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Rick Gee's

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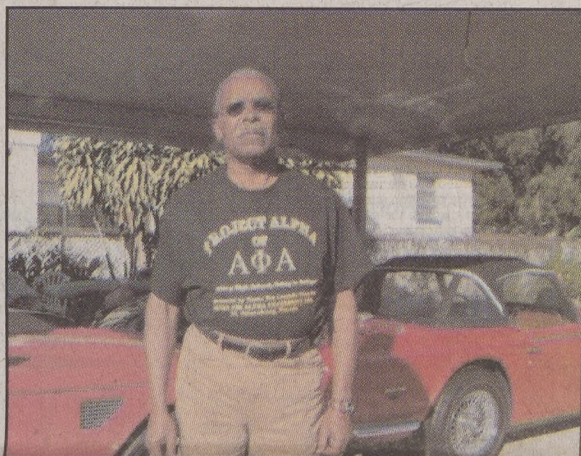
St. Pete Resident Collects Vintage British Sports Cars

By Rick Gee,
Correspondent

Yes! You read it correctly but I'll say it again! St. Pete resident collects vintage British sports cars. I've only known him and his wife for a short time. My special friend Yvonne Alsop introduced me to them about one year ago at a

social event in town. Subsequently, we've chatted not about any earth-shattering things, but the friendly type of banter one does during the process of getting to know one another. A short while back, I learned about his unusual hobby. It may not be unusual to YOU, but, to

Sports Cars
continued on pg. 2



Charley Williams

Rosalie Peck's Dream Comes True "St. Petersburg's Historic 22nd Street South"

Blanche L. Ganey

"It wasn't that Geech had the best barbecue in the world, even though many people would attest that he did, it was that Geech and his thriving barbecue business played an integral part in the success in the St. Petersburg black community and we claimed that little barbecue stand," Rosalie says smiling. Rosalie Peck is a native of St. Petersburg, who, with Jon Wilson has written a book "St. Petersburg's Historic 22nd Street South" with intriguing narrative that explores the history of St. Petersburg's most vibrant African American district. Powerfully rendered, and filled with personal stories, photographs and memories, this book is a tribute to the community's pride and perseverance.

"St. Petersburg's Historic 22nd Street South" is rich with memories. No other area of St. Petersburg, Florida, brings to African Americans the symbolic strength of this segregation-era thoroughfare. Many readers will fondly recall what 22nd Street South meant to the heart and soul during trying, turbulent and often, fearful times. Twenty Second Street South was a haven during brutal Jim Crow years. It was an oasis of hope. Citizens and businesses provided role models. Residents looked out for one another. It was the heart of a close-knit community that encouraged strong, positive values even as its members were treated as second-class citizens in the wider world.

The old 22nd Street South is long gone. Many landmarks have disappeared. But there is a wind of change blowing through the community. Like the Phoenix, 22nd Street is beginning to rise from its ashes, but the story of 22nd Street South, a story of pride, perseverance and triumph over adversity, continues to resonate. The book by Peck and Wilson is for everyone.



Rosalie Peck Historian and Author

It reflects research, and reminiscences of older citizens, who take pride in memories of yesteryear. Young readers can learn lessons from the struggles generations before them faced, as they keep their eyes on the prize of tomorrow. The story of 22nd Street South is a fascinating read that will interest, intrigue, and offer understanding to those who come later; and provide information of value for generations to come.

An interesting feature of the book is how it came to be. Jon Wilson's family moved to St. Petersburg in

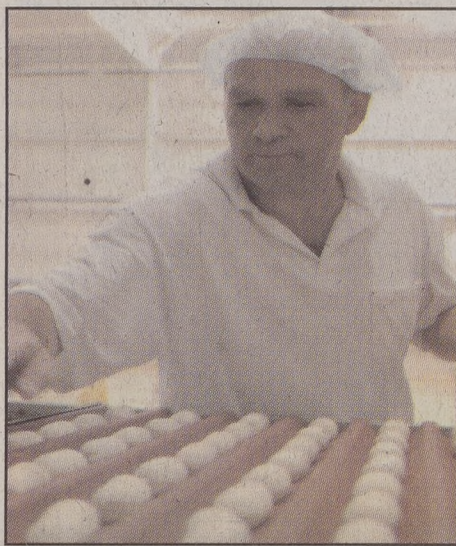
1956. He grew up in St. Petersburg. He attended segregated schools and only rarely had the opportunity to speak to a person of color until 1966, when he went into the United States Army. When he began his full-time newspaper career in 1971, he became interested in the history of all of St. Petersburg, not just the history in the era's books, which were mostly written from the White perspective. "It seemed like there were a lot of untold stories," Wilson said.

During a University of South Florida St. Petersburg course, Wilson wrote a paper about a horrific lynching of a Black man in St. Petersburg in 1914. "The topic of the paper was difficult. It was a terrible thing to happen. But it opened my eyes about some of the things Black people had to experience," Wilson said. His professor was Dr. Ray Arsenault, the John Hope Franklin Professor of History at the University of South Florida St. Petersburg. Dr. Arsenault's book, Freedom Riders: 1961 and the Struggle for Racial Justice, has just been published.

In 2002, Wilson did a newspaper project for the St. Petersburg Times about 22nd Street South because of the redevelopment activity there. He heard Rosalie Peck read her poem about 22nd Street at a meeting and later interviewed her for the newspaper project. "Rosalie just knocked me out. It was almost like we were destined to meet," Wilson said. The newspaper became a special section called "The Deuces." Not long afterward, Peck and Wilson decided to collaborate on a book. "It wouldn't have happened without Rosalie," Wilson said. "She suggested it. She was inspiring, enthusiastic, and had this love of history I couldn't resist. We would meet every week for a couple of hours and work on the book. Somehow, we had this chemistry that just clicked." So we're thrilled that

Peck continued on pg. 8

EURO Bake Grand Opening In Midtown



Euro Bake employee prepares bread.

Grand opening ceremonies for the newly expanded Euro-Bake, a wholesale German bakery located in Midtown at 1927 Fourth Ave. S., were held on Monday, February 6, at 3 p.m. City and business community

officials were on hand for ribbon cutting ceremonies at the new \$9-million facility. Constructed across the street from its previous home, the new 54,000 square foot building features state-of-the-art baking equipment and refrigerated storage facilities. The city welcomes the additional private investment in the Midtown area.

"Today we are continuing the progress to revitalize this integral part of St. Petersburg and proving that businesses that locate in Midtown will be successful," Mayor Rick Baker said.

The old plant remained in operation throughout construction during the past year, producing 24,000 to 30,000 cases a week of 164 different baked goods in three shifts to meet the demands of buyers like Walt Disney World, Cisco, and fine hotels such as the Renaissance Vinoy Resort. Euro-Bake goods, including

French baguettes, French rolls, ciabattas and other specialty breads, are also exported to accounts as far away as Hawaii, Costa Rica and the Caribbean.

Created in 1993 with three employees, the company currently employs 80 full time people. Expansion plans include doubling the current work force to 150 employees over the next few years and remodeling the former building into an artisan bread loaf factory. The city of St. Petersburg assisted the company in its expansion plans with land assembly, environmental issues and permitting. City Economic Development Director Dave Goodwin noted, "St. Petersburg continues to fuel the growth of the region through its redevelopment programs. Euro-Bake is an ideal example of the way the city has been able to attract this type of direct foreign investment."



Mayor Rick Baker and members of St. Petersburg's City Council attend ribbon cutting ceremony with Euro Bake owner Harty Gerhard and friends.

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MIDTOWN NEWS



Charley Williams standing with his sports car collection.

Sports Cars from front page

me quite unusual. And, now that I call Charles "Charley" Williams a friend, I can now say, I have a friend named Charley Williams who "Collects Vintage British Sports Cars". Prior to Charley clearing the air about what he actually collects, I had always referred to that particular hobby, as "collecting antique automobiles" oops, Wrong!

Last Saturday, I arranged to meet with Charley at his residence over on 25th Avenue South. As I approached the house by auto, and then by foot heading towards the front door, it was difficult to imagine anything being 'vintage' in or around the home. His was a beautiful, modern styled house situated on a well-kept street in the heart of town. As I continued to approach the front door, I couldn't help but ask myself, "Where in the world does he keep his collection of vintage cars?" Charley and his wife Frances both greeted me at the front door in their most hospitable manner, and I was sincerely charmed by their beautifully kept and warm home. Most of all, I was made to feel perfectly at home.

Charley went on to explain that he no longer actually collects vintage British sports cars, but at one time he owned

and maintained quite a few of them. He collected, restored and showed them, during which time he had two National Champions. One car, his first, he restored it himself, but for the others, he had specialists to handle. He collected Triumphs and had one Austin Healy. At present, he owns and maintains four vintage British sports cars, a 1973 Triumph TR 6, a 1966 BJA 3000 Austin Healy, a 1968 Triumph TR 250, a 1967 original factory Rally car (Rally cars are raced from country to country and timed for each race). Surprisingly enough, he purchased the Rally car on 4th Street, here in St. Petersburg. At the time when he first saw it, Charley thought it would make a good project to work on with the intent to restore it, in order to take it to a show. Originally he paid about three thousand dollars for the car, but today it's valued at close to thirty or forty thousand dollars. Charley and a friend basically redid the entire car, including the frame. He thinks it probably may be the best-looking Rally car in the country, or maybe even in the world.

Charley's first car was the 1968 TR 250, but at the time he was not collecting. This was a gift to himself after earning his Masters Degree from New York University. Purchased from a dealership on Broadway in New York City, Charley says the dealer was British, and gave him two bottles

of Champagne to celebrate. He and Frances, his wife drove the newly purchased car back to St. Petersburg. He thinks they may have spent somewhere between \$17 and \$20 dollars on premium gas, since a gallon of gas cost only 28 cents a gallon. Charley says he was not collecting vintage vehicles at that time, but once while at a repair shop someone suggested that he join a sports car club, which he did. He began to socialize with other members of the club with all their cars, etc. He and his friend then tore his car down and restored it. They took it to a show, just being curious, because they had never been to a show before in their lives. They didn't know what they were doing, but got a third place the first time they ever tried. So, he and his buddy said 'we can deal with this' and then after that, they started winning more and more. During the years Charley was showing his cars, he has won 'Best of Show' many times. Charlie says that his TR 250 was probably the most photographed car in the country. Although he's no longer involved with showing his cars, he remains a member of the Vintage Triumph Registry, an 'International Vintage Car' organization. Charley says, now that he's downsized, he only maintains the four cars and drives them around St. Pete once in awhile. Other than that, he considers himself retired from the 'Vintage British Sports Car Collector' business.

