 330, GM; Bro. Charlie Cranford, Convention Chair

The 94th Grand Communication session will be held on April 11-18, 2003 in Orlando, Florida at the Quality Inn International -7600 International Drive. The following schedule of meetings and events are tentative and subject to change without notice:

Friday, April 11
Meeting with all Youth Advisors

Friday, April 11
Youth Social

Saturday, April 12
Trail Masters and Sunbeams Annual Session

Saturday, April 12
Youth Banquet and Oratorical Contest

Saturday, April 12
Shrine's Ball

Sunday, April 13
Prayer Breakfast

Sunday, April 13
Grand Opening/Religious Service

Sunday, April 13
United Court Heroines of Jericho Executive Board Meeting

Sunday, April 13
Ladies Knight/Knight Templar Religious Services

Monday, April 14
Holy Grand Royal Arch/United Court Heroines of Jericho

Monday, April 14
MBF Board Meeting

Monday, April 14
Grand Lodge Executive Board Meeting

Monday, April 14
District Deputy Grand Masters Meeting

Monday, April 14
Annie L. Davis Banquet

Tuesday, April 15
Opening Occasional Lodge to receive Grand Master

Tuesday, April 15
Opening Royal Grand Chapter OES

Tuesday, April 15
Sis. Lois Jenkins Testimonial Banquet

Wednesday, April 16

Final Session of Royal Grand Chapter OES

Wednesday, April 16
Final Session of Prince Hall Grand Lodge

Thursday, April 17
Most Eminent Knight Templar/Grand Council Ladies Knight

Friday, April 18
Close out - Have A Safe Trip Home

CIM CORNER - Data for the District

The collection and interpretation of data is an essential step in continuous improvement. After our November benchmark assessment in grades 3-10 reading and math, we scanned answer sheets through the ABACUS Instructional Management software program and generated five reports for each subject for each grade at each school. Teachers in each grade, subject, and/or departments combined this data with other CIM data to construct a skill sequence on instructional calendars for the spring semester. The CIM yields a wealth of information about students so no child is left behind.

District staff also needed feedback about the benchmark assessment and provided teachers with a comment form. Regarding teacher feedback, 1,091 teachers responded (447 elementary, 359 middle, and 285 high), tallies overwhelmingly indicated either agreement or strong agreement with three questions/addressing how student understood directions, read the passages, and bubbled the answer sheets. For both reading and math tests, the 90 minutes allotted ranked as most appropriate.

Teachers also provided useful feedback on the assessment. We'll use this input to improve the Benchmark Assessment, just as our CIM dictates. (Taken from the MCSS Newsletter - written by Barbara Butler, Curriculum & Instruction)

Golden Apple Teachers Named

Congratulations to these teachers who are this year's Golden Apple recipients:

- Deborah Borge-Shaffer, Saddlewood Elementary
- Lawana Croskey - Howard Middle
- Kimberly Frye - Bellevue Middle
- Dean Marino - Emerald Shores Elementary
- Barbara Moore - Greenway Elementary
- Rookie Teacher of the Year - Megan McPhadden, Lake Weir High

Perkins Receives Top Honor

Congratulations to Frank Perkins, the 2003-2003 Non-Instructional Employee of the Year. Perkins received word of the honor late last week from Jim Noel, executive director of Human Resources. Perkins, a teacher assistant at the Phoenix Center/Marion Regional Juvenile Detention Center, started with MCPS 11 years ago. Currently, he works with teachers and substitutes at the JDC. He provides much assistance behind the scenes with students, and is known throughout the community for his dedication to veterans activities. Names of teachers of the year, who receive Golden Apples, were not available as of press time.

Teachers - To Be \$\$\$ Available

Want to be classroom teacher? The Public Education Foundation sponsors the "Teacher To Be" program, providing financial support to future educators. If you're interested, contact the Foundation Office at 620-7651.

MCPS Ranks #1

Marion County Public Schools is the #1 giver to the United Way giving campaign. After all the donations were counted, students and employees donated \$195,934.07. This means we gave nearly 10% of the entire \$2.1 million goal this past year. Through bake sales and dunking booths to payroll deductions and 100% participation, Marion County Public Schools impacts our community through more than just education! We make a difference for the people who need it most! Thank you for a job well done.

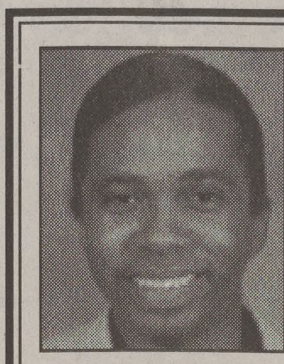
Bell-Ringing Brings in the Bucks

We're no slouches either when it comes to the Salvation Army. This year MCPS staffed the bell at Target on State Road 200 through Christmas.

Thanks to Community Coordinator (and MCPS employee) Judy Maglio for making all the arrangements! When the final bell tolled, MCPS collected over \$7,500 for the Salvation Army - the third highest total of all bell-ringing locations. Once again, this means we help provide food, shelter, and life essentials to those less fortunate in our area.

Florida General Baptist Convention Annual Session

The Radisson Hotel & Conference Center Riverwalk
1515 Prudential Dr.
(904) 396-5100
(Headquarter Hotel)
Meeting Locations
Monday, April 7, 2003 - 6:00 PM
First New Zion Missionary Baptist Church



LIGHT OF THE WORLD

by Daniel Banks

dlrow eht fo thgil

One night last week, the Holy Spirit spoke into my left ear and told me that the enemy we'd been searching for was going to identify himself by sending a message which would then enable us to locate him and defeat him. The very next day, Saddam Hussein went on world-wide television with a message in Arabic, partly to his

countrymen, partly to the world!

After much speculation as to whether or not he'd died or been injured in the surprise attack on his compound in the outset of the war with Iraq, he was suddenly on TV, walking through the streets of Baghdad, as fit as a fiddle!

Though I'm opposed to the way President Bush went into this war without

UN approval, I believe the coalition forces will be victorious, because the Holy Spirit says so!

In like fashion, the Holy Spirit says to you: "The enemy that you've been seeking (in your own personal lives) will identify him/herself in sending a message. By doing so, you will be able to locate him/her and defeat him/her!" You will be victorious in your own search to root out evil. Praise the Lord! Let that minister to you in any way it will.

Also, there's something significant about the numbers 70 and 700. Someone will be blessed in accordance with these numbers (and I am not referring to the lottery)!

"What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops." (St. Matthew 10:27).

God is good! He speaks to us all the time. We only have to anchor ourselves in a place where we can really hear him! He so wants to guide us and direct us. He wants to be our champion!

One way to understand it is to know that God has all knowledge in His storehouse of knowledge. He allows His prophets to have bits and pieces of His great knowledge. We know in part and we prophesy in part. (See 1 Corinthians 13.)

To those of you who

have gifts of prophecy but are bashful about using them, I admonish you to trust what the Lord shows you. It's real! Jonah got angry with God, because He gave him a prophecy for the people of Nineveh, then changed His mind after they repented. As a result, the prophecy never came to pass. However, it was, in fact, from God.

So whether we see immediate results or not, we must prophesy what the Lord gives us. Whether people acknowledge the things we see in their lives as the truth or not, we must trust God. He never lies. We simply need to learn to understand Him and His ways, the more! God bless you!

FLA0

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99¢ lb.
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7D **SAVE \$1.50** ea.
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7D **SAVE \$1.30** ea.
Keebler Chips Deluxe Cookies
13.6-19 Oz. - All Varieties
Limit 4

1.99 ea.
Without PCC Card \$3.29 ea.

7D **SAVE \$1.98** ON 2
12-Pack Coke Products
12 Oz. Cans - All Varieties
Limit 4

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Without PCC Card Regular Retail

7D **SAVE \$3.58** ON 2
Red Baron 12" Pizza
21.8-24.2 Oz. - Select Varieties
Limit 4

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Kash n' Karry Butter Quarters
16 Oz. - Unsalted or Regular
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Kellogg's Frosted Flakes Cereal
15 Oz.

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Without PCC Card \$2.99 ea.

SAVE EVERY DAY

Prices Effective: Wednesday, April 9 - Tuesday, April 15, 2003

We reserve the right to limit quantities and correct typographical and photographic errors.

THERE IS ONLY ONE RACE IN THIS WORLD - THE HUMAN RACE

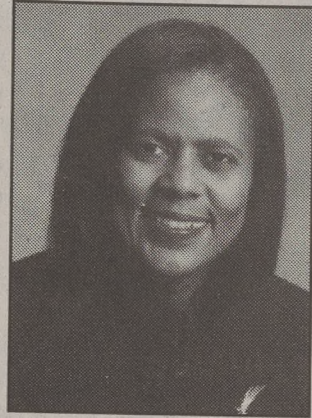
WOMAN'S WORLD

Florida Department of Education Names Dr. Debra Austin as Chancellor of Colleges and Universities

TALLAHASSEE - Florida Education Commissioner Jim Horne recently announced that Dr. Debra Austin has been named as Florida's new Chancellor of Colleges and Universities. Dr. Austin has spent close to the last 25 years working in higher education, and brings a wealth of talent, experience and dedication to the Department of Education.

"Florida's colleges and universities are blessed to have someone of Debra's caliber at their helm," stated Horne. "Not only is she a national leader in higher education, but she also has been a leader in her state and community. I am very pleased by her appointment, and I look forward to working with her to help make Florida's colleges and universities the best in the world."

Thomas F. Petway III, chairman of the Florida Board of Governors, which oversees the state universities, said Dr. Austin will be



Dr. Debra Austin

instrumental in implementing the important changes and reforms initiated by Governor Jeb Bush. "Debra has a reputation as a gifted leader and administrator," Petway said. "Her good judgment is a great asset to the university system, and I very much look forward to working with her to help our 11 institutions grow stronger and to guide them into the future."

Dr. Austin earned a bachelor's degree in English from Michigan State University, a master's degree in English from the University of Florida, a

master's degree in business administration from Florida State University, and the doctorate in higher education from Florida State University. She also holds an honorary doctorate from Flagler College in St. Augustine.

Dr. Austin is currently an Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs at Florida State University. She began her career as an English instructor at Lake-Sumter Community College in Leesburg. Since then, she has served in numerous academic administrative positions, from division head to chief academic officer to Acting President at Tallahassee Community College.

"It is indeed an honor to be selected as the Chancellor of Colleges and Universities for the State of Florida," stated Austin. "As in all states, higher education in Florida faces many challenges, but there are also many opportunities to showcase our colleges and

universities as the world-class institutions they are. I can think of no greater professional honor than to serve as an advocate for institutions that produce outstanding graduates, engage in exceptional research, serve as economic development engines for the 21st century and provide enormous service to our communities."

