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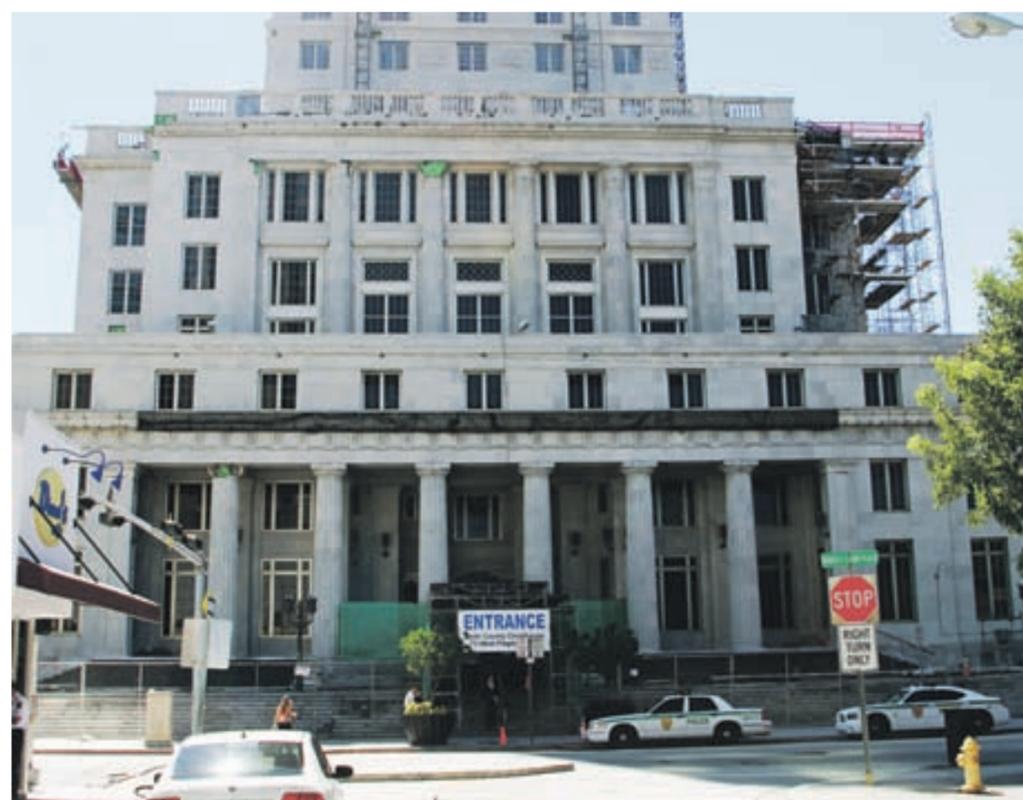
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**Courthouse fate to be determined**



KHARY BRUYNING/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Miami-Dade County courthouse located at 73 West Flagler Street was built in 1928.

**By ISHEKA N. HARRISON**  
 Special to South Florida Times

**MIAMI** — On November 4, when Miami-Dade County voters go to the polls, they will decide whether to support yet another bond referendum, this time for \$393 million to fund the building of a new civil courthouse. The current courthouse, located at 73 West Flagler Street, is

an historical site that has served Miami-Dade residents since construction was completed in 1928. At the time, there was more than enough room for the seven judges in Miami-Dade County; but that was also almost 90 years ago.

Fast-forward to 2014 where over 41 judges use 23 courtrooms, over 3,600 visitors come through daily and a total of 576 staff work in

various capacities throughout the building. With these stats, there's no debate that the courthouse which was once the only place blacks could go to have their cases heard is overcrowded.

Add to that 10 unusable floors and numerous health and safety hazards — including mold, water intrusion, asbestos, odors, termite infestation and a crumbling infrastructure

— and there's not even a debate about whether a new courthouse is necessary. The debate is about whether taxpayers should fund it and why, all of a sudden, the issue is so urgent.

"People say this is rushed. It is not a new issue. Everyone has known about the need to replace this building. It was a need, now it's a crisis," said Chief Judge Bertila Soto of the 11<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit.

Soto, along with her colleague Jennifer Bailey, a Miami-Dade Circuit Judge, and others who support the Building Blocks for Justice campaign have made a compelling case for the bond funding, complete with pictures of hazardous conditions, live tours of the decrepit building and several comprehensive reports dating back to 1986, all which call for the building to be replaced.

However, some Miami-Dade residents are still skeptical about voting yes for a bond that will likely cause an increase in property taxes if approved, particularly since voters have approved bonds worth \$830 million for Jackson Health System and \$1.2 billion for the public school system since 2012.

"My vote is still up in the air to be honest with you. On the one hand I'm saying let them go ahead and build it because they're going to build it anyway. On the other hand I'm saying why should we have to pay more tax dollars for something. Anything you're voting on is coming out of your pocket. That's the way I look at it. 393 million is a lot of money, but it's eventually going to get done whether we vote for it or not," said Geno Ward, a military veteran who has been residing in Miami for almost 40 years.

"I'm for building a new courthouse. It is in bad condition, but I would prefer if the old one could

PLEASE TURN TO **COURTHOUSE/2A**

**MIAMI-DADE**

**Miami's Urban League advocates 'No' to legalization of Marijuana**

**By JOSÉ PÉREZ**  
 Special to South Florida Times

One of the ballot items that voters throughout Florida will be asked to weigh in on for this mid-term election is whether to approve the legalized use of marijuana for medicinal purposes. The Urban League of Greater Miami hosted a community meeting on the ballot measure, listed as Amendment 2, to voice its vehement opposition to any and all legalization of marijuana.

"Nobody in their right mind can think of legalizing a drug in our community" based on what drugs are already doing, said T. Willard Fair, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Urban League of Greater Miami. "Making it legal doesn't make it right."

Representatives from Miami-Dade County Juvenile Services, educators, social workers, clergy, private citizens and the Miami-Dade Police Department were present at the meeting which was attended by a few dozen people. Major Stephanie Daniels, Commander of Miami-Dade Police Department's Northside substation where the meeting was held and a new member of the Urban League's Board of Directors, said that it was important to "allow the community to come" and voice concerns about the proposed change.

The choice of venue for the gathering was not coincidental. "There needs to be a partnership" between the Urban League specifically and the community as a whole with the police, said Fair. "Part of what's missing in Liberty City," he added, is a lack of teamwork between the police and the community.

Conversely, Miami's Urban League is taking a stand on its own. "We're the only Urban League in the country taking a stand on this issue." Fair elaborated by pointing out that per federal laws governing how IRS-certified non-profit organizations are allowed to operate, organizations like the Urban League are required to avoid taking partisan stands on issues and candidates. "That is very, very



T. Willard Fair

DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

PLEASE TURN TO **URBAN LEAGUE/2A**

**MIAMI-DADE**

**Ingram honored by P.U.L.S.E.**

**Miami, FL**— United Teachers of Dade President Fedrick Ingram, right, was selected out of a group of finalists to be presented with the prestigious Political Community Service Award by People United to Lead The Struggle For Equality (P.U.L.S.E.) on October 24 at Liberty Hall in Miami Florida. Ingram was recognized for his contributions as a champion and an extraordinary community leader.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UNITED TEACHERS OF DADE

**BROWARD**



PHOTO COURTESY OF CATHLEEN DEAN

**Broward County Public Schools Legislative Leadership Series**

Florida State Representative Shevrin Jones from District 101 (left) presents a check for \$200,000 to Broward County Public Schools in support of the minority male mentoring initiative and stands with members of Nova High School's Mentoring Tomorrow's Leaders (MTL) program: Nathan Allen, Matthieu Gordon, Malik Warren, Alexander Gibson, Shawn Jaipersaud, David Quintana, and teacher Mohamed Nazim during the Broward County Public Schools Legislative Leadership Series at the KC Wright Building, in Fort Lauderdale, Friday, October 24, 2010.

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# Courthouse deterioration clear



KHARY BRUYNING/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

**DILAPIDATED CONDITIONS AT THE MIAMI-DADE COURTHOUSE:** (Above and below) photos depict crumbling infrastructure, water damage and more.

## COURTHOUSE, FROM 1A

be restored. There is history there and I'm concerned about them demolishing the old courthouse because it will affect people from miles around. How will it affect the health of people around the demolition? Think about the economic impact this will have on the downtown area. People will be out of work and who has to pay, the taxpayers," said Gwendolyn Walker, a lifelong Miami-Dade County resident.

Judges Soto and Bailey understand the public's concern, but they estimate that the average household would only be taxed \$14 dollars, if that. They confirmed Ward's comments, saying the bond is the best way to save taxpayers' money.

"It will be seven to \$14 dollars at most per household, if that," Judge Soto estimated. Since the county doesn't have any money to fund a new courthouse, if the bond isn't approved the judges advised that the county may resort to raising the money through other means like increasing fees on traffic tickets.

"The taxpayers are skeptical and we understand that. The bottom line is taxpayers are going to pay for this one way or another. We are trying to provide a

cost effective way," Bailey said.

A structural report published in January 2014 revealed that 132 of the 144 lower floor columns which uphold the courthouse were severely corroded and required \$25 million in immediate structural repairs to keep the building in use.

Due to the depth of damage, the Miami-Dade County Commission voted in August, eleven to two, to place the bond question on November's general election ballot. There are four proposed sites where a new courthouse can be built. Now it's up to the people to decide.

Before they do, Judge Soto wants Miami-Dade residents to know the campaign for a new courthouse is about more than funding a brand new building; she said it's about doing what's right for the courthouse staff and the community.

"It is my moral obligation as a chief judge to bring this to light. Everything that is not a criminal case or family dispute comes to us. We are just as important as the school system and Jackson," Judge Soto said. "This building was never meant for one million annual visitors. Our flagship courthouse is crumbling. It's a check that's going to be way more expensive if it's not done now."



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

T. Willard Fair discusses the community effort on Amendment 2.

# Urban League advocates a NO vote



Dr. Fabian Thurston raises the need to vote NO on Amendment 2 to rally participants on Oct. 24.

## URBAN LEAGUE, FROM 1A

difficult for many non-profits," said Fair.

In spite of the potential pitfalls of maybe running afoul of non-profit guidelines, Fair's point was clear. "It is quite obvious that we need to do more than advocate."

"We think it is the right thing to do. This is about the children...their future. That means we have to take a stand."

Dr. Fabian Thurston, Chief Operating officer for the Jessie Trice Family Health Center and a board member for the Urban League, discussed the effects of marijuana on the development of the brain.

"We're here to protect the future of the children of Liberty City," said Thurston, who has a clinical background in mental health and substance abuse.

Among the points raised by Thurston was that of the hundreds of chemicals typically found in marijuana, Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) is the most prevalent and the one "most responsible for many of the mind-altering effects." He added that THC represented approximately 4% of the content of marijuana cigarettes in the 1970's whereas the number has spiked significantly to about 15% in 2012. "This isn't your Woodstock weed."

For private citizens in

attendance, the discourse struck a chord.

"It's a definite 'No!'" said a woman in attendance who, for privacy reasons, asked that her name not be used in published material. "I have firsthand knowledge of what it does to our community. It destroys warmth and drive in a person."

"It is an addiction." She shared that someone she was once very close to would "turn into Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" after he started smoking marijuana. "He was completely transformed."

"You have to be totally insane," declared Fair in reference to possible passage of

PLEASE TURN TO URBAN LEAGUE/4A

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# Urban League presses for NO vote on Amendment 2

**URBAN LEAGUE, FROM 2A**

Amendment 2 as he talked about the marijuana-related "devastation in Liberty City and it's not even legal" yet.

Thurston also posed a question about the dangers of marijuana use and neonatal health for expectant mothers. Drinking beer, wine, hard liquor is legal for consumers over 21, asked Thurston, but if alcohol consumption while pregnant is dangerous for unborn children what effect would smoking marijuana while carrying a baby have?

Thurston referenced studies that found that from 1975 to 2010 the social stigma of smoking marijuana among high school seniors had plummeted drastically. "They don't see marijuana as a problem anymore."

## Immigrant groups mobilize Florida minority voters

MIAMI (AP) — Some door knockers may not be eligible to vote themselves, but that hasn't stopped them from trying to persuade thousands of others to head to the polls.

Immigrant groups in Miami-Dade and Polk counties said this week they have visited more than 25,000 homes to encourage minority residents to vote next month.

Many of the canvassers were immigrants themselves, some recent arrivals, others in the country illegally and thus unable to vote. The Florida Immigrant Coalition coordinated the nonpartisan campaign to boost turnout in immigrant and low-income communities.

In 2012, black and Latino voters turned out at the same rate as white voters. But participation dropped in 2010. About 41 percent of eligible Latinos and Black voters participated in that election, compared to 46 percent of Whites.



## Group to hold 'Souls to the Polls' voting event

Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (AP) — A group of Florida clergy is urging African-American and Latino voters to vote early by participating in statewide "Souls to the Polls" events.

Faith in Florida leaders is holding a gospel concert and rally Sunday at Hungerford Academy in Eatonville. Additional activities are scheduled in Tallahassee, Cutler Bay, Belle Glades, Lauderdale, and Daytona Beach.

The group will also promote its campaign to restore rights of formerly incarcerated people, a ban which it says affects more than 1.5 million Floridians. Faith in Florida recently held similar campaigns to support driver's licenses for undocumented workers.

