





PALM BEACH

A pervading sense of injustice consumes the US

By **DAPHNE TAYLOR**
Special to South Florida Times

WEST PALM BEACH — Just after the grand jury announcement was made Monday night, Michael Brown's mother, Lesley McSpadden, could be seen demonstrating raw emotions as it became apparent that there would be no indictment of Darren Wilson, the officer who killed her son. She stood amongst protesters addressing the crowd, then after a brief silence, broke down into hysterics. She was clearly overcome with grief and was inconsolable, the overwhelming emotions of a mother's greatest pain — the loss of her child and the ensuing pursuit of justice in his death. Then, in unbelievable video, her husband — Michael Brown's stepfather, was so angry that he shouted to the crowd to burn down the city.

Others didn't condone the violence, however, particularly in black communities; individuals were also outraged at the decision reached by the grand jury. Leaders in Palm Beach County weighed in on the issue a day following the announcement, and some of them felt the pain of the slain teen's mother; others would like to see cameras worn by every police officer nationwide, while others want to make an economic dent into the coffers of those who inflict injustice among the black race. Others believe it was none other than a ploy for officials to announce the decision so late into the night. Nonetheless, few seemed surprised by the outcome of the grand jury.

"Somehow, someway, all of the problems in America are because of the black male," said Michael Brown, former mayor of Riviera Beach and founder of Brown and Associates Law Firm. "I'm tired of it! America should be tired of it. As a lawyer, I'm tired of it — disproportionately stopping and arresting black men," he said. "My question to the prosecutor would be this: What weapon did Michael Brown have on him?" said Brown, referring to the unarmed teenager. Brown pointed out that in this case, all the stereotypes of black males were interjected and that is cause for concern. "Big, black, angry, demonizing ... people ought to be concerned about this," he said.

Patrick Franklin, president and CEO of the Urban League of Palm Beach County, said it has to get better. "It (the decision) was very disappointing, but not unexpected," said Franklin. "It seems to

be a trend and the inequality of justice is really prevailing here. That's why we here at the Urban League start with our middle schoolers and high-schoolers - acquainting them with law enforcement. All of our young men are vulnerable," said Franklin.

Pastor J.R. Thicklin, president and CEO of Destiny By Choice, in West Palm Beach, which addresses domestic violence, said he is outraged and questions the motives of making the announcement after 8 p.m. Central Standard Time, when people are more likely to engage in chaos as a result.

Reverend David Chandler, pastor of New Hope Baptist Church in Riviera Beach, said he is also outraged and wondered why the proceedings weren't moved to a different county.

Attorney Bryan Boysaw of the Law Offices of Boysaw and Associates in West Palm Beach, says cameras are needed on the bodies of police officers. "The decision was horrifying," he said. "I have two black boys — 16 and 14, and to have a young man killed, murdered — accused of shoplifting at best — yet murdered — it's horrible. It's unbearable

decisions. The prosecutor could have had that officer indicted. Basically the law is saying: To get away with "cold blooded murder" against the black male, regardless of the evidence and witness, you just have to be a police officer and white. That's the picture they are painting."

Dorothy Lowery, of Delray Beach, is writing to elected officials calling for action. "I am very much against the atrocities being committed against our black males, particularly, the incarceration rate of black youths compared to whites, inequities and disparities in sentencing guidelines as well as the mass killing being perpetrated against them by police officers around this country. I am currently in the process of writing a letter to send to our elective officials to address this very same topic!" she said.

Tracey Graham, founder of Ladies of Futurity, a mentoring group for at-risk girls, agreed that we all have a part to play. "The laws on the books don't support African Americans," she said. "The laws are written to incarcerate our kids, but we don't do anything about it. We don't get out and vote and change these laws!" "It's disheartening that in this day and time the life of our young men means nothing."

Pastor Verona Hagans Matthews of West Palm Beach, brought it around to the pain of a parent. "My heart aches for the Brown family. I can only imagine the heartache they felt, waiting to hear all of this time, whether more measures would be taken through the judicial system in the death of their son. Sadly the conclusion would not bring them any encouragement that further steps toward justice would occur. I cannot imagine facing the death of a child - remembering the son as a baby; remembering the son as he grew up; remembering the son as he lay dead in the street. It is too hard to comprehend!" said Matthews, who once ran for office on the platform of improving the plight of children. She also wrote a book: "*Children and Violence A Spiritual Look*," which looks at the violence and death inflicted on children throughout the years, stretching all the way back to Biblical times. Matthews would like to see the violence end. "I certainly do not have a solution, but a solution is definitely needed."



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The Ferguson saga continues as people witness the personal pain.

"I was very disturbed," said Thicklin. "We were baited and drawn in! Why did they release this after 9 p.m. (EST)? It's just a resounding sound of the value of the black male. Black males are born with two strikes: being male and being black," said Thicklin, who is the father of four sons. "We are guilty until proven innocent!" Thicklin said he's fed up and believes now that something has to be done. "We have to teach people how to treat us. We need to hurt them economically. We won't continue to patronize those who don't value our lives."

that this would be considered anything other than murder. We need cameras on all officers. The incidence of violence goes down significantly. Behaviors change when cameras are there. The budget of all police departments should be cameras."

But although the issue focuses on black males and law enforcement, females are equally outraged and want change. Lyric Allen, 30, said White males are getting away with murder. "I am not surprised at the verdict. The prosecutor is responsible for swaying the jurors' final

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BROWARD

Level social and economic barriers

By **TRACY-ANN TAYLOR**
Special to South Florida Times

FORT LAUDERDALE — While the dreaded timeline drew near, residents in Ferguson, Missouri and all across the country anxiously braced themselves as they awaited news of the grand jury's decision on whether to indict Officer Darren Wilson on the death of 18-year-old Michael Brown.

On Nov. 24, county prosecutor, Robert P. McCulloch, announced that the grand jury had decided there was not enough evidence to charge Officer Wilson with killing the unarmed teenager on Aug. 9, 2014.

"We are profoundly disappointed that the killer of our child will not face the consequence of his actions," Lesley McSpadden and Michael Brown Sr., Brown's parents, wrote in a statement after the verdict.

In what many legal experts deem "highly unusual," prosecutors presented an overwhelming amount of conflicting evidence and summoned as many 60 witnesses, including Officer Wilson, according to transcripts released.

The selected panel -- six white men, three white women, two black women and one



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Dr. Germaine Smith Bauch

black man -- had the gruesome task of sifting through the amassable evidence that imminently leaned toward Officer Wilson's testimony that Brown had reached for the officer's gun. The evidence was released to the public following the verdict.

In his testimony, Officer Wilson, 28, a six-year veteran with no record of disciplinary action, told jurors that Brown had grabbed the gun and it went off twice, hitting Brown once in the hand.

Forensic evidence showed Brown's DNA on Officer Wilson's gun, uniform pants and shirt, and gunpowder on a graze wound on Brown's hand. Three autopsy reports, one by the St. Louis County coroner, one by Dr. Michael Baden, and one by the Justice Department, provided proof that the wound was a close range shot.

Other forensic evidence presented at the closed-door proceeding also supported Officer Wilson's statement that Brown was moving toward him prompting him to open fire. He said Brown continued to approach him after being hit initially causing the officer to continue shooting. An investigator showed photographs of two blood-

protest to be held at the Gerstein Justice Building near Jackson Memorial Hospital at press time.

"This is real," said local activist Muhammed Malik as he was preparing for the outdoor demonstration which is bringing together the Miami Committee on State Violence, Dream Defenders, Power U Center for Social Change, and other groups. According to Tiffany Benford, an ally for Power U, the Miami Committee against State Violence is a "collective response organized after the death of Mike Brown." Benford made sure to point out that the Gerstein protest will not be passing action borne of fleeting frustration. "This is a movement," she said, "that is calling for transformative demands" at the local, national, and even international levels. "We intend to move forward to address racism, police brutality and the militarization of police" said

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KEY WEST



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Dr. Mark Whiteside, Monroe County Health Department's Peggy Ward-Grant, Commissioner Clayton Lopez and Mayor Craig Cates.

Bigotry is not sustainable

By **JOHN L. GUERRA**
Special to South Florida Times

KEYWEST — As crowds burned cars and buildings and threw chunks of concrete at Ferguson police officers Monday night, Key West resident Peggy Ward-Grant watched the events live on television. A grand jury, after deliberating for months, announced Monday night that it did not charge Ferguson Police Officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of Michael Brown, 18.

"I'm still letting it sink in," Ward-Grant told *South Florida Times* of the grand jury's decision. "How they could decide not to indict this police officer is beyond me."

Ward-Grant is a professional with the Monroe County Health Department and a trustee of her historic church in Bahama Village, which is 65 percent black.

"In my 70 years, I have never seen a case so mishandled from the beginning," she said of Brown's shooting. Witnesses say Brown had his hands up in surrender when Wilson hit him with multiple gunshots.

Ward-Grant's reaction mirrored those of many in the black community: That the more things change, the more they stay the same. "Why, in 2014, we still have this question of race and police violence against young black men, is beyond me."

The statistics bear her out: The FBI's Supplementary Homicide Report identified 426 cases of a "felon killed by a police officer" in 2012. Thirty-two

percent of those were black; 13 percent of Americans are black, which means they were fatally shot by police at the rate of 2.5 times their proportion. Brown, by the way, did not have a rap sheet.

Watching the stores burn and hearing gunfire on the TV, Ward was not pleased.

"I hope some other person does not end up on a slab tonight," she said.

Mike Mongo, who is married to an African-American woman, spoke at a Bahama Village rally after a jury found George Zimmerman not guilty in the killing of Trayvon Martin. He sees Brown's shooting as a pattern.

"If you do not understand the shame and heartache represented by the killing of Michael Brown and the resulting conflict in Ferguson, you do not have a son or daughter who is not white," Mongo told *South Florida Times*. "If you do not understand that Darren Wilson would be in jail right now had Michael Brown been white, you are not black."

Both Ward-Grant and Mongo said all races have to pressure police to halt their deadly gunplay.

"There has to be a change or we'll continue to lose young black men to these police shootings," Ward-Grant said. "African American parents have to worry about this happening to our children."

"Bigotry is not sustainable," Mongo said. "We must do better or else perish. The good news is, as human beings, we can do better."

MIAMI-DADE

A nail in the coffin of justice

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

MIAMI — The response in Miami-Dade County to the announcement of a non-indictment in the controversial shooting death of Missouri teen Michael Brown by the Ferguson Police Department has been — initially — muted but only because the passions aroused by the apparent injustice have been channeled into planning productive protests. For instance, a wide coalition of Miami-Dade residents and human rights organizations were organizing a rally and

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Opinion



WHAT WE THINK

Injustice clothed in law

Whatever they say, in the final analysis, the Grand Jury in St. Louis, Missouri, declined to indict white Police Officer Darren Wilson for killing unarmed black teenager Michael Brown on Aug. 9 for one reason only. The jurors, or at least a majority of them, concluded that the officer acted on the fear that his life was in imminent danger.

That benchmark for using deadly force was set by the U.S. Supreme Court in the 1980s, giving an officer wide leeway in shooting to kill. The law gives the police the sole discretion in determining when deadly force is appropriate.

Forget about the convoluted pronouncements coming from the prosecutor who announced the decision of the jury Monday night about conflicting testimony from those who claimed they saw what happened. The fact is that the jurors endorsed Officer Wilson as judge, jury and executioner.

The lessons that can be learned are simple. Firstly, as can be seen in the Ferguson case, there must be a change in the policy that allows the police to be trigger-happy with impunity. There can be little question that white police officers exercise this discretion disproportionately when there is a confrontation with young black men. White society demonizes the young black male enough to make them easy targets.

Secondly, street uprisings – which some love to characterize as “riots” – are never to be encouraged. Ours is a society that places a premium on peaceful resolution of disputes. However challenging that can be most times, it is nevertheless a virtue that must be pursued. But there is another side to this coin. It is the genuine discontent in all African-American and many other minority communities that is ignored until it explodes.

That is the case of Ferguson now as it was the case of Miami-Dade County in the 1970s and 1980s – and even as it is in the city of Miami today, to some extent. The overwhelming resources that are usually brought to bear to “contain” the “riots” are in vivid contrast to the lack of interest by the powers-that-be to address the grievances of the communities of color.

So long as grievances – over housing, jobs, health care, unprofessional police behavior, name it – continue to remain unaddressed, it will not be long before there is another, and another Michael Brown.



Unless you understand that chattel slavery of Africans along with the notion of white supremacy preceded democracy in America, everything else you think you know about America is wrong. Equality, liberty and justice for all were never intended for those who now call themselves African Americans or blacks. Those are ideals meant only for Europeans!

And, therefore, here we are, fourteen years into the 21st century and the only ones confused about white America's intentions are slavery's surviving Africans. Diabolically, white slave masters insisted that blacks be taught Christianity, but not be allowed to read and write, own property or do business.

To further emasculate blacks, slave plantation owners divided them by tribes, family members, cultures and language groups, and disallowed the drum, which stifled communication and inlaid distrust. Further divisions were installed with the development of “house Negroes” and “field Negroes.” After so-called emancipation and the short-lived reconstruction period, whites instituted “The Black Codes” followed by “Jim Crow” and sharecropping.

The entire legal apparatus has perennially buttressed the on-going suppression of African Americans at the street level by white law enforcement officers. Profiling, “stop and frisk,” brutality and other serial violations of basic rights, including the too often spurious arrest of black males, especially, mark policing of black neighborhoods. And then there are

Ferguson, 106 days of showing American “democracy”

the police shootings and killings.

Once handed over to the justice system by law enforcement, unless you can raise lots of money, your life is changed forever. You are doomed. Depending on the charges, true or false, money may not save you, either. That's because the system is rigged to eat you alive. If the cops don't get to mess you up, the jailhouse and penitentiary will.