Dr. Austin is a member of several national, statewide and local organizations, including the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. and Leadership Florida, an organization dedicated to improving the lives of Florida citizens. She serves on the Knight Foundation Community Advisory Committee and as Second Vice President on the Board of Directors for the Tallahassee Urban League. A member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, Dr. Austin is married and has two daughters.

Verizon's Washington, D.C. President Named One of '25 Influential Black Women in Business'



Marie C. Johns, Verizon's president for Washington, D.C.

NEW YORK-- Marie C. Johns, Verizon's president for Washington, D.C., has been named one of "25 Influential Black Women in Business" by The Network Journal, a black professionals and small-business magazine. Johns is being recognized for her

professional achievements, outstanding community service and strong leadership skills. The 25 women were honored at The Network Journal's annual achievement awards luncheon last Thursday, March 27, in New York City.

"Women like Marie Johns and our other honorees raise the bar for their dynamic corporate leadership and dedication to the community," said Aziz Gueye Adetimirin, The Network Journal publisher. "Their personal integrity, cultural diversity and commitment to making a difference enrich the business environment and our communities."

At Verizon, Johns is responsible for the company's District of Columbia

operation, overseeing service delivery to over 300,000 customers, capital investment and public policy. During her Verizon career, Johns has held positions of increasing responsibility in the areas of regulatory matters, government affairs and customer service.

Johns' community activities include serving as a Howard University trustee and co-chairing the District of Columbia's Youth Investment Council. She is a director for the District of Columbia Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Club of Washington, the Federal City Council, the Washington Performing Arts Society and serves as founding chair of the

Washington, D.C. Technology Council. She is also a member of the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church Senior Board of Stewards.

Johns holds an honorary doctorate of human letters from Trinity College. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in public administration from Indiana University and has also completed graduate management studies at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and the University of Virginia's Darden Graduate School of Business Administration. Johns and her husband, Wendell, live in Washington, D.C.

National Black Women's Health Project Marks 20th Anniversary with Landmark Health Issues Colloquium

Event Will Draw Leading Scholars, Policymakers And Opinion Leaders In The Area Of Black Women's Health

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The National Black Women's Health Project will mark its 20th anniversary with a one-day Colloquium organized to examine the unequal burdens borne by African American women in health, health care access and quality of care.

The landmark Colloquium, scheduled for Friday, April 11, in Washington, D.C., is made possible by a major grant from the CIGNA Foundation. Pfizer and Verizon Communications are also sponsors.

The Colloquium will be conducted in cooperation with the Congressional Black Caucus Health Brain Trust and the U.S. Senate Black Legislative Staff Caucus (SBLSC). The Colloquium will be

chaired by the Honorable Donna Christian-Christiansen (D-VI), the Honorable Elijah Cummings (D-MD), members of the U.S. Congress, and Michelle McMurry, M.D., Ph.D., of the SBLSC's Legislative Affairs Committee.

"The issues discussed in the Colloquium are of vital importance not only to African American women and girls, but to the country as a whole," said Lorraine Cole, Ph.D., president and CEO of the National Black Women's Health Project. "We are in urgent need of solutions, and I'm gratified that we'll have many of the most knowledgeable scholars and policymakers in the field on hand as we work to identify those solutions."

Objectives of the Colloquium include:

*Exploring causes for the unequal burden in health, health care access and quality of care borne by African American women;

*Facilitating dialogue and policy recommendations aimed at eliminating racial and gender health disparities among African American women;

*Generating a national sense of urgency about the need for rectifying racial and gender disparities.

"CIGNA and the CIGNA Foundation have had a long-standing relationship with the National Black Women's Health Project and we've seen how they effectively address problems that should concern us all," said Andrea Gelzer, M.D., vice president of health policy for CIGNA HealthCare.

"I'm pleased the CIGNA Foundation decided to support this important work."

The Colloquium will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Barbara Jordan Conference Center of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation Building, located at 1330 G Street, Washington, D.C. Invited participants will include opinion leaders, scholars and policymakers from the country's leading African American women's organizations and women's health organizations, as well as members and staff from the United States Congress.

The event is also open to pre-registered participants from the general public. More information is available at www.BlackWomensHealth.ORG.

Francene Hazel to Lead Eckerd Youth Alternatives Call Center



Francene Hazel

PINELLAS COUNTY - Eckerd Youth Alternatives (EYA) is pleased to announce that Francene

Hazel has been named director of admissions and the call center. Hazel will be responsible for supervising calls requesting information about EYA, a private, not-for-profit organization serving at-risk and troubled youth ages 10-17, with a range of 39 youth programs in seven states. The call center is often the first point of contact for parents and professionals seeking help for

troubled teens, and averages 400 national and international calls per month.

Hazel has been with EYA for 10 years, serving most recently as the business development and marketing coordinator. In 2001, she received the Ann Bowden Child Advocate Award from the Florida Association of Child and Family Agencies that is given to those who

advance the cause of children. Prior to joining EYA, she was a patient care coordinator at the University of South Florida's Psychiatry Center. Hazel has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, FL.

For more information on Eckerd Youth Alternatives, call 727-461-2990 or visit www.eckerd.org

There's A Reason To Read The Weekly Challenger!

SISTAHS SUPPORT BREAST HEALTH

Save another woman's life. Host a Sistah Party. These get-togethers give women the opportunity to discover the power of early breast-cancer detection. St. Anthony's Health Care, serving the African-American population for more than 70 years, will support your Sistah Party.

As a hostess, you need to:

- Invite 5 friends or relatives
- Provide a location
- Prepare a snack
- Follow-up with your guests



To host a Sistah Party, call (727) 825-1056.


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www.stanthony.com

THERE IS ONLY ONE RACE IN THIS WORLD - THE HUMAN RACE

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St. Petersburg, FL 33713
Telephone: 323-8649

RELIGIOUS NEWS

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church General Mission Day



L-R: Vivian T. Harmon, Ella Flournoy, Deborah Johnson, Annie L. Munns, Marer Balds, Ester Miller, Naomi Dunbar and Amanda Hamilton.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations." (Matthew 28:19).

Bethel Metropolitan held their 5th Sunday March 30 General Mission Day. The theme was "The Great Commission."

Annie L. Munns of Port Tampa was introduced by her husband, Deacon Jimmy L. Munns. They are members of St. Mark Baptist Church, Port Tampa. Our speaker delivered a soul-stirring message from

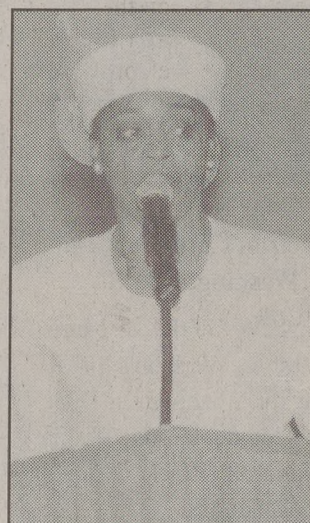
our theme and gave the Missionary a challenge to go, teach and baptize throughout the area in the mighty name of Jesus Christ.

Dinner was prepared for over 200 members and guests by the chef, Deacon Leon Highsmith; Deaconess Vivian T. Harmon, Mission President; and Deacon Jerome Smith, Chairman of the Deacon Ministry.

Bethel is alive and well - praise God!



Jill Williams



Deborah Johnson



L-R: Angelia Lockhart, Rev. Alvin Miller, Marer Balds and Deacon Leon Highsmith

Holy Family Day Care

Holy Family Day Care (Respite Ministry) is now accepting applications for individuals with a medical diagnosis of Alzheimer's or related dementia or memory loss.

This day care program is available from noon until 4:00 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. There is no cost for this adult day care.

For an application, call Ann Zeiger, RN, coordinator, Holy Family Catholic Church, 200 - 78th Avenue NE, St. Petersburg, (727) 526-5783.

**GOD
LOVES
YOU!**

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

Come let us worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. The New Hope Missionary Baptist Church family invites you to worship with us.

Sunday School begins at 9:00 a.m. with Brenda Adams in charge.

Morning worship service begins at 10:15 a.m. with the Deacons in charge of Devotion. The Mass Choir with Minister of Music Tony Young and Mass Choir Directress Bobbie Tampa will render praise and worship song service.

The Rev. Theophilus Baptiste of Mt. Sinai Mis-

sonary Baptist Church of Orlando will deliver the Bread of Life. Please join us for a spirit-filled worship service.

- Weekly events:
- Prayer meeting and Bible Study, Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
 - Prayer Band, Thursday, 11:00 a.m.
 - Mass Choir rehearsal, Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
 - Upcoming events:
 - Easter program, April 20.
 - Service Citizens Day, April 26.
 - Youth Day, April 27.

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

"Now Peter sat without in the palace; and a damsel came unto him, saying, Thou also wast with Jesus of Galilee. But he denied before them all, saying, I know not what thou sayest." (Matthew 26:69,70).

Pastor John A. Evans, Sr., the official church staff and the entire Friendship Missionary Baptist Church family warmly invite you to join us in Sunday worship this Sunday, April 13, and to all church activities and events during the upcoming week. Your presence is important and appreciated.

Services begin at 7:45 a.m. with the Deacons

Ministry leading the Devotion. The Male Chorus and #2 Ushers will serve during both early morning and 11:00 a.m. services. Pastor Evans will bring a message from on high.

Church School begins at 9:30 a.m. with the Superintendent in charge. A second service is held at 10:45 a.m. opening with Minister of Music John Frazier and the Praise Team.

"The Road to Calvary" will commence Sunday, April 13, through Friday, April 18, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The place of worship will be Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Church located at 3700 - 22nd Avenue S.

Elder Clarence Warren is host Pastor. Come and share "Holy Week" and commemorate the last week of our Savior's life. First Baptist Institutional and Friendship choirs will share in this momentous occasion.

Schedule of events:
Thursday, April 17 - 7:00-8:45 p.m., Prayer/Praise Service, Bible Study, also Youth Enrichment Hour.

Wednesday, April 23 - Noonday Bible Study; also each Wednesday from 12 noon-2:00 p.m., Bread of Life Ministry serving lunch to all needy in the community.

Applicants wanted:

The Family That Prays Together Stays Together



Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church

3455 26th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33711

Telephone (727) 327-0554 • Fax (727) 327-0240

E-mail: bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com

Morning Worship: 8:00 and 11:00 A.M.