Fair said that the risks to Liberty City if Amendment 2 passes will not be borne equally by other neighborhoods in Miami. "There will be no pot shops on Miracle Mile," said Fair referring to the trendy street in Coral Gables filled with high end boutiques and restaurants. "We know what kind of traffic [marijuana] brings to our community."

Another private citizen

at the Urban League meeting, who identified himself simply as Michael, expressed strong fears about what legalizing marijuana use in Florida will mean for Miami. "I have two boys. [Marijuana consumers] are going to be in our community. I don't want our kids to be exposed to that."

The text describing Amendment 2 on ballots across Florida reads in part

that, if approved, the state would allow "the medical use of marijuana for individuals with debilitating diseases as determined by a licensed Florida physician."

For people like Michael, that argument was not a strong one in favor of legalizing marijuana use of any kind. "Extract the medicinal parts if that's the case."

Adding intrigue about who really stands to gain from the passage of the ballot measure, Thurston wrapped up his discussion by raising the specter of a discreet yet powerful corporate interest in the legalization of marijuana. He spoke of articles that draw attention to how large tobacco companies have long seen a legally-sanctioned openness to

marijuana use as "an alternative product line" to the increasingly socially taboo tobacco cigarettes.

Major corporations, Thurston said, have long "registered trademarks taken directly from the street names [of different varieties of marijuana] and estimates indicate the [legal marijuana] market to be worth as much as \$10 billion annually."

**"Yes, FIU provides more opportunities to Miami-Dade's diverse communities."**

**"N**ationally, less than 25 percent of head coaches in Division I men's basketball are African-American.

But I'm proud to say my university, FIU, is leading the way in hiring a diverse coaching staff. My name is Anthony Evans, and I'm the head coach of the men's basketball program at Florida International University. I know how important access to opportunity is. I'm proud FIU does, too."

**Anthony Evans**  
Head Coach  
Men's Basketball



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## Opinion

# Economic progress on the brink again

On the brink of a long-awaited go ahead for a major economic development project with jobs, training and business opportunities for area residents, supporters of the Carrie Meek Foundation are preparing for the type of smear campaign that has become the norm in this community whenever historically underserved people are promised a piece of the pie. Whenever organizers in Miami-Dade's underserved communities are on the brink of some important success, a campaign to discredit is launched and our community is kept from flourishing.

The most recent target is a proposed industrial park project with space for up to 60 businesses at the Miami-Opa Locka Executive Airport. As many as 2,300 full-time jobs are projected with an average salary of \$37,000. Considerable improvement is expected in the area's current average household income of \$21,000, poverty rate of 32% and unemployment of about 13%.

On October 16th, the County Commissioners' Economic Development and Port Miami Committee approved \$5 million in funding from the Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond (GOB) program for improvements to utilities and public parking needed for the Carrie Meek International Business Park at the Miami-Opa Locka Executive Airport. The projection is for 1.75 million feet of industrial/warehouse space that will yield county wide and local benefits to residents.



Commissioner Barbara Jordan

The Carrie Meek Foundation is partnering with CNL Commercial Real Estate to develop the industrial park with both aviation and non-aviation components on airport property the Foundation has leased from the Miami-Dade Aviation Department.

The GOB funds sought for the industrial park are part of the \$352 million approved by Miami-Dade voters in 2004 for bridges, public infrastructure and neighborhood improvements. The Economic Development Fund portion is \$75 million

and must be used for grants that spur economic development and attract new businesses to the community in order to create jobs.

The County Commission will vote on November 5<sup>th</sup> on whether and how much to allocate for the project and can direct the Mayor to begin negotiations for a grant agreement that must come back to the Commissioners for final approval. The Miami-Dade Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources will monitor the creation and retention of new jobs, average salaries, private investment and other performance measures.

The Carrie Meek Foundation is a not-for-profit organization founded by the beloved Congresswoman who was the first Black woman elected to the Florida Senate and the first Black person since Reconstruction elected to represent Floridians in the U.S. Congress. An educator, civil rights and community activist, Congresswoman Meek secured hundreds of millions in funding dollars for local programs and services. After retiring from the U.S. House, Representative Meek has dedicated her time and service to the Carrie Meek Foundation. The Foundation has sponsored and promoted a host of innovative and effective programs for education, affordable housing, health-care, economic development and community empowerment.

As have many organizations, both for-profit and not-for-profit, the Carrie Meek Foundation has gone through

some upheaval during the recent challenges of the deep economic recession. I understand that the Foundation's Board of Directors is restructuring and nearing a full recovery.

While these efforts are ongoing, questions have been raised in the Miami Herald about the Foundation's continued viability. Why is there no Executive Director or other paid staff? Why is the Foundation's website not operating properly? Who is really in charge? Efforts to discredit the Carrie Meek Foundation are likely to raise questions about the ability of the partnership to make the most of the \$5 million in infrastructure improvements at the Miami-Opa Locka Executive Airport.

Questions should be asked about the ability of all county contractors to fulfill their obligations. Just last week, the County Commission approved the award of \$3.3 billion for water and sewer improvements without a single inquiry from the media. Commissioners placed our trust in the Mayor and his staff to fully vet the organization.

In the face of concerns about the partnership that will create the Carrie Meek International Business Park, those of us who are pushing for significant investments into the vitality of Miami-Dade County's underserved communities are waiting to see if the traditional obstacles are placed in our path to hamper progress.



BARBARA HOWARD

## Liberals war against republicans

Liberals say the darnedest things.

Every time I hear liberals talk about republicans, I want to just scream! They want to make voters, especially blacks, shun republicans like they shun Ebola. Their efforts are so full of lies, slurs and half-truths and border on slander and libel. And if republicans had any backbones, I think they could sue the entire Democratic Party for defamation of character.

Let's start with Debbie Wasserman Schultz, the Democratic National Committee (DNC) chairwoman. Seems every other week, she puts her liberal foot in her nasty hateful mouth. The latest slur came on Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, as she spoke on CNN's "State of the Union," with host Candy Crowley and Republican National Committee (RNC) chairman Reince Priebus.

Schultz continues her regular smears of republicans, by stating that Republicans were scarier than ISIS and Ebola. But Candy Crowley began the

libelous smear and Schultz just confirmed it.

That wasn't all. As Schultz continued to defame republicans, she was rude to RNC Chairman Reince Priebus, chastising him several times. He should have smacked her.

Debbie Wasserman Schultz has become infamous for uttering ugly and false statements about republicans. For example, she accused Republican Governor Scott Walker of wanting to "give women the back of his hand" and President George W. Bush of "hypocrisy."

But she, as most of the liberals, tries to scare black voters into hating republicans by accusing them of being racists. Once, on the Roland Martin show, she accused them of wanting to "drag us all the way back to Jim Crow laws." What she forgot to tell the audience is that it was the democrats who instituted Jim Crow laws as well as created the Klu Klux Klan.

But it was Vice President Joe Biden who told a mostly black audience in Virginia

in 2012 that Republicans were going "to put y'all back in chains." Again, it was the democrats who put black folk in chains.

The most egregious slanderers are President Barack Hussein Obama himself, his "advisor on civil rights" Al Sharpton and Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, who Pat Gray, co-host on the nationally syndicated Glenn Beck radio show, calls "the worst living person on the planet" because of the horrible and slanderous comments he's made about republicans.

Obama calls the republicans in Congress out every day and you just have to watch Al Sharpton on MSNBC or listen to his radio show to hear some of the worse half-truths you can think of.

Ask any liberal black

about republicans and they will tell you that "republicans are racists." But ask them to give you an example, they can't.

Whenever I've told people I'm a republican, the first thing out of their mouths (even black preachers and so-called Christians) is "I hate republicans."

The closer we get to the 2014 mid-term election, the more hateful the rhetoric is. And the issue of voter ID is ridiculous. liberals swear that republicans passed voter ID legislation just to deny blacks and other minorities their right to vote. And they repeat that nonsense without even blinking an eye.

Now just analyze it and you'll realize how ridiculous the claim is. Who doesn't have a

picture ID? The middle school, high school and college students need a picture ID for school. They need a picture ID to get into the club. You need a picture ID to cash a check at a bank or check cashing place.

You need a picture ID to drive a car, get auto insurance, apply for Social Security, get welfare and food assistance, buy cigarettes or alcohol if you look underage, get a passport, buy an airline ticket, get aboard a cruise ship, etc., etc., etc.

And if you don't have a picture ID, it only costs \$15, \$20 or \$25 to get one and you can get it in a day. So what is the big deal about getting an ID? But liberals scream that these racist republicans passed legislation demanding voters show a picture ID to vote and

that discriminates against blacks, minorities and the elderly. What - are you serious????

So I ask again, "who doesn't have a picture ID?" But the bigger question is, "why do black folk allow themselves to continually be manipulated by lies and half-truths to keep democrats in power?" Liberals have a war against republicans and black folk are their "boots on the ground."

And what do they get for it? Absolutely nothing. Well, Al Sharpton, Jesse Jackson and the NAACP get paid. But nobody else does.

So black folk need to reconsider why they are registered democrats. Too many people died for the right to vote. And guess who caused them to lose their lives? Democrats!



ANTONIA WILLIAMS-GARY

## What's the power in words?

preferences. Most of my personal choices are not protected under the law; nor should they be.

But these days, there are 'minority' groups, for instance, other people of color- Asians, Mexican Americans, some Arabs, to name a few, popping up every day with their demands for equal protection, under the law, and worse, they are borrowing tactics and language from the civil rights movement.

Excuse me, but some things ought to remain sacred.

There was controversy back in the 70s when the nascent women's rights movement first borrowed from the 60s black power movement to promote their rights.

It worked, but not without a major push back from the black leaders who reminded the women- led mostly by whites- that they were riding on the coat tails of hard won gains by a minority; namely blacks, African-Americans.

Here we are, in 2014, and the civil rights lexicon is being used again in support of every other 'minority' group.

I feel very strongly that everyone should be able to exercise their natural birthright to pursue life, liberty and happiness as

long as they behave as a responsible citizen- that is, they don't trample on anyone else's rights to the same.

In this modern live and let live society, I believe that we should all wake up each morning knowing that we are able to "live our best lives," to quote Oprah Winfrey. That we can, each one of us, live beyond our accidental conditions of birth into a particular race, class, caste, gender assignment, sexual preference, mental or physical ability, and any limited expectations of others.

But, here's the rub: I think folk have become lazy and are taking short cuts when they continue to borrow from the Civil Rights movement to effect the changes for whatever minority group they're advocating.

The civil rights gains that have inured to black-Americans is a unique benefit gained from the singular experience of being black in America.

A white woman cannot identify with that.

A gay man cannot identify with that. Not even a black gay man.

Asians, Mexicans and Arabs have their own hyphen.

Nor can the learning disabled, the physically different, the medically

challenged, the gender questioning, nor any other minority group use the black experience as their own.

There is no stretch of comparison that can come near the unique quality of being black in America.

It is so unparalleled that even the President of the United States himself cannot enjoy being the premiere leader of the free world without first being labeled black. That label keeps us separate; it tells us apart; and, therefore it continues to enjoy a special category to be protected under the law of the land and enforced to the highest degree. And it shall not be watered down!

To all other 'minority' groups who are fighting for protection, I say go get your own movement in order, and start fresh!

I challenge you to come up with some fresh language, fresh ideas, and fresh approaches to winning what you rightfully deserve.

But leave my civil rights alone.

Antonia Williams-Gary is a consultant with Miami-based Savings and Grace Enterprise. She may be reached at [toniwg1@bell-south.net](mailto:toniwg1@bell-south.net)

### Letter to the editor:

## Voter apathy: A killer of Democracy

By: Kay W. Brown, President, Palm Beach County Classroom Teachers Association-Retired (561) 784-8809

When I hear someone saying that they are not going to vote, I think of the thousands of Americans who sacrificed, suffered, marched, and died for the right to vote. I think of the people in other countries still fighting for this right. How can anyone not vote? How can one call themselves a citizen who cares about the country or its direction and not vote? How dare you complain about "government" if you do not vote?

You have given away your choices and your power if you choose not to vote. People always talk and cry for equality. The power of the vote makes us equal. When you fail to vote, you fail to use your power and you lose your shot at equality.

I will not venture to influence your vote, but if you want the best public education for Florida's children, the opportunity for equal pay and higher minimum wages for workers, the right of women to choose, protect social security, Medicare and Medicaid services, establish honesty and transparency in government, seek the best creative medical cures and care, and protect our environment-then it is clear how you should vote. However, if you want the 'same old same old,' then don't vote! You will show that you don't care; you have no power, no equality, and no freedom of choice.

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# Caribbean

## The fate of our union



Calibe Thompson

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID I. MUIR

If you ever hit the streets to drum up support for your chosen political party, you're going to hear a whole lot of "I don't vote" and "my one vote isn't going to make a difference." It's frustrating. For some, the choice not to participate is a political statement in and of itself.

But the majority of people who choose not to vote, do it out of laziness or ignorance. They'd rather stay home and watch sports or go for pizza than decide how the school district their children learn in develops or which leader will advocate for their viewpoints - on everything.