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Valentine's Day Is A Time For Lovers

by: Blanche Ganey

Love and commitment means different things to different people. February is the month of love. Love and commitment resonates in many ways, so we're letting two couples at different stages in their relationships share how they managed to keep the flames burning in their relationships. McKinley and Betty Hayward have been married over forty six years. They have two children, five grandchildren and two greatgrands. Timothy and Victoria Graham have been married twenty seven years. They have three grown children and ten grandchildren.

McKinley and Betty Hayward

1. How did you know you were right for each other?

"After being pursued by McKinley for many years, I knew that he really loved me and I loved him. Early on in the relationship, I saw this very caring young man, always thoughtful and he did everything to please me. We shared many of the same goals of raising a family and becoming productive citizens." "Betty was the prettiest young lady that I had ever seen. I saw that fine figure and man oh man she was smart. I just knew she would be my wife someday. After 46 years of marriage, I still see her as if it was the first day I laid my eyes on her."

2. How do you keep the flame going?

"We continue the dating game, and give love notes often. Do nice things for each other from time to time (not for a special occasion but just because...). Be romantic throughout the marriage. Romantic love is based on feelings; however, genuine love is based on commitment. It is the commitment, not romance that will carry a couple through the difficult times." "Always being honest, true and believing in the Lord. Remember to surprise her (flowers, perfume, dinner, etc.) from time to time."

3. What advice would you give to a new couple?

"Put God first in your lives. Never leave home or go to bed angry with your spouse. Respect each other's opinion, show your affections and love always. Don't forget say the words, I LOVE YOU! Spend time together, communicate openly. Communication! Communication!" "Talk to each other about everything, keep no secrets. Become a reliable provider and wise manager of family resources. There must be love and respect and commitment to marriage."

Timothy and Victoria Graham

1. How did you know you were right for each other?

"His caring eyes, his ability to make me laugh, he helped me clean my mom's house, wash dishes, hang up clothes and he killed a flying cockroach with his bare hands after I ran screaming from my families living room. My hero!"

2. How do you keep the flame going?

"Sometimes you get real busy and your mind will get so occupied that you don't want to even consider the thought of being intimate. Don't get caught up in the rat race of the world. Pray daily, slow down and smell the roses. We have a lot to be thankful for. Remember foreplay begins well before you get to the bedroom."

3. What advice would you give to a new couple?

"You have to be able to talk to one another. It's okay to vent to your friends but if you don't share with your spouse how will he or she know what's going on? Don't take each other for granted. Respect one another and choose your battles. You don't have to fuss and fight over every little thing. It's more important to get a resolution than it is to be right."



Timothy & Victoria Graham Then And Now.



McKinley & Betty Hayward



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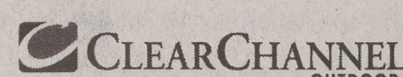
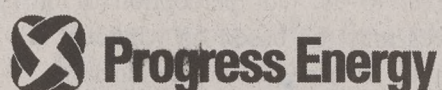
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The Weekly Challenger Newspaper

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.
- To know the events of our past (can help us) to know what future events can be.
- The *Weekly Challenger* is committed to featuring articles of all ethnic cultures for the reading enjoyment of both the young and old generations.

Yahoo, AOL to Charge Some E-Mail Senders

By Dan Goodin



SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - Two of the world's biggest e-mail account providers, Yahoo Inc. (YHOO) and America Online, plan to introduce a service that would charge senders a fee to route their e-mail directly to a user's mailbox without first passing through junk mail filters, representatives of both companies said Sunday.

The fees, which would range from 1/4 cent to 1 cent per e-mail, are the latest attempts by the companies to weed out unsolicited ads, commonly called spam, and identity-theft scams. In exchange for paying, e-mail senders will be guaranteed their messages won't be filtered and will bear a seal alerting recipients they're legitimate.

Both companies have long filtered e-mail by searching for keywords commonly contained in spam and fraudulent e-mail. AOL also strips images and Web links from many messages to prevent the display of pornographic pictures and malicious Web addresses. Both practices sometimes falsely identify legitimate messages as junk mail, making life difficult for businesses that rely on e-mail.

"We were hearing not only from members but also e-mail partners that they wanted a different way of delivering e-mail that would stand out in the inbox and would guarantee them delivery," said spokesman Nicholas Graham, adding that AOL, a division of New York-based Time Warner Inc. (TWX), will start offering the service in the next two months.

Company spokeswoman Karen Mahon said Sunday Sunnyvale-based Yahoo will begin offering a similar service in the coming months.

The plan, while it's optional and would apply to only a fraction of people sending e-mail, amounts to a reversal in the economics of the Internet because it would charge message senders rather than those receiving them. The current model has led to the proliferation of spam and so-called phishing scams because the people perpetuating them can turn a profit even when only a minority of recipients respond, analysts have said.

AOL and Yahoo said the program, which is being offered through a company called Goodmail Systems, will target banks, online retailers and other groups that send large amounts of e-mail. In exchange for a payment and a pledge to contact only people who have agreed to receive their messages, the companies would be ensured their e-mails aren't diverted to spam folders or have images or Web addresses filtered out.

The companies also would receive reports showing how many e-mails were received successfully. The American Red Cross, the New York Times Co. (NYT) and credit report company Experian have signed up with Goodmail to use the service, Graham said. AOL and Yahoo would get a cut of the fees charged by Goodmail.

Companies that don't want to pay a fee will be able to send e-mail to Yahoo and AOL members exactly as they have in the past, Graham and Mahon said

Italians are still Italian even if they speak no Italian and have never seen Italy. There are Polish people in this nation who define themselves as such even though the original Polish person in their family came to America four centuries ago. But what of the African American? We are the only people in this nation who continue to redefine ourselves based on things outside of our consciousness.

Now, I already know that we are not a monolithic people. Some of us will go one way and some will go another. That having been said, if you are not with me, I'd like you to turn away, because I will not be speaking to you or for you. I split African people from Black people in consciousness only. This is because they have two different ways of thinking. The Black man across the planet has embraced such titles as Negro, Colored, Afro-American, African American, Haitian, Jamaican, West Indian, Brazilian, etc. All of these titles are basically false, because travel to a land named "whatever" does not make you a person of "whatever" culture, or alter your cultural identity to "whatever." There is a physiology, a psychology and a spirituality that Africa delivers to the African across the globe whether you embrace it or not.

From nation to nation, we can feel the same musical rhythms, we can feel the same history of attack, oppression, separation and confusion and we can feel the same spirituality if we embrace these things. No matter where you happen to be born on the planet, there are things within you that make you the physical and spiritual manifestation of Africa. You can reject this ideology and become American, Canadian, or whatever, but reality is not your friend and you will continue to be confused while failing to evolve.

Black people who define themselves based solely on their land of residence are defining themselves based on self perception, which is sad, because all of the lands outside of Africa continue to reject us, even as many of us attempt to embrace them. People argue that we built America, and it is a great nation, so we should claim it as our own. I agree with that to a point, but because of the beautiful, rich and lengthy history of Africa, I would rather align myself with the history that begins on that continent than any nation. As an American, Black

history begins with slavery. African history begins with civilization.

The first human civilizations sprung up off the coast of river valleys in the eastern region of Africa, such as the Nile. Africa became the center of mathematics and science, as well as religion. Our legacy has been obfuscated and stolen, but it is still there for us to claim.

The invasion of so-called Western Civilization brought confusion, including the confusion centered in our very definition of self. We can embrace being Black, but only with the understanding that the most fundamental portion of being Black is being African. The most fundamental portion of being African is being balanced. Balance comes to us based on where we start our study.

Some people start studying history as Africans, and others start studying as Blacks. In both groups, many seem to concentrate on Black and/or African achievements without proper perspective. Without proper perspective—which involves an understanding of how an African or Black person arrived at their achievements—one can only marvel at the end result without having adequate information as to how these people arrived at the achievement.

We can trace many great inventions as well as math, science and art to Black people, but we will still have only a cursory attachment to those achievements as long as we fail to fully embrace an understanding of who those people were and how we are connected to them. That is why it is extremely important to embrace and celebrate the original consciousness of the African people, as opposed to the achievements of these people after they arrived in America.

We should eventually free ourselves from titles and move toward consciousness, but the evolution has to begin somewhere. Black History Month, which began as Black History week is a great concept, but it should continue to evolve as our consciousness evolves. It should be year round, and the celebration must be a constant inward journey of our self to the root of our existence, beginning with the re-evaluation of the modern African under Western thought.

Yes, Black people, it is time for us to plan on creating Black History. That begins with defining ourselves.

Black History or African History?

By Darryl James

(AP) It's Black History Month and wherever you are, you should be either studying Black History, or planning to create Black History. Instead of discussing some great achievements by Black men or Black women, I'd like to discuss the great achievements that lie ahead of Africans in America. Those great achievements can only occur after we define ourselves with some practicality and foresight.

When it comes to Black History, most Africans in America start studying sometime around the beginning of the slave trade and bring it through to about the middle of the twentieth century. That's a very short history for a people with such a rich background.

The problem is that we either define ourselves based on our attachment to America, or based on our attachment to Africa. As a people, we become fragmented, because some of us want no attachment to Africa and

some of us want no attachment to America. Further compounding the problem are two facts: One, that racist Americans (including some self-hating Negroes) want to deny us the birthright to this nation purchased by the blood, sweat and tears of our slave ancestors; and Two, that some confused and self-hating Africans (that will take another column to deal with) want to deny us the birthright to that continent based on our "impurity," after being mixed with other races over the centuries.

The argument really comes down to consciousness, because perception is reality. Whatever we perceive ourselves to be comes into existence. Our perception of ourselves does not have to be based on what the Devil's children in white or black face deliver to us. Our perception of ourselves must be based on whatever we deliver to ourselves. Personally, I believe that nearly every ethnicity in America except Blacks have it right.