Sunday School - 9:30 A.M.

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting/Bible Study/
AWANA - 7:00 P.M.

"Church of The Open Door -
Centennial Celebration"

1903 "100 Years of God's Favor" 2003

New Covenant Baptist Church

3850 Pompano Drive SE, Coquina Key
St. Petersburg, FL 33705
Ph: 865-9636

Pastor, Joseph Bobby Reid

Prayer/Praise Service ... 7:30 p.m. Wednesday
Bible Study 8:00 p.m. Wednesday
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. .
Sunday Worship ... 10:00 a.m.

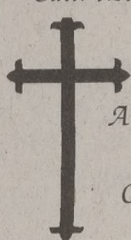
Bible Holiness Church of God in Christ
419 - 5th Street S., St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Phone: 898-3838

The members would like to invite you and your family to worship with us. Our services are:
Tuesday Morning Prayer 9:00am
Weds. Family Worship 7:00pm
Sunday School 10:00am
Sunday Morning Worship 11:15am
Sunday Evening Worship 7:00pm

Pastor: Elder B.O. Walker



Ordained Missionary
Johannie Mae Howard
Call: 727-895-5239

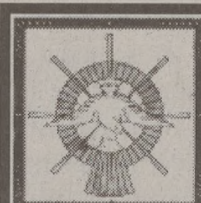


A Woman After
God's
Own Heart...



Spiritually Connected
Call for Prayers &
Testimonies

GOD BLESS AMERICA



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"

Mount Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

"In His Presence Ministry"

4000 5th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33711
(727) 327-0789

Sunday School - 9:30 AM

Sunday Worship Services - 11:00 AM

Food Bank Open Wednesday - 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM FREE BREAD

Mid-Week Prayer Services Wednesday - 11:00 AM - 12:00 AM

Bible Study Thursday - 7:00 PM



Rev. Alfonso Bush
Pastor/Teacher &
Gail D. Bush
Wife/First Lady



PRAYER HELPS

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 weak."

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

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.



Rev. Clyde Williams

Tuesday Night
General Bible Study
Thursday Night Prayer
Meeting & Teachers Meeting

We welcome you at all times.

FIRST BAPTIST INSTITUTIONAL CHURCH

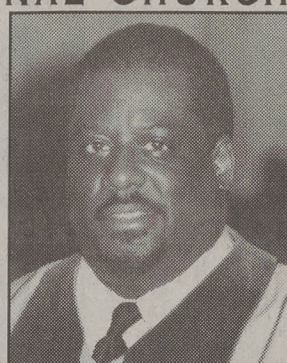
3144 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH
ST. PETERSBURG, FL
PHONE: 323-7518

REV. WAYNE G. THOMPSON, PASTOR

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A.M.

MORNING WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

COME WORSHIP WITH
THE FIRST BAPTIST FAMILY



10th Street Church of God



The 10th Street Church of God will present an Easter drama entitled "As I Have Loved You" on Good Friday night, April 18, at 7:30 p.m.

The Drama Team will present a dramatic and spellbinding re-enactment

of the Lord's Supper. This production is thought-provoking, spiritual and biblically based. This program will begin promptly at 7:30 p.m.

This is a repeat performance, due to the overwhelming response from

Greater Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church

"And the Lord said unto him, arise and go into the street which is called Straight, and inquire in the houses of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus; for behold, he prayeth." (Acts 9-11).

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church, under the leadership of Pastor Clarence Williams, invites you to worship with us on this second Sunday in April service. Service times are at 7:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Williams will proclaim the preached Word at both services. The Richardson Special Choir will be praising the Lord in songs throughout the day.

Church School begins at 9:30 a.m. Church School Easter program - Jesus Did It Just For Me - will be held Sunday, April 20, from 9:00-10:30 a.m., and everyone is invited to witness our Church School in action, so please plan to attend.

You are invited to our Easter Holy Week Services which will be held April 17 and 18 at 7:00 p.m. Also, please mark your calendar for Sunday, April 20, 6:30 a.m. at North Shore Park.

Please plan to join us on the Resurrection Morning. You do not want to miss it.

The Lay Organization cordially invites everyone to share in our annual Palm Sunday evening worship service Sunday, April 13, at 5:00 p.m. For many years, this service recognizes and highlights those laymen of the district that have labored for change, reaching milestones to improve our church and touch the community.

The guest speaker, Attorney Darryl Rouson, President of the NAACP, will provide a stirring message befitting the occasion.

We will honor Alberta Daniels, the oldest lay member of our church and the Tampa Conference. Join us in this celebration.

Young People Division would like you to join them at their "Youth on the Move Gospel Explosion" Saturday, April 19, at 4:30 p.m.

Stewardess Board #1 is now taking ads for their annual Mother's Day souvenir book. Deadlines for all ads is Sunday, April 27.

Be blessed, and have a Jesus-filled week.

Prayer Tower COGIC

"I will lift mine eyes unto the hills, whence cometh my help? My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep." (Psalm 122:1-4).

our last year's production. You don't want to miss this year's performance. Arrive early for good seating.

The church is located at 207 - 10th Street N., St. Petersburg. Admission is free, as Jesus paid it all.

Supt. Elder Clarence Welch and the Prayer Tower COGIC church family welcome you with open arms to worship with us at any time. We encourage your continual patronage, love, fellowship and support of our church. Remember that Prayer Tower

is the tower of power, so you will be uniquely blessed!

Drama Guild: The Easter play rehearsals are scheduled for every Saturday up until April 19 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Annual Dual Day fundraiser:

All members and visitors are warmly welcome to attend the After Five Parade of Fashion and Tea on Saturday, April 12, at 5:30 p.m. See you there.

We, the church family, would like to welcome you to come out to worship with us on our Dual Day service. It will be held on

the fourth Sunday of this month, April 27. Our colors are black, fuchsia and white. These colors can be worn in any combination.

Fish Fry: We will be having a fish fry Saturday, April 12, from 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in our church parking lot. Sandwiches are \$3.00, and a dinner is \$5.00. Hope to see you there.

Remember to pray for our sick and shut-in members. Pray and study the Word of God constantly. If I be lifted up from the earth, I will draw all men unto Me. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor Joseph Gordon and the Pleasant Grove Church family invite you to worship with them on Sunday, April 13.

Choir #2 will render Song Service, and Usher Board #2 will serve in the 7:00 a.m. early morning worship.

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. with Superintendent Deacon Philip Carter presiding.

Mid-morning worship begins at 10:50 a.m. Choir #2 and the Angelic Choir will render Song Service, and Usher Board #2 will serve.

Also at 5:00 p.m., Baptist Training Union and new member orientation will be held, Dessie Marshall, President.

The Bible Drill Team will rehearse on Friday, April 11, at 6:30 p.m., Deacon Jim Anderson, Commander.

Youth meeting will be held on Saturday, April 12, at 4:00 p.m., Sarah Anderson, Supervisor.

Good Friday services will be held at Southside Tabernacle Baptist Church Friday, April 18, at 1:00 p.m., Reverends Henry Payne and Richard Jackson, co-pastors.

Our annual Easter program will be presented on Easter Sunday morning during the Sunday School hour, April 20.

Coming up church engagements:

April 21, Peaceful Zion M.B. Church.

April 25, New Jerusalem M.B. Church and

April 27, Prayer Tower Church of God in Christ.

More information will be published as time nears.

The Out-Reach Mission Center has free clothing, shoes and non-perishable food for the needy. Location is 2500 - 9th Avenue S. Hours are 9:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday-Saturday, Sandra Bentley, director. The phone number is (727) 322-5350.

Our condolences go out to the Davis brothers and family in the passing of their sister, Missionary Dorothy Davis, and also to Eula Lee and Lovie Crumbley in their bereavement. Let us continue to keep all sick and shut-ins in constant prayer.

Pleasant Grove sponsors a seven-day Caribbean cruise from May 25-June 1 and a land-lovers bus tour to New York City and the Pocono Mountains from July 11-17. Please contact Kay Curry at (727) 864-2937 after 7:00 p.m. for details.

Thought for the week: "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up." (John 3:14).

May His peace be with you till we meet again.

Passion Week at New Philadelphia

Palm Sunday will commence a week-long observance of Holy Week at New Philadelphia. Church family is encouraged to prepare for this event by reverent self-examination. Pastor will offer proclamation on Sunday to start the solemnization of week to come. Activities are:

Sunday, Palm Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m., Sanderlin Center.

Monday, Prayer at Noon, Pastorium.

Tuesday, Prayer at Night, 10:00 p.m., at home.

Wednesday, Prayer at Noon (no evening Bible Study), Pastorium.

Thursday, Maunday Thursday Service, 7:00 p.m., Pastorium.

Friday, Good Friday Brunch, 11:00 a.m., Pastorium.

Sunday, Easter Sunrise "Break-Fast" Together, 6:30 a.m., Sanderlin Center; Easter Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m., Sanderlin Center.

All these services are open to the public. For additional information, call 867-5094.

Church family members are requested to share feelings regarding proposed changes in weekly worship activities mentioned last Sunday. The suggested modifications are to have prayer and intercessory praying on Monday and Bible Study classes on Thursday. If agreed upon, these changes will begin on week of April 21. Please inform Pastor if change is unsatisfactory.

Travelers' Rest Missionary Baptist

Travelers' Rest joyfully welcomes you to our fellowship as we exalt, equip, edify, serve, pursue, enable and ensure the mission that God has ordained for us.

Weekly order of service:

Sunday Morning Worship at 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Life Development (Sunday School) and new member orientation, 9:30 a.m.

Pastor D. Franklin Browne preaching the morning sermons.

8:00 a.m., Praise Team, and 11:00 a.m., Konsonant Choir, singing praises to God.

Usher Ministry #2, doorkeepers and Men's Ministry are greeters.

The church family is reminded of Installation of all Officers on Sunday, April 13, during our Traditional Worship. Ministry leaders should be present.

Also on Sunday afternoon, the Evangelism Ministry will be canvassing the neighborhood taking the Word to the community. Church members are requested to get equipped to spread the good news of Je-

sus. The canvassing will take place at 4:30 p.m.

We invite the entire community to help us celebrate Easter Sunrise Service on Sunday, April 20, at Lassing Park, 22nd Avenue SE, at 6:30 a.m.

Church calendar: Thursday - Mid-Day Bible Study, 11:00 a.m.; Konsonant Choir rehearsal, 7:00 p.m.

Friday - Praise Team rehearsal, 5:30 p.m.; Intercessory Prayer Ministry, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday School teachers' meeting, 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday - Youth Choir rehearsal, 5:30 p.m.; Praise and Prayer Service, 7:00 p.m.; Youth Development, 7:00 p.m.; In-Depth Bible Study, 7:30 p.m.