Once profiled, like George Zimmerman hunted young Trayvon Martin, 18 year old Michael Brown's life was going to be over, one way or another. He wound up dead instead of incarcerated. And now, in the aftermath of police officer Darren Wilson's six of twelve shots that killed Michael Brown, a clearer picture may be emerging as to why Brown's dead body laid in the hot August street for four and a half hours.

Now we know what we knew all along, that no white law enforcement officer will go to prison for killing a black person, including Darren Wilson. It may have taken the white nationalist system over four hours to get the story they wanted told down pat, all the way up to prosecutor Bob McCulloch and Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon.

White nationalists don't care what the world sees and thinks about America. And it is that feigned but ingrained superiority complex that emboldens non-whites throughout the world to think less and less of America's world-view. Ferguson was 106 days of showing American democracy all over planet Earth and it is ugly, vile and shameful. It is

diametrically opposite to what white Americans and their minions try to sell people around the world.

Ferguson's 106 days was well orchestrated by white nationalists, all unseen and under the radar. Non-evidence may have become evidence and eyewitnesses became non-witnesses. Whatever needed to be manufactured was surely created and whatever unnecessary disappeared. The outcome lends certainty to such thinking.

Will outgoing Attorney General Eric Holder come to the rescue of the Michael Brown family in their search for justice? Does he have a hole card? Holder needs to come down hard on the Ferguson police force for their bungling. Hopefully something can be found to discredit Robert McCulloch, the St. Louis County prosecutor who has five complaints against him because of other cases. Black residents of the area know McCulloch as a key white nationalist.

Unfortunately or fortunately, the role of black preachers is being re-evaluated and criticized in Ferguson, Missouri. Gov. Nixon called on some preachers as though they were the “house Negroes” of Ferguson to handle the “field Negroes.” Some called it “a travesty” and others have exclaimed, “black preachers should not allow themselves to be used.”

Al Calloway is a longtime journalist who began his career with the Atlanta Inquirer during the early 1960s civil rights struggle. He may be reached at Al_Calloway@verizon.net

THE POLITICS OF BLACKNESS



Is Ferguson Missouri the latest example of liberal manipulation

On August 8, 2014, an 18-year old Black teenager, Michael Brown was shot and killed by a white policeman, Darren Wilson, in Ferguson, Missouri.

Several days later protests started and continued almost daily for months. Violence erupted, with looting of local stores with large-scale property damage, not to mention confrontation between police and protesters, resulting in multiple arrests, playing out on national, international and social media.

What should have been a local matter played out in the courts, the shooting of Michael Brown became a wide spread issue of long-simmering community racial hatred with tentacles reaching all the way to the White House.

Professional outside agitators descended on Ferguson, the most well-known being the Rev. Al Sharpton, who had recently been anointed as the consultant on race relations to President Barack Hussein Obama.

Some call it his “remarkable rise to national prominence from community organizer to President Obama's consultant” (Joseph Weber, FOX News, November 19, 2014, *Sharpton's debt issues resurface amid his political rise*). Others call him a “washed-up TV personality and professional race baiter” (Hanna Bleau, BizPac Review, November 8, 2014 *He's Obama's 'boy'; Sharpton invited to counsel Obama after election loss*).

Whatever you call him, he's always in the middle of the race war between blacks and whites. In fact, he stirs it up instead of calming it down. He already declared that regardless of the outcome, when the Ferguson grand jury's verdict was announced, he would initiate protests in various cities across the country.

But there are several questions one should want asked and answered about the Ferguson “war.” It's a war because the police donned military gear and rode around in tanks. Ferguson Police Chief Thomas Jackson called for a curfew and Missouri

Governor Jay Nixon called out the National Guard.

Dr. Ben Carson, professor emeritus of neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins University and author of the book, *One Nation: What We Can All Do to Save America's Future* writes in the August 29th issue of Black Community News, *A Problem Bigger than Ferguson*,

“Last year, 100 black males were killed by police in the United States. In the same year, 5,000 blacks were killed by other blacks, the vast majority being males. Could it be that we are erroneously being manipulated into making this incident a racial issue, when, in fact, it is a component of a much larger social issue?” So we ask ourselves,

1. Why is Ferguson up in arms over the shooting of one young Black man?
2. Why a community outcry in a working class neighborhood in the suburbs of St. Louis?
3. Why did Sharpton go to Ferguson immediately after the shooting to organize a protest against the police department before a grand jury had even been convened to determine the guilt or innocence of Officer Wilson?
4. Why did America's “Top Cop.”
5. U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, threaten a federal civil rights investigation if the Ferguson Grand Jury failed to indict Officer Wilson and why did he tell the protesters to “hold the course”?
6. Why did President Obama lament “we've lost a young man in heartbreaking and tragic circumstances” in the shooting of Michael Brown and “there is no excuse for police to use excessive force during peaceful protests.”
7. Where was the President's concern about the “heartbreaking and tragic circumstances” in the 2,571 shootings in his home town of Chicago last year? How about the crime spree the weekend of January 20, 2014, that left 9 dead and

36 wounded, including 6 children? (<http://crimeinchicago.blogspot.com/>)

You see, the race baiters have no use for the violence throughout the cities where both the victims and the perpetrators are Black. But Ferguson is a prime boiling pot for community organizers and race baiters like Sharpton.

Reverend Dr. Walter T. Richardson, Chairman, Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board, warns that “Ferguson is a community with serious disparities in services and the outcry was a cry for attention, but Miami has learned that violence yields no positive results.”

Cedric Alexander, President, National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, stated on CNN that “The community and the police department, somehow at some point are going to have to start to heal together. ...”

The verdict is in. So ask yourselves, “Why is Sharpton organizing protests across the country?”

Dr. Carson warns “We have a social crisis brewing if we continue down the path we are on now.”

But Kevin Jackson, Executive Director, The Black Sphere and author of the book, *Race Pimping*, told FOX News “The Democrats want the strife in Ferguson to happen, they need this to happen....They love this strife.” (<http://theblacksphere.net/race-pimping/>)

Michael Brown was clearly not a model citizen, but he was somebody's child. The manipulation of Ferguson needs to stop and let this family mourn their child in peace.

Barbara Howard is a political consultant, radio host and commentator and motivational speaker. She is Florida State chairwoman for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and Trade & Travel goodwill ambassador to Kenya. She may be reached at bhoward11@bellsouth.net.

Callous disregard for the life of a man



“Good gracious! Anybody hurt?”

No’ma’am, killed a nigger Well its lucky, cause sometimes people do get hurt”

Quote from Aunt Sally and Huck Finn

Mark Twain, Huckleberry Finn

After Michael Brown was shot more than six times by officer Darren Wilson his body lay in the street face down for four hours. This combination of disrespect and incomprehensible slowness on the part of Ferguson officials is a metaphor for how they have mishandled the investigation.

At least three witnesses testified that Michael Brown was shot while his hands were raised in surrender.

Dorian Johnson, Michael Brown's friend, recounts the tragic events of August 9. He said a police car pulled up alongside Brown and him, and the officer—Darren Wilson—allegedly told Johnson and Brown to “get the f- -k on the sidewalk.” As Wilson was driving away the two men declined the officers request saying they were minutes from home. Wilson, allegedly upset that his commands were not obeyed reverses and slams the car door on Brown. He tries to pull Brown into the car. An autopsy confirms Brown was shot once during the scuffle. Johnson went on to say Brown ran but was then fatally shot when he (Brown) turned around with his hands in the air. Ferguson police refused, at least initially to even interview Johnson.

Tiffany Mitchell who did not know Johnson and Brown tells the same story. She saw the confrontation while she was driving in her car to pick up an employee. “Then he turns around and puts his hands up and the officer continues to walk up and shoot him.” Crenshaw the employee Tiffany was attempting to pick up corroborates Mitchell. She was standing on the balcony of her apartment. “[Brown] put his arm up to let them know that he was compliant and that he was unarmed, and they shot him twice more, and he fell to the ground and died.” He didn't have no weapon on him at all”, Crenshaw said.

In the face of this mounting evidence Ferguson authorities put Michael Brown on trial. They released a video showing a youth who looked like Michael Brown committing a strong-armed robbery of a cigar store. The issue became not what Darren Wilson did; the issue for the Ferguson police was who Michael Brown was.

When a police officer shoots someone the issue is what happened in the moment right before the shooting. Was there an immediate threat of serious bodily harm either to the officer or to innocent bystanders? This is

Ferguson Police Chief Tom Jackson stated that Darren Wilson did not know anything about the robbery before his confrontation with Brown. But even if he did under the split second rule that does not matter. The question is at the moment Darren Wilson fired did Michael Brown have his hands up. Whether Brown was a strong-armed robber, whether he punched Darren Wilson in the car ultimately does not matter. If Michael Brown's hands were up and Wilson shot him anyway that is murder.

Darren Wilson did testify contrary to the five witnesses. He testified that Michael Brown charged at him. But in the words of Reverend Al it is likely that an unarmed black teen who had already been shot charge at the gun which had just shot him? Portraying Michael Brown in this way seems to suggest he acted like a wild beast. This is reminiscent of the story police told about Rodney king who “continued to fight them

after he had been tased and beaten.

There was no need for a grand jury in this case. The issue in this case was probable cause. Clearly, the physical evidence coupled with the eyewitness established that. The fact that no arrest took place is stunning-but not unexpected.

By impantelling a grand jury it gave the Prosecutor political cover under the pleasant fiction that the grand jury is independent. It is not. As the saying goes a grand jury would indict a ham sandwich if the prosecutor asked it to.

I abhor violence. It is always tragic. But at the root of the problem is an unmistakable racial divide.

Fifty years after the civil rights movement blacks

make up less than six percent of the Ferguson police force despite the fact they make up 67 percent of the population. Of all the traffic stops in Ferguson 86% are African American.

Rioters came to insist that despite what the grand jury said they would have their say. For them the grand jury verdict means that to the system in Ferguson black life does not matter. Rioters came to issue a verdict of their own.

If we are to heal the racial violence in Ferguson we must heal the social conditions that produced it.

Donald Jones is Professor of Law at the University of Miami. He is the author of Fear of a Hip hop Planet: America's New Dilemma (2013).

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Business

First Haitian Commissioner, now first Haitian Chairman

By ANDREA ROBINSON
ARobinson@SFLTimes.com

MIAMI — Jean Monestime, the first and only Haitian American to serve on the Miami-Dade County Commission, blazed yet another trail on Monday as he ascended to become the chair of the board of county commissioners.

Monestime was unanimously elected by his peers to lead the 13-member board. He becomes the first Haitian American commissioner in the position.

Esteban “Steve” Bovo, who represents District 13, was selected as Vice-Chairman. They assume their positions Jan. 1.

Monestime and Commissioner Audrey Edmonson of District 3 were nominated for the chairmanship. However, before a vote was taken, Edmonson withdrew her name.

Monday afternoon, Monestime thanked his colleagues for their gesture, and specifically mentioned Edmonson.

“I am humbled and grateful for the trust and confidence that my colleagues on the BCC demonstrated by electing me chair this morning,” Monestime said. “I cannot thank them enough, especially Commis-



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIAMIDADE.GOV
Jesse L. Jackson and Jean Monestime.

sioner Jose “Pepe” Diaz for nominating me and Commissioner Audrey Edmonson for her noble gesture. This is an illustration of our cordiality and the profound level of respect that must always prevail amongst us.”

Monestime represents a district that includes parts of Little Haiti, Liberty City, Arcola Lakes and North Miami. In his first

term with the county commission, Monestime cites several actions that he considers accomplishments. Among them:

Changing the small business set-aside program, increasing available contract funds by 10 times as much. The program has already doubled funds to small businesses participating in set-aside contracts.

Sponsored an ordinance that would establish a local hiring goal for all construction contracts over \$1 million. That ordinance passed committee just the other day and will be considered by the full Board in a couple weeks.

Sponsored changes to the Community Workforce Program so that those job opportunities, which are supposed to go to Miami-Dade residents, actually go to those residents.

Monestime also worked with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity to ensure state support for a new Holiday Inn on Northwest Seventh Avenue, at the site of the old City Inn.

Monestime was first elected to represent District 2 in 2010, unseating longtime Commissioner Dorrin Rolle. He was re-elected in late August, beating back a challenge from Rolle. In his re-election bid, Monestime had key backing from prominent African-American clergy and attorneys. Prior to his election, he served several years as a city councilman in North Miami.

In a statement released Monday afternoon, county Mayor Carlos Gimenez lauded the chair and co-chair.

“I congratulate Commissioners Jean Monestime and Esteban Bovo on their elections as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners. I also commend their colleagues on the Board for working together and in a show of unity, unanimously supporting their nominations.

“Commissioner Monestime will become the first Haitian-American to lead our 13-member board when he officially assumes the chairmanship on January 1, 2015. His election is further proof that Miami-Dade County is a multicultural, world class community that is committed to inclusion.

“I look forward to working with both Commissioner Monestime and Commissioner Bovo - a passionate public servant who has represented his community in our state capital and now in his home county - and all of our commissioners over the next two years.”



Progress through opportunities

BROWARD, FROM 3A

spattered foot patterns as evidence that Brown was moving toward the officer.

Police also said Wilson was taken to the hospital with a serious facial injury. Hospital records show that Wilson was taken to the hospital and given an anti-inflammatory painkiller.

Testimonies by eyewitnesses were filled with discrepancies. Most were consistent with Wilson's account of the struggle at the police car and two shots fired, but stories began to vary as to what happened next. Some witnesses said they could not see clearly. Others said they saw Officer Wilson running after Brown and firing shots. Brown then stopped, turned and started moving back towards Officer Wilson. While some said Brown had put his hands up, others were not so sure.

"The real issue," Benjamin Crump, an attorney for the Brown family said during a television interview, "is the Brown family has no chance at getting justice for their child."

Days before the verdict was released to the public, anxiety washed everyone's mind as it became clear that Brown's murder would be another blow to the black community. Many feared a repeat of the chaos that erupted in the community last summer.

Ferguson and surrounding areas began to prepare for a worst-case scenario. Law enforcement officials, community leaders and the Brown family urged the public to remain non-violent, yet braced for the possibility of Officer Wilson not facing charges in Brown's death.