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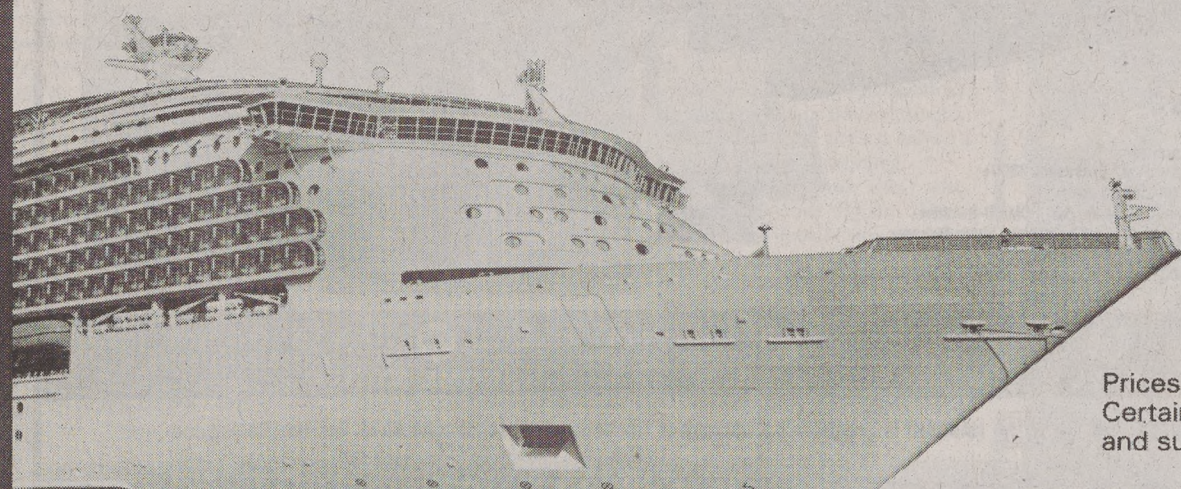
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Douglas L. Jamerson, Jr. Elementary School Plays Role In USF's Engineering EXPO 2006

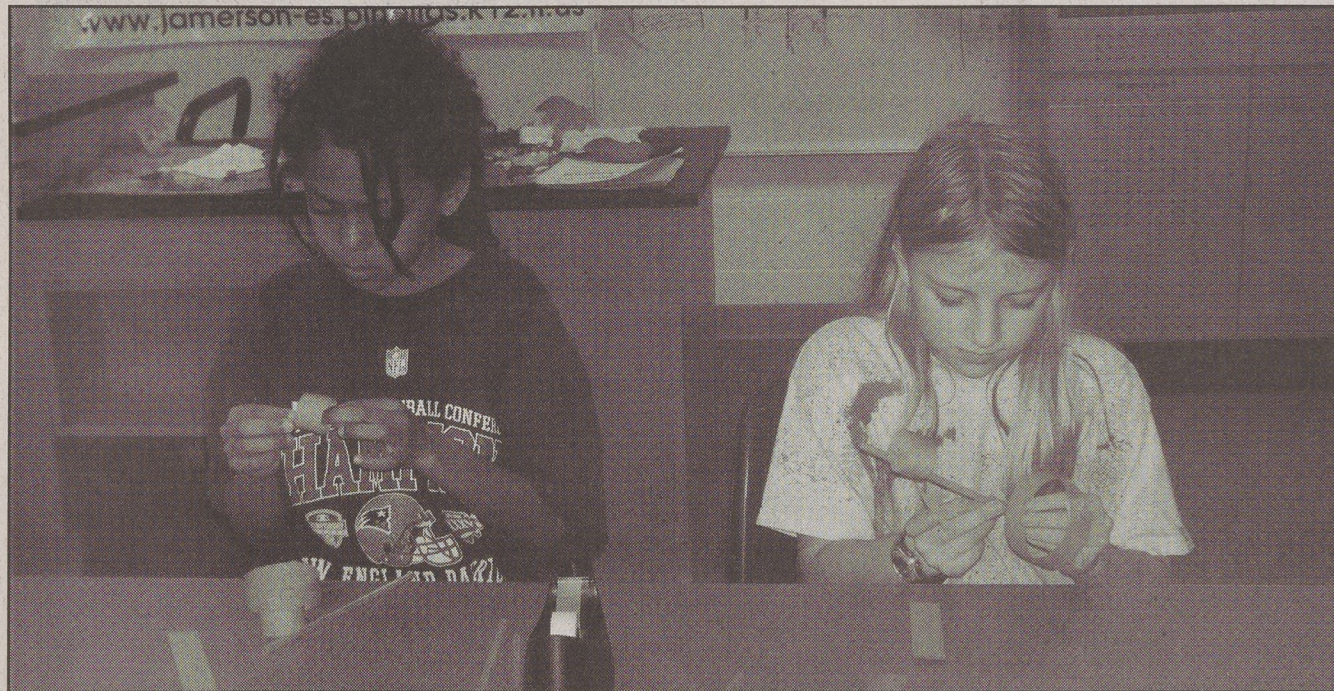
Douglas L. Jamerson, Jr. Elementary School in St. Petersburg will be participating alongside corporate sponsors in presenting Engineering Expo 2006 (<http://expo.eng.usf.edu>), presented by the University of South Florida College of Engineering and held on the USF Tampa campus Feb. 17 and 18.

Jamerson's Center for Mathematics and Engineering, now in its third year of emphasizing math and engineering topics in all grades, has been working closely with USF's College of Engineering to Engineering EXPO, an annual event started in 1973. According to Jamerson principal Robert Poth, Jamerson has similar goals to USF educators concerning raising student interest in science and engineering careers.

"We challenge our students to excel in all areas: math, reading, writing and the sciences," explains Poth. "However, Jamerson is one of only a handful of elementary schools in the USA offering the curriculum incorporating math and engineering."

Amid concerns that not enough students are pursuing careers in math and science, both the Jamerson program and efforts by the College of Engineering both aim at closing a gap in education by encouraging students early on to consider science and engineering career choices.

"With sound programs such as provided by Jamerson, future area business will benefit when more students choose the fields of math and engineering," said Paul McCright of the USF College of Engineering.



Future Engineers, Lenzer Evans and Jenni Hall

Engineering EXPO 2006 is free and open to the public. Festivities and events kick off at 9 a.m. each day and will include:

- Laser light show • Chemical magic show
- Fun with robots, biomedical engineering marvels
- Balsa bridge building contest • Flights of Fancy
- Journey to Understanding • Fun with physics
- Gumdrops and spaghetti tower competition
- Battlebots competition • Mousetrap car building
- Concrete canoes and steel bridge displays

For more information contact: Robin Little, Engineering Curriculum Coach, 727-552-1703 ext. 1095 or, Ava VanNahmen at avavn@tampabay.rr.com or 727-573-5318

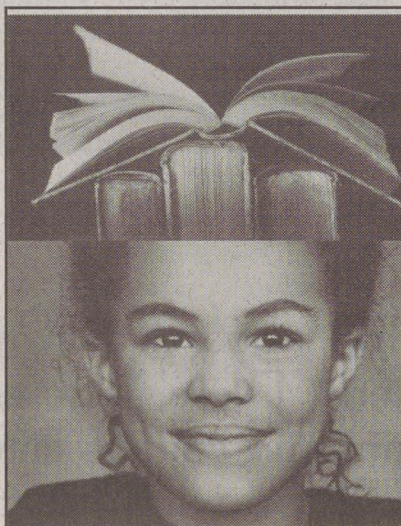
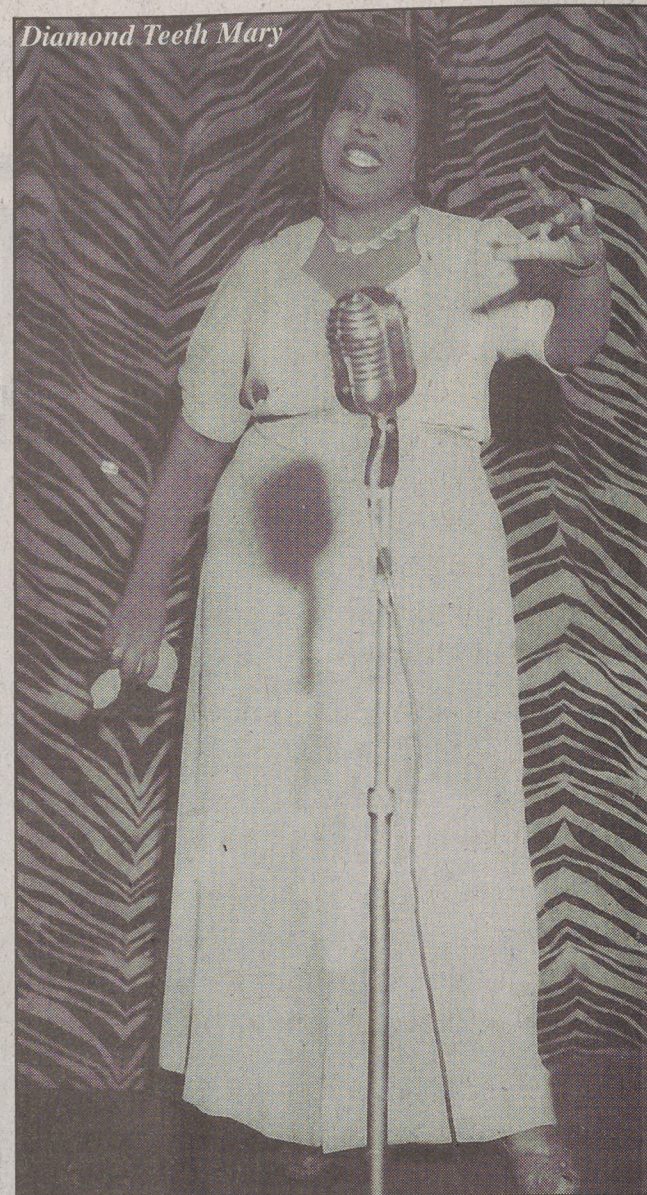
"Florida's Got the Blues"

The "Florida's Got the Blues" exhibit at the St. Petersburg Museum of History, features the artifacts of Diamond Teeth Mary, the undisputed "Queen of the Blues", and numerous other Florida blues artists who have national acclaim.

Originally the blues was improvised music which derived from plantation songs and ended up in the black churches sung unaccompanied.

Today, the blues have expanded into urban blues,

country blues, Chicago blues, and even electric blues. On Friday, February 3rd, the St. Petersburg Museum of History opened the exhibit to the public. The exhibit runs through May 31, 2006. A series of blues concerts, sponsored in part by the Al Downing Jazz Association, Pinellas County Arts Council and the Suncoast Blues Association will take place throughout the time of the exhibit. General admission prices apply.