If you are new to the area and have no church home, we extend an invitation to you to become a part of our church family. Need transportation? Call the church office at 822-4869.



Moore's Chapel AME Church

Rev. James T. Blount - Pastor

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

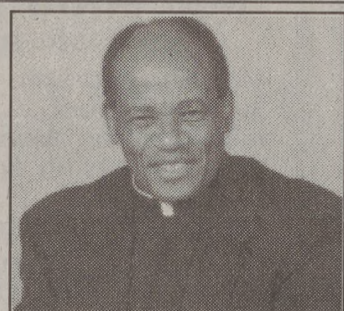
Sunday School (all ages) - 9:30 a.m.

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

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

3037 - Fairfield Avenue south
St. Petersburg, Florida 33712
(727) 321-3545

"Where The Word Is Changing 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.

Prayer Tower Church Of God In Christ

1135 37th Street South, St. Pete, FL

Elder Clarence Welch, Pastor

Sunday School 10 a.m.
Morning Service 11:30 a.m.
YPWW 5:30 p.m. Sunday
Church Service 6:30 p.m. Sunday
Night Services 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday Services 7:30 p.m.



GRACE FELLOWSHIP CENTER

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

GRACE FELLOWSHIP CENTRAL

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

GRACE CENTER



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

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

Pastor Leonard Wilson • Phone: 536-1890

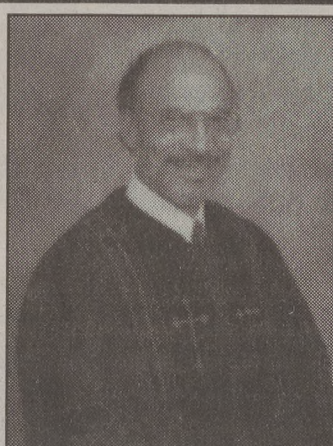
TRAVELER'S REST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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 (Weds.) 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

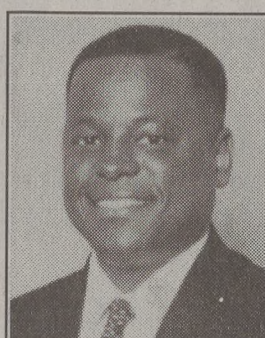
Phone: 894-4311
www.mzprogressive.org

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)



Pastor Louis M. Murphy, Sr.

Friendship Missionary Baptist

3300 - 31st Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(727) 906-8300



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

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.

Friday Tarry Service 8 p.m.



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!

GIVE GOD WHAT'S RIGHT, NOT WHAT'S LEFT!



Rev. Earnest Jones, Pastor

NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

2120 - 19th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712

(727) 896-5228

Sunday Services:

Church School 9am

Praise & Worship Services 10:30am

Tuesday Services:

Prayer Service 6:30pm

Bible Study 7pm

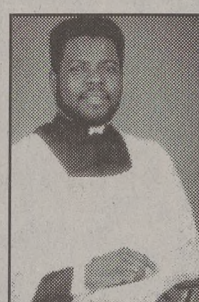
Join us as we lift up the name of Jesus

Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ

2230 - 22nd Street S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712

(727) 894-6764 • (727) 550-0388

Elder William E. Anderson, Pastor



Morning Glory

Sunday

9:30 a.m.

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"

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church

The Bethel Metropolitan Church family invites you to share the Word with us on Sunday at the 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services, and Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. The Praise Team, Angelic Choir, Youth Choir and #2 Ushers will serve.

The Board of Christian Education will be hosting a Young Women's Seminar 2003 Straight Talk: "First Things First," Saturday, April 12, from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Facilitators for the four sessions are Sharon Thurman, Deborah York-Carter, Jeanya McCoy and Darlene Townsend. The keynote speaker will be Pastor Dawn Fort of Love Temple of Deliverance Church. For registra-

tion and other information, please call the church office at 327-0554.

Bethel Metropolitan is in the midst of celebrating our 100th Church Anniversary and we open our arms to the community to share in this momentous occasion with us. The Anniversary Committee has a host of activities and events planned until Anniversary Proper in September. Our upcoming event will be our Centennial Spring Revival!! Revival!! Revival!! April 27-29, 7:00 p.m. nightly. The Evangelist for the Revival will be Reverend Darrell L. Gilyard, Pastor of Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church, Jacksonville. We invite you to

join us, and hear the Word from this dynamic man of God.

Bethel Metropolitan desires to be a friendly people, who offer a kaleidoscope of ministries for all ages and interest. If you are seeking a place of worship, we invite you to unite with this church family in giving a positive Christian witness in the spirit of worship.

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church invites you to share in the will observation of the resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ with a Sunrise Service Sunday, April 20, at 6:00 a.m. Breakfast will be served after the service.

Bethel A.M.E. Church

Bethel A.M.E. Church located at 912 3rd Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL under the leadership of Rev. Roosevelt Hardy cordially invite you to come and worship with us as we lift up the name of Jesus. For here at Bethel, we are busy as bees and sweet as honey.

As we continue with our plans for our Annual Calendar Tea, scheduled for May 18, the birthday calendar groups are in the process of executing group activities to support this fund-raising event. This year's theme is: "A Touch of Love: A Taste of Honey". The local community is invited to attend this celebration. The following activities have been scheduled in support of the Annual Calendar Tea:

April 11 - Dinner with the Men Who Cook.
April 27 - "Dine with

Men Who Cook", 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Ticket donation-\$20.00

May 3 - Dinner sales prices range from \$6.00-\$7.00.

May 10 - "Block Party/Church Bazaar"-8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Vendors are being solicited.

May 18 - Annual Calendar Tea featuring "The Seven Shades of Black"-3:00P-5:00P

All activities will be held in the Williams & Harris Fellowship Hall, here at Bethel.

In addition to the fund-raising activities, Bethel is blessed to provide the following ministries to the local community on a weekly or monthly basis:

- Bible Study and Feeding Ministry - Sunday 8:00 a.m.
- Church School - 9:00 a.m. Sunday
- Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Monday and Wednesday evening - Tutorial sessions 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Tuesday 7:00 p.m. - Bible Study

Wednesday (Adult and Youth Choir rehearsals)
Junior Church
Transportation and Feeding Ministries

If you are without a church home, we invite you to join our church ministries as we praise God from whom all blessings flow. Our mission is to do God's will, preach the word, and walk in the light.

For information about the above referenced activities, contact the Church Office, M-F 9:00A-4:00P at (727) 822-2089.

God our Father-Christ our Redeemer-man our brother!

First Baptist Institutional Church



One of the models:
Barbara Cox
Minister of Music

The P.A. James Circle Mission of First Baptist Institutional Church cordially invites you to their Annual Palm Green Leaf Tea Spring Fashion and Hat Review, Sunday, April 13.

Our Tea pourer's will include some of our area church's most sociable and fashionable Missionaries, such as: Gladys Newton of Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Mary Nelson and Odessa Latimore of St. Mark Baptist Church, Edda Tucker of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church and Roberta McQueen of Bethel A.M.E. Church.

Our "Hats Review" will feature Hats from the Mrs. Pearl Sly collection.

The P.A. James members look forward to this annual event and fellowship. Come and celebrate with us as we welcome spring to St. Petersburg.

Refreshments will be served and door prizes will be awarded.

ATTEND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP THIS WEEK!

Lake Maggiore Baptist Church

4100 Dr. Martin Luther King Street South
St. Petersburg, FL 33705
727-894-5315 • Fax: 727-894-5315
Email: www.lakemaggiore_c@yahoo.com
John A. Evans
Minister In Training

Pastor Ronald Fluker and wife, Shana

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night Disciple Training 6:00 p.m.
Sunday Night Worship 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

A Cooperative Southern Baptist, Multi-Cultural Church, Everyone Welcome!

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"The Church Where The Anointing Makes The Difference"

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

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
Bus ministry provided for all services • Your presence is welcomed

PEACEFUL ZION M.B. CHURCH
2051 - 9th Avenue South,
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
Clifford F. Cannedy, Sr., Pastor
(813) 822-2455

Church School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
B.T.U. 5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Evening Bible Class 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday Youth Rehearsal 5:30 p.m.
Thursday Prayer & Church School Study 7:30 p.m.
1st & 2nd Saturdays SR. Choir Rehearsal 11:00 a.m.

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

Jesus Saves

E-MAIL ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION
TO: tchallen@tampabay.rr.com

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

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Dr. Frederick D. Terry

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
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Rev. Clarence Williams,
Pastor

Queen Street Church Of God In Christ
1732 9th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33712
(727) 896-4356

Elder A.P. Conage, Pastor

8:00 A.M. - Sunday Service
9:30 A.M. - Sunday School
11:00 A.M. - Morning Service

9:00 A.M. - Tuesday Prayer
7:00 P.M. - Tuesday Bible Study
7:30 P.M. - Thursday Pastoral Teaching

YPWW First and Third Sunday of Each Month after Morning Service

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Tampa, FL 33603

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

STEWART-ISOM MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1820 Walton Street S., St. Pete, FL 33712
(813) 327-0593
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study: Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.

"To God Be The Glory"

Rev. Calvin Hopkins

St. John Missionary Baptist Church
1500 N. Pennsylvania Avenue
Clearwater, Florida 33516
Church Phone: 443-1945 Parsonage: 446-6056
Rev. Fleming Tarver, Pastor
Sunday Services

Sunday 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

Morning Worshi 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.

Elder: Tony Smith
Transportation to Church: 727-743-3993 or 727-798-4430
Communion is observed quarterly the first Sunday after every 5th Sunday.
The Church Where Everyone Is Welcome

LIGHTHOUSE CATHEDRAL OF FAITH
309 15th Avenue North
St. Petersburg, FL 33704
Telephone: 727-823-5750
Fax: 727-821-9000

Archbishop Willie Bolden, D.D., D.D.
Pastor Glenda Bolden, PH.D., D.D.
Delores Ross, Resident Pastor

Willie & Glenda Bolden

Sunday Morning Prayer 8:00 AM
Sunday School 8:15 AM
Sunday Worship Service 9:00 AM
Intercessory Prayer - Wednesday 6:30 PM
Bible Study - Wednesday 7:30 PM
Intercessory Prayer - Saturday 6:00 PM
"Arise shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." (Isaiah 60:1)

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 6:30pm- 7:30pm
• Thursday- Tutoring for K thru 5th, 7:00pm
• 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

Pastor Keturah D. Pittman

Lake Maggiore Baptist Church

The mission of the Lake Maggiore Baptist Church is to be a covenant fellowship: worshipping God, equipping the believers, evangelizing the lost, ministering effectively. (Matthew 28:19-20).