For the Caribbean and the black community in general, the right to a say in the political process didn't come cheap. Several hundred thousand of our ancestors fought and died so we would have that right, and now there are in fact a number of Caribbean people at every level of politics and government here in the US. But even after all that sacrifice we'd rather go for pizza than take the few minutes required to help decide the direction of our community for the next two or four or six years.

On this week's episode of The Caribbean Diaspora Weekly, I won't try to sway you on which way to vote, but I'll discuss some of the things to consider if you do decide to participate in the electoral process. Issues like the fact that small elections are more important on a local level than big ones; the fact that the less money you have, the more valuable your vote is, and the fact that there are people trying to take the right to vote from you.

Think about the fact that some rich guy doesn't think you deserve a choice in what happens to the community you live in because he owns more property than you do, then tell me you're okay with that. Elections are the great equalizer. Black, white, rich, poor, American-born or Caribbean-immigrant, we each have the right to a say. So let's think about the things we should consider in choosing to acquire (for Caribbean immigrants) and exercise that right.

To watch the extended perspective and much more on Caribbean America, set your DVR or tune in to each Sunday's episode of The Caribbean Diaspora Weekly on SFL/The CW Network (Ch 39 / Comcast 11). Catch replays on the website at [www.thecaribbeandiaspora.tv](http://www.thecaribbeandiaspora.tv).



PHOTO COURTESY OF CIDH.OAS.ORG

Commissioners of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

## Dominican Republic rejects court

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — The Dominican Republic is rejecting a decision by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights that found the Caribbean country discriminated against Dominicans of Haitian descent.

The government called the decision "unacceptable" and "biased" in a statement issued Friday.

A Dominican court ruled last year that people born in the Dominican Republic to migrants living there illegally were not automatically entitled to

citizenship, basically rendering thousands of people stateless. The government since then has pledged to resolve their status but has only offered residency and work permits under a new program.

The Inter-American Court gave the Dominican government six months to invalidate the ruling.

A U.N. study has estimated there are about 500,000 undocumented migrants in the Dominican Republic, nearly 90 percent of Haitian descent.

## Congratulations! Horace C. Hord ICABA member on the move

SOUTH FLORIDA - Travel and tourism industry veteran Horace C. Hord, Sr. Vice president for ICABA Media Group, LLC received the 2014 Caribbean Media Exchange (CMEx) Leadership Award.

Organizers announced that Hord received the honor for his outstanding leadership that has continued for decades in South Florida. The award was presented during the second annual Evenings of Excellence series, sponsored by Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, on Tuesday, October 21, 2014.

The dinner was held at the Miramar Cultural Center/ ArtsPark (2400 Civic Center Place, Miramar, Florida) a venue created to celebrate creativity and diversity within the Miami/Fort Lauderdale area.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HORACE C. HORD

Horace C. Hord



## Nominate an Achiever Today!

Established in 1992 by automotive legend Jim Moran, the African-American Achievers awards program recognizes everyday heroes whose hard work, commitment and compassion help build a stronger South Florida community. Honorees will be selected in the following categories by an independent panel of judges from Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties:

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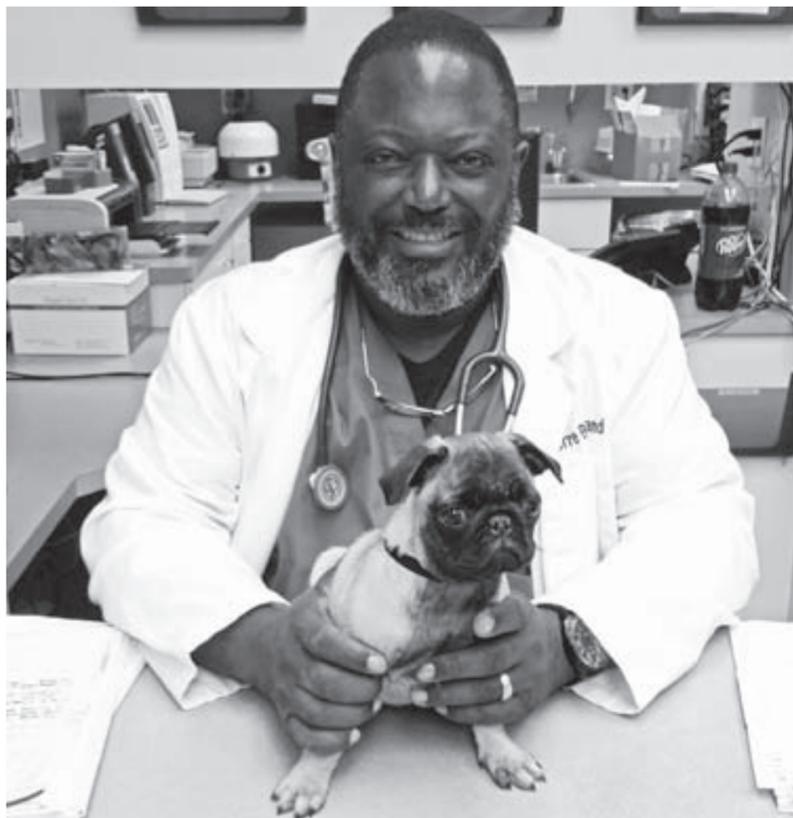
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# Health

## Your Pet and Ebola



Dr. Pierre B. Bland, DVM and patient.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PIERRE B. BLAND

By PIERRE B. BLAND, DVM

I am regularly asked questions regarding pet health and care. Recently, many of the questions have been about what roles dogs and cats play in the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and their possible role in the spread of Ebola in the U.S. should an outbreak occur. This article is based on the latest recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the American Veterinary Medical Association.

**How are animals involved in Ebola outbreaks?**

Ebola is a zoonotic disease, because it can be passed between certain animals and people. Ebola may have originally spread to humans from contact with infected fruit bats, apes or monkeys, but is now spread from person to person through direct contact. Although studies show that some dogs in Africa have been exposed to the Ebola virus, there is no evidence that they become ill or spread the disease to people or other animals in the current West African outbreak.

**Here in the US, are our dogs and cats at risk**

**of becoming sick with Ebola?**

The risk of an Ebola outbreak affecting multiple people in the U.S. is very low. This makes the risk to pets also very low, as they would have to come in contact with blood and body fluids of a person with Ebola. There is limited evidence that dogs become infected with the Ebola virus, but there is no evidence they develop the disease.

**Can I get Ebola from my dog or cat?**

At this time, there have been no reports of dogs or cats becoming sick with Ebola or being able to

spread Ebola to people or animals.

**Can my pet's body, fur, or paws spread Ebola to a person?**

It is not yet known whether a pet's body, paws, or fur can pick up and spread Ebola to people or other animals. It is important to keep people and animals away from the blood and body fluids of a person with symptoms of Ebola infection.

**What if there is a pet in the home of an Ebola patient?**

The CDC recommends that public health officials in collaboration with a veterinarian evaluate the pet's risk of exposure to the virus. Based on this evaluation, as well as the specific situation, local and state human and animal health officials will determine how the pet should be handled.

**Can bats spread Ebola?**

In Africa, fruit bats are considered to be the natural reservoir for Ebola. The CDC considers the risk of an Ebola outbreak from bats in the U.S. very low since North American bats are not known to carry Ebola. Bats in the US can carry rabies and should be avoided as a general rule.

Just as your risk of becoming infected with Ebola is very low, your pet's risk of becoming infected with Ebola is extremely low. This finding is significant, especially when compared to the risk of your pet contracting preventable but deadly diseases like parvo, distemper, and rabies. If your pet is ill — regardless of the cause — or if you have questions about your pet's health, contact your veterinarian.

*Dr. Pierre Bland is the owner of "Dr. Bland's Vet House Calls" a veterinary house call service. He can be contacted at 954 673-8579 or at doctorblandvet.com*



PHOTO COURTESY OF VOZISNEIAS.COM

Sheldon Adelson

## Casino magnate spends to defeat Amendment 2

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A Las Vegas casino magnate is kicking in another \$1 million to defeat a proposal to legalize medical marijuana.

Sheldon Adelson has now donated a total of \$5 million to the group that wants to defeat the constitutional amendment that will be on the November ballot.

Adelson, a high-profile Republican donor and CEO of Las Vegas Sands Corp., is the largest single donor to the Drug Free Florida Committee. The committee is using the money to pay for television ads criticizing Amendment 2.

Adelson has been seeking approval to build a resort casino in the state.

But a top official in Adelson's company says his opposition to the amendment is personal. Adelson's son died from a drug overdose, and his wife is a physician who has established drug treatment centers.

## Florida woman's orchids donated to Smithsonian

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — A Florida woman's collection of orchids is finding a new home at the Smithsonian Institution.

Helen Hoffman tended to approximately 100 orchids in a greenhouse attached to her Jacksonville home. She tells The Florida Times-Union that she's donating the collection because she can't take care of it now that she's in her 80s. She also is selling her home.

Two orchid specialists from the Smithsonian's gardens division drove to Hoffman's home this week with a moving truck to pack up the plants.

Hoffman traces her orchid obsession to a dealer who refused to sell to her because she didn't know enough about how to care for them. She soon joined a local orchid society.

Hoffman set aside a few of the orchids to take to her new retirement home.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ORCHIDSPUS.COM



Derrick Jones  
Mad Dasher

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JR. FOOTBALL

# Parents' brawl gets teams banned from playoffs

SEATTLE (AP) — Two Seattle-area youth football teams have been banned from the playoffs - not for anything they've done wrong, but because of their parents inability to control themselves.

The council for the Greater Eastside Junior Football Association banned the Renton Five Stars and the Bothell Cougars after a brawl in the stands at an Oct. 4 game in Bothell that has now led to a mother and father facing criminal charges.

The council for the Greater Eastside Junior Football Association has decided to ban both teams from the football Gold playoffs this season, although both teams will be eligible to play lower level playoffs.

Surveillance cameras on the field captured the entire melee. Investigators have said that two parents of a Bothell player assaulted parents with children from the Renton Five Stars.

The Bothell Cougars did not qualify for the playoffs this year, but the Renton Five Stars did. The Renton parents feel their punishment is especially unfair.



IMAGE COURTESY OF MEH041.DEVIANTART.COM  
ILLUSTRATION BY CATHY CHARLES

ATHLETIC SPORTSWEAR

# Beyonce, Topshop team up to launch athletic wear



Beyoncé Knowles

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALPHABETPONY.COM.AU

NEW YORK (AP) — Want a body like Beyonce's? Now you can buy clothes she's designed for exercising.

The 33-year-old singer announced Monday that she is merging with British retailer Topshop to launch the company, Parkwood TopShop Athletic Ltd. It is a 50/50 joint venture.

The clothing line will be available next fall. Beyonce said in a statement that she "could not think of a better partner" as she continues to grow her production company, Parkwood Entertainment. She says she's "always loved" Topshop and called the retailer "forward thinking."

Beyonce first dabbled in fashion when she released the House of Dereon line alongside her mother a decade ago.

BASKETBALL

# Japan facing ban from all international basketball



PHOTO COURTESY OF FIBAASIA.NET

JUMPSHOT: Akito Uchida (JPN) right and Mark Anthony Dyke (PHL) left

TOKYO (AP) — Japan is facing a potential ban from basketball's world governing body FIBA over a failure to merge its two top leagues.

FIBA has said it will suspend the Japan

Basketball Association if its mandate of a merger between the two leagues is not met by the end of October.

The ban would prevent all of Japan's national teams from taking part in international competitions, including the Olympics.

JBA president Yasuhiko Fukatsu announced his resignation late Thursday, saying it will be difficult for the national body to come to a conclusion on the merger between the 22-team Basketball Japan League and the 13-team National Basketball League.

"FIBA has pointed out our lack of governance, particularly seen in the unification of the two leagues," Fukatsu said in announcing his resignation. "In order to achieve this, the JBA and the two leagues have agreed to form one league. Yet we have not received final agreements (from all the clubs) at this point."

FIBA maintains that having two leagues is in violation of its general statutes because the JBA doesn't have full control and governance of basketball in Japan.

The ban could be especially damaging for the women's team, which is in good position to qualify for the 2016 Olympics after winning its first Asian Championship title in 43 years last year.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

## Nominations sought for achievement honors

FORT LAUDERDALE — JM Family Enterprises is accepting nominations for the 23rd annual African-American Achievers awards, which recognizes leaders for their exceptional contributions toward building stronger communities in South Florida.

Nominations are due by Friday, Dec. 5. The awards presentation and ceremony will be held on April 15 at the Broward County Convention Center.

Nomination applications are available online at [www.africanamericanachievers.com](http://www.africanamericanachievers.com), on the African-American Achievers' Facebook page or by calling 866-516-2497 for a hard-copy nomination form.

## Gables museum honors, Gibson, Smith, others

MIAMI —The Coral Gables Museum is hosting 'An Evening on the Plaza,' its annual fundraising event at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 15. The festivities will take place on the museum's open air Giralda Plaza, 285 Aragon Ave. The event will feature cocktails, dinner, live music and the Community Achievement Awards honoring four outstanding leaders. The honorees are David Evensky, Thelma Gibson, H.T. Smith and Judith Weissel.