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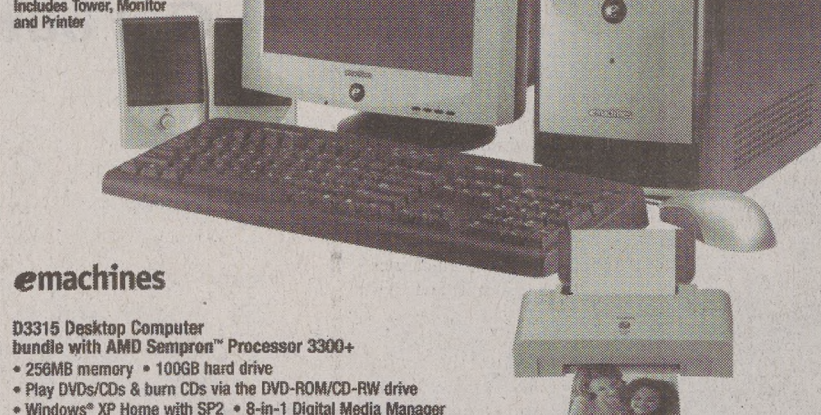
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TAMPA BAY AREA BRIEFS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH EVENTS AT ECKERD COLLEGE

Eckerd College is proud to announce its celebratory events for Black History Month. All events are free and open to the public. Fox Hall and Griffin Chapel are located on the Eckerd College campus at 4200 54th Avenue South in St. Petersburg. Call (727) 864-7979 for more information.

"Hotel Rwanda: A Lesson Yet to be Learned" Tuesday, February 28, 7:00 pm, Fox Hall

PAUL RUSESABAGINA, humanitarian portrayed in the 2004 Academy Award-nominated film "Hotel Rwanda" Ten years ago, as the country of Rwanda descended into madness, one man made a promise to protect the family he loved - and ended up finding the courage to save over 1200 people. Over the course of 100 days, almost one million people were killed in Rwanda. "Hotel Rwanda," nominated for three Academy Awards, tells the inspiring story of real-life hero Paul Rusesabagina, a hotel manager in Rwanda who used his courage to shelter over a thousand refugees from certain death. In November 2005, President George W. Bush awarded Mr. Rusesabagina the nation's highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Part of the Eckerd College Presidential Events Series.

ST. PETERSBURG BUSINESS ASSISTANCE CENTER TRAINING SCHEDULE

The St. Petersburg Business Assistance Center (BAC) offers free business training and counseling sessions to assist emerging and existing small businesses with business development. We are located at 33 Sixth St. S, Suite 301 (on the corner of 6th Street & 1st Av. S.). Our Web site at <http://www.stpete.org/bac>.

SPOKEN WORD POETRY SLAM - EVERY 1ST AND 3RD SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH

The African-American Arts Council Presents Spoken Word Poetry Slam every 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month at 8:00 pm located at Simply Natural Boutique, 1622 Central Avenue, St. Petersburg, FL 33712. For more information, please call (727) 820-0240. This event is FREE.

Run 4 Fun™ invites families to run, walk and help RMH

The 4th annual Suncoast Classic 10K & 5K, hosted by Pediatric Services of Florida, will be held on Saturday, February 11, 2006 at Baywalk. The race begins at 8 am. Runners and volunteers can register online at WWW.runforkids.com or at Baywalk center on Friday, February 10, between 11am and 7 pm. For more information please contact Pediatric Services of Florida at 727 767-8221 or infor@runforkids.com.

THE ST. PETERSBURG MUSEUM CELEBRATES BLACK HISTORY

St. Petersburg, Florida - St. Petersburg Museum of History "Wine and Cheese Lecture Series" continues on Thursday night, February 16th. In celebration of Black History Month, four local African American authors will be featured: Mary Nelson-Poetic Expressions of Life and Love, Quincy S. Smith-My Skin was My Sin and Rosalie Peck-Threshold First Book of Poetry. This event is sponsored by Reader's Choice Books & Gifts of St. Petersburg.

Keynote speaker, historian and author, Mr. Randy Lightfoot rounds out the event as the fourth author. Mr. Lightfoot is also the Supervisor of Social Studies for the Pinellas County School Board. Mr. Lightfoot will talk about local blacks who have made contributions within the Tampa Bay area. In addition, Virginia J. Scott, humanitarian and winner of the National Tolerance Award by the Southern Poverty Center, will show a civil rights film entitled "Faces in the Water." Members and guests pay only \$5.00, which includes food and beverages. To make reservations call Rinita Anderson in the Marketing Department at 894-1052 Ext. 205.



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St. Petersburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Bishop Thomas Weeks, III

to Keynote 2006 Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Prayer Breakfast

Bishop Thomas Weeks, III, a noted author, television, and conference host will keynote the 2006 St. Petersburg Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Thetas' 7th Annual Prayer Breakfast. The breakfast will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2006, 8:30 a.m. at the St. Petersburg Downtown Hilton.

Bishop Weeks has captured the hearts of people around the world because of his revolutionary nature and uncompromising stance to reach the multitudes by any means necessary. His powerful messages are captured in a number of books and his video series, including: "Teach Me How to Love You",



and his most recent "Even As Your Soul Prospers."

Weeks, III is the eldest son of Bishop Thomas Wesley Weeks and Leona Brown Weeks. He completed his public school education in the Delaware school system and attended the University of Delaware, majoring in Mass Communications. He holds an AA in Biblical Studies, a BA in Theology, and has earned a MA in Christian Counseling.

He along with his wife, prophetess Juanita Bynum Weeks established Global Outreach Ministries located in Atlanta, Georgia and Washington, D.C. Bishop Weeks is the father of one daughter Sydney.

Tickets for this event are \$30.00, call 727 867-6358 to purchase tickets or for additional information.

This year's event is chaired by Dr. Yvonne Williams, along with co-chair Armetha Williams.

Sharon Wilson is Chapter President.

QUAKER FRIDAY NIGHT FORUM

The Peace and Community Concerns Committee presents the second in a series of films developed by the A.C.L.U. to examine the state of our civil rights. "Beyond the Patriot Act". film and discussion to follow. February 10, 2006, time 7:00-9:00 pm at 130 19th Avenue S.E. St. Petersburg, FL (Quaker Meeting House) For more information call 727 896-0310 or 727 867-1212.

BLOOD DRIVE

From February 13 through February 25, all lifesaving donors who give blood at Florida Blood Services Donor Centers will receive a voucher for two FREE tickets to see the Harlem Globetrotters, a voucher for two FREE tickets to see the Tampa Bay Storm, and a wellness checkup of blood pressure, pulse, temperature and iron count, including a cholesterol screening, plus the opportunity to save lives.

BETHUNE-COOKMAN COLLEGE CONCERT

Directed by Dr. Rebecca W. Steele will perform a free concert Sunday, February 19th, 2006 at 4:00 pm at the Hope of Glory UMC, 2401 5th Street So. St. Petersburg FL, 33705. A free will offering will be collected. All monies from this concert will go toward scholarships for students attending Bethune-Cookman College. For additional information contact Pastor Allen at 727 822-6456.

TOASTMASTERS CLUB 2284 - EVERY TUESDAY AT 6 PM

Public Speaking Club meets every Tuesday at 6 pm in St. Petersburg at Piccadilly Cafeteria on 34th St & 22nd Ave. At Toastmasters Club 2284 you will overcome fear of speaking, develop self-esteem, improve leadership skills & have fun! Call 320-0107 for more information.

Lifeguards and Water Safety Instructors

Lifeguard training classes are offered to anyone 15 years or older. Classes are February 18 through March 4, Mon, Wed, Thur, 6-9 pm and Sat. 8:30 am - 3:30 pm at North Shore pool, 901 N. Shore Dr. NE or April 3 through April 15, Mon, Wed, Thur, 5-8 pm and Sat, 8:30 am-3:30 pm at lake Vista pool, 1450 60th Ave. S. The course fee is \$75. For more information call 893-7727.

"Read to Succeed" Family Read-A-Thon and Festival

Midtown Community Partners for Family Literacy Partnership presents its 2nd annual Black History month event "Read to Succeed" Family Read-A-Thon and Festival. The Front Porch Council is hosting the event at the Sanderlin Center at 2335 22nd Ave. South, Saturday February 25, 2006, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. More than 20,000 free books for families, storytelling, reading stories for children grades K-12 and free food. For more information contact Elder Martin Rainey 420-1326/866-2589 or Patty Van Alstine - 727/458-0627.



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THE SCIENCE CENTER

Black History Event, "Lighting the Flame"

St. Petersburg took a remarkable step forward in 1959 when the community came together to meet the needs of area youth's enthusiasm for science. The Science Center, a non-profit entity and the first of its type in the United States, was founded right here in our city.

This well equipped, well staffed facility has been fostering people's desire to learn more about the world around them for the past 47 years! The Science Center is located at 7701 22nd Avenue North. It sits on seven acres and features unique offerings to enhance science education including a 600 gallon marine touch tank, small animals and reptiles, two alligators, a wetlands exhibit, a replica of a 16th Century Indian Village, a Planetarium and a telescope observatory. The Center also houses an extensive display of African/American Scientists and Inventors.

More than 25,000 school children explore the Center on field trip classes each year and an additional 1,700 take part in winter, spring, and summer science oriented workshops. Scholarships are available for the Summer Workshops. Interested parties should call 727 384-0027 for more information. The Center also offers mobile outreach classes to nursing homes, ALFs, clubs and organizations and private schools. Among the mobile outreach programs is a special presentation for Black History Month focusing on African/American Scientists and Inventors. The Center is also the home of the Home Schooled Science Fair and the Pinellas County School's Elementary Science Expo.

The Center is also meeting the science interest of the entire community and all age

groups. It is open to the general public on Friday afternoons from 1-4 with Gator Feedings and special activities. There are computer classes for seniors 55 and above, workshops on science oriented topics, and groups and organizations may tour the Center and see a Planetarium Show by appointment Monday-Friday afternoons. Science centered birthday parties are another big hit and curators are available to help parents make the day very special with Astronomy and Animal Themed shows. Call Matt Allen for more information.

The Science Center also offers many events that are open to the public throughout the year. The next big event is "Lighting the Flame," scheduled during Black History Month on Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. This fundraiser for the Center is open to the public. The fee is \$25 for adults and \$15 for students. It highlights the Center's African/American Scientists and Inventors Display and will be emceed by Koco Eaton, M.D., local orthopedist. Speakers are: Captain Javin Peterson, USAF, who is stationed at MacDill Air Force Base and is the KC-135 aircraft commander in charge of refueling aircraft in Afghanistan and Chief Warrant Officer Tanja Johnson Gilchrist, US Army, who is working at CENTCOM and is in charge of audio, video and telecommunications between Tampa Headquarters and Qatar.

