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The Weekly Challenger

We Value Diversity. We Value Education. We Value History.



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The Weekly Challenger presents a special six part series:

- THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE, Part 1
- FINANCIAL INSECURITY, Part 2
- EDUCATION MATTERS, Part 3
- HEALTH AS WEALTH, Part 4
- OUR EMPATHY DEFICIT, Part 5
- THE LEADERSHIP DROUGHT, Part 6

Part Three

Education Matters



Photo by Cass Gilbert/Bettman/Corbis

Nettie Hunt and her daughter, Nickie, sit on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court in May 1954

"In these days, it is doubtful that any child may reasonably be expected to succeed in life if he is denied the opportunity of an education"

Chief Justice Earl Warren, *Brown vs. Board of Education* (1954)

by Leroy Robinson
Weekly Challenger Correspondent
To get a clear understanding of the current state of education in black America; it would be most prudent to review it from a historical perspective.

African slaves' first encounter with the public education system in America was non-existent upon their arrival to the New World. Negro slaves were not permitted to read, write or attend government-sponsored schools; the mere thought of providing them with any form of education would be met with swift punishment and possible charges of criminal activity. Historically, the facts are clear: the longer the slaves remained uneducated, uninformed and illiterate, they made for better slaves -- a more cooperative source of free labor.

During this time, the slave masters, along with the majority of white citizens, understood that if the Negro, free or enslaved, were to ever be taught the historic greatness of their African ancestry, were to fully understand the inhumanity and ungodliness of their physical bondage and grasp the possibilities of what freedom and education had to offer, this subservient human being would become a major threat to the privileged white society -- not in the sense that whites were afraid of physical harm, but they certainly

feared what an informed and well-educated black African could do to the very profitable slave economy, not to mention the competition for opportunities that this educated servant would create.

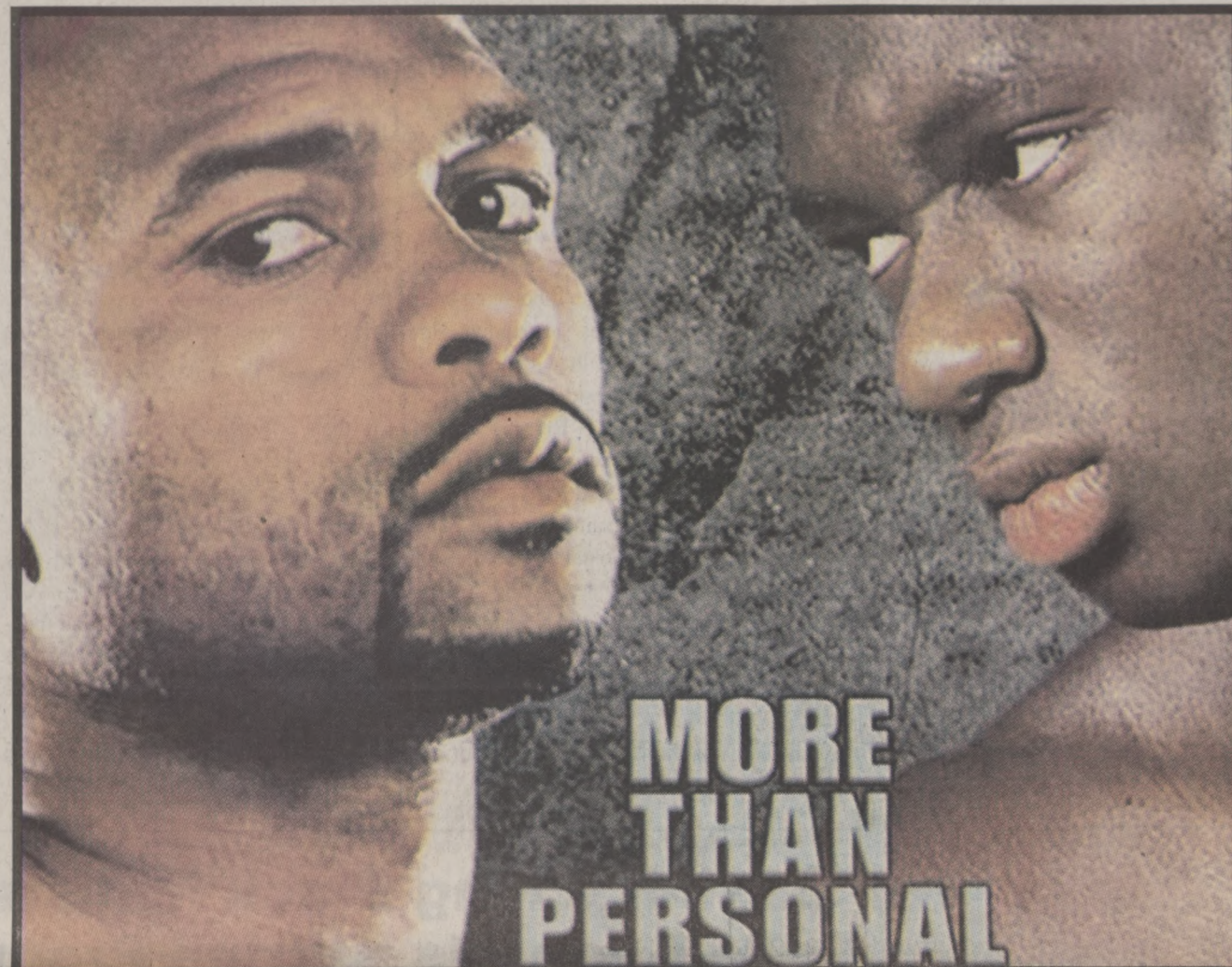
After the Emancipation Proclamation, when freed blacks were able to attend public schools, although these schools were separate, unequal and ill-equipped, the black collective still placed great value on the need to gain a quality education. The descendants of the slaves fully understood that this single act of mastering the ability to read and write could greatly increase one's position in life, heighten the ability to gain one's independence and potentially help offset some of white America's racist policies and inhumane practices.

In 1954, when the United States Supreme Court, in the *Brown v. Board of Education* case, reversed the 1896 *Plessey v. Ferguson* decision and set in motion the plan for integration and desegregation, there was also a shift in the black value system -- a value system that once stressed pride in one's self and a commitment to education.

This leads us to the current state of education in black America. The value system that was encouraged during the days of involuntary servitude and the days when a formal education was forbidden for African slaves is clearly not in place today. The importance of gaining an education was of much more value to us when it was illegal and forbidden than now, when it is free and available

Education
continued on pg. 7

Tarver Retains Title With Unanimous Decision Over Jones



Special to the Weekly Challenger

Longtime rivals Roy Jones Jr. and Antonio Tarver faced off in Tarver's successful title defense

TAMPA, Fla. - Antonio Tarver raised his arms in triumph and climbed up on the ropes. Roy Jones, Jr., smiled, gave his corner a high-five with his glove and admitted he was beaten by a better

fighter. Tarver retained his IBO, light heavyweight title Saturday night with a unanimous 12-round decision over Jones, his second victory over his longtime rival in 16 months.

"He came to reclaim his throne, but it wasn't happening tonight," Tarver said. Tarver won the crown in May 2004 with a stunning second-round knockout of the former world

champion in four weight classifications. He nearly dropped him again when he hurt Jones with a right hand in the 11th round,

Jones vs Tarver
Continued on page 6

New Orleans Police Superintendent Resigns



Special to the Weekly Challenger

New Orleans Police Superintendent Eddie Compass, right, turns away from the microphones as Mayor Ray Nagin, left, looks on after Compass announced his retirement in New Orleans. . . . Story on page 6

White House Counsel Named To Replace O'Connor



Special to the Weekly Challenger

President Bush nominates White House counsel Harriet Miers who has no judicial experience to fill Sandra Day O'Connor's Supreme Court seat

New Orleans' Complex Black Community Regroups After Katrina



Special to the Weekly Challenger

Some New Orleans residents chose to throw out their refrigerators rather than clean them

by Erin Teixeira

As black New Orleanians regroup and put down roots elsewhere some temporary, some not many wonder: What will become of one of the nation's most complex African-American cultures?

Pre-Katrina New Or-

leans was a majority black city. It also was a poor one, and most of the people hardest hit by the storm were both, as early images showed. But broad descriptions miss the subtleties of race and economics in a place where French, Spanish, Indians and West

Africans mixed as far back as the 18th century. This resulted in a rich cultural heritage, think jazz, for starters and a multiracial, sometimes inequitable society organized along lines of color and class.

Now the city's native sons and daughters, spread nationwide, are speculating on how that culture will change in the wake of the flooding wrought by Katrina and Rita. Some even question whether it will survive at all.

"Once you scatter the people, I don't know that you're going to be able to capture the past," said Arnold Hirsch, a historian at the University of New Orleans. "You may come up with something new, you might be able to help the poverty and the problems that became so manifest dur-

ing the hurricane, and that might be to the good. But it wouldn't be the historical New Orleans."

Explaining the city means a trip back hundreds of years and a realization: What's "black" in other parts of the country hasn't necessarily been black in New Orleans. First claimed by the Spanish but settled by the French in the early 1700s, the port town quickly developed a large West African slave population. For generations during colonial times there were few white women, and much of the population mixed racially to a degree nearly unheard of elsewhere in what would become the United States.

Gradually, an ethnically mixed community rooted in Africa with heavy European and Native American influences developed. Its me-

mbers were often called Creoles, a murky term whose definition has shifted over time, but which is frequently used to refer to mixed-race New Orleanians of African descent.

It was commonly accepted for enslaved Creole women to partner with European men and negotiate freedom for themselves and their children. Many Creole men were allowed to contract out their labor to purchase their freedom.

Filling civil-service jobs and developing middle-class enclaves and social institutions, Cr-

eoles had more legal rights than other blacks, but fewer social freedoms than whites, said Carl A. Brasseaux, director of the Center for Louisiana Studies at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

"The unique culture of south Louisiana derives from black Creole culture," said historian Gwendolyn Midlo Hall, author of "Africans in Colonial Louisiana: The Development of Afro-Creole Culture in the Eighteenth Century." "It was a cultural accident," added Hirsch. "Not conscious process."

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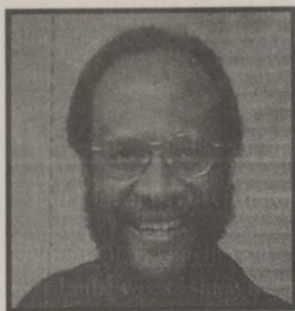
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The Weekly Challenger Newspaper

We Value Diversity. We Value Education. We Value History.

- A knowledge of history brings a feeling of fellowship that runs through the ages - be it a territory, a village, a district, or a nation.
- To live without history is likened to living without a form of memory.
- To be without history is to live without roots or a past, with the present having no real foundation, and very little meaning for the future.
- The *Weekly Challenger* is committed to featuring articles of all ethnic culture for the reading enjoyment of both the young and old generations.

Just When And How Did New Orleans' Levee Break? And Who's Asking?



Gregory Kane

By: Gregory Kane

Can I speculate a little?
Can I just ask a question?

I'm no wild-eyed
conspiracy theorist. I don't see
evil white folks or evil
Republicans lurking under
every rock or in every closet.
Still, I have to ask the
question, since Lord knows the
black leaders and spokesper-
sons fretting about the use of
the word "refugee" or how
much President George W.
Bush cares about black people
won't ask it: Are we sure the

levee that broke and caused
New Orleans to flood was
breached as the result of a nat-
ural disaster?

I posed the question to a
colleague who sent me some
stories about a police depart-
ment in suburban New Orleans
whose motto clearly was
something other than to protect
and serve, at least when it
came to residents of The Big
Easy.

When people tried to
escape from New Orleans --
you know, the city that was
flooding - into safety in nearby
Gretna, cops were allegedly
waiting to stop them. Some
witnesses said police pointed
shotguns at the crowd and even
fired shots over their heads.
According to accounts, the
police chief of the department
not only confirmed the
account, he supported what the
officers did.

What they did was turn

away people from a flooded
city, telling them in essence
they could go back and drown,
for all they cared. Common
human decency didn't kick in.
Either these police officers -
and I call them that guardedly -
either flunked Human
Decency 101 or just never
bothered to take the course.

It occurred to me that
folks who think that way cer-
tainly wouldn't have a problem
with sabotaging one of the levees
surrounding New Orleans
if they could be assured many
residents would drown.

But the reaction of the
cops wasn't the only thing that
led to my question. About the
same time the colleague was
emailing me the stories, I was
interviewing a New Orleans
woman who's now staying
with a family in Baltimore
County. She, her two sisters
and three nieces were rescued
from the roof of a three-story

building and spent three days
at the Superdome before being
evacuated to Dallas.

The woman told me that
on the night of the storm, her
family did some praying, and
then they all went to sleep.
They woke up the next morn-
ing and ate breakfast. The only
damage Hurricane Katrina had
done to the house was to blow
some shingles off the roof. The
woman I interviewed said she
went back to sleep. When she
awoke several hours later the
water was rising and rising
fast.

This family had means to
leave New Orleans. The
woman I interviewed had a car.
So did other members of her
family. But they figured they
could ride out the storm. And
guess what? They -- and thou-
sands of other New Orleans
residents -- did ride out the
storm.

Was that storm -- which

just blew the shingles off the
roof of one house -- strong
enough to break a levee? I'm
no engineering expert. It just
might be possible. I just want
somebody -- oh, say, members
of the Congressional Black
Caucus, for instance -- to ask
some questions.

Exactly when, was that
levee breached? During the
storm? After the storm? What
caused it? Was it, as we've
been told, a storm surge? And
who's doing the checking?

Now might be the proper
time to say who I don't want
doing the checking. The police
in Gretna are clearly out of the
question.

Others who should not
be in the loop are New
Orleans government officials.
Louisiana state officials can
take a walk as well. Ditto for
federal government officials.
All three levels of government
failed the people of New

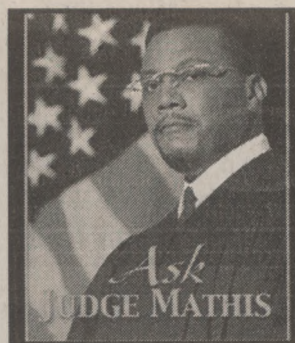
Orleans.

There are no doubt experts
on levees -- and what causes
them to break -- all over the
world. I say black folks here in
the United States should hire
some. When we're making
donations for Katrina's vic-
tims, we should kick in a little
extra to pay the experts on our
own "Why'd The Levee
Break?" commission.

There should be at least
five independent teams of
experts, one not from the
United States. No government
workers allowed. Anyone who
doesn't like the investigation,
who feels it's unnecessary and
that it's just a sign of paranoid
conspiracy theorists should
remember one thing.