Speculation of a battle scene intensified as Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon declared a state of emergency and activated the National Guard to assist state and local police, and news reports stated that the St. Louis County Police Department spent a whopping \$172,000 on riot gear such as grenades, smoke canisters, rubber bullets, shields and helmets, and underwent training regarding protesters' constitutional rights.

Activists also urged the public to remain nonviolent. Business owners boarded up their shops, and the already struggling school district closed ahead of the verdict. The FBI moved in and barriers were erected around government buildings in downtown Ferguson.

But such efforts were only putting a band-aid on a deep wound, according to Dr. Germaine Smith-Baugh, president of the Urban League of Broward County.

"It's only by leveling social and economic barriers that stand in the way of opportunity for struggling families that

we can achieve progress and fix the long-term issues that created an environment ripe for the formidable chasms and deep-rooted tensions in Ferguson," Smith-Baugh said.

Last summer, Brown's death sparked days of protests on the streets of Ferguson, a predominantly black suburb, and escalated into violence, numerous property damage and looting. Blacks from all across the country, fed up with the long history of white police officers using excessive force and the seemingly unjustified killings of black men, grew tired of having their concerns dismissed and joined citizens in Ferguson to demand justice.

The conflict between protesters and police that engulfed Ferguson following the shooting became yet another discussion of racial bias and policing in America. But, Brown's death may very well be the turning point that echo the call for greater scrutiny of police and community relations across the U.S.

"We also impress upon elected officials, law enforcement, the legal profession, businesses and all those in our nation interested in social justice that we must not allow the killing of Michael Brown and other unarmed individuals across the country to be in vain," Dr. Smith-Baugh continued. "We ask the community at large to make sure that this tragedy results in future systemic change to prevent similar tragic shootings."

Even though they called for peace, Brown's parents' emotions got the best of them after hearing the verdict. "Why?" Lesley McSpadden cried, and, "Burn this f***ing place down," Brown Sr., said in a video. He later apologized for his outburst.

President Barack Obama also urged citizens to protest peacefully, but regardless of the increased police presence, the unrest in Ferguson once again turned ugly.

Businesses and police cars were burned; stores looted as police threw tear gas in efforts to disperse the crowd. Protesters also marched in cities such as New York, Chicago and Oakland, California calling for police accountability.

One way to make police more accountable is to ensure that every police officer patrolling the streets wear a body camera, Brown's parent wrote.

"While we understand that many others share our pain, we ask that you channel your frustration in ways that will make a positive change," said the prepared statement. "We need to work together to fix the system that allowed this to happen. Let's not just make noise; let's make a difference."

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TRENDING

This month, XFINITY® catches up with R&B's latest gem – Ledisi. Get concert highlights, photos and Ledisi-inspired videos, all leading up to the simulcast presentation of TV One's *HelloBeautiful.com Interludes LIVE! Ledisi*. Enjoy an exclusive performance and interview with the soulful songstress herself. Show premieres November 29th at 10/9c on TV One and at CelebrateBlackTV.com.*

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Health

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Medicare Open Enrollment

What Will You Find During Medicare Open Enrollment?

October 15 - December 7

Your health needs change from year to year. And, your health plan may change the benefits and costs each year too. That's why it's important to review your Medicare choices each fall. Compare your current plan to new options and see if you can lower some costs or to find a plan that better suit your needs. Open Enrollment is the one time of year when ALL people with Medicare can see what new benefits Medicare has to offer and make changes to their coverage.

Whether you have Original Medicare or a Medicare Advantage plan, you'll still have the same benefits and security you have now:

- Certain preventive benefits – including cancer screenings – are available at no cost to you when provided by qualified and participating health professionals. The annual wellness visit lets you sit down with your doctor and discuss your health care needs and the best ways to stay healthy.

- Medicare will notify you about plan performance and use its online Plan Finder to encourage enrollment in quality plans.

- In 2015, if you reach the “donut hole” in Medicare's prescription drug benefit, you'll get a 55% discount on covered brand name drugs and see increased savings on generic drugs.

It's worth it to take the time to review and compare, but you don't have to do it alone. Medicare is available to help.

- Visit Medicare.gov/find-a-plan to compare your current coverage with all of the options that are available in your area, and enroll in a new plan if you decide to make a change.

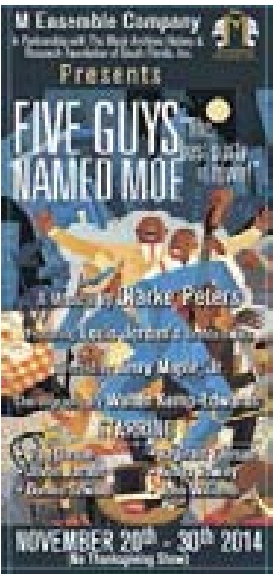
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) 24-hours a day/7 days a week to find out more about your coverage options. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

- Review the Medicare & You 2015 handbook. It's mailed to people with Medicare in September.

- If you have limited income and resources, you may be able to get Extra Help paying your prescription drug coverage costs. For more information, visit socialsecurity.gov/i1020 or call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213. TTY users should call 1-800-325-0778.

- Get one-on-one help from your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP). Visit Medicare.gov/contacts or call 1-800-MEDICARE to get the phone number.

This message is brought to you by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.



The M Ensemble company presents *Five Guys Named Moe*

Founded in 1971, The M Ensemble is Florida's oldest surviving Theatre group. It was founded on the campus of the University of Miami by the late T.G. Cooper. M Ensemble's mission is to promote African-American culture and experience through performing arts.

The M Ensemble, in partnership with The Black Archives History & Research Foundation of South Florida, Inc. presents *Five Guys Named Moe*, a musical by Clarke Peters, at The Historic Lyric Theater, November 20 - 30, 2014. (No Thanksgiving show).

Breaking News! Visit us online at SFLTimes.com



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Holiday tips to keep your pets safe and happy

By PIERRE B. BLAND, DVM

Here are some tips to keep your pets happy and safe during the upcoming holiday season and year round.

Rich, fatty foods like gravies, grease, and turkey skins can cause a range of problems like stomach upset, vomiting, diarrhea, and pancreatitis. all conditions that can be very serious and result in hospitalization. Limit or cut out the table scraps.

Don't feed your pet uncooked meat, fish, and poultry. They can contain disease causing bacteria, such as E. coli which can result in severe gastrointestinal upset.

Any kind of bone can be especially dangerous or even fatal to your pet. Bones can tear and/ or obstruct your pet's digestive tract. Make certain all bones are disposed of properly.

Meat soaked stings from roasts and turkeys are enticing to your pet. Ingestion can cause a surgical emergency called a “linear foreign body” in the intestine. Dispose of all preparation equipment such as strings, plastic wrap, foil, and bags in a pet-proof garbage container.

Uncooked yeast dough can expand and produces gas in the digestive system of your pet, causing pain and possible rupture of the stomach and intestines.

Alcohol can cause serious intoxication and death in pets. Dogs are attracted to the

sweet smell and taste of drinks, especially eggnog. Be sure to clean up the glasses after a holiday get together where alcohol is served.

Chocolate, coffee, and tea all contain dangerous components which cause nervous system, urinary system damage, and heart muscle stimulation. Chocolate is dangerous because dogs love its flavor. Problems from ingestion range from diarrhea to seizures and death. Unsweetened baking chocolate and dark chocolate are the most toxic, but all chocolates, fudge, and other candy should be placed out of the reach of your pet.

Grapes and raisins contain a toxin which can damage the kidneys.

The artificial sweeteners in many candies, gums, breath mints, and other human foods are very toxic to dogs.

A good practice is to feed your pet prior to your holiday get together so they will not be as apt to beg for treats. Make sure your pet has a quiet space to retreat, complete with fresh water and a place to snuggle. If your animal loving guest would like to give your pet extra attention, ask them to feel free to start nice play or petting session.

Dr. Bland is the owner of Dr. Bland's Vet House Calls. He can be reached at 964 673 8579 or at doctorblandvet.com

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Mark Cameron brings his talent of fine arts, and culinary skills to the newly extended fat village art walk to the Sistrunk area. This display showcases his art on canvas, and his culinary art skills that promotes healthy dining with a Caribbean, and Cajun twist. Mark Cameron is also the former Chef/owner of the successful Caribbean Grill in Oceanside California, and has done display cooking on all major television networks, and has his line of seasonings in stores on the west coast.

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"Jambalaya Jazz"
by Mark Cameron

Caribbean

Clinton: Obama immigration effort ‘historic step’ in the US



Hillary Clinton

By **KEN THOMAS**
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton says she supports President Barack Obama's executive actions to protect about 5 million immigrants living in the U.S. illegally from deportation, calling it a "historic step" and urging the House of Representatives to pursue a measure approved by the Senate last year.

Clinton placed the efforts aimed at changing immigration policy in the context of families, many of whom she said are longtime residents raising children and paying taxes.

"This is about people's lives," she said Friday during an appearance at the New York Historical Society, adding that it was about "people who serve us tonight, who prepared the food tonight."

Clinton is considering a presidential

campaign in 2016 and her embrace of Obama's actions come in sharp contrast to Republican condemnation of the changes the president has ordered.

"I think the president took an historic step and I support it," the former secretary of state said in her first public comments on the issue. She had issued a statement shortly after Obama's speech Thursday night expressing support.

Obama's actions were in line with previous moves by Democratic and Republican presidents alike, she said. However, many Republicans in Congress accuse Obama of overstepping his executive powers.

Charging hypocrisy, the Republican National Committee released a Web video earlier in the day that included the audio of an April 2008 Clinton speech in which Clinton criticized President George W. Bush's use of signing statements and other means "to transform the executive into an imperial presidency."

Earlier Friday, dozens of her staunchest allies gathered at a New York hotel earlier Friday - even though she has yet to say whether she will run.

Ready for Hillary, a Democratic super political action committee unaffiliated with Clinton, convened the meeting of 200 financial backers and Clinton insiders to prepare for a campaign.

"It was a leap of faith," Harold Ickes, who worked in Bill Clinton's White House, said of the Ready for Hillary effort. "We didn't know if people would come to us, but we now have 3 million names, which will be important to her if she runs." The group has raised more than \$10 million.

Clinton sits far atop a hypothetical field of Democratic candidates that is beginning to take shape.

Vice President Joe Biden and outgoing Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley are potential challengers to Clinton, as is former Virginia Sen. Jim Webb, who has opened an exploratory committee.



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

On being one Caribbean

By **CALIBE THOMPSON**

Before the internet made it so that one space could represent the entire world, the Caribbean already had that mission accomplished. They did hundreds of years ago in fact. You see, although it was not entirely by choice, folks from all over the old world found their way to the islands as part of the development of the "new world". The Caribbean, with it's tight quarters and rich resources, became the go-to place for wealthy Europeans who needed sugar for their tea.

The wealthy folks in Europe sent their staffs to the islands to establish and grow their empires. Entrepreneurial Europeans moved to the Americas too, but those lands were so expansive that anyone who went there could pretty much continue to stay among their own communities and never mix with another ethnicity if they didn't want to, a reality that to some extent sadly remains true today.

Back then though, these sugar guys, they needed labor and they got it by a few different, and some questionable means. They sent "recruiters" to Africa - yadda yadda yadda, and so WE ended up with a large African population in these sugar plantation zones.

Today, the black community remains the largest in much of the region, so folks not from the Caribbean often expect us all to be around my complexion. The reality is that the Caribbean community comprises people of African, Latin, European, Indian, Asian and Middle Eastern Descent. We've become a melting pot, a pot pourri of sorts. Sometimes distinguishable, sometimes not. To outsiders folks like Shaggy, Sean Paul and Teyana are phenomena because they are light skinned with Jamaican accents. To us, they're the folks next door.

While American "multiculturalism" comprises small ethnic groups clumped up among themselves and spread out across 3.794 million square miles - in the islands, wherever you came from, you're one one of us. You can't get too far away from the rest of us - unless you're a really good swimmer. On this week's episode of the Caribbean Diaspora Weekly, I'll get into the mixed up hodgepodge that we've become.

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. Calibe can be reached at calibe@blondieras.com.



Ferguson protestors mask their faces but not their sense of injustice.

MIAMI, FROM 3A

Malik. Ultimately, activists are hoping that creating awareness aboard about these issues in the United States will bring global pressure to bear.

Meena Jagannath, Community Justice Project, Florida Legal Services described the non-indictment of Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson for killing Brown "a nail in the coffin" of the bloody history of state-sponsored and sanctioned violence against "disenfranchised people."

"I think it's a game changer for the whole country" said Jagannath especially in Miami given its history.

The irony of the decision in Ferguson falling within a few weeks of the 35th anniversary of the murder of Miami insurance salesman Arthur McDuffie at the hands of Miami-Dade Police officers in December 1979, is not lost on the organizers of the event. The McDuffie crisis was a "very pivotal moment" for Miami which highlighted the forces that blocked "black and brown unity," said Benford. "We recognize the deeply segregated history [of Miami] especially by class."

Also of significance to activists and organizers is the demographic shift from

the Miami of McDuffie's era to today. "We're coming together," said Malik. Many of the activists involved with the Miami Committee are Latino and African-American which serves to validate what Malik and others said about how much the community has changed. "Miami is not as polarized," said Malik as it was in the 1970s and 1980s.

That shift is vital to the paradigm shift activists are working hard to effect. "I think it's a game changer for the whole country," said Jagannath, especially for Miami given its history

Benford said the Miami Committee is already planning "follow up activities to focus on community trauma" as early as mid-December. All of the groups' plans are geared towards creating "transformative ways to engage" the police and other state apparati about how they engage the people, said Jagannath. A major priority, she added, was "restorative practices" focusing on how police-community interactions that "look at the causes" and avoid dangerous "kneejerk reactions." The emphasis on identifying root factors was echoed by Malik. "People are not getting their needs met" by the criminal justice system, he said.



Ferguson protestors proclaim we are people!