We have a community food pantry and clothes closet that is a ministry of PRAY Ministry sponsored by Lake Maggiore Baptist Church and Southside Tabernacle Baptist Church.

Upcoming Ministries:
• Street Ministry - April 25 at 6:00 p.m.
• Youth Group - April 12 at 10:00 a.m.
• Baptist Men - April

12 at 6:00 p.m.
• Good Friday Service - April 18 at 12:00 noon in Fellowship Hall at church.
• 4th Sunday Fellowship - April 27 after 11:00 a.m. service. Come and eat with us.
• Singles Ministry.
• National Day of Prayer - May 1 at 12:20 p.m. at City Hall.
• Coming Soon - Baptist Men Prayer Line and Associational Bible Drills - A Cooperative Southern Baptist, Multi-Cultural Church. Everybody is welcome!

Galilee Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor Earnest Jones and the members of Galilee welcome you to attend the following services at Galilee:

• Rotational Baptist Training Union on April 13 at 5:00 p.m.
• Musical program by the Dual Dal Committee, April 19 at 7:30 p.m.
• Easter Sunday Worship Services at 7:50 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. The Easter Program will be held during Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. The Youth Department will be in charge of the services.
• The Women's Intermediate Auxiliary will hold a membership recruit-

ment drive and art show on April 26 at 5:00 p.m. at the home of Martha Philpott, 3075 - 36th Avenue S.

• All Mission Day Fellowship on April 27 at 3:30 p.m. Barbara Bonner will be the guest speaker.
• The church family extends condolences to Nathaniel Thomas and family in the loss of his wife, Sarah Thomas. Condolences also to the Billue family in the loss of former Galilee member, Reverend Willie J. Billue, Sr. Services were held at Galilee on March 26 and March 29.

New Life Church of Christ

New Life Church of Christ, located at 916 Union Street S. in St. Petersburg, will be the new location of a Community Bible Study.

The study will be each Tuesday evening from 7:00-8:30 p.m. It will not consist of any denominational teachings nor additions or subtractions of scriptures.

Union Street is between 21st and 22nd Street. The teacher is Elder Robert Boyd. You are welcome to join us!

For further information, please call 502-9280 or 698-1368.

Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church

Greetings! Sorry that our article didn't make the deadline last week, but here we are, to let you know that all is well at the "little A.M.E. church on Mondon Hill."

On March 30th, the Elizabeth Black Missionary Society, Sis. Martha Lawson, President, was in charge of the worship service. The speaker was one of our own members, Sis. Lucille Byam. Her subject was taken from our theme, "Let's Go To Samaria." She did a beautiful job, and was given a standing ovation.

Pastor Lowery and the Mt. Zion Brooksville members wish to thank all who worshipped and communed with us on Sunday, April 6th. Supt. Lawson reports

that the attendance at church school is improving, for which we give thanks to God, and hope it continues.

On Sunday, April 13th, we will celebrate the church's 96th Anniversary. The guest preacher for the occasion will be Rev. James Mitchell, local minister from New Bethel A.M.E. Church, Tampa, FL. The mass choir of Mt. Zion, directed and accompanied by minister of music, Mrs. Fairella Cook, will furnish the music. The service will be at 11 a.m., immediately following church school, which still begins at 9:15 a.m. We look forward to a hallelujah good time, so hope as many

of you as possible, will join us.

A "pre-anniversary program" will be held on this evening, April 10th at 7:00 p.m. Remember, you are welcome to join us for this memorable 96th anniversary celebration on either Thursday, Sunday, or both. You will certainly be glad you came. Here at Mt. Zion, we are taught by the pastor, and believe our credo, "Love Makes The Difference."

Call the church office for further information at (352) 796-1955 or Pastor Lowery at (727) 866-0126. Meanwhile, have a blessed week.

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Compiled by
Noel Hines, Jr.

Continued from last week.

36. Babies are born without knee caps. They appear when the child is 2-6 years of age.

37. An iguana can stay under water for 28 minutes.

38. Emus can't walk backwards.

39. A group of unicorns is called a blessing.

40. A group of kangaroos is called a mob.

41. A group of whales is called a pod.

42. A group of geese is called a gaggle.

43. A group of owls is called a parliament.

44. A group of ravens is called a murder.

45. A group of bears is called a sleuth.

46. 12 or more cows is called a flink.

47. A baby oyster is called a spat.

48. The longest recorded flight of a chicken is 13 seconds.

49. Chickens can't swallow while they are upside down.

50. In the October 22, 1945 edition of Life magazine there was a picture of a chicken

with its head cut off. It was alive too!

51. The average garden variety caterpillar has 248 muscles in its head.

52. A goldfish has a memory span of 3 seconds.

53. Pinocchio was made of pine.

54. A mule won't sink in quicksand but a donkey will.

55. More people are killed annually by donkeys than in airplane crashes.

56. Alfred Hitchcock had no belly button for it was eliminated during surgery.

57. There are 22 stars in the Paramount logo.

58. The average human produces 10,000 gallons of saliva in a lifetime.

59. A quarter has 119 grooves around the edge.

60. A dime has 118 ridges around the edge.

61. Cranberry Jell-O is the only kind that contains real fruit.

62. The plastic things on the end of shoelaces are called aglets.

63. Every time you lick a stamp you consume 1/10 of a calorie.

64. The pound sign # is called an octothorpe.

65. Maine is the toothpick capital of the world.

66. New Jersey has a spoon museum with over 5,400 spoons from almost all the states.

67. There was once a town in West Virginia called "6".

68. Singapore only has one train station.

69. The parking meter

was invented in North Dakota.

70. Napoleon made his battle plans in a sandbox.

71. Roman Emperor Caligula made his horse a senator.

72. The green stuff on the occasional freak potatoe chip is chlorophyll.

73. If you ate too many carrots you would turn orange.

74. Pluto's orbit crosses Neptune's making Pluto the eighth planet from the sun.

It has been that way since 1979 and will remain that way until 1999.

75. The earth is approx. 6,588,000,000,000,000 tons.

76. The force of 1 billion people jumping at the same time is equal to 500 tons of TNT.

77. Popeye was 5'6".

78. Howdy Doody had 48 freckles.

79. The first word spoken on the moon was "Okay".

80. Neil Armstrong stepped on the moon with his left foot first.

81. The average speed of Heinz ketchup leaving the bottle is 25 miles per year.

82. Hilary Clinton once said We are the President.

83. The percent of women who wash their hands after leaving a restroom is 80%.

84. The percent of men who wash their hands after using a restroom is 55%.

85. There are 333 toilet paper squares on a toilet paper roll.

86. The Eifel Tower has 2 500 000 rivets in it.

87. "Jaws" is the most common name for a goldfish.

88. On an average work day, a typist's fingers travel 12.6 miles.

89. The average American eats 2 donuts a day.

90. The longest word in the Old Testament is Malhershalahahshbaz.

91. The longest time a person has been in a coma is 37 years.

92. Every minute in the U.S 6 people turn 17.

93. It takes the Where's Waldo artist one month to complete a drawing.

94. 2500 lefties die each year using products designed for righties.

95. A baby is born every 7 seconds.

96. 10 tons of space dust fall on the Earth every day.

97. On average, a 4 year old child asks 437 questions a day.

98. Blue and white are the most common school colours.

99. Swimming pools in Phoenix, Arizona, pick up 20 pounds of dust a year.

100. The first message tapped by Samuel

Morse over his invention the telegraph was:

What hath God wrought?

101. The first words spoken by over Alexander Bell over the telephone were:

Watson come here, I need you.

102. The first words spoken by Thomas Edison over the phonograph were:

Mary had a little lamb

103. The four words in the English language with the letters uu are: vacuum, residuum, triduum and continuum.

104. A baby in Florida was named: Truewill-laughlinglifebucky-boomermanifestdestiny.

His middle name is George James.

105. It is illegal to ride a street car on Sunday if have been eating garlic in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

106. In a normal life time an American will eat 200 pounds of peanuts and 10 000 pounds of meat.

107. A new book is published every 13 minutes in America.

108. America's best selling ice-cream flavour is vanilla.

109. American's eat 18 billion hot dogs a year.

110. American's eat 134 pounds of sugar a

year.

111. Every year the sun loses 360 million tons.

112. Because of Animal Crackers, many kids until they reach the age of ten, believe a bear is as tall as a giraffe.

113. You can tell if a skunk is about if you smell only .000 000 000 000 071 ounce of

its spray.

114. Animal breeders in Russia once claimed to have bred sheep with blue wool.

115. A dog in East Africa says "woo-woo".

116. A dog in Bangkok says "bahk-bahk".

117. A dog in Japan says "wan-wan".

118. A dog in Russia says "gahf-gahft".

119. A cow in Thailand says "oo-ah"

120. A cat in Japon says "neow".

121. A cat in Thailand says "mao".

122. A pig Japan says "moo-moo".

123. A pig in Thailand says "oot-oot".

124. A pig in Russia says "ha-roo".

125. A rooster in Germany says "ay-ee-ache-ache"

126. Penguins are the only bird that can leap into the air like porpoises.

127. India has 50 mil-

lion monkeys.

128. By some unknown means, an iguana can end its own life.

129. Americans spend around \$3 billion for cat and dog food a year.

130. Pigs can cover a mile in 7.5 minutes when running at top speed.

131. You breathe about 10 million times a year.

132. The colder the room you sleep in, the better the chances are that you'll have a bad dream.

133. The first non-human to win an Oscar was Mickey Mouse.

134. Lee Harvey Oswald was booked with mugshot number 54018.

135. The Gulf Stream could carry a message in a bottle at an average of 4 miles per hour.

136. The bullseye on a dartboard must be 5 feet 8 inches off the ground.

137. The foot is the most common body part bitten by insects.

138. The most common time for a wake up call is 7am.

139. The doorbell was invented in 1831.

140. There are 225 squares on a Scrabble board.

141. The electric shaver was patented on November 6, 1928.

142. There are 500 sheets of paper in a ream.

143. The monkey wrench was invented by Charles Moncke.

144. Japan is the largest exporter of frog's legs.

145. There are seven points on the Statue of Liberty's crown.

146. There are approx. 550 hairs in the eyebrow.

147. The most common non-contagious disease in the world is tooth decay.

148. The shell constitutes 12 percent of an egg's weight.

149. A squid has 10 tentacles.

150. A snail's reproductive organs are in its head.

151. A cow's only sweat glands are in its nose.

152. The word AND appears 46 277 times in the Bible.

153. The first word played in the Scrabble rules demonstration game is "Horn."

154. The telephone's U.S. patent number is 174 465.

155. The typical person goes to the bathroom 6 times a day.

156. There are 17 steps leading up to Sherlock Holme's apartment.

More strange and interesting facts...next week.