Had it not been for some
suburban police officers out-
side New Orleans, I never
would have brought the ques-
tion up. ■

Will Bush-Backing Black Ministers Get Him To Keep His Katrina Promises?



By: Judge Greg Mathis

As part of his re-election
bid, President George W. Bush
attempted to reach black voters
through their churches. He
attended Sunday services,
rocked to the choirs, courted
black ministers and held sev-
eral meetings with them to dis-

cuss the issues of most con-
cern to the black community.
These preachers, representing
churches across the country,
claimed to remain non-partisan
and opened their ears to listen
to what the president had to
say. Many even developed per-
sonal relationships with him.

Now, as the black commu-
nity faces one of our greatest
challenges -- coming together
and rebuilding with our broth-
ers and sisters who lost their
homes, their jobs and, in many
cases, their loved ones, when
Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf
Coast -- the question has to be
asked: Can the black ministers
that have stood with Bush get
him to deliver on his promise to
rebuild the Gulf Coast and

uplift the poor?

Many of the ministers who
have developed a working rela-
tionship with the president say
they do so in the interest of the
black community. It makes
sense; time can be spent point-
ing out what the president does
wrong or energy can be put
towards working with him and
his staff to develop programs
that address poverty, lack of
access to health care, education
and more. Reverend Eugene
Rivers III of Boston and
Bishop Andrew Merritt of
Straight Gate International
Church in Detroit are among
those who have met with Bush
and discussed such programs.
The ministers must be careful,
though, to ensure they are not

pawns in the Republican
party's plan to capture a larger
share of the black vote and that
they are not being used to
demonstrate to the public that
President Bush does, in fact,
"care about black people."

On September 5, during
his tour of Baton Rouge,
Louisiana, President Bush
stood with Bishop T.D. Jakes,
founder of the 30,000-member
Potter's House, a mega-church
in Dallas, Texas. Jakes would
later deliver the sermon at the
Washington National
Cathedral, as part of a national
day of prayer for Hurricane
Katrina's victims. Bush then
met with other black preachers
from across the country,
including Bishop Roy Winburn

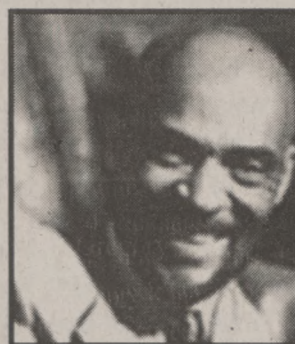
from Louisiana. Cynicism
aside, it's hard to believe that
these events aren't calculated.
On September 2, during his
first tour of the Coast, the pre-
sident stood with the white
Republican governors of
Mississippi and Alabama; he
did not venture into New
Orleans to see the devastation
there. When public grumblings
about race and the role it
played in the incompetent way
Katrina's aftermath was han-
dled grew louder, the president
began to appear with and talk
to his black friends from the
religious community.

Having just visited Baton
Rouge and witnessing the
despair first-hand -- thousands
of people, most of them black,

packed into shelters, dressed in
unkempt clothes, many of them
appear ill -- I can only hope
that President Bush's dealings
with black ministers are sin-
cere. The black church has
always had the ears and trust of
the black community; this is
especially true during times of
tragedy. To take advantage of
that relationship to gain future
votes would add further insult
to injury.

The religious leaders that
have Bush's ear must hold him
to his word. If he reneges, they
should publicly disassociate
themselves from him. Katrina's
victims need an authentic unity,
one that will deliver sustainable
results so they can reconstruct
their lives. ■

Chasing A Katrina Conspiracy: Was There An Attempt To Kill Blacks?



Earl Ofari Hutchinson

By Earl Ofari Hutchinson

In the weeks since Katrina
hit, Nation of Islam leader
Louis Farrakhan, a slew of
activists and bloggers have
spun a huge tale of wicked
intrigue about the hurricane.
Katrina, so the conspiracy the-
ory goes, provided the perfect
and long awaited pretext for
either the Army Corp of
Engineers, secret government
agents, the Klan, FEMA oper-
atives, corporate real estate
interests, or unnamed forces to
blow the levees in New
Orleans and send torrents of
waters raging through the
city's poorest black neighbor-
hoods. The aim of the plot,

depending on who spoke, was
to kill blacks, protect the
white, upper income areas
from flooding, gut political
strength in New Orleans, or
grab black homes and land at
fire sale prices and dump
pricey condominiums, town-
houses, upscale malls and gal-
leries in their neighborhoods.

To prove their point, the
conspiracy theorists cited ran-
dom remarks made by a hand-
ful of tired, distraught and bit-
ter evacuees camped in the
Houston Astrodome. They
claimed to have heard explo-
sions immediately before the
levees broke, and they lam-
basted Bush and the federal
government for their inaction.
This conspiracy theory would
have been relegated to a fringe
corner on obscure websites if
Farrakhan hadn't fanned it in a
speech in North Carolina a
couple of weeks after Katrina
struck. A bevy of conservative
talk show jocks quickly
pounced on it. That gave them
yet another foil to use to
deflect heat from Bush's bung-
led relief response. They

railed at Farrakhan for stirring
black paranoia, and anti-white
hatred.

There is absolutely no
proof that the levees were
deliberately blown. The pre-
dominantly black 9th Ward in
New Orleans was not the only
section of the city flooded. The
flood devastated racially
mixed residential areas, some
white middle-income neigh-
borhoods in New Orleans, and
other Gulf Coast towns. The
levees broke because of age,
poor maintenance, and the mil-
lions that Bush slashed from
their repair. Experts also note
that explosions and sudden
noises can occur during maxi-
mum force hurricanes. They
attribute it to the tremendous
build up of water pressure,
high winds, and power out-
ages.

During the past two
decades, redevelopment agen-
cies, developers, land specu-
lators, and young, white, middle
income home buyers have
transformed deteriorating
inner city neighborhoods into

gentrified, upscale residential
and business areas complete
with lofts, townhouses, and
trendy shops. They didn't need
a hurricane or natural disaster
to do that.

The belief that the Katrina
disaster was anything other
than a confluence of Bush
bungling, budget cutting folly,
and nature's wrath, is no sur-
prise. The conspiracy bug has
long bit many Americans.
There are packs of groups that
span the political spectrum that
include Aryan Nation racists,
Millennium Christian funda-
mentalists, anti-Semitic crack-
pots, and fringe left radicals.
Their Internet sites bristle with
purported official documents
that detail and expose alleged
plots. These groups and thou-
sands of individuals believe
that government, corporate, or
international Zionist groups
busily hatch secret plots, and
concoct hidden plans to
wreak havoc on their lives.
Hollywood and the TV indus-
try have also hopped in on the
conspiracy act. They churn out
countless movies and TV

shows in which shadowy, gov-
ernment groups topple foreign
governments, assassinate gov-
ernment leaders, and brain-
wash operatives to do dirty
deeds.

A near textbook example
of that was the theory spun by
an Idaho meteorologist. He
claimed that a Japanese
Yakuza crime group used a
Russian Cold War era made
generator to trigger Katrina.
This supposedly was punish-
ment for the Hiroshima atom
bomb attack. The theory was
fantastic nonsense, but the
Associated Press and USA
Today took it seriously enough
to treat it as a legitimate news
item, with quotes from experts
to refute it. The conspiracy bug
bit many blacks especially
hard in the 1960s. They
claimed that murky govern-
ment agencies flooded the
ghettos with drugs, alcohol,
gangs, and guns to sow divi-
sion and disunity among black
organizations, eliminate mili-
tant black leaders, jail black
politicians, and quash black
activism.

The racial conspiracy the-
orists at least had a suspect to
point the finger at, and that was
the FBI. For years, it waged a
disgraceful, relentless, and ille-
gal war against Martin Luther
King, Jr. and other civil rights
leaders. That was hardly the
case in the Katrina catastrophe.
There was no single suspect
that anyone could blame the
disaster on. Farrakhan declined
to finger any person or group
that he believed blew up the
levee. That would have
required hard evidence, and
the citing of expert testimony,
to boost the contention that
Katrina was an anti-black plot.

New Orleans was the cul-
mination of a half-decade of
the Bush administration's cost-
ly, and reckless war and fiscal
policies that have resulted in
the neglect and deterioration of
the nation's roads, bridges, tun-
nels, and levees. That neglect
forced thousands of poor,
blacks in New Orleans to flee
for their lives. And there was
no hidden hand in that. ■

MIDTOWN NEWS

Alumni Singers Celebrate 25th Anniversary Of Wonderful Music

by Rosalie Peck
Challenger Feature Writer

The Alumni Singers, widely acclaimed for their specialty in resounding spirituals are celebrating their twenty fifth anniversary. Under the capable direction of Robert L. Anders, they have perfected a vast repertoire of music representing spirituals, gospels, hymns, anthems, secular and popular arrangements. Part of their ability to achieve twenty five years of successful togetherness other than talent and persistence can be found in the reality of their theme: "Singing in Love and Harmony."

The Alumni Singers specialize in spirituals to perpetuate history of spirituals arising from African American culture. While the group performs music of various genres, they specialize in folk hymns; the old Negro spirituals; the raw, fervent plantation songs that helped African Americans through slavery, emancipation and Jim Crow. Their focus on spirituals is a celebration of spirituals as an art form founded in this country by our people.

The art form that seeded the birth of the blues, gospel, jazz and other forms of music. As a dying artistic medium, spirituals are intended to be beautiful and/or thought provoking. Spirituals are folk hymns used by slaves as methods of coping and surviving. They are songs used to convey heart-felt soulful expressions of fear, celebration, sadness, joy, rage, grief, pain, religious trust; and to relay information regarding avenues of escape. Spirituals are songs that not only depict deeply felt feelings of oppression, but hope.

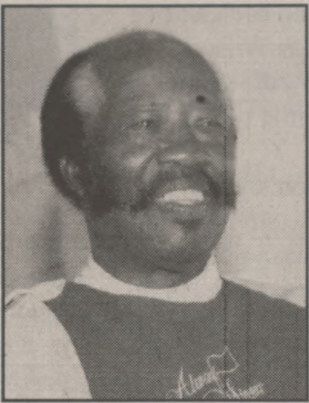
The beginning of the Alumni Singers occurred in 1980 when a group of former Gibbs High School students got together in song to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the once all black school. Initial members were former singers in the school's noted St. Cecilia Chorus directed by educator Ernest Ponder.

"We liked what we did. The community liked it. So we decided to stay together," said Carolyn Hobbs, featured soloist, business manager and a founder. Ms. Hobbs invited Robert Anders to serve as director of the emerging group and the rest is history. Mr. Anders for the past twenty five years has served the group well as president and director. Dorothy Jenkins is the organization's gifted pianist.

The group began with twenty singers. Today they enjoy a roster of thirty four loyal members. Where once all members were former Gibbs High students, the list today is comprised of singers from



The Alumni Singers



Robert L. Anders,
Director and President
of the Alumni Singers

various schools and colleges, ethnic groups and cultures representative of thirty one institutions of higher learning. Thus the name, Alumni singers.

As to the longevity of this superb organization of talented singers, Ms. Hobbs says: "An important factor in our success is commitment and joy in what we do; seeing our positive impact on the community, and the strength of bonds formed among members. Five original members are still with us and there is a core group that has been members for the last ten years," she said.

The non-profit organization presents two stan-

dard concerts a year; spring and Christmas. Scheduling has grown considerable with requests for performances at educational, civic, social, religious and other venues. In September the group performed "A Historical Journey in Music and Words" with a 'Festival of Spirituals at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Clearwater. The repertoire included songs of slavery that covered the ages from "Kum Ba Yah," to "Woke Up This Morning With My Mind Stayed on Jesus," a freedom song from the Civil Rights Movement. A highlight of the program was Cebirina Douse's stirring recitation of Maya Angelou's celebrated poem, "I Rise."

"We focus on spirituals because it is important to educate communities on the relevance and the impact that spirituals had on music and experiences of our ancestors during slavery," Ms. Hobbs said. "The group is constantly learning new music to insure progress and in-

Special to the Weekly Challenger involvement. We have a following of loyal supporters and want to give them something new. Most of the members are retired. The oldest is eighty plus years. The youngest is mid-thirty," she said.

The Alumni Singers' next music related activity will be the presentation of a Choral Workshop for Choirs, sponsored in part by the Florida Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Pinellas county Commission through the Pinellas County Arts council development grants program.

The workshop will be conducted by renowned composer, conductor, pianist, Glenn Burleigh of Oklahoma City, at First Presbyterian Church of St. Petersburg, 701 Beach Drive N.E., Thursday, October 13, and Friday October 14, 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday, October 15, 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Cost per workshop participant is \$15.00. Alumni continued on pg. 4



THE ART OF LIVIN'

Norman E. Jones, JR.

Educational Mafia

Part two of a three part series

The exalted advanced degrees - Masters and Ph.D. - are as phony as a prize in a carnival shooting gallery. Non educational businesses firms are advertising "Write Your Own Thesis" on any subject to receive advanced degrees - for a modest fee. It is no secret that students receiving these phony degrees are in great demand by colleges and universities to attain accreditation by some equally educational accrediting boards. John Gardner, former Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, once said, "Education is too important to be run by educators."

The almost sacred status of educators is the contributing cause of the ever-increasing mediocrity of the educational process in America. There is an increasing number of alphabetical programs designed by educators. Most of these

education programs are designed for the so-called disadvantaged. They serve only to create teaching and administrative jobs for an increasing unproductive and mediocre cadre of ill educated college graduates who - in reality should be transferred to the relief and welfare rolls.

"Educational experts" are continually coming up with some advanced educational theories like social promotion. Many of these courses dilute the quality of the education process by placing emphasis on attendance rather than learning. Some are offered only to draw students from ill prepared prospective students who otherwise could not make it at the college level. These students are set-up for failure from the beginning.

It is no secret that "cheating" on examinations is a national scandal in colleges.

The "Educational

Mafia" makes no contributions to political candidates. The "Education Combine" may have the weakest lobby in Washington and state capitols. Educators and teachers are notoriously poor politicians. They have no organized political effort, like labor, or industry. They seldom, if ever, place an educator in the race for public office. When they do, they seldom get elected and receive little support from members of their political parties.

Yet, in spite of all these shortcomings, "Politicians" continue to bow to the educator's request for more funding. They cut everybody and everything else to appropriate more and more money for education. Yet, the educators are continually ungrateful for their appropriations and want more and more.

How did this unholy crusade for education begin and what led "education" from such noble beginnings to the destructive force it is today?