There will also be food and music presented by the Henry Ashwood Jazz Duo. Mr. Ashwood is an inventor and his Music Warmer and Lace Brace will be on display. Anyone interested in this event should call 727 384-0027 to make reservations. Tickets will be sent after the Center receives your

payment.

Other upcoming Science Events that are open to the public are:

Saturn Watch-March 24, 7:30-10. In cooperation with the St. Petersburg Astronomy Club, this FREE event will feature a lecture, Planetarium Show and Telescope Viewing. Call 727 384-0027 for specific times for each presentation.

Archaeology Day, March 18, 10-4 p.m. In cooperation with the Central Gulf Coast Archaeology Club, this FREE event will highlight the Center's Indian Village. Native Americans and club members will present dancing, singing, native crafts, food and Dr. Al Goodyear of the University of South Carolina will give a lecture on America's First Peoples. Call 384-0027 for more information.

As 2006 begins, the Science Center continues its dedication to inspire the interest in and understanding of science. The Center's web site, www.sciencecenterofpinellas.com, gives more information. The Science Center - where the staff is dedicated to helping you, "explore our world!"

Peck from front page



Photo by Becky Wilson

Authors, Rosalie Peck and Jon Wilson

History Press liked the book well enough to publish it. We're hoping that it will inspire others in the community to work on Black history. There are a lot of other stories to be told, and somewhere, there are some people, maybe some of them young people, who are going to tell them."

As a native of St. Petersburg, Florida, and prolific writer, Rosalie brought first hand experience and knowledge to the writing of the 22nd Street story. She grew up on Tenth Avenue South and 25th Street, only four blocks west of the famed corridor. Her ambition as a writer began at pre-school age and increased through the years. She is the author of

several books, including a book of poetry, which brought first prize for original poetry in The Museum of Fine Arts Second Annual Fairly Lillith Celebration of Women in Arts. She is currently writing a memoir, and editing a historical novel for publication.

She attended local schools and earned a B.A. degree from Bethune-Cookman College and master's degree in social work from Atlanta University. She has traveled extensively, and after retiring as social work supervisor from V.A. Medical Center Bay Pines, she became a docent at the Salvador Dali Museum, and active in several civic and political organizations. Peck was crowned Ms. Senior Florida in 1992. She was presented a Key to the City by former Mayor, David Fischer and presented a copy of her poem, "Remembering 22nd Street - The Way We Were," to the City of St. Petersburg during a city council Meeting. It now hangs in the office of Mayor Rick Baker. "To be published is my dream come true," she said. "And writing a book about 22nd Street with Jon Wilson was an awesome experience. It is a story that had to be told."



Children holding a snake at the Science Center.



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

About the Choice Student Assignment Plan

The School Board of Pinellas County has created a task force to make recommendations about the student assignment plan for 2007 and beyond. The task force is made up of individuals representing many organizations and communities in Pinellas. Task force members want to know what the community thinks about the current choice plan or possible changes for the future.



MAKE YOUR VOICE COUNT!

Outreach sessions to get input from the community are scheduled from 7-9 p.m. as follows:

Feb. 16, 2006	Tarpon Springs High 1411 S Gulf Road, Tarpon Springs
Feb. 22, 2006	Azalea Middle 7855 22nd Ave. N, St. Petersburg
March 2, 2006	Pinellas Park High 6305 118th Ave. N, Largo
March 16, 2006	Cypress Woods Elementary 4900 Cypress Woods Blvd., Palm Harbor
March 22, 2006	John Hopkins Middle 701 16th St. S, St. Petersburg

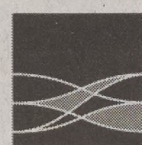
For more information about the Choice Task Force, visit www.pinellas.k12.fl.us or call (727) 588-5186.

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A devout believer in God, she was wholeheartedly devoted to peace, yet was a formidable force against racism, poverty, and war. Her journey of love on this earth touched countless lives. May her legacy of steadfast compassion continue to inspire the world.

Revitalization Meant Neighborhoods Disappeared

By Blanche Ganey

William C. Howard Jr. is one of many volunteers at the 22nd Street Redevelopment Corporation located at 1027 22nd Street south who has made it a point to be involved with the revitalization of 22nd street, to make sure the 22nd Street that he grew up knowing doesn't disappear. "The city told us they were going to revitalize the Methodist Town area, and the gas plant area and the next thing we knew it didn't exist anymore," says Howard. "We didn't know revitalize meant all of the neighborhoods and landmarks that meant so much to us would disappear."

Mr. Howard and his wife of 49 years, Annette, were just two of several concerned citizens who came together in 1994 out of desperation to form a committee to preserve as much of 22nd Street as they could. They were self appointed watchdogs doing what they could to preserve the history of the 22nd Street district. They realized that the area was depressed and was in need of revitalization, but they didn't want to lose the history and flavor of the community as had occurred in other areas.

The 22nd Street Redevelopment Corp has one full time employee, Sheryl Harvey, who is the Program Manager. She also manages the Florida Main Street Program, a technical assistance program administered by the Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, to revitalize traditional historic retail corridors. Sheryl grew up in Washington D.C. alongside a mother who was very involved in the volunteer work of the community. Sheryl attributes her dedication to the redevelopment corporation to her

early years volunteering in her DC community and learning what it meant to be connected and dedicated to a community. She's able to pass this enthusiasm on to the many young volunteers who volunteer for the corporation.

The corporation is an innovative nonprofit organization dedicated to redeveloping the Historic 22nd Street South corridor. They seek to create and enhance the quality of life of the community through economic development that attracts and sustains a diversity of visitors, investors, and residents. "Many people don't realize that the aerial telephone and cable wires that once lined 22nd Street have been removed. "They were moved to the alleys and buried underground," Harvey says proudly. She goes on to explain that it took many concerned and vocal citizens to make things happen. They also did the leg work to implement the needed crosswalks as well as the sidewalk improvements on 22nd street. The redevelopment corporation is the resource for these concerned citizens when they feel they have no other source.

Many surrounding neighborhood associations are involved with the round table discussions that have been held to make decisions about the district. Harvey says she welcomes the community and appreciates and respects their input. The 22nd Street Redevelopment Corporation is always in need of good volunteers, young and old. In fact, they would not be able to survive without them.

If you're interested in learning more about the 22nd Street Redevelopment Corporation call Sheryl Harvey at 727 322-8129.



Photo by Blanche Ganey
Manager Sheryl Harvey and Volunteer William Howard




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OBITUARIES



Iyanna Mo'nea Beard

Born February 18, 1992 in St. Petersburg, Florida to Ralph Beard and Kathleen Ferguson. Iyanna Mo'nea Beard passed away January 26, 2006.

Survivors to remember with cherished memories are her father Ralph Beard, mother and stepfather, Kathleen and Donald McCullum, stepsister, Tania McCullum, paternal grandmother Willeen Kelly, maternal grandparents Ralph and Thelma Ferguson, grandmother, Nancy and Percy Newsome, godmother, Shawana James, two God brothers, Marcus and Tyler; Dance Instructor, Delores Green. Several aunts, uncles, cousins, best friends, and a host of other loving friends and teachers that she admired.



Sarah F. Bellamy

Born April 29, 1938, in Kingstree, South Carolina to the late Trudie Frazier and Isaac Frazier. Sarah F. Bellamy passed away on January 25, 2006.

Her memories will forever be kept alive by her loving husband, Nathaniel Bellamy, son, Curtis Bellamy, daughters; Claudette Neal (Kurdice), Angela Ward (David), Stephanie Smith (Keith) and Cassandra Bellamy, a sister, Margaret Beaufort, brother, Richard Frazier, goddaughter, CedriAnna "Moolie" Haugabook, granddaughters; Levada Bellamy, Iesha Wilson, Ariel Neal and Ashley Smith, grandsons; Jovan Bellamy and Kurdice Hakeem Neal, great grandsons; Christopher Holloway and Juandarius Thompson, great granddaughters; Jamesha Harris and Zarria McKenzie, and many loving nieces, nephews, including Jermaine Bellamy, other relatives and loving friends.



Reverend Ulysee Brown, Jr.

Born February 8, 1946, in Stockton, Georgia to Teretha Brown and the late Ulysee Brown Sr. Reverend Ulysee Brown, Jr. passed away on January 29, 2006.

He leaves to cherish his memories his wife, Mary Brown of St. Petersburg, FL, four sons; Ralph, Marcus and LaRon Brown and Frostie Taylor all of St. Petersburg, FL., stepson Kenneth Burley of St. Petersburg, FL, two daughters; Felicia Seraphin and Tyeshia Taylor, both of St. Petersburg, FL., stepdaughter Nakita Burns, his mother Tereatha Brown, six brothers; Julius Brown, Curtis (Marie) Brown, David Brown, Don Brown, Roger (Alora) Brown, all of St. Petersburg, FL and Ronnie (Patricia) Brown of Clearwater, FL., three sisters; Bertha (Wayne) McKinney, Carolyn (James) Tanksley, both of Ft. Lauderdale, FL and Thelma Kendrick of St. Petersburg, FL, 15 grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives and loving friends.



Khwan Malik Davis

Born July 21, 1976, in St. Petersburg, Florida to Nettie Johnson and Mack A. Davis. Khwan Malik Davis passed away January 27, 2006.

He leaves to cherish his memories and rejoice in his home going his mother, Nettie Davis of St. Petersburg, Florida, father and stepmother, Mack A. Davis and Ora Miller, both of St. Petersburg, FL, brothers; Cornelius Gray and wife Jacqueline Strickland of Lake Mary, FL and Derichellieu Davis of St. Petersburg, FL, sisters; Nateyah Hudson of Bartow, FL, Terry Davis and Tara Davis, both of St. Petersburg, FL, grandmother, Lou Emma Jamison of Bartow, FL, grandfather, Robert Johnson of Bartow, FL. Aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews and nieces, best friend and a host of other relatives and friends who will miss him dearly.



Larry Nathaniel Whitfield

Born August 7, 1954 in Jefferson County Georgia to the late Mr. Henry & Mrs. Essie Whitfield. Larry Nathaniel Whitfield passed away on January 25, 2006.

Survivors include his wife of 28 years, Florine, four sons; Larry Jr., Antwan Brown, Elroy Reynolds, Frank Oliphant, two daughters; Michelle and Shantell Whitfield, all of St. Petersburg, FL, five sisters; Love Mae, Maggie Lee, Evaline Whitfield, Dublin GA, Lucy Oliphant, Wrens GA, Ema Mae Whitfield, Pompano, FL; and 14 grandchildren, and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles.