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Councilwoman Felicia Robinson and
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2014 POP WARNER SUPER BOWL WINNERS

Gwen Cherry Bulls won the Junior Pee Wee Division

| Player | Jersey # |
|---------------------|----------|
| BAIN, JAYLIN | 5 |
| BAIN, RUEBEN | 58 |
| BALDWIN, ZACKERY | 2 |
| BLACKMON, TAVERREY | 7 |
| CALHOUN, DELVIN | 12 |
| CAMERON, JERROD | 11 |
| DANIELS III, MARVIN | 9 |
| EWING, NAJEH | 51 |
| FLAGG, JAMES | 21 |
| FRANCIS, DE'ANDRE | 6 |
| GARLAND, NYJAE | 8 |
| JEAN, ANDY | 23 |
| LIONS, JOSHUA | 52 |
| MAINE, NAVAR | 1 |
| MCELLIOTT, XAVIER | 10 |
| MILLER JR, JABARR | 50 |
| MYRTHIL JR, GABRIEL | 13 |
| ROGERS, JALEN | 3 |
| SHERILL, MICHAEL | 15 |
| SIMMS, MARVIN | 14 |
| SIMPSON, JAYLIN | 99 |
| SNEED, BENZION | 59 |
| STREETER, GARRIEN | 55 |
| STREETER, GARRISON | 54 |
| TURNER, ZION | 4 |
| WALLACE JR, ALVIN | 57 |
| WILLIAMS, TAVARIZ | 20 |



KEVIN HICKS/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Florida City Razorbacks won the Pee Wee Division



| Player | Jersey # |
|-----------------------|----------|
| BELL, THURMAN | 52 |
| COLEMAN, ALFRED | 10 |
| DAVIS JR, ADRIAN | 11 |
| DEAN, ARTURO | 6 |
| FRANCOIS, JAIDEN | 2 |
| HARRIS, MALEK | 14 |
| JONES, DESTIN | 5 |
| JONES, MAKHI | 9 |
| KENDALL, LAMAR | 53 |
| LADAKER, TYLER | 7 |
| MATHEWS, MALCHELZADEK | 4 |
| MELVIN, AKIRA | 50 |
| MORRISON, TOREY | 3 |
| STRONG, MARQUISE | 54 |
| THOMAS, WILLIE | 8 |
| THOMPSON, DAVID | 55 |
| WATTS, CEDARIUS | 1 |
| WEST, DAJOHN | 12 |
| WILLIAMS, AMARON | 56 |
| WILLIAMS, FREYOUN | 51 |
| WYARTT, KENDALL | 21 |

Liberty City Warriors won the Junior Midget Division

| Player | Jersey # |
|-----------------------|----------|
| ALLEN, TYRONE | 57 |
| BARRY, RAHEEM | 99 |
| BENTLEY, LAMOUNT | 62 |
| BERRY, RAYQUAN | 5 |
| BOWE JR, MALCOLM | 61 |
| BRANTLEY, KAHILIL | 11 |
| BROWN LEE, JARVIS | 6 |
| DAVIS, GIOVANMI | 51 |
| DRAYTON, KEYTHAN | 2 |
| FOSTER, JAVARI | 21 |
| HOLIFIELD, COREY | 52 |
| HUGGINS, WATI | 98 |
| JOHNSON, ALVIN | 7 |
| JOHNSON, KARON | 10 |
| JONES, WILKHARI | 14 |
| KELSON, VERNON | 12 |
| LEWIS, JOHNQUAI | 8 |
| LUMPKIN, MALCOLM | 4 |
| MOORE, MARTY | 50 |
| MOSS, LARRY | 75 |
| NARCISSE, JOSEPH | 13 |
| NEWKIRK, TERANCE | 24 |
| PAUL, SHEMAR | 1 |
| PITTMAN, TRAVIS | 31 |
| POITIER, KENTRON | 18 |
| REESE, TASHEEM | 42 |
| REID JR, EVERALD | 44 |
| REID, JOHNNY | 65 |
| STUART, JACQUEZ | 3 |
| WASHINGTON, JARRISIEN | 55 |
| WILLIAMS, EDDIE | 9 |
| WORSHAM, JAYLON | 33 |



Palmetto Raiders won the Midget Division



| Player | Jersey # | Player | Jersey # | Player | Jersey # |
|------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------|
| ANDERSON, ANTWAN | 7 | HARDY, JOSEPH | 21 | POPE, MARK | 5 |
| BARNES, QUINCY | 17 | HOWARD, DIAMATE | 9 | REESE, COURTNEY | 3 |
| BROWN, DARIUS | 2 | JOHNSON, DORIAN | 24 | ROBERSON, KENYATTA | 18 |
| BROWN, JACOB | 23 | KOŁODZIEJCZAK, KENNETH | 37 | SMITH, JOE | 15 |
| BURGIN, ISIAAH | 14 | LEE, CHESTER | 16 | SMITH, KEWANAQUI | 27 |
| CORTES, NICHOLAS | 35 | LIMA, BRYAN | 11 | TORRES, JOSHUA | 81 |
| DACOSTA, KEVIN | 8 | LONG, LIONEL | 25 | VANDEMARK, KANE | 4 |
| DAVIS, DARRIN | 6 | LOVO-MORALES, JOSHUA | 32 | VEARGIS, ARRINGTON | 22 |
| FLOWERS, RAVON | 33 | MCDONALD, CHRISTOPHER | 1 | WILLIAMS, KIRK | 85 |
| GRIFFIN, JORDAN | 13 | MORALES, ELIAS | 20 | WILLIAMS, TASHEDERICK | 28 |
| GRISSOM, DYRONE | 12 | PHILIAS, CHARLES | 54 | WRIGHT, CHRISTOPHER | 19 |

Schedule

MONDAY: NFL
TUESDAY: COLLEGE NIGHT: FREE ADMISSION
WEDNESDAY: KARAOKE - FREE WINE FOR THE LADIES
THURSDAY: POOL TOURNAMENT
FRIDAY: CROWN POKE NIGHT 10-11:00 PM FREE SUSHI 11:00-12:00 AM
SATURDAY: COLLEGE GAME DAY
SUNDAY: NFL SUNDAY: WATCH ANY NFL GAME OF YOUR FAVORITE TEAM

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SOUTH FLORIDA



(L-R) CB Sammy Seamster G Nate Garner and RB Lamar Miller assist students during Kids & Fins Thanksgiving Publix Shopping Spree

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIAMI DOLPHINS

Miami Dolphins, children shop in Thanksgiving holiday spree

Special to South Florida Times

FORT LAUDERDALE — Miami Dolphins players, alumni, cheerleaders, mascot T.D., staff and Miami Dolphins Women's Organizations (MDWO) members, in partnership with Publix, took 115 kids from Dade, Broward and Palm Beach county partner schools on a grocery shopping spree for Thanksgiving meals at Publix.

"Our partnership with the Dolphins is one of mutual respect and of service to our communities," said Publix Media and Community Relations Director Maria Brous. "Both South Florida icons are passionate about making a difference in the lives of children. We are proud to be co-sponsoring our 11th year of Kids and Fins Publix Shopping Spree."

Over 115 kids from Gateway Environmental K-8 Learning Center and Nathan B. Young Elementary School in Dade, McNicol Middle Magnet School and Collins Elementary in Broward and Crosspointe Elementary in Palm Beach arrived at

Publix to be greeted by a DJ, giant Dolphins inflatable and cornhole.

"It's great to come out and shop with the kids. You get to go around Publix and pick out some items that they want and it's been a lot of fun," said Dolphins QB Ryan Tannehill. "It feels great. It's more a benefit to us than it is to the kids to see the smile on their faces and see them have fun while they pick out some items."

They were treated to dinner provided by Publix, given T-shirts and performed in a dance competition. Each student was then paired with a player, alumni, cheerleader, MDWO member or Dolphins staff and treated to a \$100 shopping spree for Thanksgiving goods.

"It's really really fun because I got to do some shopping for Thanksgiving," said 9-year-old LeAndra Washington, who went shopping with RB Lamar Miller. "I'm really happy because the Dolphins are my favorite team and I'm really happy because the last game they played they won."

BROWARD

NSU gets funding for oil spill study



PHOTO COURTESY OF NSU

George L. Hanbury II.

By ANDREA ROBINSON
ARobinson@SFLTimes.com

DAVIE — The Oceanographic Center at Nova Southeastern University, billed as the home of some of the world's top marine biology and ocean ecosystem researchers and experts, is getting a boost for its work to the tune of \$8.5 million.

The funds are from the Gulf of Mexico Research Research Initiative (GoMRI.) NSU is one of 12 organizations selected to receive part of \$140 million for continued research on oil spills, and how researchers, anglers and the public respond to them.

The research stems from the incident surrounding the 2010 fire and oil spill caused by the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig off the coast of Louisiana. The explosion killed 11 crew members and injured 16 others. The oil spill that followed is considered the largest in the world, and the largest environmental disaster in U.S. history.

From a practical standpoint for consumer, the NSU-led team will explore, among other things, how the spill affected popular deep-sea varieties of fish that are popular with fishermen and seafood lovers.

Tracey Sutton, an associate professor at NSU's Oceanographic Center, said the deep waters of the Gulf of Mexico are home to about 15 percent of popular marine life.

"Things people like to fish for like marlin tuna and dolphin fish are dependent on deep water," he said.

The Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative investigates the impacts of the oil, dispersed oil, and dispersant on the ecosystems of the

PLEASE TURN TO NSU/2B

PALM BEACH

Soulful Tasting: Spady features cultural cuisine



PHOTOS COURTESY OF LIBBY VOLGYES, LIBBYVISION.COM, 2014

Creme de la Creme owner/chef Tonya Beverly will create the menu



A sample of the pastries Tonya Beverly creates at Creme de la Creme.

Special to South Florida Times

DELRAY BEACH — For the third time, the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum will welcome culinary enthusiasts and culture vultures to an event that combines the best of both worlds.

At its signature Soulful Tastings, sponsored by the Delray Beach CRA, IberiaBank and Jay Rowley of MorganStanley, guests can

enjoy an original menu of cultural appetizers, courtesy of the chefs of Crème de Crème in West Palm Beach. The food will be paired with wines from South African vineyards for a soulful experience. Adding to the ambience, this year's event will be held at the Arts Garage.

Benefiting museum programs, Soulful Tastings will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Dec. 12 at the Arts

PLEASE TURN TO SPADY/2B

MIAMI-DADE



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Participating in the ceremony to honor Grove activist Clarice Cooper are Glenn Kephart, left, City of Coral Gable Commissioner Patricia Keon, Craig Leen, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Dennis C. Moss, Cooper, Alice Bravo, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Jean Monestime, and Miami-Dade County Commissioner Esteban Bovo, Jr.

Moss honors Grove resident Cooper for her civic activism

Staff Report

MIAMI — The Miami-Dade County Transportation and Aviation Committee recently recognized Clarice Cooper, a community activist and lifelong resident of Coconut Grove who successfully challenged the development of a trolley garage in Village West. The U.S. Department of Transportation concluded that Miami-Dade County, the City of Miami and Coral Gables violated a 1964 Civil Rights Act when they permitted a trolley garage to be built in the historically black neighborhood.

The complaint centered around a trolley depot that was constructed on the 3300 block of Douglas Road which led to a federal civil rights law suit filed by Cooper and the Trolley Steering Committee.

The City of Coral Gables also filed suit against Astor Development, the company building the trolley garage for the city in neighboring Coconut Grove, with concerns that it did not comply with zoning rules. In addition to the city, the University of Miami Law School's Center for Ethics

PLEASE TURN TO COOPER/2B

Around South Florida



ELGIN JONES
EJones@SFLTimes.com



KEEPING SILENT
The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has advanced a proposal to legalize gun silencers when hunting. Critics say this could increase the risk of people being hit by stray bullets if they are unaware that hunters may be near. FWC Commissioner Brian Yablonski appears to be leaning toward supporting the measure. If approved, the cost of these devices would decrease, leading to the possibility of them being used in urban areas to commit crimes and acts of violence. For some reason opponents have been keeping quiet while it moves toward approval.

Palm Beach County



STUNT OR SUICIDE?
State Rep. David Kerner, (D-Lake Worth), is touting a bill that would legalize assisted suicide in Florida. His "death with dignity" bill would allow anyone with a terminal illness to visit a doctor to help him or her commit suicide. It's not a stunt, but Kerner has little chance of getting even a vote on this.



PRISON TIME
John Goodman, the millionaire polo mogul from Wellington has been sentenced to 16 years in prison for the DUI manslaughter conviction. In 2010, Goodman crashed his



COLBATH
Bentley in a car driven by 23-year-old Patrick Wilson that landed in a canal. Goodman, 51, left scene without attempting to help Wilson, who died. Palm Beach County Chief Circuit Judge Jeffrey Colbath denied a motion from Goodman's attorney for a \$4 million cash bond while he appeals the conviction.

Broward County



FACEBOOK IN ACTION
Ramon Fernando Rivera-Lopez, 35, of New Port Richey, is charged in the armed burglary and robbery of a Dania Beach woman who he followed as she left a store. Rivera-Lopez was captured on the store's video, which Broward Sheriff's Office detectives circulated seeking the public's help to identify him. A tipster contacted them about pictures of Rivera-Lopez wearing the same shirt worn during the crime on a Facebook page, which led to his arrest. Book'em Danno!



HUNGER STRIKE
Jillian Pim is more than 30 days into a hunger strike in protest of the City of Fort Lauderdale's ordinance banning feeding the needy in public places. The city has repeatedly issued citations to 90-year-old homeless advocate Arnold Abbott for violating the law. Pim, 30, of Dania Beach, has now dried up like a prune and her condition is deteriorating as Fort Lauderdale is being condemned for its ban from organizations from around the world.



PITIFUL PIMP
William General Jones, 43, has been arrested on 11 counts of human trafficking related charges. He is accused of having sex with a runaway teenage girl, videotaping the encounters and having her work as a prostitute. He was caught in a sting after Fort Lauderdale police responded to an ad on the Backpage.com website. Jones then brought the child to a home to have sex for \$200 but the men he thought were customers were actually police, who placed him under arrest.