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If we go back a couple hundred years, it would have been hard to imagine today's promise. For African-Americans, this country offered very little hope, recognition, and prosperity. However, so much of what we have today is here because of the heroic efforts of African-Americans. This feature is dedicated to their spirit which could not be denied despite very little opportunity. Today, opportunity abounds. Learn about their stories, learn from their determinedness, and be inspired to take advantage of opportunities. We pray the inspiration is contagious.

Jackie Robinson - The Greatest Baserunner of All Time

On April 15, 1947, a 28-year-old black man walked out to first base to play baseball at Ebbets Field in Brooklyn and America was never the same.

Fifty-six years ago this week, Jackie Robinson broke baseball's color barrier by playing first base for the Brooklyn Dodgers against the Boston Braves. Only 25, 623 fans showed up in the 34,000-seat park to watch Robinson go hitless in three at-bats in the Dodger's 5-3 victory.

The major newspapers virtually ignored the significance of the event with some writers skipping it entirely and others mentioning it as a footnote. But with the game's first pitch, Jack Roosevelt Robinson became the first black man

to play in the modern major leagues, breaking the color barrier that had surrounded baseball for more than half a century and symbolizing the racial integration of American society.

Ebbets Field is long gone, demolished in 1960 - two years after the Dodgers abandoned Brooklyn for Los Angeles - but Robinson's character, courage and talent remains secured in history to this day.

The American athlete who became a civil rights icon was born in Cairo, Georgia to a family of sharecroppers. He attended Pasadena Junior College (now Pasadena City College) in California and the University of California at Los Angeles. He demonstrated exceptional athletic ability and became the first

UCLA student athlete to win varsity letters in four sports - football, basketball, baseball and track.

A dozen years before Rosa Parks became famous for refusing to sit at the back of the bus, Robinson was blazing the path she would follow. In 1944, when he was a lieutenant in the Army, Robinson was court-martialed for refusing to vacate a seat in the front of an Army bus. He was later acquitted and given an honorable discharge.

Robinson began his professional baseball career in 1945 with the Kansas City Monarchs, one of the leading teams in the Negro Leagues. Later that year, Robinson was recruited and signed to the Brooklyn Dodgers. He spent the



Jackie Robinson

1946 season playing for the Montreal Royals, in the International League, a minor league affiliate of the Dodgers. After one season with the Royals, he was called up to the Brooklyn team, becoming the first black player to compete in the Major Leagues in the 20th century.

Breaking the color barrier was a serious challenge and Robinson met fierce resistance from many players and fans. He endured catcalls and racial slurs from the stands along with notes threatening death if he continued to play. But with the help of his manager, Branch Rickey, and encouragement from his teammates, Robinson went on to help the Dodgers win the National League (NL) pennant that year. During the season he led the NL with 29 stolen bases and was named Rookie of the Year.

In 1949, Robinson was voted the Major League's Most Valuable Player after he hit for a .342 batting average for 37 steals and 124 runs batted in. In 1955, the Dodgers won its first World Series title. Robinson's success with the Dodgers opened the way for other black players to sign major league contracts.

After he retired from baseball in 1956, Robinson became active in the NAACP and the civil rights movement. He founded the first black-owned bank in

New York City, and prominent leaders like Martin Luther King and Jesse Jackson looked to him for guidance.

More than 50 years have passed since Robinson first set foot on Ebbets Field, and to many people today he is more a legend than a person. The baseball team at his alma mater plays in Jackie Robinson Stadium. Major League baseball rookies of the year take home the Jackie Robinson Award.

But Robinson the man seems to have become lost in the shadow of Robinson the legend. It is often forgotten that even without his social significance, Robinson would still be the greatest athlete of all time. He achieved a higher level of excellence in a wider

variety of sports than any other athlete in history.

Robinson is still the only UCLA Bruin to letter in four sports. He was an All-American in both football and basketball, and set long jump records in track. Baseball was his weakest sport, but he played it professionally because the NBA and NFL still had their doors closed to African-Americans.

As a baseball player, Robinson revolutionized the way the game was played. He combined power and speed in a way that has never been done before, and is acknowledged as the greatest baserunner of all time.

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"Only when lions have historians will hunters cease being heroes." ~ African Proverb

SPORTS NEWS

The U.S. Marine Corps Honored as CIAA's "Outstanding Partner of the Year"



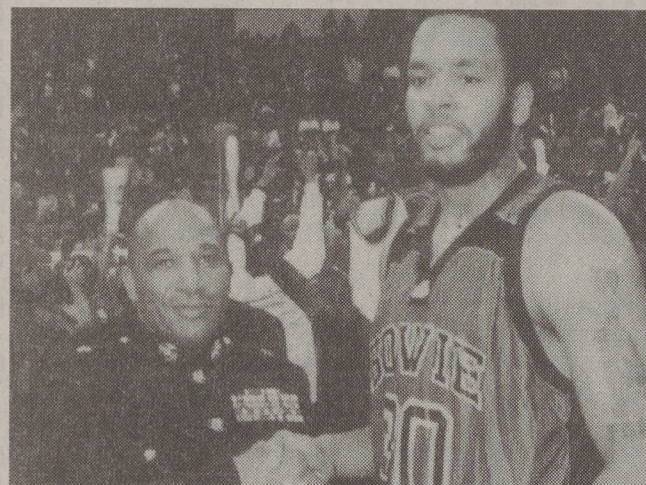
The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA), the nation's oldest African-American athletic

conference, recognized the United States Marine Corps as the 2002-03 "Outstanding Partner of the



Year" award. The award is presented annually to the partner whose annual efforts contribute to the over-

all growth of the CIAA conference whose mission is to raise scholarship money for each of the 12 mem-



ber schools. "The Marine Corps is proud to continue its partnership with the CIAA," says Brigadier General

Ronald S. Coleman of the U.S. Marine Corps. "We are committed to achieving excellence in education and making leaders of our

young people and the CIAA is an excellent partner in this endeavor."

"The Marine Corps continued its tradition of recognizing leadership excellence by presenting the "Excellence in Leadership" awards during the recent CIAA tournament games.

Pictured left: Brigadier General Ronald Coleman receiving the CIAA "Outstanding Partner of the Year" award from CIAA Board Chair Dr. Dorothy Yancy.

Pictured center: Lieutenant Colonel Denise Williams shares a moment with syndicated radio host Tom Joyner (left) and CIAA Commissioner Leon Kerry (right) at the CIAA Hall of Fame Luncheon where Joyner was honored.

Pictured right: Coleman (left) presents forward Tim Washington of Bowie State University with the "Excellence in Leadership" award for the leadership qualities he displayed during the final game.

Shaun King Re-Signs with Bucs

TAMPA - Free agent quarterback Shaun King, who grew up in St. Petersburg, recently signed a one-year contract with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He is the Super Bowl Champion's fifth quarterback.

"I am excited to return," King said. "I think it is an excellent opportunity for me because I will finally get the chance to be in the same system for two years. I feel like it will show in my performance that I understand the of-

fense and now I just need to master it."

King, who enters his fifth NFL season with Tampa Bay, has played in 28 career games with 22 starts. For his career, he has completed 353-of-632 passes for 3,934 yards with 25 touchdowns and 19 interceptions. In 1999, King led Tampa Bay to its first NFC Central title since 1981 and an appearance in the NFC Championship Game in his rookie campaign. King, who prepped at Gibbs High School, or-

iginally entered the league as a second round draft pick (50th overall) by the Buccaneers in the 1999 NFL Draft.

"It will be good to see Shaun have the opportunity to play within the same system for two years in a row," said General Manager Rich McKay. "We had a lot of confidence in Shaun coming out of Tulane, he has played in many big games for us and we remain confident that Shaun is a winning quarterback in the National Football League."

The announcement of King's signing came after the Buccaneers' 2003 regular season schedule was released by the National Football League last week. The schedule features eight games against 2002 playoff teams and seven nationally televised contests, including four prime-time appearances. A team-record three of those four nationally televised appearances will be on ABC's Monday Night Football, with the other one on ESPN on Sunday night. It marks the sec-

ond time in team history, also last season, that Tampa Bay has two Monday night games at home.

"This is a well-balanced schedule that should provide great national exposure for our football team," McKay said. "The constant national focus is really nothing new for our team, but is nonetheless very challenging for our club."

For a look at the complete schedule, go to www.buccaneers.com.

NEWS DEADLINE IS 4:00 P.M. MONDAY

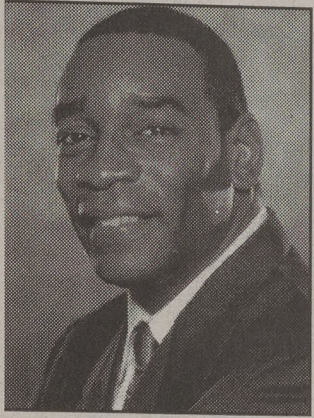
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NATIONAL NEWS

National Urban League Names Milton J. Little, Jr. Interim President and CEO



Milton J. Little, Jr.

NEW YORK-- The National Urban League named Milton J. Little Jr., the organization's current Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, as its Interim President and CEO effective April 14. Little will replace Hugh B. Price, who resigned from the position last fall and officially leaves office on April 11.

"I am delighted that the Executive Committee (of the National Urban League Board of Trustees) made

the appointment and has appointed Milton Little to serve as Interim President and CEO," Price said. "Milton has done a splendid job as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the League over the course of the last six years. He's been a terrific colleague and partner who is substantially responsible for the organization's many accomplishments."

"Equally important his appointment means that the leadership transition at the League will continue to be seamless. Under his wise and steady hand, the organization is assured of functioning smoothly and effectively until a permanent successor is selected by our Board of Trustees."

Michael J. Critelli, chairman and CEO of Pitney Bowes Inc. and current chairman of the National Urban League

Board of Trustees, said, "Milton's firsthand knowledge and experience assures that the critical work of the Urban League movement will continue to function effectively during this period."

Said Little: "I am deeply honored that the Board would give me the opportunity to lead the organization during this time. Having worked closely with Hugh, I feel we can continue his important work in moving the organization forward."