The Weekly Challenger

Obituary Section Guidelines:

- Photos are printed in black and white only
- Deadline for submission is 4 p.m. Monday
- Obituaries can be delivered or e-mailed to wceditor@tampabay.rr.com



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RELIGIOUS NEWS

CHURCH EVENTS LISTING

FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

"When one door of happiness closes, another opens, but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the other one which has been opened for us."

Helen Keller

All of us have a great need to hear that "still small voice" of God so that we can receive His guidance and know more about the plan He has for our lives. Have you heard His voice lately? Do you know what his plan is for your life? In order to hear his voice and form communication with God, we must first allow Him to speak to us by placing His thoughts; not our thoughts, in our minds. We need to allow Him to speak to us through reading His word, and humbling ourselves.

Anyone who humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Matt. 18:4

Give God all the praise, honor and glory for what He has done in your life. Praise and thanksgiving always proceeds from a heart that is receiving God's love and from hearing His "still small voice."

The FriendSHIP Missionary Baptist Church family, its dynamic leader, Dr. John A. Evans, and the official staff cordially invite you aboard the "SHIP" for a new and different worship experience. Come join us, come sail with us as we journey through the month of February seeking to help save those who are lost.

We extend to you a most gracious, warm welcome this coming Sunday and the entire month of February, at 3300 31st Street South.

UPCOMING EVENTS THIS MONTH:

Feb. 11	Church School Meeting	10:00 a.m.
Feb. 12	Church School	9:00 a.m.
Feb. 12	Early Morning Worship	7:45 a.m.
	Mid-Morning Worship	10:45 a.m.
	Married Couples Recognition	10:45 a.m.
	Mission Workshop	1:30 p.m.
Feb. 15	Noon Day Bible Study	12:00 p.m.
	Mid-Week Prayer/Bible Study	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 16	Associate Ministers Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Feb. 19	Singles Recognition	11:00 a.m.
	Worship at First Baptist Institutional Church	4:00 p.m.
Feb. 24-25	Married Couples Workshop (N.B.C.) Tallahassee, Florida	
Feb. 25	Ushers Workshop	9:00 a.m.
Feb. 26	Youth Freedom Celebration	4:00 p.m.

Please visit our website at www.Fmbcsheship.org for further information regarding our church and its Holistic Ministry.

BETHEL METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Bethel Metropolitan Baptist Church extends an invitation to join us in the celebration, cultivation and communication of His Word. The doors of God's House in the city swinging on welcome hinges are open for both 8:00 and 11:00 am services on Sunday, Sunday school at 9:30 am, Bible Study and Teen Summit on Wednesday evening, at 7:00 p.m. The Missionary Society Ministry will be in charge of the 11:00 am service on Sunday.

The Youth Ministry began Black History Month with an awesome tribute to Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King. Black History Month coordinator Sharion Thurman-Reeves and Youth Director Angela Lockhart

had promised the ministry would have many innovative as well as informational tributes throughout the month, and if their first is a declaration as to what will come they will more than live up to their promise. We will also observe our annual African Attire Day, Sunday, February 19th and Soul Food Fest on Sunday, February 26th after the 11:00 am service.

The Singles Ministry of Bethel is looking forward to St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church Singles Ministry Fellowship on Saturday, February 11th. Transportation is available for those in need. The van will leave the church at 6:15 pm.



PENTECOSTAL TEMPLE COGIC

The Pastor's Aid Committee did a wonderful job presiding over the fifth Sunday service. It was a jubilant service filled with the praises of God. Pastor William Anderson blessed us with the Word of God from the subject of being "Justified by Faith." He stated that God's grace places us into a state of happiness because we are standing in God's lovingkindness and we are justified (made righteous) by our faith. What a wonderful privilege it is to be able to approach God and find grace to help us in our times of need! (Hebrews 4:16) Mother Hattie Bembry serves as president of our Pastor's Aid Committee.

The first Sunday service was filled with rejoicing as we lifted high the name of the Lord in praise and testimonies of His goodness. Pastor Anderson preached an awesome message from the theme of "Celebrating a Priceless Heritage." Scripture text was taken from Mark 7:24-30. Because of our faith, we have been adopted into

the family of God and now have all the rights and privileges of His children. The Presence of God was great among us as we received the word of prayer and the service of Holy Communion.

On Thursday - Saturday, February 9-11, The M. L. Sconiers 2006 Annual Men's Retreat will be held at the Radisson Hotel at 12600 Roosevelt Boulevard in St. Petersburg. Superintendent Willie Matheny of the Western Florida COGIC, St. Petersburg District is the host superintendent. Pastor William E. Anderson will host the Friday night service at Pentecostal Temple COGIC, 2230 22nd Street South. The speaker for that evening and guest clinician is Bishop Jerry Macklin. Bishop Macklin is a General Board Member of the International COGIC and serves the Nor Cal Metropolitan Jurisdiction in California. The service will begin at 7:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

MT. ZION PROGRESSIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Murphy is preaching a dynamic series, "Marriage; God's Idea". Come join us for Sunday worship at 7:45am or 10:00am.

Learn to "Handle Your Money God's Way". Crown Ministry classes will begin on Monday Feb 13th at 7:00pm. Classes are offered on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Open to all members and non-members. Contact the church office at 894-4311 for more info.

The Health and Wellness Ministry is offering Aerobic classes every Saturday at 10:00am.

Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts meet every Monday at 6:30pm.

C.A.R.E. (Choosing Addiction Recovery Efforts) will meet every Tuesday at 7pm in the Youth House located at 1022 20th Street So. If you or someone you know has an addiction, please contact Minister Keith Murphy at 321-3440.

Youth Programs! GED Classes are held Monday - Thursday 9am - 11am in the Genesis building. Transportation

is available. Contact Karen Marshall for more info at 894-4311.

Mt Zion Human Services and the Youth Opportunity Center provide after school training & tutoring for youth ages 14 - 18. Assistance with FCAT, ACT/SAT prep is available. Earn your GED and an opportunity to win a free computer. There is also Connection to Careers, Junior Achievement, Job Shadowing, Workplace Internship and more for youth ages 16-18. For more information please call the Human Services office at 894-4311 ext. 300.

All are welcome to join us each Sunday for morning worship at 7:45am and 10:00am. Wednesday night prayer begins at 7:00pm and Bible Study at 8:00pm.

Need a ride to church? Call us at 894-4311 ext 801 at least one day in advance.

Visit our web site at: www.mzprogressive.org

The Twenty-Third Psalm

*The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want. He maketh me to
lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside
the still waters. He restoreth my soul;
He leadeth me in the
paths of righteousness for
His name's sake. Yea, though I walk
through the valley of the
shadow of death
I will fear no evil;
for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me
in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil;
my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I will dwell in the house
of the Lord forever.*



Celebrate the Occasion

Church Functions
Annual Conventions
Revivals * Initial Sermon
Class/ Family Reunions
Banquets * Anniversaries
Musical Programs
Gospel Music Video

727-328-8037

BankBlackwell To Present At Atlanta's Cascade United Methodist Church

First Black Internet Bank Focuses on African American Church Community



Boston, — BankBlackwell, a bank in organization, announced today that on February 11, 2006 Bank organizers will provide members of Cascade United Methodist Church its Road Show presentation. The Road Show presentation is a gathering of church members at which information about the Bank is provided to prospective investors. Reverend Walter Kimbrough, Cascade's Senior Pastor, became interested in the Bank's mission after a breakfast meeting with BankBlackwell President James R. Mundy and Board of Director Nominee Kenneth Hudson. During recent Sunday services, Pastor Kimbrough encouraged church members to attend the upcoming Road Show presentation.

With as few as 500, or approximately 7 percent, of Cascade's 7000 members investing at the Banks 100-share or \$1,000 minimum subscription, Bank organizers could raise \$500,000 during this ground-breaking community event.

In January 2006, BankBlackwell announced its Church Investment Program (CIP). The goal of

the CIP is to create an alliance with the African-American church community that promotes economic empowerment, wealth creation and increased home ownership within the community. BankBlackwell President James R. Mundy said the Cascade Road Show is a natural extension of the CIP and one that is being embraced at churches across the country.

BankBlackwell is offering up to 1,664,000 shares of its common stock at a public offering price of \$10.00 per share. The Bank is offering its common shares directly to individual and institutional investors, as well as churches. Net proceeds will be used principally for general corporate purposes, including initial working capital and support of loan and deposit growth.

BankBlackwell intends to operate as a savings bank focused on offering selected financial services over the Internet to African-American individuals and churches and to those consumers who seek value and convenience. BankBlackwell has received approval from the Office of Thrift

Supervision to organize as a federal savings bank and has also received approval for federal deposit insurance from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. BankBlackwell currently plans to open for business in the second quarter of 2006, subject to its completion of the common stock offering and its satisfaction of all regulatory requirements.

A registration statement relating to the common stock has been declared effective by the Office of Thrift Supervision. BankBlackwell has not registered the common stock under the Securities Act of 1933 or any applicable state or foreign securities laws. This press release shall not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy, nor will there be any sale, of the common stock in any state or jurisdiction in which such an offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful. The offering of the common stock is made only by means of an Offering Circular.

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Youth Gospel Ensemble & Mime Team**

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Sarasota, FL

Mt. Raymond Full Gospel Spiritual Youth & Young

Palmetto, FL

Adult Choir

Mt. Raymond Full Gospel Spiritual Dancers

Palmetto, FL

Judah

St. Petersburg, FL

Boca Ciega High School Gospel Choir

St. Petersburg, FL

Anointed Warriors of Praise

Bethel Community Baptist Church

St. Petersburg, FL

The Brothers

20th Street Church of Christ

St. Petersburg, FL

Royal Theatre Youth Gospel Ensemble & Mime Team

St. Petersburg, FL

Tickets Are On Sale Now!!!

Praise Time 5pm

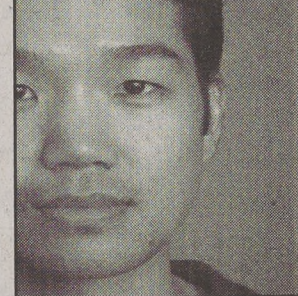
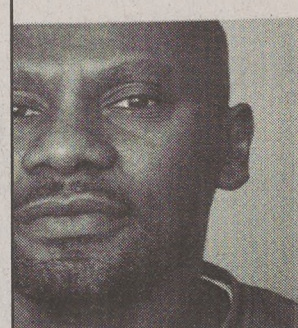
Saturday February 18, 2006

Buy your tickets now. Admission \$8 Adults and \$5 Youth Seats are limited.