SUPER THEFT
Former Miami Dolphins player Bob Kuechenberg's home was burglarized and suspect Ivy Peterson made off with two Super Bowl rings. Peterson was spotted exiting the home through a window. Police were called and a dragnet set up where a K-9 captured him fleeing through the parking lot of a nearby school. Peterson faces multiple counts of burglary, trespassing and possession of cocaine charges.

Miami-Dade County



A HEAT THANKSGIVING
Miami Heat is holding its annual Thanksgiving Day celebration where players and team officials will serve food baskets to 600 needy families. In its 23rd year, the event takes place at the Miami Rescue Mission from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. today.

HIGHER LEARNING
Miami Dade College is dealing with 18 students who have been charged in an

identity theft scheme. The students are accused of stealing identities of students to open bank accounts, file fake tax returns and apply for social security. Reportedly, \$1.9 million was fraudulently obtained through the scheme.



NO TURKEYS
Miami Gardens Councilwoman Lisa C. Davis sponsored the turkey giveaway at Cloverleaf Park, that got out of hand. After waiting for hours in long lines and enduring the rain, residents were told they had run out of turkeys. It was a mess, and people were understandably upset, but things happen and hopefully it will be a learning experience for organizers.

Monroe County

AGENT SUSPENDED
Kathy Smith, a Florida Department of Law Enforcement agent, is the target of a mortgage fraud investigation. According to sources, she and her former husband signed mortgage documents swearing that they were married, even though they had been divorced. Stay tuned.



CAPTURED
Horkene Cade, 36, of Marathon, was facing 15-years in prison over weapons, cocaine possession and other charges. A judge granted him a weeklong furlough to get his personal business in order on Nov. 12. He was supposed to return Nov. 17 for transport to state prison, but never showed. Warrants were issued and he was captured in Homestead and is now facing other charges.

Breaking News! Visit us online at SFLTimes.com

NSU awarded \$8.5 million for Gulf oil spill research

NSU, FROM 1B

Gulf of Mexico and affected coastal states — including Florida. One of the goals is to improve the fundamental understanding of the dynamics of such events and their environmental stresses and public health implications.

"The world's oceans are changing as a result of many global and varied local and regional pressures," said George L. Hanbury II, NSU's president and chief executive officer. "The Deepwater Horizon oil spill event has posed a significant ... stress to the ocean life essential for Florida and the nation." Because of the award, he added, "NSU will soon be developing urgently needed knowledge to evaluate deep-sea fish and other organism impacts after a significant oil-spill disturbance."

Sutton will direct the NSU-led research consortium, titled Deep-Pelagic Nekton Dynamics of the Gulf of Mexico (DEEP-END). The research of the consortium will be focused on the pelagic (open ocean) realm, from the surface to depths of over one mile, which is by far the largest ecosystem component of the Gulf of Mexico.

The consortium will examine the biological communities of the deep Gulf with respect to space and time, using a variety of techniques, and relate these findings to disturbances, both natural (e.g. season, river input, major currents) and human-made (e.g. Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill) in order to understand the short- and long-term consequences of such events such on the health of the Gulf.

"The deep Gulf of Mexico is an amazing ecosystem, with biodiversity as high,

or higher, than any ecosystem of its kind, according to our current knowledge," Sutton said. "We are still discovering new species within its depths after over 200 years of investigation. It behooves us to better understand its nature and functioning, as the societal benefits of the Gulf in its entirety are enormous."

Sutton and NSU Oceanographic Center

scientists Tamara Frank, Joseph Lopez, and Mahmood Shivji will team with scientists from Florida International University, the University of South Florida, Florida Atlantic University and others to produce exciting discoveries from the oceanic Gulf that will be accessible to the public and scientific communities, and with substantial educational outreach.

Cooper honored for activism

COOPER, FROM 1B

and Public Service filed a law suit on behalf of the local residents.

Miami-Dade County Commissioner Dennis C. Moss invited Cooper and other parties involved including Miami-Dade County Office of Civil Rights and Labor Relations Chief Cathy Lewis, City of Coral Gables Commissioner Vince Lago, Commissioner Patricia Keon, City Attorney Craig E. Leen, City of Miami Transportation Manager Carlos Cruz and Deputy City Manager Alice Bravo to weigh in on this matter. The Miami-Dade County Transportation and Aviation Committee, where Moss serves as chairman, has

the responsibility to provide oversight in matters involving the county transit department.

"My hope with this discussion is to uncover what went wrong," said Commissioner Moss. "And what we have we done to ensure that this problem does not occur again."

Following the discussion a Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Clarice Cooper in recognition of her activism.

"Thank you for coming forward on behalf of your community and saying to us, 'we got this one wrong,'" said Commissioner Moss. "Thank you for your courage and your resolve."

Spady offers soulful tasting

SPADY, FROM 1B

Garage, 180 NE First St, in Delray Beach. Tickets are \$50 per person in advance; \$80 at the door.

"We've had great feedback from our previous Soulful Tastings, so this year, we wanted to have it at a location where we could also offer music," said Museum Director Charlene Jones. "Soulful Tastings is our attempt to share the cultural aspects of dining because so much of our cultural identity is tied to food — how we prepare it, what occasions we are celebrating, the ingredients we use. We also wanted to introduce some new chefs to the event, so we partnered with a great new restaurant in West Palm Beach."

Gaining a reputation for its homemade pastries, vegan dishes and entrees that cater to gluten-sensitive diners and diabetics, Crème de la Crème is managed by Tonya Beverly, one of its local chefs. For Soulful Tastings, Beverly plans to deliver

a variety of "farm to table" samplings that appeal to those who appreciate fresh cooking with ingredients that were grown close by. Crème de la Crème is part of the restaurant diversity in Northwood Village, which is becoming a destination for foodies.

The Spady Cultural Heritage Museum is the only museum of its kind in Palm Beach County. Located at 170 NW Fifth Avenue in Delray Beach, it is dedicated to showcasing the African-, Haitian- and Caribbean-American cultural contributions to the artistic landscape of Florida and the United States. Hours are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday; Saturdays by appointment. Closed Sundays. Admission: \$10; Members are free.

For more information or to purchase tickets for the tasting, email spadymuseum@spadymuseum.org or visit <http://www.spadymuseum.com/Soulful>. Learn more about Crème de la Crème: <https://www.facebook.com/cremedelacremenorthwood?fref=photo>.





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LEGAL NOTICES

| THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA NOTICE OF MEETINGS MEETINGS SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR CANCELLATION | | |
|--|---|--|
| Date | Meeting | Place |
| 12/3/14 9a | QSEC Review of Contractors Pre-Qualification/ReCert. | TSSC - Rm. #323 7720 W. Okldk Pk Blvd., Sunrise |
| 12/17/14 9a | QSEC Review of Contractors Pre-Qualification/ReCert. | TSSC - Rm. #323 7720 W. Okldk Pk Blvd., Sunrise |
| 12/11/14 9a | Central District Schools Adv. Steering Committee | Stranahan High School 1800 SW 5 th Pl., Ft. Laud. |
| 12/11/14 9:00a | Central District Schools Adv. General Meeting | Stranahan High School 1800 SW 5 th Pl., Ft. Laud. |
| 12/10/14 6:30-9p | District Adv. Council (DAC) General Meeting | KCW Bldg. 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/15/14 6:30-8p | District Adv. Council (DAC) Looping Sub-Committee | KCW Bldg. 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/8/14 8:30-10:30a | District Adv. Council (DAC) Steering Meeting | KCW Bldg. 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/4/14 5-6:30p | Diversity Committee - School Site Visitation Sub-Committee | KCW Bldg., Board Room 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/4/14 6:30-8:30p | Diversity Committee □General Meeting | KCW Bldg., Board Room 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/1/14 2:30-3:45p | Diversity Committee -School Site Visitation Sub-Committee | Lauderdale Manors Lrng. Cntr. 1400 NW 14 th Court, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/8/14 2:30-3:45p | Diversity Committee -School Site Visitation Sub-Committee | Lauderdale Manors Lrng. Cntr. 1400 NW 14 th Court, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/15/14 1:30-2:30p | Diversity Committee □ Chair/Vice-Chair & Staff Member Mtg. | Lauderdale Manors Lrng. Cntr. 1400 NW 14 th Court, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/15/14 2:30-3:45p | Diversity Committee -School Site Visitation Sub-Committee | Lauderdale Manors Lrng. Cntr. 1400 NW 14 th Court, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/18/14 2:30-3:45p | Diversity Committee -School Site Visitation Sub-Committee | Lauderdale Manors Lrng. Cntr. 1400 NW 14 th Court, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/2/14 9:30-11:30a | ESE - Autism Committee of ESE Advisory (ACE) | Baudhuin Preschool 7600 SW 36 th St., #2218, Davie |
| 12/2/14 11:30a- 12:30p | ESE - ACE Board Meeting | Baudhuin Preschool 7600 SW 36 th St., #2218, Davie |
| 12/12/14 10a-12p | ESE - ACE Board Meeting | Dunkin Donuts 9740 Griffin Rd., Cooper City |
| 12/17/14 6:30-9p | ESE Advisory Council Meeting | Piper High School, Sm.Aud. 8000 SW 44 Street, Sunrise |
| 12/4/14 6:30-9p | ESE Advisory Council Meeting | Piper High School, Sm.Aud. 8000 SW 44 Street, Sunrise |
| 12/8/14 9-11:30a | ESE Adv. Exec. Board Mtg. | JAFCO 5100 Nob Hill Rd., Sunrise |
| 12/5/14 10a-12p | ESE By-Laws Committee | Northwest Regional Library 3151 N. Univ. Dr., Coral Spgs |
| 12/12/14 10a-12p | ESE By-Laws Committee | Northwest Regional Library 3151 N. Univ. Dr., Coral Spgs |
| 12/11/14 10a-12p | ESE - Down Syndrome Task Force Committee | West Regional Library 8601 W Broward Blvd., Plantation |
| 12/4/14 7p | Facilities Task Force General Mtg | Dillard High School-Rm 209 2501 NW 11 th Street, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/15/14 10a | Financial Advisory Committee Meeting (Purpose: Certificates of Participation, Series 2015A and General Obligation Bond Update and any other matters that may come before the Committee.) | KCW Bldg., 10 th Fl. Conf. Rm 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud. |
| 12/18/14 7p | Gifted Advisory | Millennium Middle 5803 NW 94 th Ave., Tamarac |
| 12/11/14 5p | North Dist. Schools Advisory Steering Committee Mtg | Pompano Admin. Center 610 NE 3 rd Ave, Pompano Bch. |
| 12/2/14 5p | North Dist. Schools Advisory Steering Committee Mtg | Northwest Regional Library 3151 N. Univ. Dr., Coral Spgs |
| 12/9/14 5p | North Dist. Schools Advisory Steering Committee Mtg | Northwest Regional Library 3151 N. Univ. Dr., Coral Spgs |
| 12/16/14 5p | North Dist. Schools Advisory Steering Committee Mtg | Northwest Regional Library 3151 N. Univ. Dr., Coral Spgs |
| 12/3/14 11a | North Dist. Schools Advisory Chair/Officers Mtg | Crocante Gourmet Bakery 2708 N University Dr., Coral Spgs |
| 12/10/14 11a | North Dist. Schools Advisory Chair/Officers Mtg | Crocante Gourmet Bakery 2708 N University Dr., Coral Spgs |
| 12/3/14 6p | Parent/Community Involvement Task Force Subcomm. Mtg. | Indian Ridge Middle School 1355 Nob Hill Rd., Davie |
| 12/11/14 10a | Superintendent's Ins. Advisory & Wellness Committee (SIWAC) (Purpose: Review Dependent Medical Plan Options, and any other matter the Committee deems important. Telephone conferencing or other telecommunications technology may be used in the conduct of this public meeting to permit absent Superintendent's Insurance & Wellness Advisory Committee Members to participate in discussions, to be heard by other Committee Members, and the public, and to hear discussions taking place during the meeting.) | TSSC (Lobby) 7770 W. Okldk Pk Blvd., Sunrise |
| 12/8/14 2:30-4:30p | Technology Advisory Committee (TAC) | BECON - MGM Room 6600 SW Nova Drive, Davie |
| 12/4/14 1-3p | Wellness Policy Committee | KCW Bldg., 14 th Fl. Conf. Rm 600 SE 3 rd Avenue, Ft. Laud. |
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| Notice is hereby given that two or more Board Members of The School Board of Broward County, Florida, may be participating. | | |

| THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA NOTICE OF MEETINGS | |
|---|--|
| 12/9/14 10:00 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 12:45 p.m. | KCW Bldg., 600 SE 3rd Ave., Ft. Laud. □Special School Board Meeting/Expulsions □Regular School Board Meeting □Leasing Corp. Meeting (Purpose: For approval of Certificates of Participation, Series 2015A) □Attorney Client Session |
| 12/16/14 10:00 a.m. | KCW Bldg., 600 SE 3rd Ave., Ft. Laud. □School Board Workshop |

Regular School Board Meeting □ Public speakers listed on the agenda will be heard at 12 p.m. or as close to that time as possible. **Workshops** □ Public speakers will be permitted three minutes each to address a topic at the conclusion of Board Members' discussion on the topic. The times for items on the agenda are only estimates. The actual start times for these topics may vary up to an hour or more depending on the nature of the items and the length of the Board discussions and public comments.

The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure, which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, race, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. Individuals who wish to file a discrimination and/or harassment complaint may call the Director, Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department, at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158. Individuals with disabilities requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA), may call Equal Educational Opportunities/ADA Compliance Department, at 754-321-2150 or Teletype Machine (TTY) 754-321-2158.

Telephone conferencing or other telecommunications technology may be used in conducting this public meeting to permit absent Board Members to participate in discussions, to be heard by other School Board Members and the public, and to hear discussions taking place during the meeting.

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.