The first immigrants to America had very few academically educated persons. After all, higher education was a privilege royalty, nobility and the very rich. Few of that class had any reason to leave Europe as they were doing all right. Thus, many immigrants were peasants knowing only the land, tradesmen, criminals, beggars, bums and mentally incompetents.

This tradition of education was followed in America. Post Civil War era schools were for the rich and well-to-do children. This created a growing class of government bureaucrats. Products of America's early college-trained citizens then began the practice of placing their relatives on the government payroll.

Religious organizations began to establish colleges, academic and other schools to a greater degree than government. Many of these institutions of "Higher learning" were used to train preachers to spread their particular brand of religion to the rapidly increasing population. Eventually other studies were added to the school's curriculum.

Source: The Norman E. Jones, Jr. Papers at the Nelson Poynter Memorial Library's Special Collection Department, USF-St. Petersburg.



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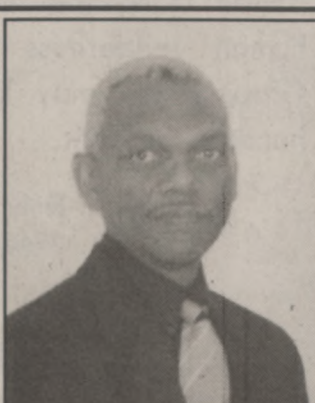
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Newport Jazz Festival – 50 Years In Business

It seems as if it was a million years ago, when in July 1954, while I was home during the summer having finished my sophomore year as a student at Howard University, the first Newport Jazz Festival was held. Founded by Newport socialites Louis and Elaine Lorillard, but actually organized by George Wein, pianist, nightclub owner (Boston's Storyville) the Newport Jazz Festival became the "hippest" event of the year. My classmates and I had never heard of such an event ... a jazz festival. Thus, at that time, I believed Newport to be the first jazz festival ever. It was later during my career in jazz that I learned; the International Jazz Congress back in 1926 had hosted the very first jazz festival in Chicago. Even so, it was not the International Jazz Congress but the Grande Parade du Jazz which acted as a yardstick for jazz festivals of today. That festival took place in 1948, in Nice in the South of France, and starred Louis Armstrong.

It was just about a year later that the Festival International du Jazz held in Paris enticed Charlie Parker and his Quintet, along with the Miles Davis-Tadd Dameron Band

and Sidney Bechet to perform. After that, it wasn't very long before a multitude of festivals in Europe began to appear. Choice festival venues were steadily being discovered, such as Monterey, Montreux, Umbria, and the North Sea. These festival sites became among the most coveted of venues on the jazz festival circuit. Idyllic locations like Antibes, Jamaica, St. Lucia, or Mt. Fuji came about drawing choice musicians out in full force. However, Newport is the jazz festival that continues to this day to be the Mecca for jazz musicians and fans. In the prophetic words of Down Beat magazine, "the Newport Jazz Festival opened a new era in jazz presentation." And, as popular jazz vocalist Anita O'Day during an interview about Newport stated, "Today there are jazz festivals all over the place, and half the performers aren't really jazz musicians. In those days, Newport was probably the great one. When you appeared there, you were among your peers. Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, Max Roach, Miles Davis, Gerry Mulligan, Teddy Wilson, all hung around the park, making it an up thing." So, from a summer

weekend in July 1954 to more than five decades later, musical history in jazz has been made over and over at Newport. It was in 1955 at Newport that the legendary Miles Davis revived his diminishing career, as did Duke Ellington the following year. And virtually everyone else in jazz – from Billie Holiday to Bill Evans, Ahmad Jamal to Archie Shepp has come to grace the Newport stage, reaching some of the largest and most receptive audiences of the era. I can remember it happening to The Duke, as if it was only yesterday, when in 1956, his tenor saxophonist Paul Gonsalves helped to make jazz history. Until this day, I can play the recording at a house party I'm hosting, and jazz aficionados will stop whatever they're doing and listen attentively to the entire cut of "Diminuendo And Crescendo In Blue". It was on this tune that Gonsalves must have "felt the spirit", because he let loose on his saxophone with a solo ride through a blistering 27-chorus musical journey. On the record, you can hear the crowd on its feet, wildly cheering him along and, by the end of the set, The Duke and his band had made the "souvenir album of the event". Whew! I get chills at this very moment remembering the sound of his horn against the sounds of the crowd on the recording. How about you?

Unfortunately, in 1960, 1969, and 1971 riots caused performance cancellations. These incidents prompted Wein to transport the event to New York City, where an urban, multiple-venue festival model was born. With title sponsorship from KOOL, then

JVC, the Newport Jazz Festival New York reignited through the '70s. In 1981 it returned to its origins without abandoning its cosmopolitan foothold and, became a two-site festival. Since 1986, it has been known as the JVC Jazz Festival. Today George Wein's Festival Productions mounts JVC Jazz Festivals both in Newport and in New York, along with a host of satellite cities.

In the summer of 2004, the Newport Jazz Festival or JVC Jazz Festival celebrated its fiftieth birthday. It is now recognized as an institution of immeasurable influence and international scope. However, at its inception in July 1954, this highly successful event was far from a guaranteed winner. The enthusiastic idea of Boston nightclub owner George Wein and Newport socialites Louis and Elaine Lorillard, the festival attracted both a massive and diverse group of musicians and fans to the summer playground of the American aristocracy. Its roaring debut was, to quote one author, "both a shot across the bow of high culture and a shot in the arm of the jazz world."

Certainly, both performers and enthusiasts have never been the same since.

Jazz fans – do you have any feedback? I would like to hear from YOU! Mail your letters to Rick Gee's Jazz Jamm, c/o The Weekly Challenger, 2500 ML King St., S., St. Petersburg, FL 33705.

Omeas And Pathfinders: The Perfect Relationship

The men of Eta Rho Chapter/Omega Psi Phi Fraternity pledged their continued support to Pathfinders, a youth organization serving boys in the community. The men of Eta Rho will engage the youth in many activities and community projects. The youth participating in Pathfinders will be encouraged to respect themselves as well as others. Understand the need for high academic attainment and success. And share their

talents while giving back to society.

One of the prized jewels of Pathfinders is the step team. The young men participating on the team learn how to cooperate and work together to accomplish a set goal.

Top right: The youth featured are: Sakai Wilson, Brandon Chambers, Letrell McKnight, and Kevin Rose. Bottom right: The Men Of Omega



Photos by Men of Omega

Playwright August Wilson Dies Of Cancer

NEW YORK – Playwright August Wilson, whose epic 10-play cycle chronicling the black experience in 20th-century America included such landmark dramas as "Fences" and "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom," has died of liver cancer, a family spokeswoman said. He was 60.

Wilson died at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle, surrounded by his family, said Dena Levitin, Wilson's personal assistant. The playwright had disclosed in late August that his illness was inoperable and he had only a few months to live.

"We've lost a great writer, I

think the greatest writer that our generation has seen and I've lost a dear, dear friend and collaborator," said Kenny Leon, who directed the Broadway production of "Gem of the Ocean" as well as Wilson's most recent play, "Radio Golf," which just concluded a run in Los Angeles.

Leon said Wilson's work, "encompasses all the strength and power that theater has to offer." "I feel an incredible sense of responsibility on walking how he would want us to walk and delivering his work."

Wilson's plays were big, often sprawling and poetic, dealing pri-



Special to the Weekly Challenger

Playwright August Wilson

marily with the effects of slavery on succeeding generations of black Americans: from turn-of-century characters who could remember the Civil War to a prosperous middle class at the end of the century who had forgotten the past.

Alumni

continued from pg. 3 including music and refreshments.

As a skilled classical pianist and composer, Burleigh has performed works by Gershwin, Beethoven and his own Fantasy Dance Suite for Piano, Chorus and Orchestra with the Oklahoma city Phil-

harmonic and the Ambassador's Concert choir. He has developed a special interest in piano works by African American composers including works by Black Women Composers. He has presented many of these works in recitals at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, the

University of Missouri, LeMoyne-Owen College and Bethune-Cookman college. His works, often a fusion of classical, gospel and jazz, have taken him to such prestigious stages as Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall and John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

On Saturday, October 15, the public is invited to a free Choral Observation Session at the church from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. For additional information call (727) 323-7004 or (727) 867-6953.



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TAMPA BAY AREA NEWS

Former Neighborhood Bar Becomes Business Development Center

Clearwater Neighborhood Housing Services Uses \$600,000 from NeighborWorks® America and other Sources to Revitalize Community

Clearwater - Isay Gulley dreamed about creating a place that would make a difference in Clearwater's Greenwood neighborhood. As President and CEO of Clearwater Neighborhood Housing Services (CNHS), she and her staff have been transforming lives, one home at a time. She wanted something more for Greenwood, something that would also transform the entire community.

"It's not enough to just provide affordable housing," said Ms. Gulley. "Greenwood needs an economic engine, a place that can provide help to small businesses, attract consumers to our community and fuel our economy."

This vision is now a reality as Ms. Gulley was joined on Wednesday, September 21st by national executives and local officials to officially open the doors of the CNHS Business Development Center. The center replaces Maccabee's, a long time bar and neighborhood social spot. CNHS will offer business lending services, and training and technical assistance to small businesses in the new space. NeighborWorks® America and BB&T Bank provided over \$600,000 to renovate the facility. Ken Wade, CEO of NeighborWorks® America, toured the center with Clearwater Mayor Frank Hibbard after the center opened its doors with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The community celebration included Clearwater and Pinellas dignitaries, as well as representatives from Pinellas Head Start and BB&T Bank, which provided a commercial business loan to CNHS. Entertainment was provided by a chorus comprised of Pinellas Head Start children.

"The Business Development Center will serve as an incubator for new and existing small businesses while providing a new model for economic development in Clearwater," said Ken Wade, CEO of NeighborWorks® America. "This is the kind of innovation that revitalizes neighborhoods and transforms communities."

CNHS is part of the NeighborWorks® network, a national network of more than 235 community development organizations that work to improve communities through neighborhood revitalization, affordable housing, and economic development initiatives.

Since 1991, NeighborWorks® America has



Herrle Communication Group

Isay Gulley talks about her vision for Clearwater Neighborhood Housing Services Business Development Center, which opens this week on Martin Luther King Drive.

invested more than \$2.3 million in the Clearwater community through CNHS.

"The Business Development Center would not be here today without the help of NeighborWorks®," said Ms. Gulley. "Their financial assistance and sup-

port made this dream come true for CNHS and the residents of Greenwood." Staffers from Pinellas Head Start, the Business Development Center's anchor tenant, have been busy moving furniture into their new space at the center, which will serve as a learning center for 50 children ages 3 to 4 years old. Head Start hopes to begin classes in mid-October. According to Juanita Heinzen, executive director of the county's Head Start programs, establishing a location at CNHS' new building made good business sense.



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Juanita Heinzen, executive director of Pinellas County Head Start, announces the name of the Isay M. Gulley Head Start Center, which opens in October at the CNHS Business Development Center.

port made this dream come true for CNHS and the residents of Greenwood."

Staffers from Pinellas Head Start, the Business Development Center's anchor tenant, have been busy moving furniture into their new space at the center, which will serve as a learning center for 50 children ages 3 to 4 years old. Head Start hopes to begin classes in mid-October. According to Juanita Heinzen, executive director of the county's Head Start programs, establishing a location at CNHS' new building made good business sense.

"CNHS is doing a tremendous job transform-

ing Greenwood, and we wanted to be a part of that," said Heinzen, who says she serves many of the same clients that are helped by CNHS programs. "Most of these families would have to change several buses before reaching a Head Start loca-

tion. Now they can get everything at one stop."

Heintzen surprised Gulley by announcing the name of the new children's learning facility as the Isay M. Gulley Head Start Learning Center.

Two years ago,



Herrle Communication Group

Above: Juanita Heintzen (Pinellas Head Start), Clearwater Mayor Frank Hibbard, and Ken Wade, CEO of NeighborWorks America(R) celebrate Clearwater Neighborhood Housing Services' opening of their new Business Development Center.

Right: Isay Gulley in front of the new CNHS business Development Center with her staff, builder, and flanked by Douglas Gaither and Ken Wade, southern District Manager and CEO of NeighborWorks America(R).

MacArthur Boykin, the former owner of Maccabee's bar and nightclub, called Ms. Gulley when he was considering closing his establishment, which had been a community social center since the 1940's.

"I knew CNHS would do the right thing with the property," said Boykin of the building, located at Martin Luther King, Jr.



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Avenue. "It was important to me that something good happened to this building."

Since the transaction between Boykin and CNHS, the city and county have been supportive of the renovation project. Residents are also optimistic about the future of their neighborhood.

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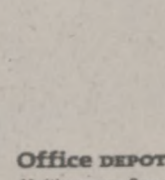
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New Orleans Police Superintendent Resigns

New Orleans (AP) — In announcing his retirement as New Orleans Police Superintendent, Eddie Compass said, "I served this department for 26 years and have taken it through some of the toughest times of its history. Every man in a leadership position must know when it's time to hand over the reins." Compass said at a news conference. "I'll be going on in another direction that God has for me." As the city slipped into anarchy during the first few days after Katrina, the 1,700-member police department itself suffered a crisis. Many officers deserted their posts, and some were accused of joining in the looting that broke out. The two officers Compass described as friends committed suicide. Neither Compass nor Mayor Ray Nagin would say whether Compass was pressured to leave.

"It's a sad day in the city of New Orleans when a hero makes a decision like this," said Nagin, who appointed Compass in mid-2002. "He leaves the department in pretty good shape and with a significant amount of leadership." New Orleans evacuees at a shelter in Baton Rouge disagreed over the chief's legacy and whether he should have resigned. "It's about time," said Larry Smit, 52, who owns a construction company. "Get rid of all of them. They ain't doing anything."

But truck driver James Dordain, 41, said Compass had been doing a good job with an understaffed department and faced with an unprecedented natural disaster. "They pushed a good man to the breaking point," said Dordain, referring to other government authorities. "When they came, it was really too late." The mayor named Assistant Superintendent Warren Riley as acting superintendent. Lt. David Benelli, president of the union for rank-and-file New Orleans officers, said he was shocked by the resignation.

"We've been through a horrendous time," Benelli said. "We've watched the city we love be destroyed. That is pressure you can't believe." Benelli would not criticize Compass. "You can talk about lack of organization, but we have been through two hurricanes, there was no communications, problems everywhere," he said. "I think the fact that we did not lose control of the city is a testament to his leadership." But in fact, chaos reigned in New Orleans as Katrina's floodwaters rose. Gunfire and other lawlessness broke out around the city. Rescue workers reported being shot at.