Individual tickets cost \$250. Sponsorships are offered at three levels: Platinum Sponsor (\$20,000), Gold Sponsor (\$10,000) and Silver Sponsor (\$5,000). Proceeds will support the Museum's educational programs, events and exhibits. For information about tickets, advertising, sponsorship and underwriting opportunities, please contact Christine Rupp at (305) 603-8067 or e-mail [info@coralgablesmuseum.org](mailto:info@coralgablesmuseum.org).

## Immigrants hit streets to encourage voters

MIAMI (AP) — Some door knockers may not be eligible to vote themselves, but that hasn't stopped them from trying to persuade thousands of others to head to the polls.

Immigrant groups in Miami-Dade and Polk counties said this week they have visited more than 25,000 homes to encourage minority residents to vote next month.

Many of the canvassers were immigrants themselves, some recent arrivals, others in the country illegally and thus unable to vote. The Florida Immigrant Coalition coordinated the nonpartisan campaign to boost turnout in immigrant and low-income communities.

In 2012, black and Latino voters turned out at the same rate as non-Latino white voters. But participation dropped in 2010. About 41 percent of eligible Latinos and Black voters participated in that election, compared to 46 percent of non-Latino Whites.

## Wet season done, water district says

WEST PALM BEACH (AP) — South Florida's water managers say the region's wet season has ended with slightly above-average rainfall.

Meteorologists with the South Florida Water Management District say that the region's daily sea-breeze cycle wet-season rains ended Oct. 4. Officials say the seasonal rainfall left water levels in good condition in many areas, which will give water managers more flexibility with the water supply during the dry season.

The dry season typically runs from mid-October through mid-May with about 18 inches of rain on average.

South Florida remains under the district's year-round landscape irrigation rules that limit residential and commercial landscape watering to two or three days per week. Details about watering days and times in specific areas can be found on the district's website, [www.sfwmd.gov/2days](http://www.sfwmd.gov/2days).

— Staff and Wire Reports

## MIAMI-DADE

## Mentorship: 100 Black Men host career expo

Staff Report

MIAMI — The 100 Black Men of South Florida and the Miami-Dade County Public Schools will host a college and career fair that is expected to draw more than 5,000 students who can learn about career and post-secondary education options.

The Fourth Annual College & Career Expo starts 10 a.m. today at the Miami Dade County Fair & Exposition Center, 10901 Coral Way in Miami. The expo is for high school students under 19 years old. A parent or chaperone must accompany each student.

The 100 Black Men of South Florida, Inc. has been at the forefront of mentoring and providing innovative programs for young black males in South Florida. Some of their signature initiatives include Positive Youth Development, Dr. Harold Guinyard Leadership Academy and Collegiate 100. Members say these programs have made a significant impact on the young men of the South Florida community.

"We are committed to providing resources and options to help our young people navigate their life and career choices," said Jonathan Dotson, the organization's vice president of operations.

According to the U.S. Department of Education statistics from 2012, Florida is currently tied with four states, having the fifth-lowest graduation rate. Researchers say nationwide progress means the national graduation rate could reach 90 percent by 2020.

Over 5,000 students from Miami-Dade County are confirmed to attend the Expo. The 100 Black Men hope to get students excited about education and provides the pathways and resources for making positive career choices. Representatives from over 100 colleges and universities will be onsite to provide information about applying for college. There is an opportunity for some students to get accepted on the spot, with application fees waived and scholarships on the spot.

Students will have an opportunity to attend workshops, discuss admissions requirements along with applying for scholarships. Seniors must bring high school transcripts, ACT/SAT scores and two letters of recommendation.

Members say they recognize that not all students are going to college. They have curated a career expo to provide valuable platforms to connect students with careers and vocational opportunities.

"We are excited by the outpour of support from our college and vocational partnerships that have signed on to help students navigate a plan for their future," states the 100 Black Men of South Florida President, Ellis A. Adger.

At the event, the men will unveil their social media lounge, which serves as the hub for attendees to share their experience at the expo through social media.

Students are encouraged to register at <http://100blackmensf.org/event/college-career-fair/>

## PALM BEACH

## Three-year grant to fund heartfelt care for area homeless



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE QUANTUM FOUNDATION

**HEALTH-TO-GO:** The Visiting Nurse Association's "Big Blue Bus" parked outside St. George's Episcopal Church in Riviera Beach provides health services to the homeless. Quantum Foundation staff members Joe Pasoski and Randy Scheid with Quantum Foundation Grants Committee Member Peter Ellwell, VNA Nurse Practitioner Nicolette Christie, and Bernadette Macy of Catholic Charities - visiting the examination room onboard the big blue bus where the homeless receive free care.

By **ANDREA ROBINSON**  
ARobinson@SFLTimes.com

WEST PALM BEACH — Homeless residents of Palm Beach County will be able to get health services as the Quantum Foundation awards a grant to Catholic Charities for its Healthcare for the Homeless project.

That means the agency will be able to provide health services to an estimated 1,500 homeless people throughout the county in parks, and cities such as Lake Worth, Riviera Beach, downtown West Palm Beach and in the western communities. Catholic Charities says it addressed unmet health services in the area.

"Our goals are to help the most vulnerable in the county," said executive director Sheila Gomez.

The \$150,000 grant, which was recently announced, will be made over the next three years, according to Randy Scheid, Quantum Foundation senior program officer.

Catholic Charities' Healthcare for the Homeless was created in 2013 with a \$50,000 start up grant from Quantum Foundation. The project provided direct medical services, navigation of the health-care system and referral services to more 500 individuals in its first year.

The Foundation seeks bold and innovative projects in pursuit of its mission, which is for all the people in the county to enjoy better life through quality health.

To provide care and to address the added health complications associated with homelessness, Catholic Charities works

with numerous partners to provide a safety net specifically for the homeless. Partnering agencies include the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA), St. Ann Place Homeless Outreach Center, the Center for Family Services and Pat Reeves Village.

The VNA operates a mobile medical unit called the Big Blue Bus, that travels to areas where homeless people congregate. At one specific site, the VNA bus waits outside a daily feeding program for the homeless where hot meals are served twice a day with support from the Palm Beach County Food Bank.

"When one of Palm Beach County's greatest social concerns is homelessness, we love to see this kind of connectivity in the health system," said Scheid. "It's one of the ways we've identified that can make a real impact on community health. Catholic Charities ... has managed to coordinate and work with many groups, regardless of their denomination, all in the service of helping some of the county's neediest people — the homeless."

Once on board the bus, homeless clients meet with a nurse practitioner who helps them with many health issues and provides free health exams, written prescriptions, education on where best to fill a prescription, a clear action plan for care, an explanation of risks to their health and how to reduce them, assistance with the Health Care District (HCD) application process, and help finding a "medical home" where they can consistently see a primary care physician. If a client needs help getting to an appointment, bus

passes are provided to them when available.

Alex Stevens, program director for Homelessness and Outreach, said the agency's main objective is to prevent homelessness where possible. Catholic Charities, he said, receives between 200 to 300 calls per month from people wanting some form of help, including rent and utility assistance.

"We want to keep the families stable in the home so they don't slip into homelessness," Stevens said.

"No day is the same," noted Bernadette Macy, program administrator for the Interfaith Health and Wellness Program at Catholic Charities. "Sometimes, we see regular clients at the same site each month but every day there are new people, new stories. Often, our clients here need wound care; they need help getting their prescriptions for diabetes or hypertension. We never know who is going to visit us on the bus but the need is great."

Macy says the homeless community is especially overwhelmed by the need for dental services, from cleanings, to fillings and even reconstructive care for young patients. "We know a young man here who has never been to a dentist in his life," said Macy. "He needs to see one and get some encouragement to make his dental health a part of his game plan for life."

Dentists, dental hygienists, nurses or other medical professionals willing to see patients pro bono or donate dental supplies or equipment should call Bernadette Macy, 561-345-2000 x256.

## BROWARD

## Drum event benefits children's health

Special to South Florida Times

FORT LAUDERDALE — The Ronin Taiko Japanese Drummers dedicated a special performance *Kon Jo: The Spirit of Courage* held on Friday, October 10 in the Amatur Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. Funds raised from the concert benefited children with special healthcare needs who receive services at the Children's Diagnostic & Treatment Center.

Prior to the concert, which was attended by dozens of CDTC families and patients, a special reception was held for CDTC Board Members and Transformers at the new Huizenga Pavilion.

The Children's Diagnostic & Treatment Center (CDTC) is a not-for-profit organization that serves more than 11,000 children with special healthcare needs in Broward County annually. As a facility of Broward Health, CDTC's mission is to promote the optimal health and well-being of children with special healthcare needs by providing comprehensive prevention, intervention and treatment services within a medical home environment. CDTC is a nationally recognized center of excellence offering a unique system of care for infants, children and youth with chronic illnesses, disabilities and developmental delays. For more information, visit [http:// ChildrensDiagnostic.org](http://ChildrensDiagnostic.org).



PHOTO COURTESY OF BROWARD CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS:** Back row left-to-right Jessica Vones, CDTC Community Relations Coordinator, Tyranne Holston; front row left-to-right Anthony Greenfield, Terrance Holston and Clarence Holston.

# Around South Florida



**ELGIN JONES**  
EJones@SFLTimes.com

## IT'S TIME

The mid-term elections are Tuesday. Much is at stake, but the Republican and Democratic Parties have opted to sling mud in hopes of steering us away from the real issues. From an examination of campaign finance records, neither party has done much in the way of voter awareness, particularly among blacks. Candidates have been left to fend for themselves in this area. Gubernatorial challenger Charlie Crist has material and events that target black voters, but little else. Gov. Rick Scott's campaign is staying away from race issues, which stands to reason since he fired Jennifer Carroll, the first black lieutenant governor in the state and Crist's running mate is Hispanic.

## DOWN FOR THE COUNT?

Sears, one of the oldest retailers in the country, is reportedly closing more than 100 stores before the end of the year. These are in addition to 66 Kmarts the company closed earlier this year. It would mean about 5,500 layoffs. The company is hurting, but hopefully this doesn't mean the end of the truly American retailer.

## Palm Beach County

### AUDITOR FINED

The Securities and Exchange Commission has fined auditor Eliot Berman, of Boca Raton, \$15,000 and suspended him for one year. He and his accounting firm, Berman & Co., are accused of violating federal laws that require auditors to rotate work with publicly traded companies. An accountant can't serve as auditor for the same company for more than five consecutive fiscal years.



ELWELL

### MANAGER RESIGNS

Palm Beach Manager Peter Elwell is resigning after 26 years on the job. He has accepted the same job in his hometown, Brattleboro, Vermont. City officials praised Elwell, but there was no mention of the workplace harassment and discrimination scandals in the town's police and other departments during his tenure. Elwell will earn \$95,000 a year in Brattleboro and he will also receive \$126,000 a year pension from the town.



TREVINO



LACOTT



MALONEY

### DOPE HEADS

Riviera Beach police arrested Renee Trevino, 33, and Jesus Lacott, 29, after seeing them sitting inside a car injecting themselves with what turned out to be oxycodone. Discarded needles and other paraphernalia allegedly were found on the floor of the car. But the most shocking was the 10-month-old baby that was in the backseat. They were taken into custody and the child was turned over to DCF.

### PRINCIPAL RESIGNS

Priscilla Maloney, principal of South Tech Preparatory Academy charter school, abruptly resigned after state officials gave notice that she was charged with stealing \$14,220 in furniture from a Palm Beach School District middle school in 2011. She had been the principal at the school and gave the furniture to a co-worker to use in a private business. She resigned after negotiating an agreement with the school district and was hired by the charter school last year.

## Broward County



AHMAD

### ON THE RUN

The search is on for Tariq Ahmad, 35, the former head of the private Islamic Nur-Ul-Islam Academy school in Cooper City. He is accused of molesting under-aged girls at the school. The school suspended Ahmad after they were informed of the criminal investigation, but he has since disappeared.



SNIPES

### BALLOT CONTROVERSY

Attorneys representing the Children's Services Council (CSC) are the latest to sue Broward Supervisor of Elections Brenda Snipes. This time it is over positioning of the ballot question about re-authorizing the agency. They contend voters are confusing the ballot question with another measure that is positioned above the CSC question. Elections officials responded by alerting each voter to read the ballots carefully. Plaintiffs are seeking to have a judge order a revised ballot before Tuesday's election.



GAST

### OFF TO JAIL

Daniel Jonathan Gast, 29, of Plantation, pleaded guilty to federal child pornography charges. Gast worked teaching children to play music at various music stores. Investigators tracked Internet activity to his laptop computer. A Plantation home did not turn up the laptop, but he was placed under surveillance, which ended at a Weston music store, where it allegedly was found. Numerous videos and pictures were found and he was arrested.



TILLMAN

### ID THEFT

A former medical assistant, 33-year-old LaToya Yvette Tillman of Hollywood, has been sentenced to three years in federal prison. She used her position at a local doctor's office to gain access to patients' information that was stored in a Memorial Health database. She stole over 2,000 identities and sold the sensitive information to people who used it to file fraudulent tax returns.

## Miami-Dade County

### CAT DEATHS

Miami-Dade Police are investigating after several cats were found dead in a Palmetto Bay neighborhood. They were killed with a bow and arrow. One owner said their pet was found on the front yard with an arrow still in place. Hopefully DNA left on the arrow will lead to an arrest.