Royal Theatre Box Office

1011 22nd Street So., Midtown St. Petersburg 727.327.6556

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Some Day**

The Weekly Challenger

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: sjpbce@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

Elder Benjamin Adams, Jr.,
Senior Pastor

Theme: "Movers of the Christ Purpose"

Edifying the Church; Evangelizing the Community (Acts 1:4-8)

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The House of God
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
Bible Study



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Daughters of Zion Women's Ministry -

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Sabbath Morning 10:30 a.m.

Sabbath Evening 1:30 p.m.

Sunday Available for Service

Pastor Johnny L. Williams, Jr.

bishopwilliamsstampa@hotmail.com

Mondays - 7:30 P.M.

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Sabbath School

Praise & Worship Service

Church: 813-248-1907

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Greater St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church

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

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship 6 p.m.

Baptist Training Union 5 p.m.

Tuesday Night

General Bible Study

Thursday Night Prayer

Meeting & Teachers Meeting



Rev. Clyde Williams

We welcome you at all times.

BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

REV. JIMMIE B. KEEL, PASTOR

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

912 Third Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33705

Phone: 727-822-2089

Church School 9:00 A.M.

New Member Class 9:00 A.M.

Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.

Prayer / Bible Study Tuesday 7:00 PM.

Youth Bible Study Thursday 6:00 PM.

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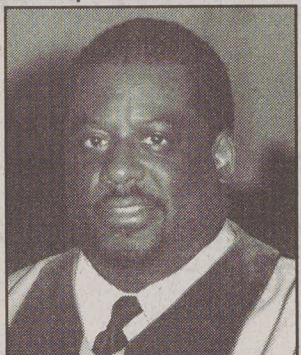
REV. WAYNE G. THOMPSON, PASTOR

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:30 A.M.

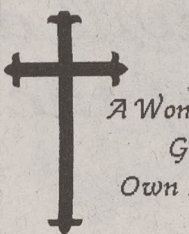
MORNING WORSHIP - 11:00 A.M.

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Lady James C.
Givens Pastor

Sunday (Church) School.....9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship.....11:00 a.m.

First Sunday Worship.....7:45 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study7:00 p.m.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

BETHEL METROPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH

3455 - 26th Avenue South, St. Petersburg, FL 33711

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

E-mail: bchurch5@tampabay.rr.com

www.bmmbc.org

Sunday Worship Services 8:00 am • 11:00 am
 Sunday School 9:30 am
 Prayer Meeting (Wednesday) 7:00 pm
 Bible Study 7:30 pm

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Rev. Rickey L. Houston

L. P. Davis Memorial Baptist Church

2700 5th Ave. So., St. Petersburg, Fla.

Rev. Darrel Davis, Sr.
Pastor

Sunday School.....9:30am
 Morning Worship.....11:00am
 Evening Service.....6:00pm
 Prayer Meeting, Bible Study
 Wednesday.....7:30pm
 727-327-2009



GREATER MT. ZION AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

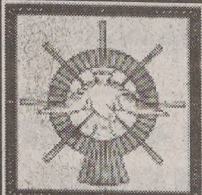
email: mchurch1@tampabay.rr.com

Website: www.greatermtzioname.org

Early Morning Worship7:30 a.m.
 Sunday School9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship11:00 a.m.
 Monday - Bible Study6:00 p.m.
 Wednesday
 Vintage Bible Study11:00 a.m. - 12 noon
 Prayer Service6:00 p.m.
 Mid-Week Service7:00 p.m.
 All Male Bible Study, Thursday6:30 p.m.

Rev. Clarence Williams,
Pastor

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Bible Study Fellowship 6:30 PM (Wed.)

The Reverend Aaron V. Gaskin Associate Pastor
 Finance Ministry James Robinson
 Children & Youth Ministry Joyce Robinson
 Clerk Ministry Wyvonna McGee

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

STEWART-ISOM MEMORIAL

CHRISTIAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1820 Walton Street S.

St. Pete, FL 33712

(813) 327-0593

Rev. A. Anthony Robinson III

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Bible Study: Thursday, 7:00 p.m.

Phillipians 3:14 "I press towards the mark for the
 prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus"



Lakeview Presbyterian Church

1310 22nd Avenue South - St. Petersburg, FL 33705

(727) 822-0784

Sunday Worship - 10:30am (Nursery Provided)
 Sunday School (Adults and Children) - 9:30am
 Sunday Choir - 9:30am
 Gospel Choir - Mondays 6pm
 Bible Study - Wednesdays 6pm
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Rev. Todd and Ceska Sutton

"Doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with our God."

10th Street Church Of God

207 - 10th Street North • St. Petersburg, FL 33705

(727) 898-9407

Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
 Wednesday Evening Prayer.....6:30 p.m.
 Wednesday Night Bible Study7:30 p.m.

The church where what God's word teaches
 is practiced!



Rev. Ronald L. Bell, Pastor

Pentecostal Temple Church of God in Christ

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

(727) 894-6764 • (727) 550-0388

Elder William E. Anderson, Pastor

Morning Glory Sunday 9:00 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.

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

Macedonia Freewill Baptist Church

Elder: Tony Smith

900 - 16th Avenue South • St. Petersburg, Florida 33705

Office (727) 895-4900 • Fax (727) 895-4990

Pastor (727) 895-2119

Sunday Morning Service 8:00 a.m. • Sunday Mid-Morning
 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Prayer Meeting, Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

Communion is observed quarterly the first Sunday after every 5th Sunday.
 The Church Where Everyone is Welcome

M
F
W
B
C

Queen Street

Church Of God In Christ

1732 9th Avenue South
 St. Petersburg, Florida 33712
 (727) 896-4356

Elder A.P. Conage, Pastor

8:00 A.M. - Sunday Service 9:00 A.M. - Tuesday Prayer
 9:30 A.M. - Sunday School 7:00 P.M. - Wednesday Bible Study
 11:00 A.M. - Morning Service

YPWW First and Third Sunday of
 Each Month after Morning Service



20th Street Church Of Christ

820 20th Street South

St. Pete, FL

Home: 896-8006



Bro. Robert Smith

Sunday Morning Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
 Sunday Morning Worship10:30 a.m.
 Ladies Bible Class Monday7:00 p.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship5:00 p.m.
 Monday Evening Bible Class7:00 p.m.
 Wednesday Evening Bible Class7:00 p.m.

NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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

(727) 896-5228

Rev. Carlos Senior
Pastor

Sunday Services:

Church School 9 am
 Praise & Worship Service 10:30 am

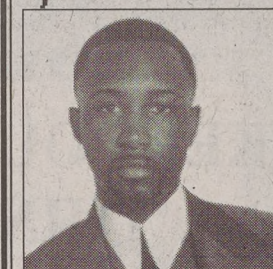
Wednesday Services:

Midweek P.U.S.H. (Prayer Meeting/Bible
 Study) 7 pm

"One Body, One Spirit, One Hope"

Greater King David International Church

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



Rev. G. M. Curry

Early Morning Worship.....7:00 a.m.
 Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship.....10:50 a.m.
 Baptist Training Union.....4:30 p.m.
 Communion.....7:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
 Prayer Meeting & Bible Study
 Wednesdays.....7:30 p.m.

"The Church Where Everybody Is Somebody"

DOMINION WORSHIP MINISTRIES

"Come Take Dominion Over Your Life Now"

Sunday

8am, 10am Morning Worship
 1st & 3rd Sunday
 5pm Evening Celebration

Monday

Noonday Prayer
 7pm Hour of Power Prayer

Wednesday

Noonday Prayer
 5:30-9:30pm
 "Inside the Family"

Thursday

Worship & Performing Arts Ministry

Monday, Wednesday, Saturday

6am Prayer

Pastor & Lady Doyle P. Scott, Sr.
Partners in Ministry

DOMINION WORSHIP MINISTRIES
 4016 - 12th Avenue South
 St. Petersburg, FL 33711
 727-321-8574 - dwc.tripod.com

ST. AUGUSTINE'S ANGLICAN/EPISCOPAL CHURCH INVITES THE CITIZENS OF ST. PETERSBURG TO JOIN US FOR OUR

HOMEcoming FESTIVAL CELEBRATION
 SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12, 2006 AT 9:00 AM
 2920 26TH AVENUE SOUTH

CELEBRATING OUR PAST - WELCOMING OUR FUTURE
 SPECIAL MUSIC IN HONOR OF
 BLACK HISTORY MONTH
 PLEASE JOIN US!

ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

3200 Fifth Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33712

(727) 327-1373

Early Morning Worship.....7:30 a.m.
 Sunday School.....9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study & Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.
 Friday Prayer Meeting.....11:00 a.m.

"Raising A Standard For God's People In God's Church"Rev. Norris L. Martin, Sr.
Pastor