At the height of

the Katrina chaos, Compass fed the image of lawlessness in the city by publicly repeating allegations that people were being beaten and babies raped at the convention center, where thousands of evacuees had taken shelter. The allegations have since proved largely unsubstantiated. Ronnie Jones, a former Louisiana state police officer and a criminal justice instructor at Tulane and Southeastern universities, said communication and transportation problems after the storm forced commanders on the ground to operate without any direction from above.

"In the midst of that, I think any chief would have had trouble dealing with things," Jones said. "In a crisis you have to coordinate forces. I don't think he had the resources, the radios, the communications to do that." Compass, 47, was appointed by Nagin in 2002. He graduated from the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia, and holds graduate degrees from Loyola University and the Senior Management Institute at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School.

Earlier Tuesday, the department said that about 250 police officers roughly 15 percent of the force could face discipline for leaving their posts without permission during Katrina and its aftermath. Each case will be investigated to determine whether the officer was truly a deserter or had legitimate reasons to be absent, Riley said. "Everything will be done on a case-by-case basis. The worst thing we could do is take disciplinary action against someone who was stranded in the storm or whose child is missing," Riley said.

Sally Forman, a spokeswoman for the mayor, said it is not clear whether the deserters can be fired. She said the city is still looking into the civil service regulations. "If they are deserters and deserted their post for no other reason than they were scared, then I don't see any need for them to come back," Benelli said. But the union chief said he believes only a small fraction of the officers will wind up being deserters. "We know there were officers who had to make critical

decisions about what to do with their families," Benelli said.

Riley said some officers lost their homes and some are looking for their families, but others "simply left because they said they could not deal with the catastrophe." Before Katrina hit, Compass already had his hands full with an understaffed police department and a skyrocketing murder rate, even as the rate dropped dramatically in other cities.

Despite more than 10 years of reform efforts dating to before Compass took office, police were dogged by allegations of brutality and corruption. Several studies indicated that the public's reluctance to cooperate with police was a factor in the city's crime problem.

Before Katrina, New Orleans had 3.14 officers per 1,000 residents less than half the rate in Washington, D.C.

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Jones vs Tarver from front page

but couldn't finish him off.

"I was good, but not good enough," Jones said. "I'm satisfied with my performance, and I realize I lost the fight."

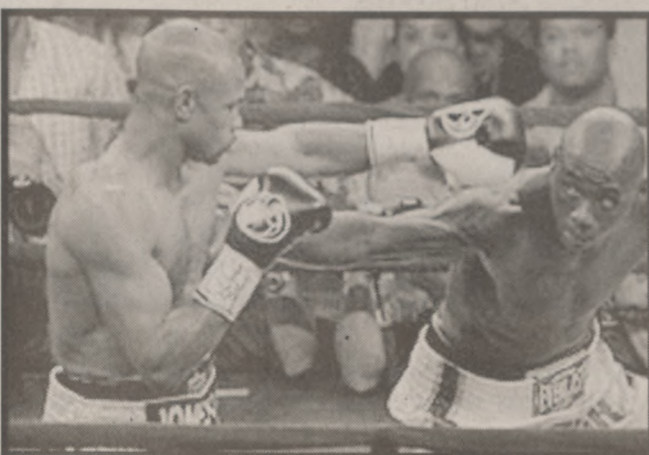
"Tarver improved to 24-3 in a career that's taken off in the past three years. Jones dropped to 49-4 and has lost his last three fights - two by knockout."

The bout was the third between the rivals in less than two years - fourth overall if you count an amateur meeting that Jones won in 1982 when they were 13-year-old kids growing up in Florida. Jones entered hoping to rebound from the knockout losses to Tarver and Glen Johnson that raised questions about whether he was washed up and should retire. Tarver's right in the 11th sent him reeling into the ropes, and the champion closed in to try to end the fight but appeared to tire.

Jones escaped from the ropes when Tarver swung wildly and missed, and finished the round even though he was blinking his eyes repeatedly, as if he was having difficulty seeing." He caught me with a good shot and I think that was the turning point in the fight," Jones said, adding that he has not made a



Jones briefly put Tarver on the ropes during the bout but lost his third straight decision, falling to 49-4



Tarver's relentless attack on Jones resulted in a 117-111, 116-112 and 116-112 unanimous decision

decision on whether to retire. "I'm a true champion," he said. "Being the champion I am, I may come back... If I hadn't gotten hurt, I would retire. But you saw me, I kept coming."

The judges scored the fight 117-111, 116-112 and 116-112 in favor of Tarver, who threw 620 punches to Jones's 320. The champion landed 158, while Jones landed 85 - or about seven per round. "He was

bested by a better fighter," Tarver said. "I didn't feel like he was intimidated. If I made a mistake he would have punished me."

Tarver never felt he received the accolades he deserved after beating Jones in such convincing fashion in the second fight. Many felt he also won the first meeting in November 2003, adding fuel to the boxer's argument that he wasn't getting his just due. The fight



Tarver's relentless attack on Jones resulted in a 117-111, 116-112 and 116-112 unanimous decision

drew a sellout crowd of more than 20,895 to the St. Pete Times Forum, even though Jones did little to promote the bout - turning down all requests for interviews during preparation and limiting his appearance at a mandatory prefight news conference to less than 20 seconds.

With his father, Roy, Sr., working his corner for the first time in years, Jones spent most of the first three rounds staying away from Tarver, who ended the second fight with a straight left counter. He gave Jones difficulty in their first match up by pressing the action and forcing his opponent inside.

Jones went on the offensive in the fourth and fifth rounds, scoring to the body and head. The challenger taunted the champion at times, hitting the bottom of his right

shoe and wiggling his hips before launching a flurry of punches in the fifth and sticking his tongue out at Tarver in the sixth.

But he never really hurt Tarver and agreed with the champion's assessment that the best - at least at this time - won. "Tarver could give me a hard time in my best days," Jones said. "I can beat all the light heavy-weight out there, except him." On the under card, 2004 Olympic gold medalist Andre Ward remained unbeaten (6-0, 4 KOs) with a first-round knockout of middleweight Glenn LaPlante; heavyweight Brian Minto stopped Vinny Maddalone in the seventh round of their scheduled 10-round bout, and light-weight Nate Campbell beat Almazbek Raiymkulov on a 10th-round TKO. ■

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Education from front page

to all citizens and non-citizens.

When you look through-out America's public school system, when compared to every other ethnic group, black public school students in primary and secondary schools are underachieving, registering lower standardized test scores, earning lower grade point averages and being outperformed on the SAT and ACT college entrance exams. In many school districts across the country, many first-generation Hispanic and Latino students, who speak English as a second language, are outperforming black students in many of the academic areas that are included in the national standards.

The Human and Civil Rights Department of the National Education Association examined the disparities in its 2004-2005 Focus On series, which addressed the needs of six specific groups, including women and girls, blacks and American Indians. According to the NEA report, "the average scores of black 17-year-olds in high school on the nation's report card (science, math and reading) are comparable to white 13-year-olds in middle school. In the year 2000, for example, 20 percent of white fourth graders scored 'below basic' on the national math test, while 61 percent of black fourth graders scored 'below basic.' The data is particularly 'disturbing,' the report says, 'when one realizes that these gaps in achievement exist across class and gender lines as well as in rural, urban and suburban school districts.'

"Education does matter to the black community,"



Special to the Weekly Challenger

The first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation before the cabinet

opines Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX), when asked to comment on

Whether or not quality education is indeed a priority in our communities largely

calamitous situation, I see the souls of children, wanting to learn and lead in the world.

blacks began their journeys through the integrated halls of public education, the public school system in America has consistently failed to provide the same quality of education for black students as it does for their white counterparts. This horrific trend leads one to ask the question: Why is it that the longer black children remain in the public school system, they fall further and further behind their white, Asian, and Hispanic classmates?

"African-Americans have made great strides in education in recent decades, but the evidence shows that too much of this progress has been hollow," stated Eleanor Holmes Norton. "Taken together, social promotion, huge disparities between funding for blacks and whites



Special to the Weekly Challenger

January 1, 1863

students in underfunded, understaffed schools, resisting an education that was valued more when it was almost impossible to obtain -- what does the future hold, particularly for a generation that may be unable to take advantage of the many opportunities that the 21st Century has to offer?

Accountability from their parents, in some instances. School systems across the country have begun adopting policies that penalize parents for their children's behavioral shortcomings, including repeated truancy and habitual tardiness. Patricia Payne, director of the Center for Multicultural Education for the Indianapolis Public Schools, says it is the responsibility of those parents whose children populate the nation's public schools to ensure the success of their children, academic and otherwise.

"Parents are the critical element in the entire process of education; they have the young people first," Payne said.

"The educators must work in conjunction with the

parents in order to ensure success in the classroom. I'm not talking about being there to make popcorn or being a part of a candy sale. I mean sending the child to school prepared to learn. Being sure they are well-rested, well-fed, with proper school supplies and completed homework assignments.

"I no longer make excuses for those parents who may be too busy to participate in their child's education," Payne said. "They can find time and transportation to the school just like they do anywhere else they want to go. Parents must make their presence known in the schools, as this changes the dynamics of the education environment. Educators tend to work and teach differently when the parents of the children they are teaching are active in the learning environment."

As Affirmative Action programs that once provided opportunities for blacks are struggling to fight for existence, entry into the halls of higher learning institutions is becoming more difficult to obtain. And, as discontent and disinterest grows on the pri-

mary and secondary public school levels, we are grooming an illiterate generation of young people who have almost completely turned their backs on education -- a generation of a village where we, the elders, have neglected to maintain and promote the concept of valuing knowledge, fostering curiosity, knowing freedom.

If the education of black children is not passionately addressed, our future will undoubtedly become a repeat of our past, as we will soon began to dominate the positions of indentured servants and again be relegated to that of a second class citizen -- this time in the country of our birth. In the language of the America's racist founding fathers, blacks in these United States will again be counted as we once were -- three-fifths of a human being.



Special to the Weekly Challenger

The Emancipation of the Negroes, January, 1863 - The Past and The Future Drawn by Thomas Nast

the current educational climate, "and until we are able to bridge the achievement and opportunity gaps, our children will continue to struggle to be competitive in modern society. Public awareness of this disparity must be a top priority."

depends on your viewpoint -- the classic "is the glass half-full or half-empty?" scenario. Jackson Lee belongs to the former group. "I have visited these overcrowded schools with crumbling walls and aging books. 'Instead of seeing what some would call a

We must step up to this challenge and work within our communities to create that positive academic environment. If we pave the way for our children to learn and lead, it is my promise that they and their success will follow."

Since 1954, as young

in the same states, increases in poverty and family distress could undermine black progress in education and in American life. The challenge is to tackle them now and all at once."

In a nation with over 10 million black public school

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Kimball: subjects unknown ("White and Black Slaves"), carte de visite, 1863. Collection of Greg French.

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STATE NEWS

Ruling Revives Dispute Over Florida Voter Registrations

MIAMI (AP) - A district court shouldn't have rejected a lawsuit from voters who wanted their partially filled-out voter registration forms approved for the 2004 presidential election, federal appeals judges ruled recently. The three judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta cleared the way for lawyers representing three voters and AFL-CIO unions to again challenge Florida's voter registration forms.

The original lawsuit was filed in October 2004 against Secretary of State Glenda Hood and election supervisors in Duval, Orange, Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties. It charged that material missing from the disqualified forms was unnecessary from the start.

That lawsuit was thrown out in last October by U.S. District Judge Lawrence King, who ruled that those suing had no legal standing. But on appeal, the 11th Circuit panel said that there was legal standing for the lawsuit, and a new complaint could be filed in light of recently-passed Florida elections laws.

The incomplete forms in question were from people who signed to affirm their voter eligibility, but failed to provide an identification number — such as from a driver's license or a Social Security card — or check boxes affirming their citizenship, mental capacity and felony status. Applicants filling out registration cards are required to sign a form, affirming that they meet eligibility requirements, but applicants must also check separate boxes on the form.

Attorneys with the Advancement Project argued that the rejections had disqualified more than 10,000 people across the state, with a disparate effect on minorities. Nearly 45 percent of the challenged forms in one county, Duval, came from blacks. Elizabeth Westfall, an Advancement Project attorney, said another complaint would be filed, but there was no deadline set.

Jenny Nash, a spokeswoman for Hood, declined immediate comment because the secretary of state's legal counsel had not seen the ruling. Westfall said the



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information required on the forms was both "immaterial and unnecessary" to the voter registration process, and that recent changes in Florida laws likely drew the concern of the three-judge panel.

In June, Gov. Jeb Bush signed a law that makes Hood responsible for creating a statewide voter registration database to meet a Help America Vote Act requirement for a centralized system in all 50 states. Another law provides safeguards relating

to a voter's right to keep private their signature, social security number, and driver's license number.

The legislation authorizes Florida's secretary of state, as the chief elections officer, to maintain uniformity in the application of the election code through interpretations to supervisors and canvassing boards if needed.

Bush Says South Florida Is Hurricane-Ready, But Fuel A Concern



Special to the Weekly Challenger
Gov. Jeb Bush

CORAL GABLES, Fla. - Florida's two most populous counties are ready for the challenge of a powerful hurricane including updated evacuation plans that wouldn't choke highways but keeping an adequate supply of fuel remains a major concern, Gov. Jeb Bush said Friday.

"This region, South Florida, I think probably has the best plans in place and has allocated more resources than anywhere in the country," Bush said after meeting with officials from Broward and Miami-Dade counties. "There are things we need

to work on."

The session was aimed at updating Bush on hurricane planning for the two urban counties in the aftermath of the Hurricane Katrina catastrophe that struck the Gulf Coast and the chaotic evacuation of Houston and other Texas cities in advance of Hurricane Rita.

Foremost among Florida's problems, Bush said, is figuring out how to keep gasoline and diesel fuel supplies flowing if a major storm forces the closure of Broward County's Port Everglades, the primary entry point for the region's fuel supply.

Any solution, he said, should include making it a priority to get fuel to first responders such as police and fire departments and to power generators that run hospitals, water systems and the like.

"It's probably the most vulnerable part of this whole equation. We don't have an easy answer

for this," Bush said.

But South Florida also has several advantages despite its location in hurricane alley, National Hurricane Center Director Max Mayfield told the group. Stronger building codes put in place after 1992's Hurricane Andrew will cut down on wind damage, meaning evacuations should be focused on the immediate coastal areas and vulnerable mobile home neighborhoods, he said.

"We like to tell people, 'flee the water and hide from the wind,'" Mayfield said. "We need to make sure the whole population knows that you can go tens of miles instead of hundreds of miles" in a southern Florida hurricane evacuation.