Obituaries

JAY'S FUNERAL HOME



JAHROLA ANDERSON, One month, died November 15. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Jay's Funeral Home Chapel.



ARBANIE BYNUM BROWN, 47, died November 22. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church.

EDDIE COLE, 85, Mail Handler, died November 18. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Jay's Funeral Home.

NORMAN GREEN, 64, K9 Super, died November 18. Funeral will be held 12 noon Saturday, at Second Baptist Church.



HATTIE BELLE MARSHALL, 87, MDC Housing Clerk, died November 23. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Covenant Missionary Baptist Church.

LOUISE PUGH, 69, Homemaker, died November 19. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday, December 6.



HALL-FERGUSON-HEWITT MORTUARY



THEODORE R. HEPBURN, 78, Entrepreneur, died November 22. Viewing 4 pm to 12 am Friday. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Hall Ferguson Hewitt Chapel.

WILLIE B. STALEY, 83, died November 23. Arrangements are incomplete.

HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - MLK



MARY BEATRICE BROWN, 73 Cook died November 18, at Aventura Hospital service 2 pm Saturday at MLK Chapel.

CALVIN DONELLE ELFORD, 19, Student, died November 18, at Jackson Memorial Hospital. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at MLK Chapel.

SHONNA RENAE WOODSON, 49, Food Service, died November 15, at North Shore Hospital. Funeral 12 pm Saturday MLK Chapel.



WRIGHT & YOUNG FUNERAL HOME



KIRK DARDEN, 53, died November 23. Funeral will be held 11 Saturday at Mt. Hermon A.M.E. Church.

WILLIAM HOWARD, 56, Carpenter, died November 18. Funeral 2 pm Saturday at Royal Crusade Assembly for Christ, Inc.

VALERIE MCGRAW, 50, Teacher, died November 18. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday at Koinonia Worship Center.

VIRGIL SWINDLE, 39, Chef, died November 19. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Jordan Grove M.B. Church.



PAX VILLAS FUNERAL HOMES - Miami



SUZANNE TOUSSAINT, died November 18, in North Miami Beach, FL. Funeral. S will be held 10 am Saturday, at Hope Church of The Nazarene (Miami, Florida).

ELUSMA WILLY PIERRE, died November 18, in North Miami, FL. Funeral will be held Saturday.

JAMES C. BOYD FUNERAL HOME



LEOPOLD CINEUS, 65, died. Funeral was held 10 am Saturday, at Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church, 1121 Northwest 8 Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

JUANITO DIAZ, died November 15. Funeral arrangements were held in Pensacola, Florida.

JOHN EDWARD POHORELY, 84, died November 22. Arrangements are incomplete.

VEVELYN WILSON, 59, died November 4.

DENNY MERRILL YOCK, 82, died November 18.



HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - Miami Gardens



VAXINE BORGELLA, 31, died November 9, at Baptist Hospital. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at 10 am in the chapel.

WILLIE B. MCKISSICK, 65, Retired Sanitation Worker, died November 18, at Kindred Hospital. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Jordan Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

VASQUEZ METAYER, 72, Retired Business Owner, died November 21, at Broward General Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.



NAKIA INGRAHAM FUNERAL HOME



SYLVESTER SLACK, 59, died November 13 at home. Funeral will be held 12 noon, Saturday at Gateway Church.

PRENTICE YORK, 91, died November 28 at home. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday in the chapel.

PAX VILLA FUNERAL HOMES - Orlando



GERMAINE CLERGE, died November 23, in Orlando, FL. Funeral will be held 11 am Friday at Philadelphia Haitian Baptist Church, in Orlando.

MANITA PIERRE-LOUISE, died November 19, in Orlando, FL. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Tabernacle Baptist, in Orlando.

YOLANDE VEILLARD, died November 23, in Naples, FL. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Powers Drive Baptist Church-Orlando.

ROY MIZELL & KURTZ FUNERAL HOME



VICTOR GRILES JR., of Sunrise, died November 22. Arrangements will be handled in New York.

JOHN CLARENCE SIMMONS, 56, of Fort Lauderdale, died November 24. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday in the chapel.

ROSE M. LEWIS THOMPSON, 67, of Fort Lauderdale, died November 24. Memorial service will be held 2 pm Friday at Roy Mizell Kurtz Worship Center.



MANKER FUNERAL HOME



ANTHONY RAY MOORER, 48, Restaurant Attendant, died November 13 at North Shore Medical Center. Memorial service will be held 4 pm Friday at Manker Memorial Chapel.

RANGE FUNERAL HOME



SHARON L. DANIELS, 59, Teacher, at James E. Scott Association, died November 20. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Range Chapel.

Fans, critics remember Barry



PHOTO COURTESY OF HEREANDNOW.COM

Marion Barry

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two divergent views of Washington's "mayor for life" stand in stark contrast in the complicated legacy that Marion Barry leaves behind.

Outside the nation's capital, Barry was known to many as the mayor caught on film smoking crack in an FBI sting. Inside the city, Barry is also remembered as a statesman who helped bring self-government to the people and gave a voice to the poor and working class when he was first elected mayor in 1978.

In some ways, the divide follows racial lines, with whites less forgiving of Barry's personal failings and corruption. Many blacks in Washington say the media perpetuates Barry's downfall and ignores his accomplishments. Barry died Sunday at age 78.

Near the White House after Barry died, tourists remembered his pitfalls.

Bonnie Bricker of Columbia, Maryland, and her husband, Adil Shamoo, said they believe Barry's legacy, ultimately, is one of corruption. They disagreed with obituaries that they felt portrayed him in glowing terms.

"What he is is an icon of political corruption," said Bricker, who is white.

In recent years, Barry was censured for steering a government contract to a former girlfriend and accepting cash gifts from city contractors.

Supporters say Barry's good work outweighs any mistakes. In Nashville, Tenn., the Rev. James Lawson, remembered him as one of the civil rights movement's very first leaders.

"The whole business of drugs and what not in my judgment does not deny the fact that he was a strong organizer of people, and he sympathized and empathized with people in their plight," Lawson said. "Along the way, he did a lot good on behalf of people."

Barry's last major television interview aired Sunday night. Barry told Oprah Winfrey that he rose above his personal fall in 1990 when he was caught on video smoking crack cocaine with a younger woman.

"I learned from it. I apologized to my wife Effi. I apologized to my son," Barry said. "And this is America.

America believes in second chances. I believe in second chances."

Barry said he could identify with people and their public mistakes, such as outgoing Toronto Mayor Rob Ford's trouble with drugs.

Barry made good on his second chance. After serving time in prison, he stunned the political world in 1994, defeating six challenges to be elected mayor for a fourth term.

"Amazing grace, how sweet it sounds to save a wretch like me," he told cheering supporters at the time.

Barry's recently published autobiography took on the Mayor for Life moniker in its title. Barry's fans and critics alike use the nickname.

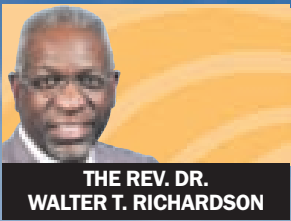
Washington's new mayor-elect, Muriel Bowser, who represents a younger generation of black politicians, has latched onto Barry's legacy, even though they didn't always agree as colleagues on the D.C. Council. She led a celebration of Barry as supporters gathered in the late lawmaker's ward to watch his interview with Winfrey.

"We love you, Marion Barry. We'll miss you forever, Marion Barry. And we are proud to have known you and had you in our midst, Marion Barry," Bowser said, drawing big cheers. "He touched people's lives. He fought for people. And if any of us could live as boldly, as brightly and as righteously in so many ways as Marion did for the District of Columbia, we would have lived a great life."

Joseph diGenova, the former U.S. attorney for the District in the 1980s when Barry was mayor, said Barry's legacy is a mixed bag. Barry was a beloved figure in the African-American community, which had few political leaders. But Barry's appointment powers brought cronyism and incompetence to the D.C. government and police department, and Barry set back the political fight for D.C. to gain statehood or voting rights in Congress, diGenova said.

"The bottom line is the arrest was the final chapter certainly in his outrageousness," diGenova said. "I think he permanently diminished and tarnished the reputation of the District of Columbia for the rest of America."

Prayerful Living



'Tis the Season to Forgive!

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: «It is mine to avenge; I will repay,» says the Lord. — Romans 12:14-19

What a wonderful season this is to express our thanks for our friends, family, and fellowships. It seems we live all year long in America in preparation for the days between Thanksgiving and Christmas. But, we are bitten this season with the cold, violent acts of violence on college campuses, struggling communities, and our ears are almost numb from listening to stories from around our country about unarmed people being shot. The noise is still loud from Ferguson, Mo., from the actions of the local police officer who shot an unarmed young man, and the omnipresent noise of the community searching for answers, solutions, and appropriate responses to violence.

Some would advocate that in instances where people have been wronged that revenge and retaliation are the appropriate answers. It's tit for tat. It's settling the score that no one wins or everybody loses. That response seems natural when considered by those who have little or no faith in a God of justice. For some, the use of violence is justified when the victim has suffered violence. However, when we consider what Jesus would do, or how he taught His disciples to respond to issues of physical confrontation and immoral conduct, He was a nonconformist. He did not act or react like the majority.

In each of our eyes we've been wronged by so many that to get even would be such sweet satisfaction. But where would you start and stop when considering others who have wronged you? The master poet, Robert Frost, said "... If one by one we counted people out for the least sin, it wouldn't take us long to get so we had no one left to live with. For to be social is to be forgiving."

The beloved apostle Paul helps us with his writings to the Romans when he urges fellow Christians to always "check" their attitudes. First, our attitude toward God deserves attention; to make sure we are serving Him as we should. Our attitude for good deserves attention; that Christians ought to ever be mindful of their treatment of others. That love, patience, prayer, sympathy, and humility make up the foundation for our conduct. And finally, that our attitude toward government is correct in that Christians are submissive to laws, and that authority is respected.

It is important to remember that

violence is never a tool to be used by the moral. One of Mahatma Gandhi's most famous quotes is "There are many causes I would die for. There is not a single cause I would kill for." Dr. Martin Luther King said, "I am convinced that if we succumb to the temptation to use violence in our struggle for freedom, unborn generations will be the recipients of a long and desolate night of bitterness, and our chief legacy to them will be a never-ending reign of chaos."

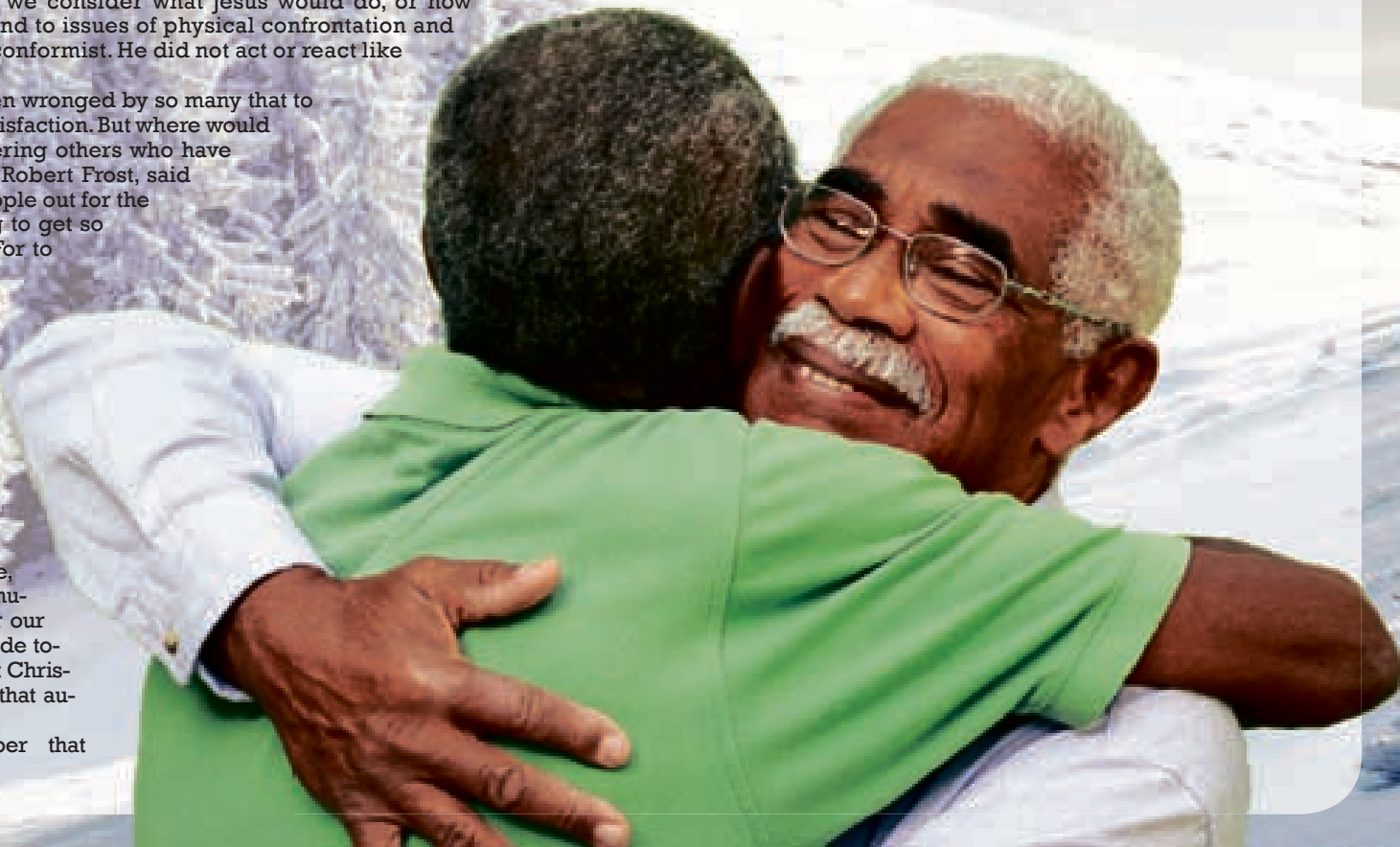
We have the ability to walk as family, in fellowship, while forgiving ourselves and others, and remaining faithful. We have the ability to be peaceful, patient, positive, and pleasant at the same time.