### DEADLY HIT & RUN

Joe Edward Torres, 29, of Homestead was killed by a hit and run driver at the intersection of Krome Avenue and Mowry Drive. Torres was riding his bicycle when a small silver or grey SUV crashed into him, then sped off. Anyone who may have witnessed the incident is asked to call the Homestead Police Department at (305) 247-1535.

### GATOR CALL

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is seeking trappers. They are needed for the Statewide Nuisance Alligator Program. Successful applicants will be licensed contractors with the FWC. They will respond to complaints in southwest Miami-Dade County, which is experiencing an increase in gator complaints.

### AIRBAG FAILURES

Takata Total Safety Systems, the Japanese company that manufactures numerous

interior components for more than a dozen auto manufacturers, is recalling its airbags. It could be one of the largest recalls in automotive history. Already 10 companies, including BMW, Honda, Ford and Toyota have recalled vehicles that have Takata airbags. Pieces of metal come loose and cause injuries when the airbags are deployed. Three deaths are blamed on the airbags, and Claribel Nunez of Miami has filed a lawsuit over injuries to her face that are blamed on the defective airbags.

## Monroe County



SONTOLONGO

### HIGH-POWERED RAID

A search warrant was executed on the Key West home of 51-year-old Renan Viart Sotolongo. The Monroe County Sheriff's Office, Homeland Security, Key West Police, FDLE and the FBI all participated in a drug trafficking raid. The high-powered operation turned up five ounces of cocaine and more than \$8,000 in cash.

### REPELLENT DEVELOPMENT

Florida Keys Community College has developed a smelly, but effective shark repellent. The research was funded by a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration grant. It is made from decayed shark meat that is contained in timed-released capsules. Tests have proven effective and it will move to the development stage.

### LOVE OF LOBSTER

Jorge Vargas, 59, has a \$1.4 million bond after being arrested on poaching charges. He was caught with 250 undersized lobsters in Marathon. Court records show Vargas faced similar charges in 2011.

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“With the after-school program, Conrad has definitely done well with his reading.”

- Conrad's Mom, Angie Accius



Conrad is one of nearly 12,000 Broward children who are improving their reading through programs funded by the Children's Services Council of Broward County.

More than 400,000 children and young people call Broward County home. 150,000 of them are helped every year by Children's Services Council-funded programs. In many cases, their lives are changed forever.

You can learn more about the work of the Children's Services Council of Broward County by visiting our web site at:  
[www.cscbroward.org](http://www.cscbroward.org)



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# Obituaries

## Oscar de la Renta, legendary clothes designer, dead at 82

NEWYORK (AP) — At his Fashion Week runway show in September, Oscar de la Renta sat in his usual spot: in a chair right inside the wings, where he could carefully inspect each model just as she was about to emerge in one of his sumptuous, impeccably constructed designs.

At the end of the show, the legendary designer himself emerged, supported by two of his models. He didn't walk on his own, and didn't go far, but he was beaming from ear to ear. He gave each model a peck on the cheek, and then returned to the wings, where models and staff could be heard cheering him enthusiastically.

De la Renta, who dressed first ladies, socialites and Hollywood stars for more than four decades, died Oct. 20 at his Connecticut home at age 82, only six weeks after that runway show. But not before another high-profile honor was bestowed on him: The most famous bride in the world, Amal Alamuddin, wore a custom, off-the-shoulder de la Renta gown to wed George Clooney in Venice. Photos of the smiling designer perched on a table at the dress fitting appeared in *Vogue*.

De la Renta died surrounded by family, friends and "more than a few dogs," according to a handwritten statement signed by his stepdaughter Eliza Reed Bolen and her husband, Alex Bolen. The statement did not specify a cause of death, but de la Renta had spoken in the past of having cancer.

"He died exactly as he lived: with tremendous grace, great dignity and very much on his own terms," the statement said. "While our hearts are broken by the idea of life without Oscar, he is still very much with us. ... All that we have done, and all that we will do, is informed by his values and his spirit."

The late 1960s and early 1970s were a defining moment in U.S. fashion as New York-based designers carved out a look of their own that was finally taken seriously by Europeans. De la Renta and his peers, including the late Bill Blass, Halston and Geoffrey Beene, defined American style then and now.

De la Renta's specialty was evening

wear, though he also was known for chic daytime suits favored by the women who would gather at the Four Seasons or Le Cirque at lunchtime. His signature looks were voluminous skirts, exquisite embroideries and rich colors.

Earlier this month, first lady Michelle Obama notably wore a de la Renta dress for the first time. De la Renta had criticized her several years earlier for not wearing an American label to a state dinner in 2011.

Among Obama's predecessors favoring de la Renta were Laura Bush, who wore an icy blue gown by de la Renta to the 2005 inaugural ball, and Hillary Rodham Clinton, who wore a gold de la Renta in 1997.

"We will miss Oscar's generous and warm personality, his charm, and his wonderful talents," Bush said in a statement. "We will always remember him as the man who made women look and feel beautiful."

A statement from former President Bill Clinton, Hillary Clinton, and Chelsea Clinton and Marc Mezvinsky, said: "Oscar's remarkable eye was matched only by his generous heart. His legacy of philanthropy extended from children in his home country who now have access to education and health care, to some of New York's finest artists whose creativity has been sustained through his support."

De la Renta made just as big a name for himself on the Hollywood red carpet — with actresses of all ages. Penelope Cruz and Sandra Bullock were among the celebrities to don his feminine and opulent gowns. His clothes even were woven into episodes of *Sex and the City*, with its style icon, Carrie Bradshaw, comparing his designs to poetry.

One actress who wore a de la Renta gown to this year's Oscars was Jennifer Garner.

"Mr. de la Renta loved women," she said, wiping away tears. "And you saw it in every design that he did. He honored women's features, he honored our bodies. He wasn't afraid to pull back and let the woman be the star of the look."

De la Renta was also deeply admired



PHOTO COURTESY OF AWP/PROFESSORS.TYPEPAD.COM

Oscar De la Renta

launched his own label.

He told *The Associated Press* in 2004 that his Hispanic roots had worked their way into his designs.

"I like light, color, luminosity. I like things full of color and vibrant," he said.

While de la Renta made Manhattan his primary home, he often visited the Dominican Republic and kept a home there. *Vogue* Editor-in-Chief Anna Wintour was a frequent visitor.

"His designs reflected his extraordinary personality: optimistic, fun, sunny, romantic," Wintour wrote in a remembrance. "He always said accept your friends for who they are, not for who you want them to be. Oscar was everything you could want a friend to be."

As a designer, de la Renta catered to his socialite friends and neighbors — he and his wife, Annette, were fixtures on the black-tie charity circuit — but he did make occasional efforts to reach the masses, including launching a mid-priced line in 2004 and developing a dozen or so perfumes.

He was an avid patron of the arts, serving as a board member of The Metropolitan Opera and Carnegie Hall, among others, and he devoted considerable time to children's charities, including New Yorkers for Children. He also helped fund schools and day-care centers in La Romana and Punta Cana in his native country.

The Dominican Republic honored de la Renta with the Order of Merit of Juan Pablo Duarte and the order of Cristobol Colon. In the United States, he received the Coty American Fashion Critics Award twice, was named women's wear designer of the year by the Council of Fashion Designers of America in 2000 and received a lifetime achievement award from the CFDA — an organization for which he served as president in the 1980s.

De la Renta also is survived by his son, Moises, a designer at the company.

by his fellow designers. "He set the bar," designer Dennis Basso said on Instagram. "But most of all he was a refined elegant gentleman."

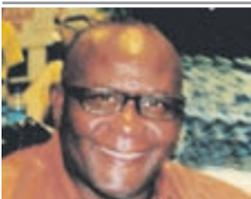
The designer's path to New York's Seventh Avenue took an unlikely route: He left his native Dominican Republic at 18 to study painting in Spain, but soon became sidetracked by fashion. The wife of the U.S. ambassador saw some of his sketches and asked him to make a dress for her daughter — a dress that landed on the cover of *Life* magazine.

That led to an apprenticeship with Cristobal Balenciaga, and then de la Renta moved to France to work for Lanvin. By 1963, he was working for Elizabeth Arden couture in New York, and in 1965 he

### HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - MLK



**CHARLES FLORENCE**, 66, Longshoreman, died October 22 at Kindred Hospital. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday in the chapel.



**ANTHONY POITIER**, 61, Lab Manager, died October 19, at Shands Hospital. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church.

**GWENDOLYN ELIZABETH WRIGHT**, 64, died October 23 at home. Funeral was held 12 pm Wednesday at MLK Chapel.



### WRIGHT & YOUNG FUNERAL HOME



**GLYNNE DANIELS**, 75, died October 26. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday at New Direction Christian Center.

**CALONIA LEWIS**, 75, died October 23. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday at Peaceful Zion M.B. Church.

**VELMA MILLER**, 65, died October 19. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Greater Love M.B. Church.

**MATTIE TUCKER**, 91, died October 23. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Antioch M.B. Church of Miami Gardens.

**ADA WARREN**, 102, died October 22. Funeral 11 am 11 am Saturday at First Baptist of Brownsville.

### BAIN RANGE FUNERAL HOME - Homestead



**ABRAHAM W. McCLAIN**, 65, Retired Bellsouth Technician, of Coconut Grove, died Oct. 21st at Coral Gables Hospital. Viewing will be held Friday 5 to 7 pm at St. James Baptist Church. Homegoing Services will be held 10 am Saturday at Greater St. Paul A.M.E. Church.

**JANYCE S. WATERS**, 73, Retired Educator, of Miami, died October 22nd at Larkins Hospital. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at New Bethel A.M.E. Church of Goulds.

### HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - Miami Gardens



**BETTY BLUNT**, 55, died October 19 at Jackson North Hospital. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday in the chapel.

**MARIE FIELDS**, 64, Housekeeper, died October 24 at Memorial Pembroke Hospital. will be held Saturday at 10am in the Chapel.

**JOHNNIE JONES**, 51, died October 20 at Jackson North Hospital. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday in the chapel.

**CLAUDE LAGUERRE**, 77, Seamstress, died October 24 at North Shore Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.

**S.J. THOMAS**, 93, Truck Driver, died October 24 at Kindred Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.

### RANGE FUNERAL HOME



**ELIAS D. BECKFORD**, 90, Laborer, died October 26. Funeral 11 am Wednesday, November 5 at Range Chapel.

**DEACON LEON MACK**, 87, Retired Custodian, for Miami Dade Water and Sewer Department died October 22. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Mt. Olive Primitive Baptist Church.

**EDGAR L. RODGERS**, 76, Laborer, for Zion Meat Company died October 26. Funeral 2 pm Saturday at Range Chapel.

**THELMA N. ROSE**, 68, Receptionist, died October 24. Memorial service will be held in New York City.



**ANNA GRACE SWEETING**, 84, Retired School Teacher, for Dunbar Elementary School died October 25. Funeral 11 am Saturday at St. Agnes Episcopal Church.

### ROY MIZELL & KURTZ FUNERAL HOME



**MAMIE JOHNSON**, 75, of Fort Lauderdale, died October 21. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Mount Bethel Baptist Church.

**TERRI ANN POWELL**, 56, of Fort Lauderdale, died October 24. Arrangements are incomplete.

Place your In Memoriam Notice Here Call 954-356-9360

### HALL-FERGUSON-HEWITT MORTUARY



**SEDRICK ROLLE**, 17, Student, died October 23. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday at Hall-Ferguson-Hewitt Chapel.

**GERALDINE WALLACE**, 87, Retired Dietary Worker, for MDCPS, died October 23. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Mt. Olivette Baptist Church.

### JAY'S FUNERAL HOME



**LINDA BROWN**, 62, died October 23. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Martin Memorial, located at 14700 Lincoln Blvd. Richmond Heights, FL.

**YVONNE ROSS**, 57, Caterer, died October 25. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Faith Christian Center, located at 11021 S.W. 176 St., Miami, FL.

**BETTY WIGGINS**, 59, Medical Assistant, died. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Glendale Baptist Church, located at 14580 S.W. 117Ave., Richmond Heights, FL.

### MANKER FUNERAL HOME



**RACHEL WORK KELLY-DYE**, 85, Retired Nurse, died October 22, in Jacksonville, FL. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Manker Memorial Chapel.

**MARY WORD-PRINGLE**, 90, died August 30, in Jacksonville, FL. Services were held.

### MARCEL'S CREMATIONS



**CARMEN ABREU**, 28, College Student, died October 20. Arrangements are incomplete.

**CLARE ANN KRACHOWSKI**, 89, Waitress, died October 24. Arrangements are incomplete.

**WOODROW NELSON**, 79, Auto Detailer, died October 21. Memorial services will be held.

**JOHN SPIEGEL JR.**, 58, General Manager, died October 25. Arrangements are incomplete.

**MARIA B. ZAMORA**, 90, Entrepreneur, died October. Private services will be held.

### PAX VILLA FUNERAL HOMES - Orlando



**JACQUES MOMBRUN**, died October 18 in Orlando. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Way to Calvary Church of The Nazarene, Orlando, FL.

Place your CARDS OF THANKS and DEATH NOTICES Here Call Today 954-356-9360

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## Classifieds

### LEGAL NOTICES

#### PUBLICATION OF BID SOLICITATIONS

Broward County Board of County Commissioners is soliciting bids for a variety of goods and services, construction and architectural/engineering services. Interested bidders are requested to view and download the notifications of bid documents via the Broward County Purchasing website at: [www.broward.org/purchasing](http://www.broward.org/purchasing).