"We don't have the need to evacuate 4 1/2 to 5 million people. It's not feasible and it's not necessary," Bush said.

County officials said they are ready. Tony Carper, Broward

County's emergency management chief, said plans are in place to evacuate about 250,000 residents within 17 hours, with 274 buses set aside to transport as many as 48,000 people to shelters if necessary.

Carlos Castillo, head of Miami-Dade emergency management, said about 400,000 people would need to evacuate in a major storm, with room available for 73,000 people in 58 shelters.

Both officials said they had plans to handle evacuees with special medical or other needs and both counties also have places for people to go with pets. In past storms, people have refused to evacuate because they did not want to leave animals behind.

"I can honestly tell you, we are ready," said Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Alvarez. "We have very good plans in place."

Florida Gov. Jeb Bush Calls For Changes In U.S. Immigration

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) - Gov. Jeb Bush urged the federal government to change its visa and immigration policies, saying the country needs to avoid stifling international travel and commerce. The governor said he recognized that the country had to tighten security after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, but said a better balance was needed.

"Now it's important to look at where we are and to make the necessary adjustments so that we don't choke off international travel. So

that we don't choke off international commerce," he said during The Miami Herald's annual Americas Conference.

Florida especially understands that immigrants play an important role in renewing the country, he said.

"It is a good thing to have people who want to come to set up their business, to invest here, to use this as a platform for the expansion of their business, whether they're from Venezuela, Colombia, Brazil or Texas."

Bush, a brother of President Bush, said he gets a lot of e-mails from frustrated people who go through Miami International Airport. He also said the federal government should expand scholarship programs for residents in Latin America, the Caribbean and other regions to come study in the U.S.

"The United States has actually pulled back after Sept. 11 with providing visas for foreign students," he said.

Seniors Able To Begin Evaluating New Medicare Drug Plans

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. - Medicare recipients in Florida will have a few months to evaluate the government's new prescription drug benefit as information on the different plans begins to flow to senior citizens.

The plans, available starting next year, cover out-of-hospital medications for the first time in

the program's history. On Saturday, insurance companies were allowed to begin advertising prices and coverage by mail, television and radio.

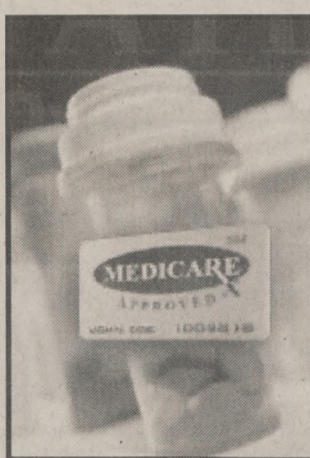
About 300 plans will be offered in Florida though only a fraction will be available in any given county. At least 43 of them will be open to residents statewide. The pro-

gram won't begin until January, but enrollment starts Nov. 15. Senior advocates urged caution and care to make sure people don't feel overwhelmed by all the new information and can pick the plan that best suits them.

For example, Medicare recipients are encouraged to make sure the plan they decide upon actually covers the drugs they take and allows them to keep the same pharmacy. Government program administrators and advocacy groups are preparing to give one-on-one advice to recipients who'd like help deciding. "It can get really complicated," said Vicki Gottlich, a senior policy attorney with the Center for Medicare Advocacy.

Congress is spending more than \$700 per person each year to underwrite the program, which President Bush is calling the most important change in Medicare since it started 40 years ago. Every plan has its own specifics with varied premiums (in Florida, the high end is about \$105), deductibles and co-payments. Some require no deductibles before coverage kicks in, while others charge people \$250 out of pocket before coverage starts.

It's not mandatory to have prescription coverage, but recipients who reject it now will pay a



Special to the Weekly Challenger

penalty to enroll later. Those who can't afford the premiums and already get drugs through Medicaid or state assistance will automatically be enrolled in a stand-alone plan without having to pay premiums or large co-payments.

Those not on Medicaid with less than \$14,356 in personal income, or \$19,246 for a couple, could also qualify for reduced rates. Recipients with their own retiree medical coverage will be able keep it and switch to a Medicare drug plan later without any penalty — as long as the old plan is at least as good as Medicare's new program.

Medicare allows tele-marketing but not door-to-door cold calls. Unless recipients have invited someone by appointment, a salesperson knocking on their doors is breaking the law. People solicited that way are encouraged to call Medicare at 1-800-633-4227.



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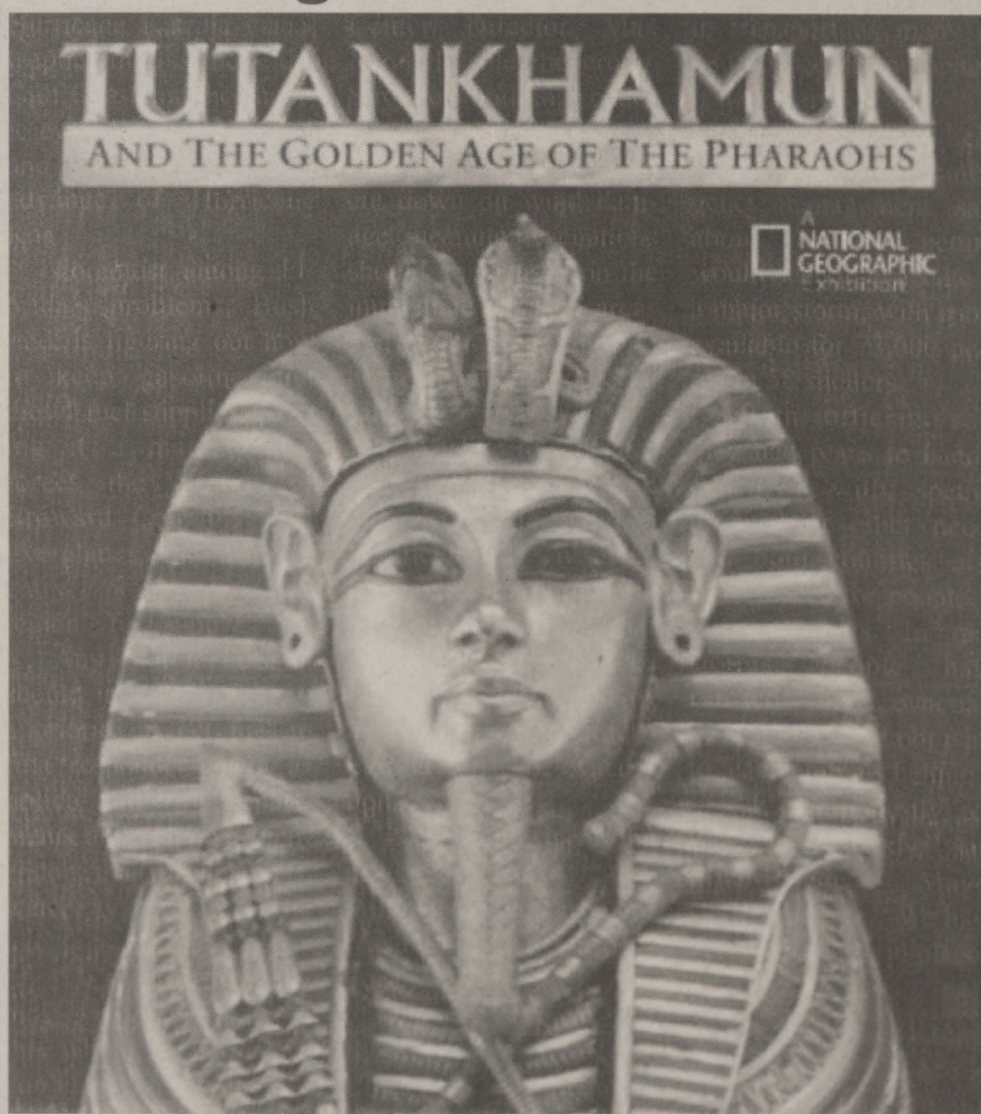
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Black Activists Upset Over King Tut Portraits



FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) - Black activists say computer-generated portraits of King Tut that are scheduled to go on display at a museum exhibit in December wrongly depict the young Egyptian as white.

Teams of researchers reviewed recent CT scans and forensic data of the mummified corpse to create the images. They show him with light, medium and dark skin, said Terry Garcia, executive vice president for mission programs at National Geographic Society, an exhibit sponsor.

"No one really knows his exact skin tone," Garcia said. "There is no way to judge a skin tone. We went down the middle. We took the best science available."

The exhibit, "Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs" will be at the Museum of Art Dec. 15 through April 23, 2006. It previously appeared in Los Angeles, where only the medium-skinned portrait was included in the

exhibit.

But earlier research by New Zealand, British and African scholars determined Tut was black. Professor Manu

Ampim, a historian and professor of African studies at Peralta Community College in Oakland, Calif., said the artists and sculptors of

Tut's time left "firsthand evidence" of Tut's black skin color in their paintings and sculptures.

source: <http://sunnybrits.com/british/arts/tutcrop.jpg>

NATIONAL NEWS

Roberts Sworn In As Chief Justice Of The United States



Special to the Weekly Challenger

Chief Justice John Roberts

WASHINGTON — John Roberts was sworn in as the 17th chief justice of the United States on Thursday, taking his oath at a White House ceremony attended by President George W. Bush and other justices of the Supreme Court. Bush said it was "a very meaningful event in the life of our nation" almost 19 years to the day since the late Chief Justice William Rehnquist took his oath in the same room at the White

House, the East Room. The 50-year-old Roberts was sworn in a little more than three hours after he was confirmed by the Senate on a vote of 78-22. The oath was delivered by Justice John Paul Stevens, the court's senior member and acting chief justice since Rehnquist's death early this month. "The Senate has confirmed a man with an astute mind and kind heart," Bush said. "All Americans can be confident

that the 17th chief justice of the United States will be prudent in exercising judicial power, firm in defending judicial independence and above all a faithful guardian of the Constitution."

Roberts spoke briefly, saying that the bipartisan vote for his nomination was "confirmation of what is for me a bedrock principle, that judging is different from politics." ■

Bennett's Comments Met With Condemnation, Call For Advertiser Boycott

Conservative radio commentator William Bennett, the former U.S. Secretary of Education, came under sharp criticism from the White House, black leaders and officials from both the Democratic and Republican parties last week for comments suggesting that aborting black children would lessen America's crime problem.

"I do know that it's true that if you wanted to reduce crime, you could — if that were your sole purpose, you could abort every black baby in this country, and your crime rate would go down," Bennett said last week on his radio talk show, "Morning in America," after a caller raised the issue of abortion.

"That would be an impossible, ridiculous and morally reprehensible thing to do," Bennett added, "but your crime rate would go down."

Civil rights activists immediately characterized Bennett's remarks as racist. Democrats called on the White House to denounce Bennett's comments, which it did Friday. Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL) introduced legislation to condemn Bennett, and Rep. John Conyers (D-MI) demanded that the Salem Radio Network stations suspend Bennett's show, "Morning in America," which airs on over 100 affiliates across the country and has an estimated 1.25 mil-

lion listeners. Some public figures, including talk radio hostess Bev Smith, are calling for organized boycotts of the advertisers that support Bennett's program.

"Bill Bennett's remarks are morally degenerate," stated Rev. Jesse Jackson, founder of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition. "It's a blatant wish for genocide. What's dangerous about Bennett's remarks is that his friends [in the White House] are making public policy decisions."

Bennett served as secretary of education in the Reagan administration and was director of drug policy under former President George H.W. Bush. His book about traditional American values, "The Book of Virtue," was a bestseller in 1993. In 2003, Bennett admitted he was a serious gambler and several magazines reported that he lost millions of dollars in casinos.

Bennett released a statement defending his remarks. "A thought experiment about public policy, on national radio, should not have received the condemnations it has," he said. Bennett said he was merely offering a "hypothetical" scenario.

But Democrats weren't buying his explanation. "Bill Bennett's hateful, inflammatory remarks regarding African-Americans are sim-

ply inexcusable," Howard Dean, chairman Democratic National Committee, said in a statement.

"They are particularly unacceptable from a leader in the conservative movement and former Secretary of Education, once charged with the well being of every American school child," Dean said. "Bennett's comments demonstrate a reprehensible racial insensitivity and ignorance. Are these the values of the Republican Party and its conservative allies?"

Bennett's stunning remarks come as Republicans — who are aggressively reaching out to black voters — are still trying to manage the political fallout from the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Black leaders have roundly criticized the Bush administration, saying the federal government was slow to respond to residents in the Gulf Coast region where more than 1,000 people died.

Last week, the White House and the Republican National Committee condemned Bennett. "The president believes the comments were not appropriate," White House press secretary Scott McClellan said last week.

"Bill Bennett's remarks were inappropriate and unfortunate given that he's devoted much of his life to improving America's schools, keeping kids off drugs and closing the

achievement gap that exists among minority and non-minority school children," stated Tara Wall, a senior advisor for the Republican National Committee.

Bruce S. Gordon, president & CEO of the NAACP, said Bennett should apologize for his "racist" comments. "In 2005, there is no place for the kind of racist statement made by Bennett," Gordon said in a statement. "While the entire nation is trying to help survivors, black and white, to recover from the damage caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, it is unconscionable for Bennett to make such ignorant and insensitive comments."

"I am personally offended and angry that Bennett felt he could make such a public statement with impunity," Gordon said. "The owners of the Salem Radio Network, which airs Bennett's program, should also apologize."

The Salem Radio Network, which is based in Texas, is Christian radio's largest network and a leading broadcaster focusing on religious and family themes, according to the station's website.

The network, which owns 100 radio stations, features other conservative personalities such as Cal Thomas and Mike Gallagher. Salem serves 1,600 radio stations and more than 40 ministries across the country,

according to the website.

Bennett's show, according to media reports, airs on about 115 radio stations in America and has an estimated 1.25 million listeners.

In 2004, America Online, the world's leading interactive services company, announced a joint agreement with Salem to offer radio programming through the AOL Radio Network. EHarmony.com, the national online dating service, is listed as a sponsor of the Salem network. Salem Communications Corporation is listed among the many high-profile clients of the Alexander Strategy Group, a lobbying firm with close ties to the White House, according to The Center for Media and Democracy. Last week, Bennett told reporters that his remarks were "taken out of context" and said his critics should apologize to him for misconstruing his comments. ■



Special to the Weekly Challenger

Former Education Secretary William Bennett

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Africans Tell Of Hiding In Caves To Make Their Break To Spain

MELILLA, Spain — It would look like a game of cat-and-mouse but for the desperation fueling it. Hiding themselves by day in hillside caves to escape Moroccan police, emerging at night to eat from garbage bins, hundreds of African men prepared to make their break for Spain.