No, we are not overjoyed when evil prevails, when victims are terrorized, when innocence is betrayed, when children are negatively affected, or when communities are disenfranchised. But when bitterness bites, love and forgiveness always neutralizes the hurt.

This is the season to love, forgive, and seek wisdom from the Lord on how we constructively eliminate evil systems and immoral behavior.

Pray: Lord, I thank you for the opportunity to pursue peace amidst violence and upheaval. Help me to actively paralyze hatred and release love by my words and actions. In Jesus' name ...Amen!

Dr. Walter T. Richardson is pastor-emeritus of Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church in South Miami-Dade County and chairman of the Miami-Dade Community Relations Board. He may be contacted at wtrichardson@Bell-south.net. Website: WTRMinistries.com





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Holiday Cheer

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technology

Microsoft gives away Office apps for iPhone, iPad



SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Microsoft is offering free upgraded versions of its Office software for iPhones and iPads, as the software giant further embraces the so-called “freemium” strategy favored by many newer companies seeking success online.

Give away a basic version of a popular service, and the world may beat a path to your door and be willing to pay a little more for extras, or so the thinking goes.

Microsoft, the longtime king of desktop software, has generally protected its model of getting paid upfront for what it developed. But as the company strives to stay relevant for workers



PHOTO COURTESY OF PCWORLD.COM

Microsoft Office for iPad

and consumers in an increasingly mobile world — and better compete with Google, Apple and others it is offering substantial versions of its most popular products free of charge for smart phones and tablets. Microsoft is hoping to keep people using its products across all their devices, while betting that many will ultimately pay for fuller-featured versions of the software.

“There’s going to be a handful of tech companies that everyone depends on,” for online software, said Maribel Lopez, a mobile tech analyst at Lopez Research. “Microsoft wants to make sure they’re one of them.”

Other devices

As more workers use devices other than desktop PCs, they want to have the same capabilities on all their devices, says Michael Atalla, director of Microsoft’s Office apps product management. “We want to make sure they can move seamlessly from one to another,” he added.

The apps released Thursday, including Word, Excel and PowerPoint, replace a limited iPhone version and upgrade a more powerful set of apps that the company released for iPad tablets in March. The older iPhone version allowed users to create and view files for free,

but had very limited features. Earlier versions for the iPad offered more capabilities, but creating new files required a paid subscription to the company’s Office 365 subscription service.

The new apps have more of the capabilities found in Office desktop software and don’t require a paid subscription for creating files and other functions. Microsoft is still reserving some premium features, including security tools for business users, for paid subscribers. Microsoft will continue to charge for Office 365 on PCs and for business users.

Sacrifices

The company seems to be thinking, “We’ll perhaps sacrifice a little bit of revenue on the consumer side to make sure Office remains the standard for everybody,” said Jan Dawson, chief analyst at Jackdaw Research. Businesses are increasingly willing to buy technology that their workers use at home, and that could shore up Microsoft’s lucrative commercial business, Dawson said.

Although most of Microsoft Corp.’s revenue still comes from traditional software, CEO Satya Nadella wants to shift the company’s focus to mobile and web-based products. The Redmond, Washington company recently said it delayed producing a new version of Office for Apple’s Mac computers so it could focus on mobile apps.

One big challenge for Microsoft stems from the complexity of building different versions of each app for competing mobile operating systems. Apple’s iPhones and iPads are far outnumbered by smart phones and tablets that use Google’s Android mobile operating system. But different versions of Android run on a variety of devices from different manufacturers. Microsoft also has its own mobile operating system, although it’s not as widely used.

Android users

win another move to keep up with shifting work habits, Microsoft recently announced a software partnership with Dropbox, an online storage company that’s increasingly popular with people that want to store documents, photos and other files and share them with others. The two companies are integrating their software so documents stored in Dropbox can be easily edited with Microsoft’s Office tools. Microsoft also has its own online storage service, while Google and Apple offer competing services with their apps.

YouTube adds subscription service to music mix



PHOTO COURTESY OF DRIVEDOMINION.COM

Music Key gives subscribers more options.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google is remixing the music on its YouTube video site with the addition of ad-free subscription service Music Key and a new format designed to make it easier to find millions of songs that can still be played free.

The subscription service is part of Google’s effort to mine more revenue from YouTube as the video site approaches the 10th anniversary of its inception. Music Key has been speculated about for months while Google Inc. wrangled over the licensing terms with recording labels. The service, priced initially at \$8 a month, is comparable in cost to other digital music subscription services sold by Spotify, Apple Inc.’s Beats and Google’s own 18-month-old streaming service tied to its Android Play store. But Music Key subscribers will be able to stream through the Google Play service at no additional charge, too.

YouTube also is unveiling a new tab devoted exclusively to music on its mobile apps and website. This option is meant to make it easier for the video site’s 1 billion users to find specific songs and entire albums, even if they aren’t subscribers.

Most music subscription services own the rights to the same catalogues, making their ability to learn listeners’ preference to create appealing playlists particularly important. Music Key, though, will offer the unique distinction of being able to show artists performing their songs too.

That difference could help lure listeners away from Spotify, which says it has about 50 million users, including 12.5 million subscribers, said Mark Mulligan, a longtime industry analyst with Midia Research. And YouTube’s redesigned library of free music could do even more damage to Spotify and other services, such as video site Vevo, where people flock to check out songs at no cost. Expanding the audience that listens to free music would be profitable for Google because that would yield



more opportunities to show ads — the main way that the Mountain View, California, company makes its money.

“A cynic might say that Google is only doing this subscription service on YouTube so it would get the rights to do what it always wanted to do with the free service,” Mulligan said.

Google’s main goal “is to make the music experience better on YouTube,” said Christophe Muller, who oversees the company’s music partnerships.

Music Key initially will be offered on an invitation-only basis in the United States, United Kingdom, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Ireland and Finland. The first batch of offers were sent in mid-November to YouTube viewers with a history of watching a lot of music clips. Anyone interested in an invitation can request one at <http://YouTube.com/MusicKey>. After a free six-month trial period, Music Key will temporarily cost \$8 per month before escalating to its standard price of \$10 per month.

Besides removing all ads, Music Key also gives subscribers two other perks: the ability to continue playing songs while the screens of mobile devices are locked and the option to download tracks so they can be played without an Internet connection. The offline music can only be played in Music Key’s mobile app.

Google Inc. bought YouTube for \$1.76 billion in 2006, a price that some analysts questioned at the time of the deal because the service barely had any revenue and was drowning in copyright complaints about pirated clips of music videos, television shows and movies. After Google took over, YouTube set up a more stringent system for blocking pirated content to placate copyright owners. Recording labels now use the video site to help promote new songs and artists. The ads running within those music clips have generated more than \$1 billion for the performers and recording labels, according to Google.

The world’s three largest music labels — Universal, Sony and Warner—all have reached licensing deals with YouTube as part of the new subscription services. Hundreds of independent labels, including some that had been holding out for better terms, also are on board. Financial details haven’t been disclosed.

film

Hunger Games: Lawrence leads revolution



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LIONSGATE

"The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1" also stars Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth, Woody Harrelson, Elizabeth Banks, Julianne Moore and Natalie Dormer.

By **KIMBERLY GRANT**
Special to South Florida Times

Poet Gil Scot-Heron once said in his poem of the same name: "The revolution will not be televised." It meant that the people should get involved in the revolution, thereby they would

have first-hand knowledge of the revolt, rather than what is spoon-fed to them by the media. This may be what Suzanne Collins had in mind when she wrote *Mockingjay*, which has just been adapted into two films in The Hunger Games franchise. The first, *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1*, was released last week.

In the film, the districts get involved in the revolt against The Capitol and President Snow (played by Donald Sutherland). In this dark installment (in tone and visually) we see our favorite Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) residing in the rebellious District 13 as the Mockingjay for the rebels and using media to her advantage against President Snow, who has decided to crush what he calls "the radicals" of all of the districts to make an example out of them.

In screenwriters Peter Craig and Daniel Strong's adapted script, Katniss is a reluctant hero and her main concern is her love for an absent Peeta (Josh Hutcherson). It is Peeta's plight as prisoner of the Capitol that helps spark Katniss into being the Mockingjay of the rebels. Being that Peeta is being used as a pawn by the Capitol, this is also Peeta's story. Is he being forced to tell Katniss to stop the revolt or does he truly believe that the people of the districts are wasting their time? Time will tell.

In the meantime, director Francis Lawrence (no relation to Jennifer) has padded his film with quite the roster of talented actors. Julianne Moore takes the helm as the stoic District 13 President Alma Coin. Alma's district is what Haymitch Abernathy (Woody Harrelson) calls "The Prohibition Era". Everyone wears high-waist, dark gray jumpsuits and there is no alcohol or much color to this underground district.

Much to the chagrin of Effie Trinket (Elizabeth Banks), who has to create her own outfits from the drab, this district has been training and preparing for war against the Capitol. Complete with heavy artillery and a bunker deep inside of a mountain surrounded by lush, untouched nature, this district was built for rebellion. And, their secret weapon is Jeffrey Wright's Beetee, who continues to give a stellar performance as the man with all of his muscle and war tactics residing in his intellect.

The late Phillip Seymour Hoffman returns as Plutarch Heavensbee, in one of the actor's last performances. Despite the dark tone of the film – compared to the previous films – Hoffman manages to bring some lightheartedness to the movie. Plutarch represents the giddy hopefulness and faith that the other districts have in Katniss. Seeing Katniss as a sort of patron saint of their cause, Plutarch is integral to the making of Katniss "the Mockingjay".

Of our young cast of key characters, Lawrence continues to make Katniss the weepy, yet strong hero of the

districts. Hutcherson takes a really dark turn as Peeta and surprises the audience with a terrific performance. And, Liam Hemsworth as Gale Hawthorne has more than a few lines in this latest film and he gets to show some kind of emotion for Katniss. In all honesty, one seems a bit hard-pressed to really find the love that is supposed to be emanating from Gale for Katniss. Then again, maybe his smoldering love is bubbling up under the surface.

Lastly, the rest of the newcomers are an exercise in poise and talent. Natalie Dormer as Cressida, an escapee of the Capitol with a bold Mohawk, really takes her job as director very seriously. The Tudors and Game of Thrones actress is quite talented and one to watch. And, my new favorite actor is Mahershala Ali, who plays Remi Danton on *House of Cards* and Boggs in *Mockingjay*. When Ali is on the screen, he gives off a certain presence that gives his audience a surety that everything will be okay. Hopefully, he'll get to stretch his acting muscles further.

Despite the darkness of this latest film in the franchise, if you have been a fan of The Hunger Games this film will not disappoint. The suspense and clear eyed look at what it takes to make a hero is can't miss, as well. This girl is still on fire and the revolution is being televised.



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home decor

Holiday Gift Guide 2014

Delight the five senses this special season

(StatePoint) To create a memorable holiday experience this year, turn your gifts, celebrations and home décor into a festive feast for the five senses.

Beautiful Sights

One sure sign that the holiday season has arrived at your home is when all the festive lights, décor and colors are on display. Trim your tree with DIY ornaments for a personal touch and add a wreath to your home's entryway, so that visitors immediately feel welcomed before they even step inside.

Using scented candles in a variety of

styles and sizes, you can create an intriguing and creative tablescape or mantlescape. Simply swap out smaller accessories to make the decorations last throughout the winter season. One easy option is to try an electric wax melt warmer, which can be used with a variety of different fragrances and warmer styles and has no wick or flame.

Seasonal Sounds

Fill your home with joyful holiday sounds. Luckily, there are varieties of genres within the holiday music category. Whether you and your guests prefer contemporary pop, jazzy classics or choral hymns, there is something to please listeners of every sensibility.

Wonderful Aromas

The scents of the season should evoke

the feeling and spirit of the holiday from sweet and spicy notes to a cool brush of frosted fir. You can accomplish this with holiday cooking and baking as well as with scented candles.

For example, the Pure Radiance line from Yankee Candle offers special holiday scents such as Christmas candy, winter, cinnamon, holly and ice crystal. The fragrances and sleek design offer style and ambiance, as well as a smooth crackling flame for a welcoming, peaceful atmosphere.

You can also set the holiday mood traditionally with their new Festive Fragrances line. The tumbler jar design comes in a variety of sizes to suit any home decor.

To add to the warmth of the season, incorporate scented candles throughout your home and consider gifting them to friends and family to spread the cheer. More ideas for celebrating the season with

scent can be found at www.YankeeCandle.com.

Festive Flavors

Certain flavors are so closely associated with the season that it wouldn't be the same without them. Cinnamon, mint, nutmeg and ginger can be used to flavor drinks and desserts. From eggnog to peppermint tea to gingerbread cookies and houses, don't forget to give your taste buds a treat and spice it up!

Feel the Warmth

Stay warm this holiday season. Cozy up with thick rugs, warm blankets, pillows and throws. A soft pair of slippers is a winter must have, and make a great holiday gift.

From tablescapes to the warmth of holiday aromas, it's easy to delight all of the five senses this holiday season.



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holiday event

Holiday Gift Guide 2014

ArtServe presents “unWRAPPED” exhibit, offers holiday gifts

Special to South Florida Times

FORT LAUDERDALE — ArtServe is getting in the holiday spirit and spreading good cheer this December when it presents the “unWRAPPED” exhibition and holiday specials in the Gallery Gift Shop.

ArtServe, 1350 E. Sunrise Boulevard in Fort Lauderdale, is a destination for holiday shopping where art lovers and gift-givers can choose from an amazing collection of one-of-a-kind creations by South Florida’s top artists. The artworks on display at “unWRAPPED” and in the Gallery Gift Shop are reasonably priced to fit any holiday budget, organizers say. This holiday season art patrons will find original art, holiday ornaments, handcrafted cards and the perfect painting to freshen up your home for the holidays.