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# Prayerful Living

## Invoking the Blessing



BISHOP HENRY FERNANDEZ

*"Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give*

*will determine the amount you get back."* – Luke 6:38, New Living Translation

**Give.**

Have you ever wondered why it is that the mere mention of that word sometimes stirs what appears to be a strong attitude of resentment with believers? How quickly they draw back, and offer excuses for holding on to what they have?

I've thought about it a number of times, and I believe I know the reason. I believe that, though they truly love the Lord with all their hearts, many believers don't have a clear understanding of what the Bible teaches about giving. They don't realize the impact this single act could have on their lives, and the kingdom of God, if, out of obedience to God and His Word, they started giving.

They don't have that "cheerful giver" attitude that God speaks of in 2 Corinthians 9:7, where He says, "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

God loves a cheerful giver. Not only that, but He has a reward for those who give out of the kindness of their hearts, and not reluctantly or in response to pressure. Luke 6:38, New Living Translation says, "Give, and you will receive. Your gift will return to you in full—pressed down, shaken together to make room for more, running over, and poured into your lap. The amount you give will determine the amount you get back."

**Receive in Greater Measure**

The Bible says whatever you give will be measured back to you based on the size of your giving. If you give sparingly, or in small amounts, then that's what you can expect to receive in return — something small. However, if you give bountifully, the Bible says, you will reap bountifully, or in abundance.

I'm grateful for whatever blessings I receive from God. But when it comes to receiving a little versus receiving much, I'm going to do everything I can always to be on the receiving end of much. I'm sure most of you would, as well. Moreover, it's not just so that I can have more for myself. No, that would be selfish. I desire to have more so that I can give more. I desire to be a blessing to the kingdom of God.

As believers, we have a command from God to take His Word and "give" it to anyone who will receive it. We're to take the gospel to everyone, everywhere! Not just in one corner of the world here and to a few people in some small developing nation over there. No, He wants the gospel preached to everyone.

Not everyone is called to preach or evangelize. But giving is something we all can do, because God has blessed us to be able to give.

**Giving With Joy**

You may be wondering, *How has God blessed me? I'm still having problems paying my bills. I still drive an old car, and I don't know if I will ever own my own home.*

Those things may be true. That may be where you are right now. But you certainly don't have to stay there forever. Not when God has given you the formula for getting out of the rut you're in and moving over into the blessed place He has established for you. He says, "Give, and give in such measure that when it comes back to you it will be so big you won't have room enough to store it all." The Lord also says, "I will take what you have and multiply it a thousand times" (Deuteronomy 1:11).

"But I don't have much to give," you might say.

Then give whatever you have. God will honor that. But here's the key: Go back to what the Lord said in 2 Corinthians 9:7: "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver."

Give, and give cheerfully. Where you are right now has been determined by the measure of your giving. But where you will be in the future will also be determined by what you choose to give.

God desires to see you prosper and live an abundant life. It will happen when you make the decision to invoke the blessing of God's Word in your life by giving.

*Henry Fernandez is senior pastor of The Faith Center Ministries in Sunrise, Fla., and is author of the best-selling book, Faith, Family & Finances: Strong Foundations for a Better Life. For more information, go to [www.henryfernandez.org](http://www.henryfernandez.org) or call 1-954-742-7832.*

**SUNDAY NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>**

**INCARNATION'S 58<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ALL STATES TEA**

Music and entertainment will fill the sanctuary at the Church of The Incarnation's 58th annual All States Tea on Sunday.

St. Cecilia's choir, under the direction of the Reverend James Bell, parish musician will perform. The tea will also feature an ensemble group from the Miami Edison Senior High School band. Mr. LeNard Rutledge, accompanied by his son Ellington on the saxophone will provide a couple of soulful renditions. Finally, the program will feature a pair of siblings, Kayala McKinney, accompanied by her brother Kelson III.

This community event, which begins at 4 p.m., is free and open to the public. The Church of the Incarnation is located at 1835 NW 54th Street.

Reception follows in the J. Kenneth Major parish hall.

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# technology

## New technologies are making busy parents' lives easier

(StatePoint) Parents in today's technological age have to keep their kids safe in so many new spaces. It also means being able to take advantage of new technologies to make your life a bit easier.

If you're a modern mom or dad, here are several new tools and gadgets to consider:

### STROLLER 2.0

Whether it's a cup of hot coffee or your cell phone, the luxury of having two hands for stroller-wielding can be elusive.

The 4moms origami stroller ([www.4moms.com](http://www.4moms.com)) - the spaceship of baby strollers - actually folds and unfolds at the touch of a button and can even power your gadgets. It has generators in its rear wheels that charge while you walk, as well as a docking station to charge a smartphone, and LCD display screen with mileage counter and temperature gauge. Safety features include daytime running lights, pathway lights and child safety sensors.

### JUGGLE-PROOF GEAR

When you're juggling young cargo, the first thing to let slip from your hands will be your devices. Keep your smartphone, tablet and laptop protected from inevitable drops. Check out Tech21 ([www.Tech21.com](http://www.Tech21.com)), a leader in impact protection. Their Impact Mesh case features a patented D30 polymer that locks on impact, and the Impact Shield with Anti-Glare offers screen protection with an anti-glare filter that is perfect for trips to the park.

### SMART HOME

When you're out of the house, maintain peace-of-mind with a smart home system that allows you to monitor and control virtually everything in your home from a computer, tablet or mobile device.

Iris from Lowe's ([www.Lowes.com/Iris](http://www.Lowes.com/Iris)) allows users to receive a personal text when kids arrive home or when a door is opened, view real-time video of what's happening throughout the house, ensure stoves and electronic devices, such as TVs during homework time are turned off, cool down the house before coming home and more.

### PROTECTING MEMORIES

Protecting your digital content suddenly seems more important when you have a baby. Those photos and videos of those early months are irreplaceable. A G-Technology hard drive can help moms and dads store and protect photos, videos and other digital content. The company's G-DRIVE mobile and slim portable drives are sleek and stylish, with up to 1TB capacity and 7200 rpm hard drives for super-fast transfers. Even professional photographers and videographers rely on G-Technology's high-performance drives to protect data, so you know those precious baby shots will be safe. Information is available at [www.g-technology.com](http://www.g-technology.com).

### FUNCTIONAL GEAR

For new parents, ensuring your everyday items are as functional as possible is a key to easy parenting. Check out Kensington ([www.Kensington.com](http://www.Kensington.com)), which offers fun and affordable tech gadgets. The newly released Portafolio Me for iPad Mini and Comercio Me for iPad Air are customizable cases that add a personal touch to your devices. You can even upload your favorite family photo to create your own sleek, lightweight and protective case.

Don't let parenting logistics get the best of you. Be well-informed and take advantage of new tools that offer assistance.



PHOTO COURTESY OF STATEPOINT NEWS SERVICE

**NEW-AGE PARENTING:** Technological devices can help mom and dad with the safety of their children.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THEOBAMACRAT.COM

3-D printed statue of Barack Obama.

## The new family portrait? 3D-printed statue selfies

By PETER SVENSSON

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK — Walk into Eddie DaRoza's office and you'll find two of him there: the actual 32-year-old video producer, and a five-inch statuette of him.

"There are a lot of double takes. It's like a little action figure of myself," the Los Angeles native said.

He had the statue made on a lark. While waiting for his brother at a mall, he stepped into a studio that scanned his body and sent the scan off to a 3-D printer. These studios are popping up rapidly as 3-D scanning and printing technology gets more advanced. In New York City alone, at least four stores offer the service. You can get scanned in just a few seconds and get your statue delivered in days.

The advent of digital cameras and smart phones killed the traditional mall portrait studio, but 3-D printing has sparked a new trend. Overloaded with digital photos, statues may be moving in to fulfill our desire for portraits that stand out.

Many of the customers of the statue studios are parents who want statues of their kids. Sylvain Preumont, who opened a New York branch of his London-based iMakr store this year, said a soldier's wife had their three children scanned so he could bring them to Afghanistan. Victor De Los Angeles, owner of New York 3-D printing and scanning store Cubo, has scanned several pregnant women.

"I had a lady come in the day before she went into labor and she was like: 'I need it done today,'" he said.

New York's Museum of Art and Design offered scans and statues earlier this year. Shapeways, the company that supplied the exhibit, said it scanned about 6,000 people and sold about 1,500 statues for \$30. Woody Allen got himself scanned there, so it's now possible to buy a 3.5-inch statue of a slumping Woody Allen in a cardigan. The Smithsonian Institution scanned President Barack Obama and revealed a 3-D printed bust of him this

summer. It will be added to the National Portrait Gallery.

The typical 3-D-printed statue is printed in full color in a material known as "sandstone" — really, gypsum powder. It's glued together by color ink ejected from a head similar to the one found in an inkjet printer. The statues range from three to eight inches tall. The technology allows for a lot of variation in materials. iMakr offered chocolate statues for Easter. For 99 pounds, you got a box with six small chocolate likenesses of yourself.

Big businesses are getting into 3-D statuary as well, with Wal-Mart Stores Inc. at the forefront. In July, at a newly opened Sam's Club in Montgomery, Ill., and another outside Fort Worth, Tex., 3-D printers scanned shoppers' faces and placed resin printouts of their heads on action figure-sized bodies of one of three Marvel characters. Wal-Mart's British unit, ASDA, will start testing a service in November that lets customers buy eight-inch figurines of themselves for 60 pounds, or \$100. The studio is now permanent in one store, and it's been so popular that the company is considering rolling it out to other locations.

"It's become the new family portrait," said ASDA spokesman Russell Craig.

A Staples store in New York scans people's faces and puts them on NBA and Star Trek figurines. The goal of the pilot program is to get small businesses to use Staples Inc. for 3-D scanning and printing jobs, just like they've provided those services for paper.

One example of what that might look like: A bakery that wants to use statues of the bride and groom as wedding cake toppers would need a printer that cost \$60,000 or so, plus the expertise to use it. Staples wants to do that job for them, for \$70. Before that can happen, small businesses like bakeries have to learn about the possibilities of 3-D printing.

"There's a really big education component that I don't think can be underestimated," said Damien Leigh, senior vice president of business services for the office supplies retailer.

## film

# 'White People' is edgy; has memorable cast

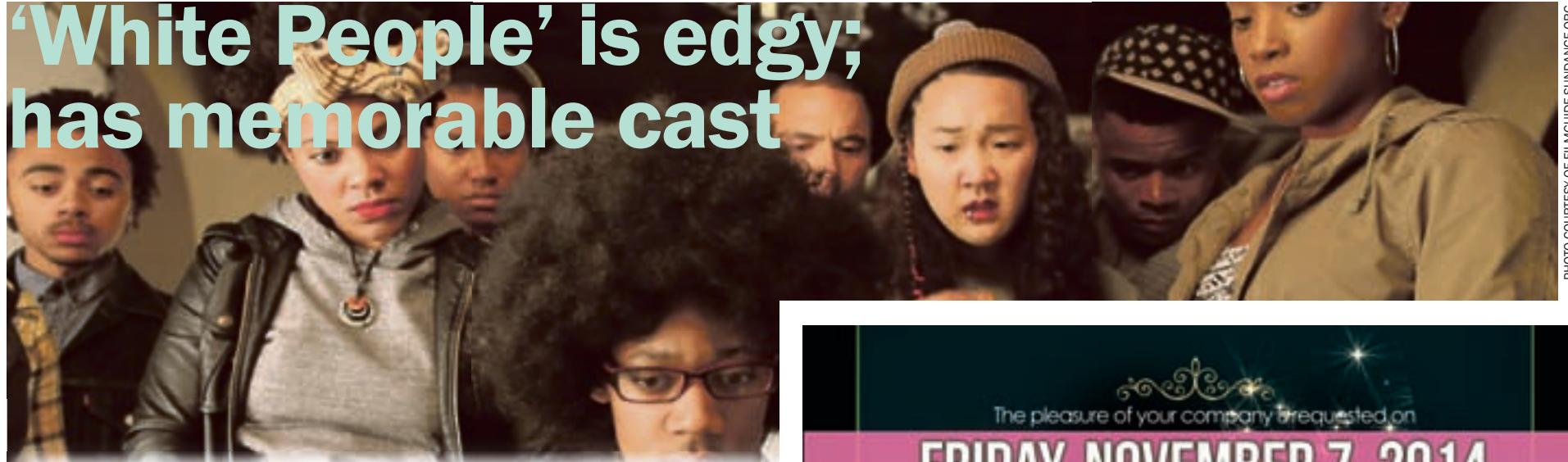


PHOTO COURTESY OF FILMGUIDESUNDANCE.ORG

By **JUSTIN LOWE**  
The Hollywood Reporter

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A cheeky provocation wrapped in a zingy punchline, Justin Simien's *Dear White People* recalls other memorably promising debuts — by filmmakers named Spike, for instance, whether Lee or Jonze. An ambitious satire that questions just how “post-racial” America has become, the film is never at a loss for words, but sometimes confuses galvanizing rhetoric for legitimate deliberation.