In their way were two 3-meter-tall (10-foot) razor-wire fences that separated Morocco from a tiny Spanish enclave providing a foothold in Europe — and an end of months of misery living in the bush. On the other side of the twin barriers, Spanish police were poised with guns, truncheons and motion detectors to keep them out.

"There were police everywhere," said Sekou

Bokoum, a 28-year-old from Mali. "The main thing was to have courage. It was courage that pushed us over the fence."

Up and over they went, scaling rickety ladders made from tree branches. Two groups — each estimated at 500 men — rushed the frontier Tuesday in the latest and largest of a series of human waves bound for Spain after monthslong journeys from some of Africa's poorest countries.

An estimated 300 made it through in a chaotic clash with overwhelmed Spanish officers a surge that, along with the death of five immigrants Thursday at another enclave, Ceuta prompted Spain to call out army troops on the border. The human wave also gnarled

ties between Spain and Morocco, two neighbors who have long quarreled over fishing rights, illegal immigration and sovereignty over the enclaves themselves.

In Melilla, sirens blared in the night. Men screamed as they jumped from the top of the second, innermost fence, cutting themselves on the razor wire or breaking limbs. Police on motorcycles rode through the melee.

"After we got over the fence, we just ran. We ran without stopping," Bokoum said. "We thought we were going to end up back in the forest."

He held out his hands to show gashes from the razor wire. Like many others, he ran into the city and simply

surrendered to police.

Bokoum and others housed at a sun-baked, overflowing holding facility outside Melilla do not know what awaits them now, but say anything is better than living in the pine forest that was their crude home as they tried to dodge baton-wielding Moroccan police bent on expelling them to Algeria, the entry point for most.

"By day, we'd hide in caves," said Robert Zambo, a soft-spoken 23-year-old from Gabon. "Only at night were we free."

Their diet consisted mainly of bread bought from Moroccan villagers and whatever they could scrounge from trash cans when they came down from the hideouts. They drank water from springs and slept on the ground with no shelter.

Some of the arrivals say that in the countryside, men stuck close together in groups formed by nationality, seeking the comfort of common origin from destitute West African countries such as Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger.

Zambo, however, insisted that such lines blurred out in the wild, especially on the night they made their break. "As suffering is something that is shared, we lived together, all mixed," he said. Their lingua franca is French.

Zambo said that during

the eight months he lived in the forest, he tried to cross over as many as four times in one week, only to get caught by the Moroccans or repelled by the Spaniards.

The new arrivals will stay in legal limbo because many come from destitute countries that lack automatic repatriation agreements with Spain and refuse to reclaim the would-be immigrants.

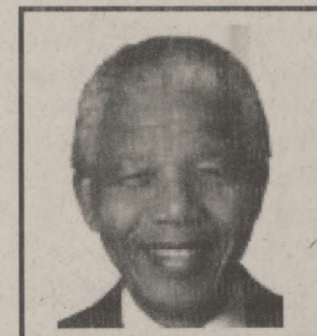
Spain is not even sure of its estimate that 1,000 men tried to come over Tuesday night. The estimate is based on camera footage, said a Spanish Interior Ministry official who spoke on condition of anonymity because police rules bar him from giving his name.

Spanish officials say rushes at Melilla are not entirely new, but that the number rose dramatically this summer and that the size of Tuesday's rush was unprecedented.

The ministry official described the phenomenon as a cat-and-mouse game in which immigrants sometimes seek poorly guarded spots along the fence or spread themselves out so police cannot keep up.

"They have all the time in the world to try to cross," the official said. "They coordinate. They synchronize." ■

Mandela Calls For More Funding To Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis



Special to the Weekly Challenger

Former South African President Nelson Mandela

LONDON — Former South African President Nelson Mandela called on donors to support an international fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, saying in an interview published Tuesday he feared the campaign's momentum was slowing.

"Once the current spirit of global commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS is lost it will never be restored,"

Mandela was quoted as saying in the London newspaper The Times.

Mandela chastened international donors for contributing just half what is needed by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. He praised projects supported by the fund in Brazil, Thailand, India and South Africa.

Earlier this month at a meeting in London, 29 donor nations pledged a total of US\$3.7 billion (euro3.0 billion) for 2006-2007 for the Global Fund. The fund's goal is US\$7.1 billion for the two years.

The Global Fund was created out of an initiative outlined by the world's richest governments at the 2001 Group of Eight economic summit in Genoa, Italy, where they pledged to step up funding to fight HIV/AIDS and other global epidemics.

Since its birth, the fund has approved a total of US\$3.7 billion (euro2.95 billion) for more than 300 grants in 127 countries, and has disbursed US\$1.5 billion (euro1.2 billion).

Mandela is revered for his battle against apartheid and his commitment to racial reconciliation as South Africa's first black president. Since retiring from political life in 1999 after five years as president, he has remained active as a champion of the sick, poor and underprivileged, campaigning in particular to raise awareness of the AIDS pandemic.

But his successor, Thabo Mbeki, has been accused of being slow to react to the AIDS crisis. South Africa has the highest number of people living with HIV/AIDS in the world. ■



AP Photo/Jasper Juinen

27 year old Sidibe Lancina walks in the Spanish enclave of Melilla, Sunday, Oct. 2, 2005. Lancina is one of an estimated of 300 Africans who crossed the border separating Melilla from Morocco last week. His trip from the Ivory coast to Morocco took him two-and-a-half years. LaNcina twisted his ankle while jumping from a fence on the border.

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OBITUARIES

Federal Judge, Civil Rights Lawyer Constance Baker Motley Dies



Constance Baker Motley, James Meredith and Jack Greenberg bring suit against segregation.

NEW YORK — Federal Judge Constance Baker Motley, who as a young lawyer represented Martin Luther King Jr. and played a pivotal role in the nation's civil rights struggle, has died. She was 84. Motley died of congestive heart failure at NYU Downtown Hospital according to her son, Joel Motley III.

Motley's early career found her fighting racism in many of the nation's landmark segregation cases. After a brief foray into politics, in 1966 she became the first black woman appointed to the federal bench and began a distinguished four-decade span as a judge.

"She's going to be missed," said Chief Judge Michael Mukasey in U.S. District Court in Manhattan, where Motley served. "She is a person of a kind and stature the likes of which they're not making anymore."

Motley was born in New Haven, Connecticut, the ninth of 12 children. Her mother, Rachel Baker, was a founder of the New Haven chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Her father, Willoughby Alva

Baker, worked as a chef for student organizations at Yale University.

Her interest in civil rights grew after she was turned away at age 15 from a public beach because she was black.

"Judge Motley had the strength of a self-made star," Judge Kimba Wood said. "As she grew, she was unfailingly optimistic and positive; she never let herself be diverted from her goal of achieving civil rights, even though, as she developed as a lawyer, she faced almost constant condescension from our profession due to her being an African-American woman."

Motley earned a degree in economics in 1943 from New York University, and three

years later, got her law degree from Columbia Law School.

In 1945, she became a law clerk to Thurgood Marshall, who was then chief counsel of the NAACP's Legal Defense and Educational Fund.

Over the next two decades, she rose to associate counsel of the organization and worked on some of the nation's most famous civil rights cases, including preparing the draft complaint in 1950 for what would become *Brown v. Board of Education*.

In her autobiography, "Equal Justice Under Law," Motley said defeat never entered her mind. "We all believed that our time had come and that we had to go forward."

The Supreme Court

ruled in her and her colleagues' favor in May 1954 in a decision credited with toppling public school segregation in America. The ruling, though, touched off resistance across the country and led to some of the racial clashes of the 1960s and more litigation.

At the heart of much of it was Motley, from a case in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957 that led President Dwight D. Eisenhower to call in federal troops to protect nine black high school students to leading the legal charge to win James Meredith's entry into the University of Mississippi in 1962.

Also in the early 1960s, she successfully argued for 1,000 school children to be reinstated in Birmingham, Alabama, after the local school board had expelled them for demonstrating. She represented so-called "Freedom Riders" who rode buses to test the Supreme Court's 1960 ruling prohibiting segregation in interstate transportation. During this time, she represented King as well, defending his right to march in Birmingham and Albany,

Georgia.

From 1961 to 1964, Motley won nine of 10 civil rights cases she argued before the U.S. Supreme Court.

In the late 1950s, Motley took an interest in politics and by 1964 had left the NAACP and become the first black woman to serve in the New York State Senate. In 1965, she became the first woman president of the borough of Manhattan.

In 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated her to the federal bench in Manhattan. She was confirmed nine months later, though her appointment was opposed by conservative federal judges and southern politicians.

Over the next four decades, Motley handled a number of civil rights cases, including her decision in 1978 allowing a female reporter to be admitted to the New York Yankees' locker room.

Motley is survived by her husband and son, three sisters and brother.

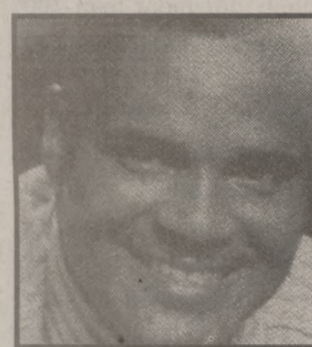
PRAYER HELPS

FINAL RITES



Willie James Ashley Jr. departed this life on September 25, 2005. He leaves behind his daughter, Sherlia Ashley, son Elroi Ashley, and three stepchildren Ebonie Holliman, Raymond Harris of St. Augustine, and Chasity Moore of Shreveport, La., and their mother Elaine. A brother and sister preceded him in death. He leaves behind his siblings Angela Ashley, Roxanne Harvey, Wesley Ashley (Nora), Jerome Ashley, all of Jacksonville, Fla., Danelle Moore (Alphonse) of Washington, D.C., and James Baker of Houston, Texas; three aunts, six grandchildren, a host of cousins, nieces and nephews, his church family, and the saints of the Church of God.

Bobby Lewis Dixon passed away on September 25, 2005. He leaves precious and fond memories to his brother, Ernest Dixon; Shirley Morgan, Sylvia Pritchett, and Danielle Capehart; a host of stepchildren, grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephew, relatives, and friends.

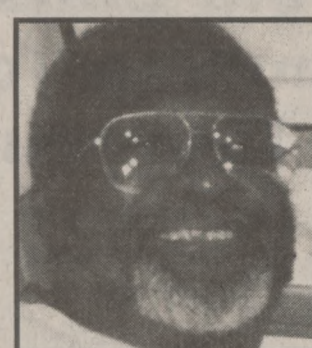


Vincent "C.J." George James recently passed away. He leaves to celebrate and exemplify the spirit of his life his wife Pamela; four children, Tyeisha, Alexis, Deontrey, and Larry; mother, Bertha James; godmother Dorothy

Lamb; sisters Loretta Morris, Diane Eubanks, Vernetta Oliver, and Sheila Lamb; brother Ronald Lamb; aunts Janet Stamper, Ella Mary Holmes and Jennie V. Johnson; niece Stacy Graham; nephews Warren Morris, Gary Roland and Ronald Stamper; and a host of other relatives and friends.



Arlizabeth Riley passed away on September 24, 2005. She was preceded in death by her husband Cecil H. Riley, II. Survivors include her mother, Sarah Sinclair; an aunt, Chrissy Jackson of Brooklyn, NY; a daughter, Marcellette Donato (Edward) of St. Petersburg, Fla.; a son, Amar Riley (Sandy) of Maryland; a stepson, Cecil H. Riley, III (Johnette) and stepdaughter, Rhonda Riley of Texas; four nieces, nine grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.



Raymond "Big Ray" Walker, Sr. passed away on September 18, 2005. He leaves to cherish his memories his wife of 30 years, Carrie Walker of St. Petersburg, Fla.; two sons, Raymond Walker, Jr. and Dorrian Walker, both of St. Petersburg, Fla.; a daughter, LaTanya Franks and husband Henry of St. Petersburg, Fla.; three brothers, Albert Walker, Ervin Walker, both of Macon, Ga., and E.Q. Walker and wife Louise

of St. Petersburg, Fla.; one sister, Mary Henderson of Washington D.C.; six grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives, and loving friends.



Shirley P. Wright departed this life on September 24, 2005. She leaves to cherish her memories three sons, Algonia Wright, Lawrence C. Wright and Johnathan C. Wright, all of St. Petersburg, Fla.; seven daughters, Sherby J. Hawk or Orlando, Fla., Yvonne Carr and husband Reginald, Pat Wright, Anettia Wright, Vanessa Wright Lewis and husband William, and Lavette Tellis and husband Clinton, all of St. Petersburg, Fla.; and Bridget C. Murdaugh and husband MSgt. Darin of Brandon, Fla.; seven sisters, Reatha Mizell, Geneva Patterson, Mary Woodard, Elizabeth McTier and husband Michael, Mae Hillard and husband Wayne, Joycelene Rose, Wanda Jordan and husband Jerome, all of St. Petersburg, Fla.; six brothers, Willie "Buddy" Patterson and wife Beulah, Nathaniel "Nay" and wife Eula, Lee Patterson, Jr. and wife Rose, Joe "JC" Patterson and wife Sandra, Bobby Patterson and wife Dorethia, and Wilbert Patterson and wife Zera, all of St. Petersburg, Fla.; one aunt in Folktons, Ga. and one uncle in Jasper, Fla.; 40 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and loving friends.

PRAYER HELPS

by Debra Bynum
CPRC Coordinator
Last Friday, September 30, 2005, a family, a community, and the Civilian Police Review Committee lost one of its stars. In life, we are forever touched and hopefully changed, by the few who are only here for a "brief" moment. Sharon Hinton was that bright star — always ready with a smile and a kind thought. From the comments I have



received from members of the committee and my interaction with her, Sharon provided a "bright" spot for us and will be truly missed. During her interview for membership on the committee, Ms. Hinton shared with me her feeling of being uninformed about issues within the city and especially, the St. Petersburg Police Department. She truly believed knowledge was power and committed herself to offering a viewpoint on police complaint cases that was complete, honest and unbiased. Her ultimate desire was to be a "contributing and informed

citizen" in her city and community. After watching her in action over the last fourteen months, I am absolutely certain she transformed her desire into a reality.

We must all remember that life is short and we must make the best of the time we have been granted. Sharon Hinton made the best of her time. We, the members of the

St. Petersburg Civilian Police Review Committee are forever grateful to have known and shared our lives with Sharon and pay tribute to her. May God bless the Hinton family and provide comfort and solace in their time of grief.