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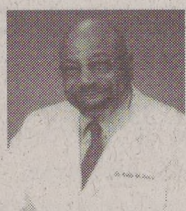
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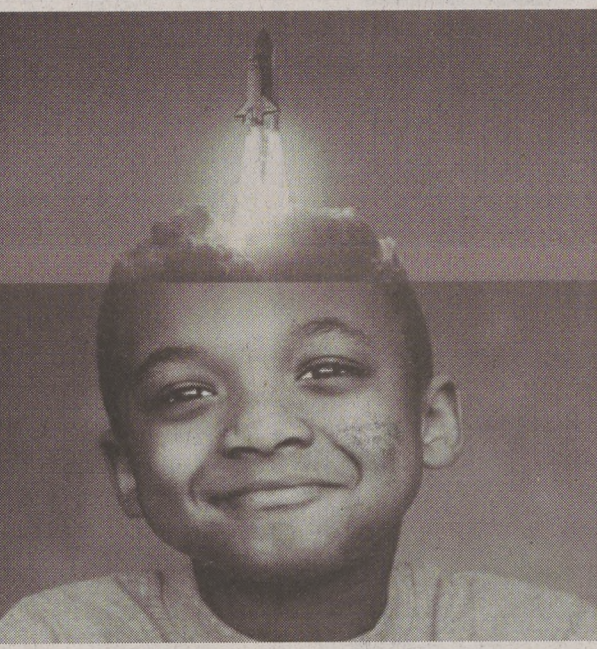
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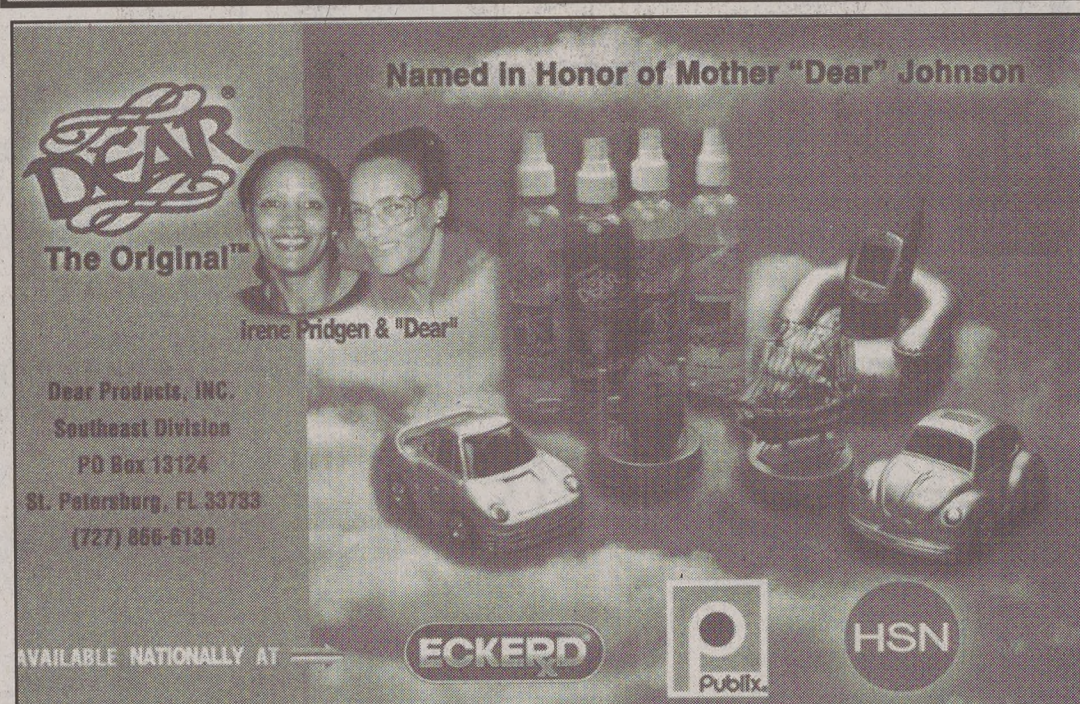
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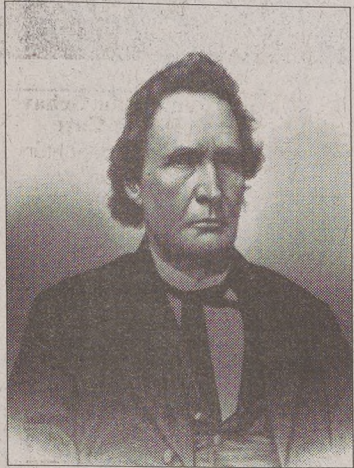
DOG DAYS



5-8 3-1 2-5
4-6 7-8
1-5

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY

February 5:



Congressman Thaddeus Stevens

• **1866** – Congressman Thaddeus Stevens, one of the great white heroes of black history, offers his famous amendment to the Freedman's Bureau bill to use land confiscated from former slave owners as well as some public lands to guarantee each adult former slave "40 acres and a mule." However, even after the Civil War there was enough anti-black and pro-South sentiment in Congress to defeat the measure 126 to 37. If the Stevens measure had passed, it may have changed the entire course of black history in America for the former slaves would have had a solid economic foundation upon which to build their new lives and the poverty which plagued African Americans for the next 100 years could have been prevented.

• **1934** – Henry "Hammerin Hank" Aaron was born on this day in Mobile, Alabama. The baseball great and eventual home run king began his career with the old Negro Baseball League playing for the Indianapolis Clowns before joining the Atlanta Braves in 1954.

• **1945** – Jamaican Reggae legend Bob Marley is born on this day Robert Nesta Marley in Nine

Miles, Saint Ann, Jamaica. He used his music not only to entertain but to tirelessly spread Reggae and the Rastafari religion from Africa to Europe and the U.S. Much of his music deals with the struggles of the impoverished and the oppressed. Marley died from complications due to cancer in Miami in May 1981.

February 6:

• **1933** – Tennis star Arthur Ashe dies on this day after contracting AIDS from a 1988 blood transfusion. Ashe was the first African American to win at Wimbledon defeating Jimmy Connors in the finals in 1975. Born and raised in Richmond, Virginia, Ashe was also known for his activism in various social causes. Once asked what type of attitude was required of a champion, Ashe responded, "The ideal attitude is to be physically loose and mentally tight."



Arthur Ashe

February 7:

• **1883** – Eubie Blake is born James Hubert Blake in Baltimore, Maryland. Along with Noble Sissle, he popularizes Ragtime music. The genre

had its birth in black bars and whore houses in Southern and Midwestern cities. But Sissle and Blake took it mainstream with hits ranging from the "Charleston Rag" to "I'm Just Wild About Harry" to "Shuffle Along." Blake died when he was 100 years old on February 12, 1983.

• **1926** – Comedian-actor Chris Rock is born on this day in Andrews, South Carolina. He is the oldest of seven children.

• **1978** – Leon Spinks defeats Muhammad Ali and captures the heavy-weight boxing championship. Ali regains the title in September of the same year becoming the first person to win the title three times.



Eubie Blake

February 9:

• **1944** – Award winning novelist Alice Walker is born in Eatonton, Georgia. She is known for "telling the black woman's story." Perhaps her most famous novel was "The Color Purple."



Alice Walker

• **1992** – Renowned author Alex Haley dies. He was also a biographer and scriptwriter. Haley is perhaps best known for the novel "Roots" which became a major television series and for the "Autobiography of Malcolm X." Haley was born August 11, 1921 in Ithaca, New York.

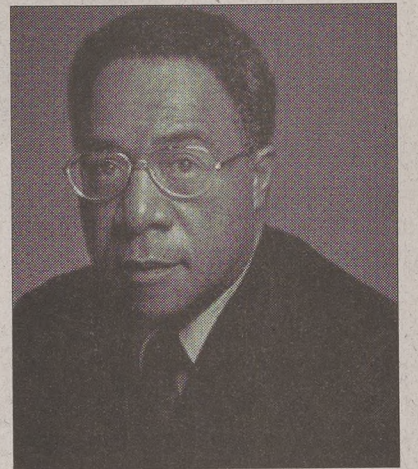
February 11:

• **1644** – Eleven blacks confront the ruling Council of New Netherlands (later New York) with a petition demanding their freedom. This was probably the first legal protest action by blacks in American history. The petition is granted and the blacks are freed because they had worked off the terms of their indentured servant contracts which were usually for seven years. But these blacks had worked for up to 18 years. Shortly after this victory, however, no more blacks were allowed such contracts but were instead treated as slaves for life.



Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela

• **1990** – Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela is released from prison on Robben Island after 27 years. He had been jailed for his militant activities against the then white-ruled South African government and its system of rule known as Apartheid. Mandela would go on to become the first black and first democratically elected president of South Africa (1994-1999). He enabled a peaceful transition to black majority rule. Mandela is now one of the most respected and admired men in the world. In South Africa he is known as "Madiba" – an honorary title given to elders in his tribe.



Alex Haley



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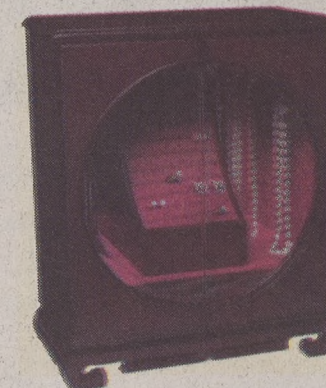


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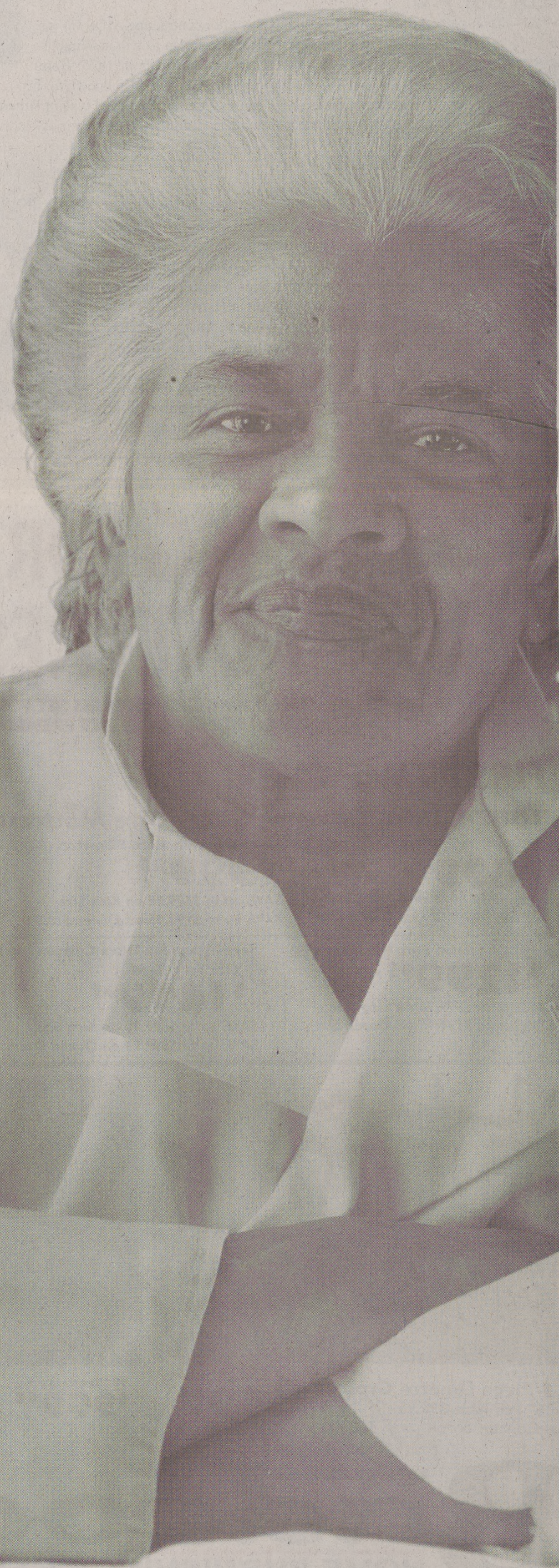


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