At an Ivy League stand-in called Winchester University, black students endure marginalization in both the classroom and campus cultural life, with many finding acceptance at Armstrong/Parker Hall, which has a longstanding tradition of black residents. Biracial media arts major Samantha White (Tessa Thompson) relies on Armstrong/Parker residents as the base of support for her radio show called *Dear White People*. The show frequently finds her breaking down the status of race relations on campus by making pronouncements like “Dear White People, the amount of black friends required not to seem racist has just been raised to two.”

Sam shakes up Armstrong/Parker by beating out incumbent (and ex-boyfriend) Troy (Brandon Bell) in the election for house president, quickly assuring other residents that her top priority will be pressuring the university to rescind its “Randomization of Housing Act,” which would force Armstrong/Parker to diversify. Her proactive truculence gets the attention of black student reporter Lionel Higgins (Tyler James Williams), who recognizes the potential for a gossipy news story that could raise his profile at the primarily white school paper.

Colandrea “Coco” Connors (Teyonah Parris) also sees an opportunity to take Sam down a few notches while boosting her own profile on her video blog. Despite being the son of the Dean of Students, Troy finds his status severely challenged after his loss to Sam, particularly since he's already held at arm's length by some black students for dating the white daughter of university President Fletcher. Competing with

Coco for a coveted spot on the university's prestigious humor magazine, edited by the president's son Kurt (Kyle Gallner), prompts Troy to reprioritize. Meanwhile, Sam and Lionel are both trying to conceal clandestine relationships that could irreparably compromise their public profiles if exposed.

Rivalries and campus tensions reach a boiling point over a race-themed Halloween party sponsored by a white residence hall, which forces all the players to reevaluate where they stand regarding campus race relations. Preempting the debates surrounding a disturbing rash of race-related partying incidents in recent years at universities nationwide to shift the balance of power back to black perspectives, Simien positions his characters to contend with a nonstop barrage of hot-button cultural issues. Self-important dialogue and schematic plotting suggest that their purpose is less self-actualization than serving Simien's inclination to provoke unease and challenge conventions of racial identity. Whichever the case, his discerning script is rife with frequently amusing situations, although this is much more a comedy of words than actions.

As a result, the cast has abundant opportunity to flex their range, led by Thompson's conflicted student activist, which she pulls off with practiced composure. Williams manages to consistently dial up Lionel's nervousness and bewilderment throughout the film to a point of heightened tension that necessitates decisive resolution. As lovers, then rivals who must eventually seek mutual accommodation, Parris and Bell understand that for Coco and Troy, discovering humility is just the beginning of these characters' realigned journeys.

Simien intensifies the impact of both action and dialogue with a self-reflexive directorial style that creates a marginally heightened sense of reality, revealing more about characters' motivations than would conventionally be expected. Whether this type of perspective is essential to telling the story or constitutes more of an attention-grabbing embellishment may depend more on personal taste than objective judgment.

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# fashion

## Muslim hijabi hipsters fusing fashion with faith

By **AYA BATRAWY**  
Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Fashion-conscious Muslim women from Kuala Lumpur to Los Angeles who wear the Islamic headscarf, known as the *hijab*, have had to get creative.

By fusing both their sense of fashion with their faith, this growing group, some of whom have dubbed themselves hipster *hijabis*, is reinterpreting traditional notions of what it means to dress conservatively. They're spawning a new market for niche fashion brands and finding unexpected supporters among some mainstream brands, as well as from conservative Christian and Orthodox Jewish women who also dress modestly.

"We want to be current in fashion and adhere to the tenets of our faith," said Ibtihaj Muhammad, who owns Louella, a fashion brand catering to women who combine modest dressing with fashion.

The Los Angeles-based brand has sold nearly 4,000 pieces since its launch three months ago. Muhammad, a professional athlete and member of the United States fencing team, said she struggled trying to find long-sleeved, floor-length dresses to wear when she traveled on speaking tours on behalf of Team USA and the State Department.

Her line, which include floor-length sheer cardigans and dresses, ranges from \$45 for a colorful, Picasso-inspired print cardigan to \$100 for a pink lace, empire-cut dress. Though there are

countless Muslim-owned companies around the world making clothes that cater to women who wear the *hijab*, many are selling traditional black-flowing robes known as *abayas*.

"I just got tired of spending money and chasing this idea of this perfect modest dress," she said.

Some mainstream designers also have started to cater to this growing demand for stylish modest wear. This summer, DKNY released a collection during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan that sold exclusively in the Arabian Gulf. Karl Lagerfeld also brought his Chanel Cruise Collection this year to Dubai, unveiling an array of designs inspired by the rich culture and patterns of the Middle East.

Still, the market is ripe for more investment said Albert Momdijan, founder and CEO of Dubai-based Sokotra Capital.

"The Muslim population is the second largest population in the world with roughly 1.8 billion people so it's a large population that you definitely cannot ignore. And 50 percent are below the age of 25," he said. "It's a young population, it's a growing population and it's a large addressable market."

The hipster *hijabi* movement is the byproduct of a young generation of Muslim women coming of age. It grew organically, spurred in part by social media, and continues to take on new meaning by the women who embrace it.

Summer Albarcha coined her photo-sharing Instagram account "Hipster Hijabis" in 2012, when the teenager from St. Louis, Missouri was just 16. She now has almost 23,000 people following her on Instagram. Her loyal following prompted New-York based label Mimou Maxi, run by two Orthodox Jewish



### ON THE COVER

Ibtihaj Muhammad

PHOTO COURTESY OF  
HAUTEMUSLIMAH.COM

PHOTOS COURTESY OF  
LOUELLASHOP.COM

Various styles of  
Louellashop

women, to send her one of their popular maxi skirts to model.

The collaboration caused a stir, with many Jewish customers blasting Mimou Maxi for featuring a Muslim woman in *hijab*. Albarcha says the experience only reaffirmed the universal struggle women of all faiths and backgrounds have when trying to find stylish conservative pieces to wear.

"It came out that our ideas of wanting modest fashion and in promoting it is something really similar and something we have in common between our religions," she said. "We should both be working together to embrace this idea and expand it."

There also are challenges from within the Muslim community. Women in *hijab* wearing eye-catching styles often find themselves at odds with conservatives who say *hijab* should be about covering a woman's beauty and concealing it from strangers.

"People are resistant to change

and people like to keep things the same," said fashion blogger Maria Al-Sadek. "It's just like a stigma to be stylish and resemble Western wear sometimes."

Last year, a group called Mipsterz, or Muslim Hipsters, made a short video of a group of American Muslim women skateboarding in heels and showing off their ultra-stylish *hijabi* styles. The video drew mixed reactions, including criticism from people who thought it bent too much toward Western notions of beauty and went against Islamic principles of humility.

Marwa Atik, 23, was in the video and saw it as a chance to position her fashion line, Vela Scarves, which she produces in Los Angeles.

The graduate of Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising in Los Angeles says she sold more than 3,200 scarves last year to customers around the world and plans to expand her offerings to include apparel.

For her, wearing the headscarf has never been a barrier to being fashionable.

"It's very easy to get into the stereotypes and start to feel insecure," she said. "I made sure people see me as I see me."

Fashion insider Bong Guerrero, founder and CEO of Fashion Forward, a platform in Dubai for local designers to showcase their collections, says the explosion of design-oriented modest street wear has given "a new perspective on *hijabi* style."

"Because *hijabi* has an archaic and demure connotation, adding hipster to it adds color and fun," he said, but "is it modest fashion? It is conservative fashion? Is it Islamic fashion?"

For Atik in trend-setting California, the word hipster is already out of style. But modesty, she says, is here to stay. "I am not looking at the name of hipster, but the *hijabi* girl that is much more stylish," she said.

## pop culture

# Viola Davis: Impoverished childhood drives her to help



BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP) — Viola Davis told a crowd of Hollywood luminaries that her drive to end childhood hunger is fueled by memories of growing up in "abject poverty," stealing and crawling through maggot-filled garbage bins to get food.

"I sacrificed a childhood for food," she said, "and grew up in immense shame."

Davis shared the personal story Oct. 10 as she accepted accolades at the Variety Power of Women luncheon, where Jane Fonda, Reese Witherspoon and Jennifer Lopez were also recognized for humanitarian efforts.

Davis said her work with the Hunger Is campaign to raise awareness about hunger in the United States has been "the joy of my life." She thanked her colleagues and supporters for the chance to "stand up in front of so many people, at the age of 49, and share my testimony and begin the process of healing."

Witherspoon was recognized for her involvement with the Malala Fund, the educational advocacy organization established by Malala Yousafzai, who recently won the Nobel Peace Prize.

Witherspoon said she was inspired by her daughter, Ava, to explore the state of girls' education around the world and learn about Malala's efforts.

Lopez said her namesake foundation was also inspired by her children. Lopez said she and her sister, Lynda, started the Lopez Family Foundation when they were pregnant together in hopes of helping needy families receive high-quality health care.

Fonda is involved with various philanthropic programs, but she was honored for creating the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Power & Potential, which works to prevent teen pregnancy and inspire healthy lifestyles in that state.

"I grew up believing that service is the rent you pay for life," Fonda said.

Other honorees included Universal Pictures chair Donna Langley, who works with Vital Voices, an international campaign that supports female community leaders; and Jessica Matthews, creator of the Soccket, a soccer ball that harnesses energy with play and becomes an off-grid power source.

Guests at the Lifetime-sponsored luncheon at the Beverly Hilton Hotel included Ryan Seacrest, Maria Bello, Allison Janney and *Wild'* author Cheryl Strayed.

Viola Davis

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travel

# MUMMIES, KINGS AND GOLD DEBUT AT SCIENCE CENTER

## South Florida Science Center and Aquarium hosts North American premier of *Afterlife: Tombs & Treasures of Ancient Egypt*

Special to the South Florida Times

WEST PALM BEACH — A one-way ticket to Egypt will cost less than \$20 this fall, thanks to the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, as the local attraction is taking visitors on a journey thousands of years in the making. The center says that visitors to the new exhibit, *Afterlife: Tombs & Treasures of Ancient Egypt*, will feel like they have stepped into a time machine, warping them to an elaborate ancient empire.

The exhibit opened Oct. 10 at the Science Center, 4801 Dreher Trail North, West Palm Beach. It has interactive components. The centerpiece is a full-size reconstruction of the burial chamber of the great Pharaoh Thutmose III.

*Afterlife* has been on tour for more than 10 years, and seen by more than 4.5 million people worldwide. It debuts in North America after a wildly-popular tour in Asia, where science-seekers lined up for more than 6 hours for a glimpse at the largest current touring exhibition of authentic Egyptian material. Visitors will see 200 original artifacts in the exhibit, which runs through Saturday, April 18.

"The afterlife is thrilling," said Lew Crampton, Science Center CEO. "Every culture has particular beliefs and customs about what happens when we die, with the Egyptians known for some of the most interesting and elaborate traditions."

Crampton explained that preparations for the pharaohs' tombs were incredibly intricate and embodied their deeply-rooted beliefs in life beyond the physical world. Excavated directly from the Egyptian tombs and towns, including the Valley of the Kings at Luxor, this is the largest touring exhibition

of Egyptian material currently available, he said, noting that the Quantum Foundation helped underwrite the exhibit.

Among the most significant artifacts making its debut, is the Ramesside male mummy believed to be the son of Ramses II, often referred to as "Ramses the Great." The identity of this 3,000-year-old mummy was most recently revealed through an advance Computerized Tomography (CT)

Scan carried out during an episode of "Mummy Forensics" on The History Channel. Additionally, there are several other mummies in the exhibition, including a wrapped mummy of a woman and a mummy of a young girl believed to be about 4 - 8 years old.

Visitors to the exhibition begin their voyage to the *Afterlife* by discovering how sophisticated and rich ancient Egyptians' lives were through displays related to life in ancient Egypt featuring many rare objects which illustrate their culture as well as their mastery of beautiful design. They are introduced to the mysterious preparations the Egyptians made for

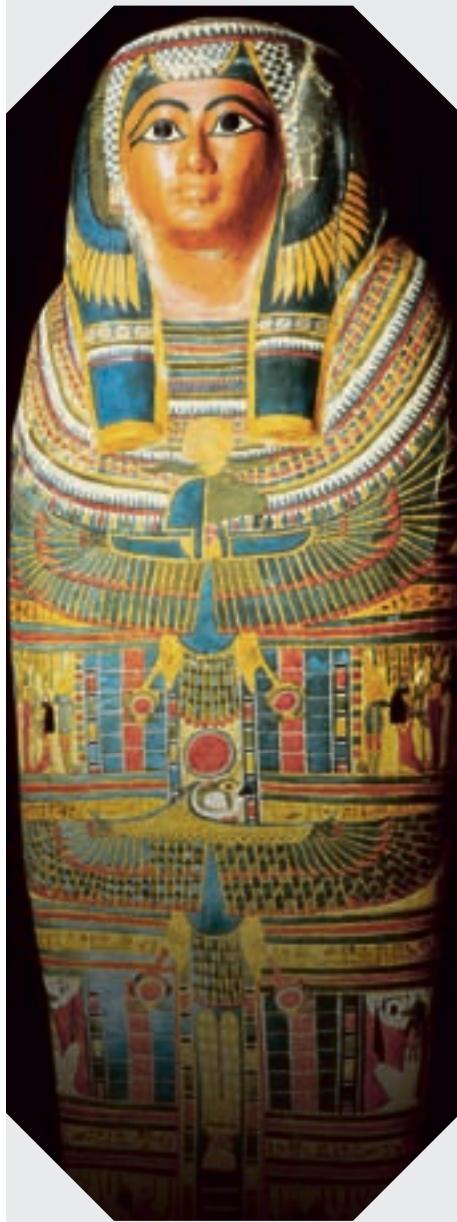
death and burial which they believed would allow them to live forever. Visitors encounter ancient animal mummies, an extraordinary number of human mummies, exquisite golden mummy masks and coffins, and strange magical figures from ancient tombs. The exhibition culminates in making the journey to the Valley of the Kings by entering an exact facsimile of the tomb chamber of Thutmose III and discovering the Ramesside male mummy - one of the best preserved mummies in existence.