SUPPORT THE BLACK PRESS

Austin Leslie

BATON ROUGE, La. — Austin Leslie, the New Orleans chef whose Chez Helene soul food restaurant inspired the television show "Frank's Place" in the 1980s, died in Atlanta, being rescued from Hurricane Katrina's floodwaters.

Until Katrina struck on Aug. 29, Leslie had been working at Pampy's Creole Kitchen, which has shut down in the flood's aftermath. Owner Stan "Pampy" Barre said Leslie died Thursday morning. The cause of death had not been determined said Vincent Sylvain, a publicist for the restaurant. Leslie's age was not immediately available.

Leslie, with his trademark white ship captain's hat, already was well known in New Orleans when producer Hugh Wilson and actor Tim Reid developed "Frank's Place." It was loosely based on Chez Helene, a hideaway that drew people from around the city for Leslie's fried chicken, stuffed peppers, gumbo and variety of seafood dishes.

The 1987 show was critically acclaimed but

short-lived. Leslie, meanwhile, proved to be a better chef than businessman, declaring bankruptcy in the late 1980s and eventually closing Chez Helene in 1994.

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The Weekly Challenger
Obituary Section Guideline

- Photos are printed in black and white only
- Deadline for submission is 4:00 pm Monday-Wednesday.
- Obituaries are published in our Thursday edition and on the Web site. Obituaries can be delivered or email to www.wceditor@tampabay.rr.com

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RELIGIOUS NEWS

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

Thank you for all of your continued support and help this year. Be blessed and bountiful in the Lord!

Dr. John A. Evans, Sr., first family and Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Inc. prayerfully invite you to worship experience with us at 3300 31st Street south. We also invite you to all other church related functions during the week. Please be advised for the month of October we will not have Bible study and evening praise service. We will be visiting other churches for their worship experience this month.. Please consult your bulletin or the website at www.fmbc-theshp.org for details.

First worship experience begins at 7:45 a.m. with the deacon's serving in Devotion. The second

Sunday ushers will serve and the Male chorus will sing. Pastor will give the sermon. Pastor Evans, Sr. has been asked to stand in for Pastor Turner while he recuperates from his illness. We wish Pastor Holy Spirit help as he helps a fellow man of God in his service to God's people. For it is good to give a fellow man of God a helping hand!!!

Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m. with superintendent in charge of devotion. **Tuesday, October 11, 2005:** Youth enrichment hour will be resumed. Please bring or send your children, for a child trained up in God is a child that won't stray too far away from God. For they will go back to the life they know, if taught the way to Jesus Christ! Alternate

Tuesday's will be service practice for the choir and ushers in the youth department program.

Wednesday, October 12, 2005: Noon Day Bible study and Bread of life as well as serving lunch to those in the community/at large. We will not have praise and worship this month due to visitation with other churches in the innercity celebrating anniversaries, etc. Please consult your bulletin for the events and the churches we will attend or go to www.fmbc-theshp.org to get more details.

Thursday, October 13, 2005: Youth enrichment hour. Students, teachers, and parents as well as youth director wish for you to come see what your child is learning and how they may impact the community for Jesus

Christ!!!!!! We are celebrating big time this year the 8th anniversary of Dr. (Pastor) John A. Evans, Sr. and the First family. Come celebrate with us and see that the Lord He is good unto all who hearken unto His voice ONLY! If anyone wishes to give gifts to the Pastor during the anniversary during the month of November 2005 please consult the Anniversary committee!

As always, SERVE God with Gladness and greatness: after All HE GAVE HIS SON SO THAT YOU MIGHT LIVE ETERNALLY WITH THEM IN THE KINGDOM!

Prayer Tower COGIC

Prayer Tower COGIC Women's Christian Council invites women of all ages to a dynamic two-day conference.

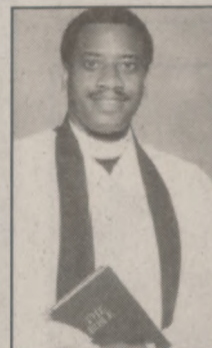
Theme: *Vessels For The Masters Use*
October 21, 2005 from 6:30 pm to 9 pm; October 22, 2005

from 8 pm to 2 pm. Admission: adults \$20.00; middle school students \$5.00; high school students \$10.00.

Location: 1137 37th Street South, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33711. For more information and registration please contact LaVerne

Roberts at (727)204-6903. For further information contact me at (727) 864-9720 or (727) 422-6827 Donna Welch.

The Rock of Jesus Missionary Baptist Church



Pastor Frank Peterman

Black Presence in the Bible

The Rock of Jesus Missionary Baptist Church cordially invites you to a teaching series regarding the *Black Presence in the Bible*. A Christian will understand that the Bible says that "God is no respecter of persons with God," "For

there is no respect of persons with God, Paul declared (Romans 2:11). We do know it is still very clear from theological research that a significant number of the characters that we celebrate in the Bible were people of African descent. The theme for these series is "A Call to Love."

Pastor Peterman will be teaching an in-depth study of the African ancestral bloodline ties to people of faith in the Bible. In addition, he will show the direct linkage between people of African descent illustrated in Christ's genealogical line and Jesus Christ, himself.

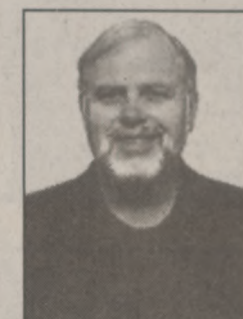
Please come out and share in this thought-pro-

voing and life changing teaching series each Tuesday in October from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The church is located at 3940 18th Avenue South.

October Is Deliverance and Evangelism Month At The Rock Of Jesus

Pastor

Frank Peterman and The Rock of Jesus Missionary Baptist Church cordially invite the entire community to share and worship as Deliverance and Evangelism will be the focus the entire month of October. A deliverance



Rev. Chris Ward

workshop will take place on Saturday, October 8 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and will be facilitated by Rev. Chris Ward of Leesburg, Florida.

Dr. Michael Miller, General Manager-Make the World a Better Place will conduct Evangelism workshops on Tuesday,

October 25 and Wednesday, October 26 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Both workshops will be held at the church, which is located at 3940 18th Avenue South.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

"United as one body, by one spirit, in one hope"

The New Hope Church family cordially invites you to worship with us on Sunday. Sunday School begins at 9 a.m. Bring the entire family. Classes are available for all ages.

Morning worship will begin at 10:30. The New Hope Male Chorus is in charge of the music. Our dynamic music team consists of Michael McKenny as Minister of Music, Vernard McKenny as

Accompanist, and Marcus Childs serving as Percussionist. Come let us praise His name together for He is worthy to be praised! The Bread of Life will be served by our Esteemed Pastor, Reverend Carlos L. Senior.

Persons who became a part of the family the past quarter will be recognized in the form of a luncheon immediately after morning service on Sunday, October 9th.

Weekly Events

Prayer Meeting/Bible Study is held on Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Come, let us learn more about our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Prayer Band is held each Thursday morning at 11 a.m. We invite you to join us in lifting up the name of Jesus.

Upcoming Events

"MEN WHO COOK" Sunday, October 16th, 1:30 to 3:30p.m. Please come and partake

of the delectable dishes prepared by some of the men of the church and community.

"LORD REVIVE US" Revival will be held October 17 - 20 at 7 p.m. nightly. Reverend T. D. Leonard, Pastor of Mt. Tabor Missionary Baptist Church, Tampa is the Revivalist. We invite you to this soul-stirring, soul-searching, and soul-winning Revival.

We hope to see you there!

Mt. Olive AME Church - Tampa

Mount Olive African Methodist Episcopal Church, Tampa, will celebrate its 97th Church Anniversary on Saturday, October 29 and Sunday, October 30, 2005. A festive banquet on Saturday night will precede the 11 a.m. Sunday morning worship service.

The banquet speaker will be renowned attorney, orator, author and educator Patricia Russell-McCloud, JD. The banquet will begin with a reception at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7:00 p.m. The banquet will be held at Hilton Tampa Airport

Westshore Hotel, 2225 North Lois Avenue. Tickets are \$40.00, and may be purchased by contacting Mt. Olive AME Church's Administrative Office at (813) 254-5045.

Special messenger for the 97th Anniversary morning worship service will be Rev. Dr. John F. Green, former Pastor of Tampa's Allen Temple AME Church and current Pastor of Bethel AME Church, Tallahassee. Theme for the celebration will be "97 Years of Worship, Witness and Praise". Special colors for the celebration will be olive green and ivory,

with a touch of gold.

The event will honor approximately twenty (20) members of Mount Olive who have served the church for at least fifty (50) years. Rev. James C. Givins is 38th pastor of the church and will serve as General Chairperson of the celebration. Sister Roberta Thomas Givins is First Lady at the church. Sister Sylvia McRae and Brother Robert Wright, Sr. are Co-Chairpersons. Church (i.e. Sunday) School begins at 9:30 a.m. Brother Brett Brinkley is Superintendent.

Mount Olive AME

Church, currently located at 1747 West LaSalle Street, Tampa, is in the path of the Interstate 4 Widening Project and will rebuild across the street in the coming months. The 97th Church Anniversary may well be the last one observed while in its present location. Ground-breaking is set for November 13, 2005.

The public is invited to join us for this event, and refreshments will be served at the conclusion of morning service.

Bank of America is a proud sponsor of this event.

St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church

The St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church, under the leadership of its dynamic, spirited, man of God, the Reverend Brian Kenneth Brown, its official staff of Deacons and Trustees, and the entire congregation of St. Mark, extends to the community at large, its wishes that there would be an overflowing of God's blessings upon their lives. St. Mark is grounded in a Christ-centered doctrine that has as its central theme, a belief that we are a haven of hope, help, and healing for a world hungering for and thirsting after the enlightened word of God. At St. Mark, we are Christians willing to work and partner in unity, praising God for His awesome gift, His son Jesus Christ. Our prayer for our community is that you would join us in fellowship as we worship and praise the true and the living God.

From the Pastor's Desk: The Collision of God and Sin

The cross of Christ is the revealed truth of God's judgment of sin.

Never associate the idea of martyrdom with the cross of Christ. It was the supreme triumph, and it shook the very foundation of hell. There is nothing in time or eternity more absolutely certain and irrefutable than what Jesus Christ accomplished on the Cross-He made it possible for the entire human race to be brought back into a right standing relationship with God. He made redemption the foundation of human life; that is, He made a way for every person to have fellowship with God.

The Cross was not something that happened to Jesus-He came to die; the Cross was His purpose in coming. He is "The Lamb slain for the foundation of the world" (Rev. 13: 8). The incarnation of Christ would have no meaning without the Cross. Beware of separating "God was manifest in the flesh ..." from "... He made Him... to be sin for us..." (1 Tim. 3: 16, 2Corin. 5:21). The purpose of the incarnation was redemption. God came in the flesh to

take sin away, not to accomplish something for Himself. The Cross is the central event in time and eternity, and the answer to all the problems of both.

October Calendar of Events

October 4-8 District Association - First Baptist Hilltop, Frostproof, Fla.

October 8 Church Anniversary Banquet 6 p.m., Hilton Hotel

October 9 Anniversary Kickoff Service - Galilee M.B. Church, Rev. Jones, Pastor, 4 p.m.

October 12 Anniversary Service - St. John Baptist Church, Rev. Norris Martin, Pastor, 7 p.m.

October 13 Anniversary Service - Wings Fellowship, Rev. John Chance, Pastor, 7 p.m.

Anniversary Service - New Mt. Olive, Rev. Joseph Sykes, Pastor, 7 p.m.

Church Anniversary Finale - First Baptist Institutional, Rev. Dr. Wayne Thompson, Pastor, 4

p.m. Women's Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Deaconess Meeting - 11 a.m.

Congress No. 2 - Hosted by First Baptist, Sun City (Housed at Southside Tabernacle) Sunday School Promotion Day.

As part of our ongoing ministry, we invite the public to join us in worship and fellowship during our weekly worship services, which include:

Early morning worship (first Sunday only) 7 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.

Baptist Training Union 5 p.m.

Other weekly services include Children and Youth Ministry Meetings (Mondays at 6 p.m.); Sunday School Teachers' Meeting (Tuesdays at 7 p.m.); Senior Hour of Power Bible Study (Thursdays at 9:30 a.m.) and Prayer Meeting and Bible Study (Thursdays at 7 p.m.).

Mt. Zion AME Church

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. Psalms 23:1"

The Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church Family under the leadership of Pastor Clarence A. Williams welcome your presence this Sunday for Worship Services. We are always happy to receive guest and visitors at any of our services. The teaching of the Word, songs of praise and worship. And the inspiring messages will help you along this spiritual journey as your faith and understanding increase.

Join us as we endeavor to learn more of God's Word and strive to be more Christ-like. Our early morning services begin at 7:30 a.m. followed by Church School at 9:30 a.m. Come grow and glow as we share the Word one with another. At 11 a.m. we'll participate in Contemporary

Worship.

Join us for a hallelujah good time in the Lord. The Male Chorus will render song service throughout the day. Come anticipating a blessing. Pastor Williams will preach The Word with power, as we welcome The Holy Spirit in this place.

Other ministries include:

Monday - Bible Study, 6 p.m.

Wednesday - Early morning prayer 6:30 a.m.; Vintage Bible Study, 11 a.m.; Prayer Meeting, 6:30 p.m.; Hour of Power Praise Service, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday - Sons of Allen Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.

Upcoming events:

October 8 - Women's Ministry Workshop, "Handling your finan-

cial affairs with Godly wisdom." 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

October 29 - Church outing and cookout, Walsingham Park.

Make plans to join us for "ANNUAL CONFERENCE" to be held Saturday, October 15th through Friday, October 21st. Various churches within the Tampa-Florida Conference will be coming together at

New Bethel A.M.E. Church, Lakeland Florida. Join us as we unite in one place in one spirit! Thought for the week: "God is good all the time, and all the time God is good."

Be blessed, and have a Jesus-filled week!

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God gave us the vision and we give Him the glory!!

THE GOSPEL
SEE IT! LIVE IT! SPREAD IT!