Little was appointed executive vice president and chief operating officer of the League in 1997. He oversaw the day-to-day management of the League's internal affairs, with particular focus on the development and implementation of its strategic and programmatic plans, including financial management and oversight

of an annual budget in excess of \$40 million; operations and administration; and staff management and development.

Little is a former vice president for Foundation Programs at Lucent Technologies, and a former vice president for health and human services programs at the AT&T Foundation. As interim President and CEO of the National Urban League, Little will be responsible for the leadership and advancement of the nation's largest community-based organization devoted to assisting African Americans enter the social and economic mainstream and achieve parity and civil rights.

A copy of his biography is available for viewing by visiting the National Urban League website at: http://www.nul.org/about/office_vice_pres.htm.

Media Giants Pay \$150,000 to Black Reporter for Racial Harassment and Firing

ST. LOUIS-- The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) recently announced that Metro Networks Communications, Inc. and its affiliate, Westwood One, Inc., have agreed to pay \$150,000 to settle the EEOC's claims that Metro/Westwood racially harassed and then fired its only African-American news and traffic reporter.

The EEOC's suit in U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, alleged that Metro Networks and Westwood One, affiliated media corporations, violated Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Title I of the Civil Rights Act of 1991 by subjecting reporter St. Anthony Hicks to racial harassment and terminating him because of his race. The EEOC says the harassment included a management official using racial epithets to insult

Hicks and telling him that people of his race are "stupid" and should not be working there.

"This settlement allows me to put the difficulties I had at Metro Networks behind me and get on with my life," said Hicks, who filed a race discrimination charge with EEOC in November 1999. "My hope is that the changes Metro Networks has agreed to will prevent anyone else from going through what I went through."

The EEOC filed suit after investigating the case and exhausting its efforts in conciliation to reach a voluntary pre-litigation settlement. Hicks is represented by private attorneys Jerome J. Dobson and Gregory A. Rich of Weinhaus, Dobson, Goldberg & Moreland.

Lynn Bruner, Director of the EEOC's St. Louis District Office, said: "Race discrimination is destructive to the victim, the com-

pany, and to the values of our society."

Under the terms of the Consent Decree, Westwood One and Metro Networks will pay Hicks and his private attorneys a total of \$150,000. The companies also agreed to issue a letter of reprimand to the management official who allegedly engaged in the racial harassment, to put him on probation, and to make him ineligible for pay raises, increases in benefits, transfers to better jobs and promotions for one year.

During the three-year term of the Decree, Westwood One and Metro Networks also will distribute a message to all St. Louis Metro Networks employees stating that the companies will not tolerate race discrimination and that employees who engage in racially discriminatory conduct risk losing their jobs. They have committed

to consider how employees deal with equal employment opportunity issues as a part of determining whether any employee is eligible for awards, raises, transfer and promotion opportunities.

Additionally, the companies agreed to provide the St. Louis Metro staff with racial sensitivity training, and to notify the EEOC of any complaints of race discrimination at the St. Louis Metro office during the term of the Decree.

Robert Johnson, EEOC Regional Attorney in St. Louis, noted: "We cannot undo the terrible hurt that racial hatred causes a person. But together with the employer, we can try to compensate its victims and make every effort to prevent it from happening again."

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AN OPEN LETTER TO PARENTS:

HERE'S WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY ABOUT MARIJUANA AND TEENS.

■ "Marijuana is not a benign drug. Use impairs learning and judgment, and may lead to the development of mental health problems."
—American Medical Association

■ "Smoking marijuana can injure or destroy lung tissue. In fact, marijuana smoke contains 50 to 70 percent more of some cancer causing chemicals than does tobacco smoke."
—American Lung Association

■ "Teens who are high on marijuana are less able to make safe, smart decisions about sex—including saying no. Teens who have used marijuana are four times more likely to have been pregnant or gotten someone pregnant than teens who haven't."
—National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy

■ "Marijuana can impair perception and reaction time, putting young drivers, their passengers and others on the road in danger. Teens, the highest risk driving population, should avoid anything that might impair their ability to operate a vehicle safely."
—American Automobile Association

■ "Marijuana use may trigger panic attacks, paranoia, and even psychoses, especially if you are suffering from anxiety, depression or having thinking problems."
—American Psychiatric Association

■ "Marijuana can impair concentration and the ability to retain information during a teen's peak learning years."
—National Education Association

■ "Recent research has indicated that for some people there is a correlation between frequent marijuana use and aggressive or violent behavior. This should be a concern to parents, community leaders, and to all Americans."
—The National Crime Prevention Council

And, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, marijuana can be addictive. In fact, more teens are in treatment with a primary diagnosis of marijuana dependence than for all other illicit drugs combined.

Teens say their parents are the single most important influence when it comes to drugs. Know their friends. Ask them where they are going and when they will be home. Take time to listen. Talk to your teens about marijuana. To learn more about marijuana and how to keep your teens drug-free, visit www.theantidrug.com or call 800-788-2800.

PARENTS.
THE ANTI-DRUG.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

As tens of thousands of American families face the uncertainty of having a breadwinner activated for military duty, HUD has issued guidance to all FHA-approved lenders to remind them of the key components of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940.

That law mandates that military personnel on active duty in wartime are entitled to mortgage relief, including a lower interest rate (six percent) on their mortgages. The guidance, in the form of a mortgagee letter, stresses to the lenders the importance of complying with the Act. The letter also reminds them that all available loss mitigation options must be considered when determining how best to assist affected homeowners, including in some cases the postponement of principal payments.

ment of principal pay-

ing a mortgage. Termination of Leases. Members of the military just entering active duty may be able to terminate a lease without repercussions, if certain conditions are met.

Protection from Eviction. An active-duty member of the military who leases a house or apartment can prevent an eviction for a period of time, usually three months, if the rent does not exceed \$1,200 a month and the active duty status impact his or her ability to pay rent.

Six Percent Cap on Interest Rates. Under the SSCRA, a military member can cap the interest rate at six percent for all obligations, including mortgages, entered into before beginning active duty.

Stay of Proceedings. If an active duty member of the military is sued, he or

she can have the proceed-

ings postponed.

Reopening Default Judgments. If a default judgment is issued against an active military member, he or she can reopen the judgment once certain conditions are met.

The SSCRA provides many more protections to those listed above. The DOD makes available military legal assistance attorneys to provide guidance on the SSCRA and its provisions.

In addition, HUD operates HUDVET, a resource center for servicemen and women who have questions about the protections provided by the SSCRA. The toll-free number for HUDVET is 800-998-9999 during the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on weekdays. The website address is www.hud.gov/hudvet.



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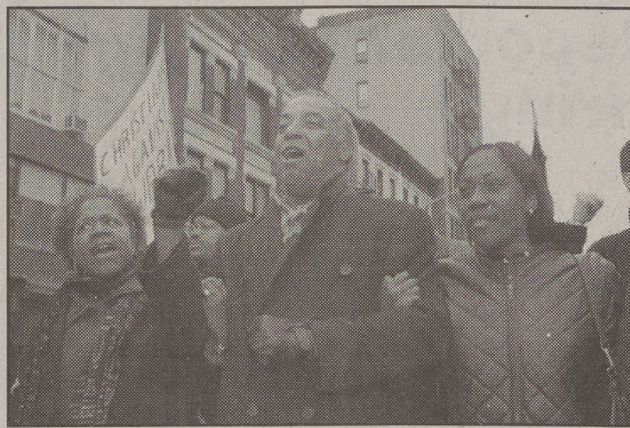
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

African-Americans Lead War Protest

The Gantt Report



African-Americans protesting the U.S./Iraq War in Harlem

photos by William Farrington

NEW YORK-- Hundreds of members of the Harlem community braved a cold rain to march and rally on April 5 in a protest linking the 35th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King and opposition to the U.S.-led war in Iraq.

From Marcus Garvey Park up to 145th Street and back to the Harlem State

Office Building on 125th street, the marchers sang and chanted through the New York City streets for over 2 miles. The protest was organized by Black Solidarity Against War Coalition.

Blacks Against War, on their website, noted: "On Friday, April 4th, the anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther

King, we must speak as one. Dr. King gave his life because he opposed an unjust war and drew the connection to how it affected Black people at home. Dr. King said, "The day has passed for superficial patriotism. He who lives with untruth lives in spiritual slavery." Dr. King and others set a standard for how we should respond to an unjust war. We must resist."

Leading the march were Councilmembers Bill Perkins and Charles Barron, labor leaders Brenda Stokely, Roger Toussaint, and Lester Green, poet Taliba Washington, and organizer Nelly Bailey. A

large number of Muslim men and women participated in the rally and march.

According to some polls, a majority African-Americans oppose the U.S.-led war.

Later in the day, a cultural event against the war, honoring Dr. King and supporting Mumia Abu Jamal took place at the House of the World Church in Brooklyn. Featured artists were Amina & Amiri Baraka, Gary Bird, Rosemary Mealy, Suheir Hammad of Def Poetry Jam, Heritage World Beat among others.

by Lucius Gantt

The 2003 Academy Awards should go to all of the network news correspondents covering the conflict in Iraq.

They should be recognized not for their stellar journalism but for acting like reporters!

You can't believe an embedded reporter regardless of which army the reporter is in bed with.

Coverage of the war in Iraq has been nothing but propaganda from both sides. Both countries hand pick the journalists they want to feed their war spins to and the people have to suffer for it.

In order to get the true story about what is happening you have to hear the news from an independent newsman.

However, if you attempt independent war news coverage, you may get shot!

A real journalist would not take everything he is told by people who only want to get positive stories told about their war activities.

Whatever happened to "U.S. authorities say,"

"reports suggest" or "it has been rumored?"

Whatever happened to "Iraqi information officials claim" or "Muslim religious leaders describe?"

The true story about Iraq has not yet been told. So far, I haven't seen any biological or chemical weapons. The only weapons of mass destruction I have seen has been launched by coalition forces.

No matter how precise the high-tech bombs have been, thousands and thousands of civilians have been killed. Women and children have been injured. And, young American men and women have been hurt and killed.

If drug dealers and gang members on the streets of America don't show bravery by drive by shootings in our ghettos and barrios, how can bravery be demonstrated in the Middle East by drive by bombings by battleships, stealth airplanes and submarines?

War is obsolete. Diplomacy must be given a chance to work!

Most of the Third World countries that possess weapons of mass destruction obtained them from so-called super powers. We know they once had those weapons because we sold them to them, gave them to the countries or taught the countries how to develop them!

I wish all of the American service men and women a safe trip home. Do what you have to do and get out of the Middle East.