Widely considered the 'Napoleon' of Egypt, and a military genius by historians, Thutmose III was an active expansionist ruler. Reigning over Egypt for more than 50 years, he has been credited with conquering more land than any pharaoh before or after him, expanding Egypt's borders to create the largest empire ever conquered and ruled by one king.

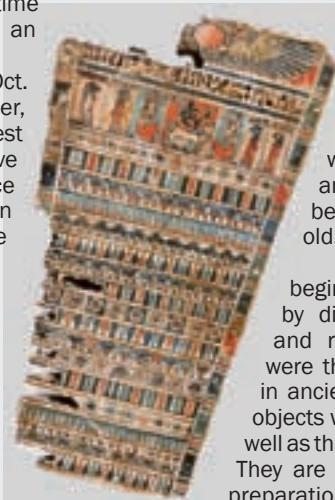
"We know that a passion for science is at the heart of any health care career so, as a health care foundation, we're excited that the South Florida Science Center is growing and developing as a center for science education in the region," said Quantum Foundation President Eric Kelly. "Big exhibits like this help draw new people in to explore the world of science and this exhibit will encourage those who haven't experienced the Science Center to come and see how just how exciting it is."

United Exhibits Group of Copenhagen, in cooperation with Bolton Museum in the United Kingdom, brought *Afterlife* to the Science Center. "The *Afterlife* Exhibition gives visitors to the South Florida Science Center the opportunity to experience firsthand the remains of one of the first great civilizations in world history" said Dr. Carolyn Routledge, chief curator.

"The ancient Egyptian artefacts on display, some over 5,000 years old, come from some of the most spectacular excavations in Egypt during the past 150 years. We are very excited to be able to share with visitors the experience of being in an ancient Egyptian royal tomb and being in the presence of people who lived thousands of years ago, but had the same needs, feelings and ambitions that we do today," she said.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF BOLTON COUNCIL, FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF BOLTON MUSEUM



### IF YOU GO

*Afterlife: Tombs & Treasures of Ancient Egypt* is on tour at the South Florida Science Center and Aquarium, 4801 Dreher Trail North, West Palm Beach, through April 18. Admission is \$19.95 for adults, \$15.95 for children aged 3 to 12, \$17.95 for seniors aged 62 and older, and children under 3 are free. Admission for Science Center members is \$8. Center hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday - Friday, and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more information call 561-832-1988 or visit [www.sfsiencecenter.org](http://www.sfsiencecenter.org).

## October 30

**Clematis by Fright:** Rock out to local band Riverdown, and compete in costume contests with categories for kids, adults, couples, families and pets. There's more than \$7,000 in prizes up for grabs. 6 to 10 p.m. at Centennial Square, North and South Clematis between Narcissus and Flagler Drive in West Palm Beach. Free. 561-822-1515.

**HistoryMiami Ghost Tours:** Hear spooky tales while touring the Miami City Cemetery with HistoryMiami. Walk among the tombstones and mausoleums of the city's oldest cemetery. Halloween costumes are optional. Tour 1 is 6 to 7:30 p.m.; Tour 2 is 8 to 9:30 p.m. at Miami City Cemetery, 1800 NE Second Ave., Miami. \$30. 305-375-1492 or www.historymiami.org.



# events calendar

COMPILED By **MARISSA CLARKE**  
Special to South Florida Times

# Oct. 30 - Nov. 7

## Oct. 31



PHOTO COURTESY OF AUDOBONSOCIETY.ORG

**Boo at the Zoo:** Celebrate Halloween at the 17th annual not-so-scary event, which features trick-or-treating, costume contests for kids, face painting and more. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Palm Beach Zoo, 1301 Summit Blvd., Palm Beach. \$18.95, \$12.95 children 3-12, free children 3 and under. 561-533-0887 or www.palmbeachzoo.org.

## October 31

**Harvest Fest:** Bring a canned good or non-perishable donation for admission to the 40th annual event! There's fun for the entire family with mask-making, bounce houses and slides, face-painting, performances and more! Learn the Thriller dance from Michael Jackson's famous video, and compete in the costume contest. 4 to 7 p.m. at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, 6161 NW 22nd Ave., Miami. Free with donation of canned good or non-perishable item. 305-638-6771.

**Howl-O-Ween at CocoWalk:** Children can dress up in their favorite costume to trick-or-treat at the stores of CocoWalk! Clowns, magicians, a face painter and more will be on hand to keep the kids entertained. The day also includes giveaways of Broadway tickets to Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella and Disney's Beauty and the Beast. 2 to 7 p.m. with a costume contest at 4:30 p.m. at CocoWalk, 3015 Grand Ave., Coconut Grove. Free. 305-444-0777 or www.cocowalk.net.

## Oct. 31

**Monsters in the Moonlight:** Grab a sitter for the kids and enjoy a night out on the town dressed in your best costume and mask. The evening begins with a tour of the haunted Lower Gardens, followed by a walk through the Monsters Haunted House. Groove to the sounds of DJ Mike and enjoy cocktails by Bacardi, food and a screening of the Rocky Horror Picture Show hosted by a special guest! Open to adults 21 and older. 7 p.m. at Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 Red Rd., Pinecrest. \$75 in advance, \$100 at the door. 305-669-6990 or www.pinecrest-fl.gov.



PHOTO COURTESY OF HALLOWEEN-COSTUMES.COM

## November 1

**Jump Starting Your Creativity:** Chris Jackson, author of *The Tell-Tale Art: Poe in Modern Popular Culture* and professor at Nova Southeastern University presents tips on research, organizing, and making characters come to life. The event is held in celebration of National Novel Writing Month. 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Broward County Main Library, 100 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Free. 954-357-7443.

## November 2

**Kendall Village Farmers' Market:** Grab fresh fruit, homemade jam, artisan goods and more with over 40 local farmers on hand and you are sure to find the perfect treat. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Kendall Village Center, 8705 SW 124th Ave., Kendall. 305-318-6148.

**Last Comic Standing:** Comedians from Season 8 of the NBC show perform. The winner Rod Man, Nikki Carr, Rocky Laporte, Joe Machi and Lachian Patterson. 8 p.m. at Dreyfoos Hall Kravis Center, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. \$15-\$128. 561-832-7469 or www.kravis.org.

## November 3

**The Taste of the Island:** Sample foods and drink from more than 30 local restaurants and bars, including Chima Brazilian Steakhouse and Bona Italian! 6 to 9 p.m. at the Richardson Historic Park & Preserve, 1937 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors. \$40 at the door, \$30 in advance. 954-257-2317 or www.tasteoftheisland.org.

**Jazz at the Wertheim Series:** The FIU Latin Jazz Ensemble performs under the direction of Mike Orta. The evening includes selections by composers Alex Norris, Dave Samuels, Luis Perdomo, and Jerry Gonzalez followed by performances of well-known jazz classics. 7:30 p.m. at FIU Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, 10910 SW 17th St., Miami. \$10. 305-348-0496 or www.music.fiu.edu.

## Nov. 5



PHOTO COURTESY OF HOLLYWOODBOWL.COM

**Natalie Cole:** The Grammy-Award winning singer and songwriter performs some of her greatest hits including, *This Will Be*, *Sophisticated Lady*, *Daydreaming* and more! 8 p.m. Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, 1 Seminole Way, Fort Lauderdale. \$55-\$75. 954-327-7625.

## November 6

**All Arts Open Mic:** Comedian Richy Lala hosts this open mic which features local singers, spoken word artists, comedy and more! 9 p.m. at The Funky Buddha Lounge, 2621 N. Federal Highway. \$3 or two canned goods for charity. 561-512-8472.

## November 6

**Steve Dorff:** The singer/songwriter who has written songs for Ringo Starr, Celine Dion, and Barbara Streisand just to name a few performs. 7 p.m. at the Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, 900 N. Birch Rd., Fort Lauderdale. \$40-\$50. 954-563-5393 or www.bonnet-house.org.

## November 7

**A Conversation with Zane:** The novelist shares tales of love and intimacy with a discussion on the making of her novel *Addicted* into a motion picture. The film stars Sharon Leal, Boris Kodjoe and Tyson Beckford and was directed by Billie Woodruff. 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Miramar Cultural Center, 2400 Civic Center Place, Miramar. \$45 for VIP tickets with reception and Meet and Greet, \$25. 954-602-4500.

## Nov. 7



PHOTO COURTESY OF WISHFOUNDATIONINC.ORG

**Celebrating Sisterhood:** The ladies of the W.I.S.H. Foundation and Gamma Zeta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. host their 7th Emerald Gala and Silent Auction with a masquerade ball, 7 p.m. at Jungle Island, 1111 Parrot Jungle Trail, Miami. Proceeds benefit scholarships and community programs. \$100. 305-626-8301.

**Fresh Beat Band:** The Nick Jr. show comes to life as the four best friends and bandmates Twist, Marina, Shout and Kiki, perform. Children are sure to love seeing live renditions of tunes including *Go Bananas*, *Here We Go*, and *Just Like a Rock Star!* 6:30 p.m. at the Count de Hoernie Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, Boca Raton. \$39.50-49.50. 561-393-7700. Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 Red Rd., Pinecrest. 305-669-6990 or visit www.pinecrestgardens.com.

# food Grill your way Into fall flavor



(Family Features) The weather is getting cooler, but that doesn't mean grilling season has to burn out. In fact, according to the Hearth, Patio and Barbecue Association, 60 percent of grillers are now cooking outdoors year-round, so fall grilling season is just heating up.

With the new season come new opportunities to fire up the grill, from tailgating at football games to harvest parties around bonfires. Burgers remain one of the most popular foods to grill, so there's no better time to perfect your burger grilling skills with these tips from Kalamazoo Outdoor Gourmet grill master Russ Faulk:

### The beef

The first step to the perfect burger is selecting the right beef. To get the right balance of texture, flavor and juiciness, go with an 85 percent lean mixture.

Ground beef from the butcher's case is recommended over pre-packaged options.

For the freshest flavor, avoid ground beef with any signs of gray or brown color. Always check the underside of the meat before purchasing.

### The patties

Form 1/3-pound to 1/2-pound patties, making them about three-fourths of an inch thick and roughly three-fourths of an inch larger in diameter than the buns.

Dimple the middle of each patty so it's thinner in the center than at the edges. The indent will rise up and flatten out when grilled.

Finally, brush the patties with olive oil and season with salt — both will help in creating a browned exterior crust.

### Prepping the grill

Heat up two temperature zones: one hot fire at 600 degrees for the burgers and another 400-degree area for toasting

the buns.

The dry heat of a charcoal fire delivers the best crust on the outside of the burger. Gas fire also works, if it's hot enough. Certain grills, such as the Kalamazoo Outdoor Gourmet Hybrid Fire Grill, allow for cooking with any combination of gas, charcoal or wood.

### The grilling

Place the burgers over the hottest part of the grill for about four minutes. Add slices of red onions to the grill to caramelize them at this time.

Flip the burgers and cook for another four minutes. Add cheese to the top of the patties and place the onions on top of the burger.

When the burgers are almost done, lightly toast the buns directly on the cooler zone of the grill grate or on the warming rack for about 20-30 seconds.

Remove everything from the grill, and assemble your burgers.

## Liberty Burgers

Servings: 8

4 pounds choice ground round, 85 percent lean, formed into 8 hamburger patties

Extra virgin olive oil

Finely-ground sea salt

8 Italian rolls, split

1 red bell pepper, thinly sliced

1 poblano pepper, thinly sliced (or green bell pepper)

1 banana pepper, thinly sliced

1 Vidalia onion, thinly sliced

8 slices provolone cheese

Prepare grill for direct grilling with two temperature zones: one medium-low and one medium-high. Preheat 12-inch cast iron skillet over hottest part of fire.

Brush hamburger patties all over with olive oil and liberally season with sea salt. Lightly brush insides of rolls with olive oil and lightly season with sea salt.

Toss peppers and onion with about 1 tablespoon olive oil.

Grill burgers over hot zone of fire, turning once, about 4 minutes per side.

Toast rolls over cooler zone of fire during second half of burger cooking.

Transfer cooked burgers to platter, top each with slice of cheese, and cover with foil to rest and to melt cheese.

Remove toasted rolls from fire and reserve.

Cook peppers and onions in hot skillet, tossing frequently until nicely browned, about 5 minutes.

Top each burger with peppers and onions, transfer to rolls and serve.



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