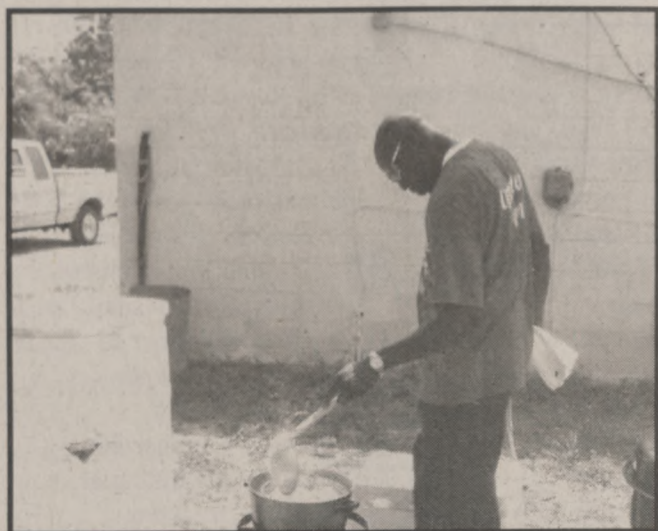
OPENING NATIONWIDE 10.07.2005

Southside Church of Christ Holds Community Rally

The Southside Church of Christ located at 932 49th St. South of St. Petersburg held a successful Community Rally on Saturday, September 17. Both young and old enjoyed wonderful singing, food and words of wisdom from our speakers. They even left with great prizes either from the on site drawing or the raffle drawings.

For fun, the kids spent time in the "car inflatable" provided to them free of charge while their parents checked out the vendors. Hats off to the sponsors who supported us included: Walgreen's, Wal-Mart, Babcock, Linens and Things, Circuit City, Publix and Winn Dixie.

A special thanks to the Weekly Challenger!
Photos by Reggie Snellings



Every Word of God is pure: He is a shield unto them that put their trust in Him. Proverbs 30:5

CHURCH DIRECTORY

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.



GOOD SAMARITAN BAPTIST CHURCH

1820 - 18th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(727) 821-3265

Reverend Larry R. Williams, Sr.

Sunday School 8:00 a.m.
Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Prayer Meeting . . 6:30-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, Bible Study 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Saint John Primitive Baptist Church

Elder Benjamin Adams, Jr., Senior Pastor

Church address: 1002 Palmetto Street, Clearwater, FL 33755
Mailing address: P.O. Box 1235, Clearwater, FL 33755
Church Phone: (727) 443-1861 • Fax: (727) 443-0431
Email: sjpbct@tampabay.rr.com
Radio dial: 1340 AM 11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Radio internet: tantalk 1340.com



Scheduled Services: Early Morning - 8:00 am
Church School - 9:45 am
Mid-Morning - 11:00 am
Mid-week Family Night Bible Study - 7:00 pm

Theme: "Movers of the Christ Purpose"
Edifying the Church; Evangelizing the Community (Acts 1:4-8)



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WILLIAMS and wife, LADY
CALOQUETTA WILLIAMS

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Pastor Johnny L. Williams, Jr.
bishopwilliamsstampa@hotmail.com

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Youth Bible Study Thursday 6:00 P.M.

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Telephone (727) 327-0554 • Fax (727) 327-0240
E-mail: bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com

Sunday Worship Services 8:00 am • 11:00 am
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Wednesday.....7:30pm
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Monday - Bible Study6:00 p.m.
Wednesday
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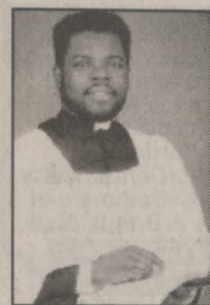
Rev. A. Anthony Robinson III

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

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Morning Glory Sunday 9:00 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 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.

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Elder: Tony Smith

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9:30 A.M. - Sunday School 7:00 P.M. - Wednesday Bible Study
11:00 A.M. - Morning Service

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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.

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2120 - 19th Street South, St. Petersburg, FL 33712
(727) 896-5228



Rev. Carlos Senior
Pastor

Sunday Services:
Church School 9am
Praise & Worship Service 10:30am
Tuesday Services:
Prayer Service 6:30pm
Bible Study 7pm

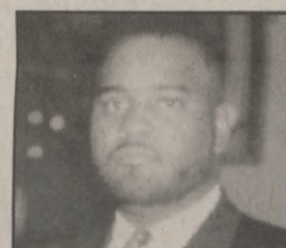
Join us as we lift up the name of Jesus

ST. MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Schedule of Services

Church School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Baptist Training Union 5 p.m.
Prayer Meeting and Bible Study
Thursday 9:30 a.m. & 7 p.m.

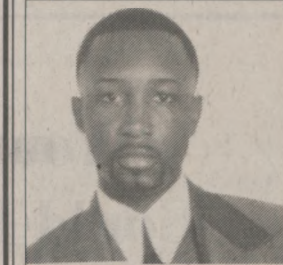


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Rev. G. M. Curry

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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
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"Inside the Family"

Thursday

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6am Prayer

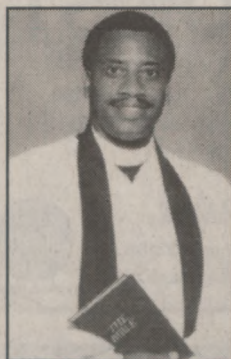


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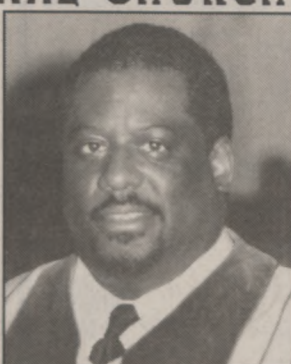
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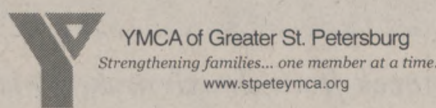
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LIFESTYLES



Special to the Weekly Challenger
Cedric "The Entertainer" to Host the 2005 Black Movie Awards

Film Life's 2005 Black Movie Awards

A distinguished list of high profile profile talent will be on hand for Film Life's 2005 BLACK MOVIE AWARDS

A Celebration of Black Cinema: Past, Present & Future, presented by Turner Network Television (TNT). Cedric "The Entertainer" ('Madagascar') will host the gala awards show that recognizes creative achievement by persons of African descent in feature-length motion pictures, both in front of and behind

the camera, and honors outstanding films portraying the Black experience. This year's top award nominees include 'Crash', and 'Diary of a Mad Black Woman', each of which received six nominations, 'Hustle & Flow', which received four; and 'Coach Carter', with three nominations. ■

Film Life's BLACK MOVIE AWARDS
Wednesday, October 19th,
at 10pm (ET/PT)
exclusively on TNT

The Best Beauty Bang for Your Beauty Buck — Bailey E. Orenia-Sessums

Let's face it: Beauty is all about looking your best, but no one wants to spend a fortune on makeup in order to get that perfect look.

So how's a girl to keep her beauty look in check? It's simple; get the best beauty bang for your beauty bucks.

There are several products on the market today that are designed for two or more uses, and these gems can keep you on top of the beauty game:

to perk up dull and washed-out complexions.

Powder eye shadow becomes the perfect eyeliner when applied with an eyeliner brush. Use darker colors like dark brown, black, navy and charcoal for definition.

Lip liner can give you the same coverage as a lipstick and with longer staying power. Simply apply your lip liner on well-moisturized lips. ■

Clear Mascara is one of the oldest, yet one of my favorite makeup buys. It works great for separating lashes and giving them a natural wet look. Plus, it also works great as a brow gel to help hold unruly brows into place.

Cheek and lip stains are formulated to add color on your lips and cheeks. Their sheer coverage gives you a pop of color

Beauty is always deeper than the skin



Special to the Weekly Challenger
Accenting Natural Beauty!

Take a Spa-Tacular Lunch Break



Delicious

Relaxing, relating and releasing is what summer is all about, and what better way to relax during a hard workweek than with a mini escape to the spa?

Capitalizing on the working woman's lack of time, spas are now offering express services that will allow you to relax and pamper yourself

in about one hour, the same amount of time it takes to break for lunch.

Massage

Indulge yourself in an express 15-minute massage that helps release tension in your neck, shoulders, arms and hands.

Facial

Most spas will offer a 30-minute express facial. This service usually consists of a complete skin

analysis, cleansing, exfoliation, vaporizing mist, massage and mask.

Basic Manicure

With 15 minutes to go, polish off your spa getaway with a basic manicure. Call your boss and tell her you're going to be 15 minutes late because this service takes about 30 minutes and includes cuticle and hangnail removal, nail shaping and polish. ■

Three outstanding women receive McDonald's 365Black(TM) honors for lifetime achievement



Special to the Weekly Challenger



Special to the Weekly Challenger

From left to right: Ingrid Saunders Jones, senior vice president of the Coca-Cola Company and chairperson of the Coca-Cola Foundation, Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) and Frances Jones, McDonald's owner, proudly display their 2005 McDonald's 365Black(TM) awards.

Washington, DC BLACK PR WIRE McDonald's honored three outstanding women with its prestigious 2005 365Black(TM) Award.

The awards ceremony, which was hosted by

Ed Gordon of NPR's News and Notes, was held at the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, DC. Dignitaries from across the country gathered to acknowledge the lifetime

achievements of McDonald's Owner/Operator Frances R. Jones, senior vice president of The Coca-Cola Company and chairperson of the Coca-Cola Foundation, Ingrid Saunders Jones and

Congresswoman Maxine Waters (D-CA) for their lifetime achievements and contributions in business, entrepreneurship and public service. The lifetime achievement awards are a key compo-

ment of McDonald's 365Black(TM) initiative, created in 2002 to celebrate the pride, heritage and achievements of African Americans all year long. ■

Meet The Author – Kimberley Brooks He's Fine But Is He Saved?

She sings the silent song of every woman's heart. She keeps it real and says what every one else would only dare think. Author Kim Brooks, powerful and provoking writing style and insight into the joy, pain, fun and frustration of single living distinguishes her as an unforgettable rising star as a fiction author. Kim Brooks is living example that patience and prayer are the keys to perfect peace. Kim shares her triumphant lessons learned and inspires women to live victorious through her written works.

As a prolific author and motivational speaker, Kim Brooks reveals the hopes, dreams, choices and

difficulties that weave the life tapestry of every single woman encounters. In realization of her life long passion for writing, her debut novel: He's Fine But Is He Saved? (Driven Enterprises, December 2004, ISBN 0-97603-900-1) is a touching and powerful journey addressing the growing complex needs of single African American women in America. Kim shares with passion, conviction and humor, the reality of God's equipping power to live as a victorious single Christian. Detroit News (December 10, 2004, page 1H) lauded her book as a Terry McMillan like novel with a Christian twist...

Through the use of biblical principles and unfolding the intricate bonds of friendship, Michelle, Liz and Sandy, learn the importance of seeking Godly wisdom and knowledge in every relationship decision. Should I open the door again to a love once lost? How can I date and not fall into sexual temptation? Can I be single, celibate and satisfied? These probing, honest life-changing issues unfold in Kim's He's Fine. But is He Saved?

The novel encourages and empowers women to trust God with every area of their lives. Kim is a member of American Christian Writers/ Detroit

chapter and a graduate of Word of Faith Bible Training Center with a B.A. in English from Michigan State University. As a highly sought-after speaker and writer, Kim is committed to her personal testimony that young women have the ability and the responsibility to live emotionally healthy lives. Her novel demonstrates how women can live at peace with themselves while waiting on destiny to manifest their perfect love. Her inspiring message of faith, temperance and self-respect is demonstrated through her poetry, novels, raps are restoring and encouraging women across the nation. ■



Special to the Weekly Challenger
Kimberley Brooks

Baby Blends pair perfectly with well-balanced dressings

FRESH EXPRESS BABY BLENDS SALADS

Sweet Baby Greens: A tender mix of sweet lettuces like crunchy baby romaine, mellow baby leaf, ruby baby oak, sweet baby tango and the mellow taste of newly-introduced baby butter Salanova.

Sweet and tender, with a contrasting crunch, this baby blend balances well with a classic vinaigrette of white wine vinegar and a pinch of sugar. Add crumbled blue cheese or toasted walnuts.

White Wine Vinaigrette
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 teaspoon Dijon-style mustard
2 teaspoons minced shallot
6 tablespoons olive oil

Baby Spicy Spinach: Wild and wonderful, featuring flavorful baby spinach, peppery arugula, colorful red-vein spinach and pleasingly tart tatsoi.

The touch of spicy greens in this salad pairs well with assertive flavorful dressings. Try a vinaigrette with soy and sesame oil.

Sesame Vinaigrette
1/4 cup sesame oil
1/4 cup olive oil
3 tablespoons lime juice
2 tablespoons rice vinegar
1 tablespoon soy sauce
1 teaspoon sugar
1/4 teaspoon cayenne

Baby Spinach: No wonder America's consumption of this tender green has skyrocketed: It's delicate and flavorful, a deep emerald green, and is considered a "super food," loaded with essential vitamins, minerals and lutein. Classic as a salad, or add to sandwiches, soups and pasta.

The radicchio in this blend calls for a creamy dressing to meet and mute its assertiveness. Accent with crumbled feta or goat cheese and toasted croutons.

Walnut Oil Vinaigrette
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
1/4 cup walnut oil

Baby Spinach and Spring Mix: A 50/50 blend of baby spinach leaves and tender spring mix

Flavorful spinach melds with a bold nut oil, such as walnut, or a classic vinaigrette with mustard. Savory bacon complements spinach's rich flavor, so crumble and add some to this salad.

Red Wine Vinaigrette
2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 teaspoon Dijon-style mustard
2 teaspoons minced shallot
6 tablespoons olive oil

Baby Spring Mix: This gold standard of baby lettuce blends balances crisp baby romaine, flavorful baby spinach, sweet baby tango and a sprinkling of zesty young radicchio.

A combination of these two all-time favorites makes a perfectly balanced salad. Dress with a classic vinaigrette made with red wine vinegar. Add toasted pecans and chopped chives as accents.

Creamy Vinaigrette
(add cream with oil)
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
1 small shallot, minced
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
1/2 teaspoon Dijon-style mustard
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil
2 tablespoons heavy cream

Baby Veggie Spring Mix: Baby Spring Mix combined with garden fresh veggies including sweet carrots, sweet crunchy pea pods and small broccoli florets for variety, crunch and extra nutrition.

This hearty mixture of baby greens contrasted with crispy veggies pairs well with the fresh flavors of a lemon-herb vinaigrette or your favorite creamy vinaigrette. Make it a whole meal by topping with grilled chicken or shrimp.

Lemon-Herb Vinaigrette
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
3/4 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 teaspoon Dijon-style mustard
6 tablespoons olive oil

Baby Blends

A BOLD AND SASSY SALAD GENERATION ARRIVES IN STYLE



VIBRANT, COLORFUL AND ALWAYS FRESH. JUST LIKE YOU.



Who needs a special occasion to enjoy a mixed bouquet that's not only beautiful but, with proper care, guaranteed to stay fresh for seven days? To make sure only the best fills your vase, the flowers in Publix Premium Bouquets have more growing room. This produces more buds and bigger blooms in seasonal colors vibrant enough to brighten any room, occasion or day. Just like you.

Look for the gold tag.