You will never turn Iraq into Little America. Democratic or not, "liberated" or not, they will never have the same morals, values and political structure as we do. What liberation means to George Bush is not what liberation means to Iraqi citizens.

If the war reporters want to tell us the truth tell the people that the U.S.

military is not and can never be the world's police department! Contact Lucius Gantt at

lbgantt@aol.com. Gantt's book "I Talked About The Beast" is now on sale.

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OBITUARIES

ST. PETERSBURG RITES



GOINS, ANNA MAUD, 85, died recently. Survivors include four grandsons, Leonard, Glenn and Corey Dumas, Spokane, WA, and George Dumas, St. Petersburg; two granddaughters, Wanda Dumas and Karen Porter, Spokane, WA; two nieces, Yvonne T. Doctor and Juanita (Napoleon) Richardson; two nephews, Arnett Doctor and Richard (Willie Mae) Graham; three cousins, Dan (Ernestine) Oliver, Sr., Mary Oliver and Elizabeth White; two great nieces, Gretchen (Eric) Scott and Phyllis Doctor (caregiver); and several cousins and

friends. McRae Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

MATHIS, MAE, 87, died recently. Survivors include Jim and Ruth Runyon, Zella Ford, Jennifer and Rebecca Runyon; nieces, Bea, Dinetta and Grace; friends, Laytha and David, Oneysa, Gordon, Eloise and Bob. McRae Funeral Home, St. Petersburg.

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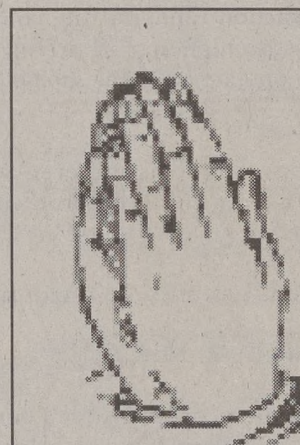
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STATE NEWS

BellSouth Enhances Communications at Bethune-Cookman College

ATLANTA (BLACK PR WIRE)(BUSINESS WIRE)-- BellSouth recently announced that it has collaborated with Bethune-Cookman College to develop an innovative voice/data communications system for the school. Bethune-Cookman College, founded in 1904 by Mary McLeod Bethune, is located in Daytona Beach, Fla.

By working with the communications experts on BellSouth's account team, Bethune-Cookman has utilized the latest technology systems to upgrade its phone system, data networking and Internet capabilities. These enhanced systems will create better communications that support recruitment, student services and on-campus support systems for faculty and staff. With a renewed focus on technology for learning, Bethune-Cookman College has noticed increased student and faculty satisfaction and has been recognized nationally for its efforts(a).

"Bethune-Cookman's focus has always been on education in the classroom, but today's students and faculty desire technology that supports and enhances the learning experience," said Margaret Massey, vice

president and chief information officer of Bethune-Cookman College. "BellSouth has worked closely with us to implement a solution that allows us to offer additional capabilities to our students and faculty, creating greater efficiencies within the institution."

The BellSouth solution for Bethune-Cookman consisted of several voice and data components including:

Dedicated Internet Access - a high speed, dedicated Internet connection allowed the college to upgrade access capabilities within its dormitories and computer labs, enhancing student and faculty research and work efficiencies.

Nortel Meridian PBX - a digital phone system that provides modern, bundled features for ease of voice communication, delivering greater customer service to current and potential students, alumni and parents.

Maintenance and Installation - a five-year equipment maintenance contract and BellSouth's professional implementation have ensured a smooth transition from the old equipment to the updated solution.

Voice Network - an upgraded voice network

consisting of Primate Rate ISDN (PRI) service was installed, providing direct inward dial (DID) service, caller ID and more efficient call allocation.

Data Infrastructure - BellSouth designed and installed a private fiber optic Wide Area Network (WAN) that spans Bethune-Cookman's campus, enhancing data communications and providing redundancy.

"Education is a key focus for BellSouth and an industry that is vital to the prosperity of our communities," said Joan Kratz, vice president of marketing for BellSouth Business. "Whether it is a complex public school system in K-12 with multiple locations, or an institution of higher learning like Bethune-Cookman, BellSouth is committed to equipping students and faculty with technology that encourages further development."

"We are appreciative of the long-term interest and communications assistance BellSouth has provided to Bethune-Cookman College," said Dr. Oswald P. Bronson, Sr., president of B-CC. "BellSouth is a true supporter of the college's growth and future."

B-CC Student Newspaper Receives Awards



Back Row L to R: Awardees Charles McDonald, Advisor Dr. Elsie Wanjohi, Kwanza D. Smith, Devon Quash. Front Row L to R: Brandis Robinson and Erica Anderson.

DAYTONA BEACH-- "The Voice of the Wildcats," the student-run newspaper of Bethune-Cookman College, received top awards at the recent Southern Regional Press Institute held at Savannah State University, Savannah, Ga.

The newspaper won first place in the Senior College Newspaper competition and managing editor Erica L. Anderson received second place in the Editorial Column Writing competition.

"I'm proud that we won first place," said Anderson. "We worked all year long to recreate 'the Voice' and make it more interactive with the student body and more enhanced with national, local and campus news."

"The award will serve as a motivation to help stu-

dents strive for a competitive edge in the print industry," said Voice Advisor and B-CC Assistant Professor of Mass Communications, Dr. Elsie Wanjohi.

Founded in 1974, "The Voice of the Wildcats" is published monthly and circulated to 2,000 readers including staff, students, alumni, media, schools, local businesses and the general public. "The Voice of the Wildcats" provides news stories about the teaching, research and other activities of Bethune-Cookman College. It also contains information about events at the College, interviews and commentary. The newspaper staff can be reached by telephone at (386) 481-2707.

Education Commissioner Urges School Superintendents Take Steps to Help Students Meet New Education Standards

TALLAHASSEE-- Education Commissioner Jim Horne has announced that he has asked Florida school superintendents to take proactive measures to help students reach new academic standards for promotion.

At a recent meeting of the Florida Association of District School Superintendents, Horne urged members to develop intensive summer reading programs beginning this year to help students with low Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test reading scores, particularly third

and tenth graders. This year is the first year that third grade students must score in FCAT achievement level two or higher in order to be promoted to fourth grade without a "good cause exemption." Seniors must also pass the FCAT as one of the requirements to receive a standard high school diploma.

"These third and tenth grade students on the cusp are within our grasp and we must not let them slip by unaided," said Horne to superintendents. "I challenge you today to return to your districts and organize

your resources to meet the immediate needs of as many of these students as possible."

Horne added that resources must be used in a targeted way to ensure students are given the opportunity to reach proficiency and master the Sunshine State standards. He encouraged school superintendents to increase their support efforts and rely on the Department of Education to provide numerous services to assist districts, teachers and parents.

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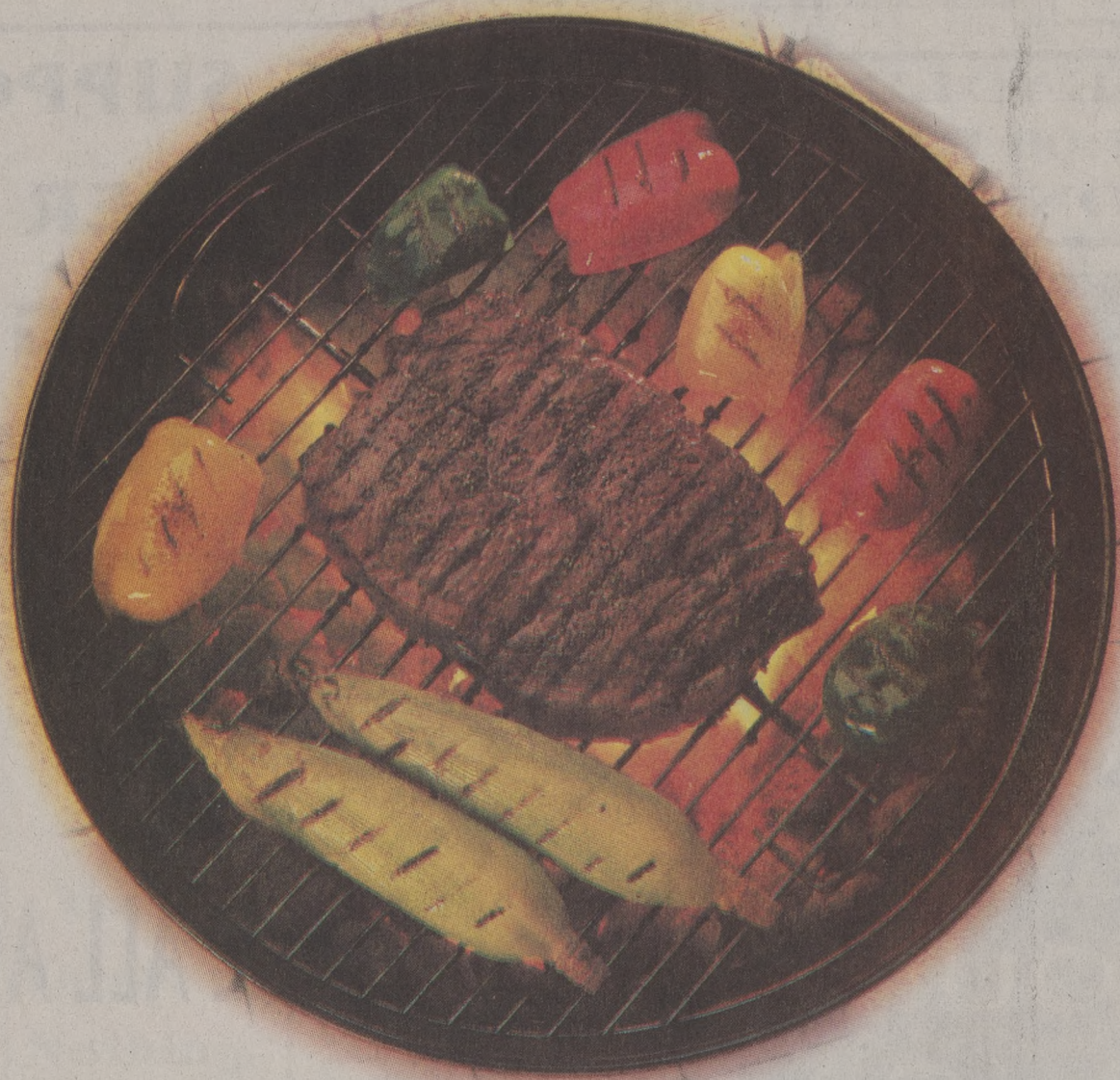
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