The “unWRAPPED” exhibit, an annual all-member showcase of styles, mediums and artistic techniques, will be on display from Monday through Jan. 2. The gallery reception and one-night-only gift shop sale is 6 to 8 p.m. Dec. 11, and will offer holiday entertainment and special holiday treats. The evening will also include an open studio, where the public will get to interact with ArtServe artists in residence as they create new work in their own studios.

Gift giving will be easy this season at the ArtServe Gallery Gift Shop. A wide array of unique and affordable artworks will be available. Jewelry and beautifully crafted jewelry boxes can be found along with striking wooden salad bowls, glassworks, sculptures, scarves and beautiful ornaments, perfect for your favorite person or even your prized pet. During the reception, all items will be reduced 20 percent and a free ArtServe t-shirt will be given with every purchase over \$100. Free gift-wrapping and gift certificates are also available.

“In keeping with ArtServe’s mission of helping artists

turn art into business, this exhibit allows them to use any size and media they desire, which we know art lovers will appreciate,” said Jaye Abbate, President and CEO of ArtServe. “In addition to the Gallery Gift Shop, all artwork on display is for sale and reasonably priced for gifts or if you’re looking to add a bit of flare to your own home in time for holiday entertaining.”

Also included during “unWRAPPED” is a special exhibit called, “Ribbons for the Children,” which features art made by local children dealing with HIV/AIDS. Proceeds from the sales of this exhibit will support the Children’s Diagnostic Treatment Center, which is a not-for-profit organization that serves more than 11,000 children with special health care needs in Broward County.

Artserve, which bills itself as Broward County’s premier art service organization, provides progressive events, programs, facilities and services that help artists turn art into business. It was incorporated in 1988 as one of six original arts incubators in the United States, with a mission of developing programs that support artists and cultural organizations as a means to creating vibrant communities. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization,

ArtServe offers its members a wide range of progressive services, events, affordable facilities and collaborative programs that promote the visibility of art and culture throughout Broward County and helps artists turn their art into business. In 2014, ArtServe was voted Broward County’s best non-profit arts organization at the fourth annual Nonprofit Academy Awards.

The Gallery Gift Shop is located directly off the Main Gallery space. Admission to the gallery and gift shop is free. For more information about ArtServe contact (954) 462-8190 or information@artserve.org, or visit www.artserve.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANA MARIA HOYOS

Oh la la



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN HALL

Dream



PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID PLATH



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIAN HALL

Nine Tails

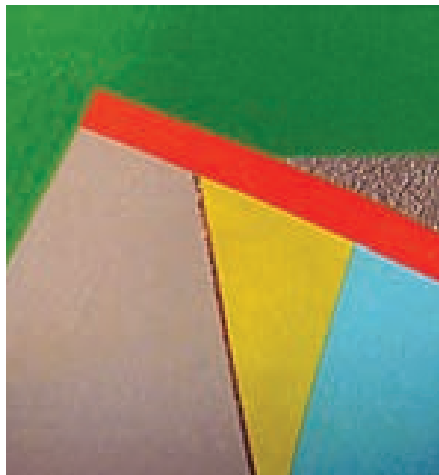


PHOTO COURTESY OF DICK SAUER

Jimmy Buffet tribute everybody got a cousin in Miami

Fountainheads

Holiday Gift Guide 2014

These are sure to make them smile

STORY BY
By BROOKE HENDERSON
Special to South Florida Times

The Holiday season brings an opportunity to spend time with family and friends while also showering each other with gifts that help celebrate the festive season. From the youngest members who are just beginning to expect to have something under the tree, to the significant other for whom shopping each year is a challenge to get it right, this gift guide offers a few pointers for interesting, meaningful items sure to put smiles on faces.

For The Kids

Racecar, dump truck, racecar. In this season of gift giving, you can give them what they want and still break from the routine—and maybe get a little free yard work done. The CAT Digger; \$85.69 (2+ years) is an investment, but its versatility makes it worth it. Having an excavator that your child can actually sit on, drive, and manipulate makes family beach days a little more interesting. And it's easy to lure your child to play outside when there is important digging to be done.

Building and construction toys, blocks in particular, are the ultimate open-ended creativity toy. Children can play with them for hours on end, all while developing math, problem-solving, and spatial thinking skills. That is why you can never go wrong with Mega Bloks First Builders Big Building Bag, 80-Piece, \$14.59 (1-2 1/2 years). Children typically grasp block building somewhere between 12 and 18 months, and

the locking mechanism is just a little bit easier for beginners to put together and pull apart than Legos. But don't worry, Legos are still a great gift for girls and boys four and up.

There is that awful stereotype that says building toys are only for boys. But it's not all about princesses and pink anymore for the girls. GoldieBlox (\$21.99) has a new toy line and their goal is to get girls building. By utilizing girls' strong verbal skills, their story based construction set encourages confidence in spatial skills. Through construction toys, an early interest in science, technology, engineering and math can be developed to hopefully reverse the trend of girls losing interest in these subjects as early as age 8. Through their award-winning debut story, GoldieBox aims to "...inspire the future generation of female engineers" by helping girls to realize they can do anything boys can do.

For the little princesses, there are always a variety of toys to meet their holiday gift demands. For the die-hard princess fan, it might be a good idea to invest in the Melissa & Doug Folding Princess Castle; \$63.16 (3-10 years). It has lots of accessible reach-in play space thanks to multiple play levels and an open courtyard. The impressive palace design is equipped with removable turrets, bedrooms, a working drawbridge, a stable, and more. It is large enough for several princesses and princes to play in at once, with durable hand-painted accents. When they leave the castle, it can fold into a smaller size when not in use.

The Disney Frozen Color Change Elsa Doll and Disney Frozen Anna & Kristoff Dolls 2 Pack \$24.24 are just as popular as the movie because of their quality and large Barbie-like size. The two pack is an especially good deal and kids will love Elsa's "magic" dress, which has

a secret pattern that only appears when it gets wet. And don't forget the Disney Frozen Olaf Doll; \$14.99 (3-10 years). He is also Barbie-sized; and like the real Olaf, he comes apart and can be put back together again and his facial expressions change when his head is pushed down. He's a great little toy for both boys and girls at a reasonable price.

Another great fun and functional toy is the Rainbow Loom® by Choon's Design LLC, (\$14.99) With a variety of colorful bands, boys and girls make bracelets and anything else they can imagine. When children loop the bands on the Rainbow Loom, they hold the hook the same way they would a pencil, helping them with their handwriting. This is a gift that keeps giving, as the child who receives it will make things for their family and friends.

Besides building toys, another staple in any toy chest is a tool set. They're all you need to get a child's imagination running, and add in working nuts and bolts, and you've created motor skill practice to boot. Green Toys makes a set made from 100 percent-recycled high-density polyethylene (#2 HDPE), which is considered the safest type of plastic. (\$16.10) It comes in blue, yellow, green, red, and brown.

If you must give a car, give a car whose possibilities are endless. The Magformers XL Cruiser Car Set (\$47.73) does not just build, it rolls, zooms, and never breaks down. The magnets are housed in colorful, high quality ABS plastic so they always attract, connecting the moment any two pieces touch. Magformers are most importantly easy to use and never frustrating for little fingers.

For the Bigger Kids (Teens)

Teenagers are in the real terrible age—at least, for gift giving. Save them a return to the store with one of these gifts.

SanDisk 64GB Ultra Class 10 MicroSD Card (\$74.95) is even better than a gift card. With 64GB of storage they'll never run out of storage on their smartphones, or cameras, or tablets, or almost anything. The card comes with an adapter so it fits into the average size SD slot, so those perfect pictures and five page essays are never lost. The ultra class 10 guarantees a high-speed transfer of data when copying things to and from the card. Your high-tech teen will thank you, especially when they get to save their level on their new video game.

Some of the newest video game releases include Halo: The Master Chief Edition, Assassins Creed Unity, NBA 2k15 as well as FIFA2k15 and Madden2k15, Disney Infinity, and Sims 4. Games coming later this season are Pokemon Omega Ruby and Alpha Sapphire, LittleBigPlanet 3 and Grand Theft Auto V and WWE 2k15.

As far as gift cards go, a gift card to Etsy ranks close to number one. Etsy is an online marketplace and mecca for your vintage-inspired teen. Items listed are artisan or collectible. This means anything from authentic high-waist jeans from the 1960s to Star Wars-inspired wallets to custom jewelry charms. With gift cards ranging from \$25 to \$250, anyone can find something they love on this mashup website.

And anyone can benefit from a charger and phone case in one, but parents especially. The hefty cost of a charging cellphone case is worth its weight when parents are free from the mourning wail that accompanies a dead cellphone. Mophie is just one great brand catering to the iPhone and the odd Galaxy S5. Their power station XL is said to be the longest lasting universal battery available today and is compatible with all tablets, smartphones, and USB devices. It is fully capable of charging two tablets simultaneously

with the fastest output possible. Prices start and range around \$100.

This season for teenagers and adults alike there is a category of gifts made of old things you should have kept. Polaroid cameras and record players have made a strong comeback, and that means expensive film and vinyl that used to be cheap.

There might be a few lucky finds at garage sales and thrift shops, but it is much safer to invest in a new instant camera. One of the top brands is, of course, the Polaroid Socialmatic (\$299). It has a feature to share what you shoot on all of your online social networks instantly, along with being WiFi and Bluetooth compatible so you can upload pictures stored in its substantial 4GB of internal storage. A more affordable but still fabulous instant camera is the FujiFilm Instax Mini 8 Instant Camera (\$69.99). This mini point and shoot comes in a stunning array of pastel finishes, complete with an exposure adjustment feature and an automatic flash.

For the photographer looking for tons of



control over their instant photos, the Instax 90 Neo Classic Instant Camera (\$199) is a better fit. Along with six shooting modes, it has settings for fast-paced action, super close ups, and artsy double exposures, as well as adjustable shutter speed and a tripod mount.

Record players are still as temperamental as ever despite their Millennial facelift. Audio-Technica and Crosley are two of the most reputable brands. Crosley uses a diamond needle, so the record player should be able to get 10,000 hours of playing time before it wears out.

The Cruiser model from Crosley (\$100) is three-speeds, portable, complete with a headphone jack, RCA audio out, and features a built in full-range stereo speakers turntable. For serious record collectors willing to pay more for their sound, the Audio-Technica Direct-Drive Professional Turntable USB & Analog (\$263) is a great choice. Its defining feature is its selectable internal stereo phono pre-amplifier, which allows the turntable to plug directly to

components with no dedicated turntable input. The gift of music is universal. Studies have shown that listening to familiar music can trigger memory so for those older with memory impairments, familiar music can literally be a lifeline. The non-profit organization Music & Memory Foundation uses this gift to help those with Alzheimer's and other dementias find joy through listening to their favorite music, and you can too. Past Perfect Music (www.pastperfect.com) is a British company notable for their extensive collection of music from the 1920s-1940s. They sell pre-loaded flash drives and iPods (\$433) filled with over 70 hours' worth of the most popular music from the 1920s, 30s and 40s as well as MP3 players.

A Google Chromebook can be enjoyed by any member of the family because it is especially simple to use for staying in touch and enjoying the aforementioned music. Starting at \$199, Chromebook is an affordable laptop with an easy-to-navigate operating system. Set-up quick and the laptop is easy for multiple users to share.



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adults

These are hits for discerning adults

2014
Holiday
GiftGuide

By **BROOKE HENDERSON**
Special to South Florida Times



PHOTO COURTESY OF CLAIRENADINE.COM

For Him

This is a bold gift, sure to grow into a fond memory. These flirty images are often given in small books as gifts for that special someone. Sugar and Spice Boudoir Photography in Fort Lauderdale offers a deal on Groupon for a one-hour boudoir photo-shoot package for one or two at 68 percent off. (\$80) The package includes a fashion consultation to help choose your sensual threads, and one of up to 40 images will be chosen for an 8-inch by 10-inch print and along with a digital copy. You get treated with the experience of getting dolled up for a photo-shoot, making this a gift for you as much as it is for him.

Another win-win gift is Amazon's answer to Google's Chromecast, the Fire TV Stick. It streams your media to your TV with four times the storage and twice the memory of a Chromecast, with

better Wi-Fi reliability. For \$39, it's an easy way to get him to watch your movies with you.

Even a manly man likes a little spoiling, don't let him fool you. He enjoys special products as long as it's "his" and not "hers." The Working Man's Hygiene Kit (\$50) is just the gift to get him to admit it. This all-natural set was created by a mechanic who knows what the business can do to a man's hands. The salves, scrubs and balms included are specially made to meet the needs of a working man, manly scent included. From his sore feet, cracked lips, knuckles, and dry skin, all of him will enjoy this kit.

If he can't appreciate a little pampering, he'll accept the practical and stylish Hyperglide by King of Shaves, (\$12.95). Its patented super-hydrophilic self-lubricating cartridge makes all the difference. He doesn't have to worry about shaving cream with this razor because it creates a HydroGel when it comes into contact with water. The real innovation behind the lubricating cartridge on the Hyperglide is an ultra-thin polymer that is chemically-bonded to it and creates a lubrication layer with less friction than Teflon. It's a razor that creates its own lubricant, allowing even the laziest man to get a close shave.

Then, for a man who likes the finer things and knows it, Eros by Versace will impress him. This men's fragrance draws on inspiration from Greek mythology with its bold cerulean bottle depicting the God of Love. Straying from the more woody scents dominating men's perfume this season, Eros is a vibrant blend of mint leaves, Italian lemon zest and green apple on a light cedar wood and oak moss base. (1.7 oz., \$62)

With the Karma Wi-Fi Hotspot (\$99), he can stop using up your shared data plan and even earn data. Karma Mobility from MVNO is from the ranks of unconventional wireless companies offering affordable mobile data

over Clear's soon-to-be-defunct WiMAX network. After the prepaid data cost, they ask that you to pay it forward by leaving your hotspot open at all times, and the more you share, the more you earn—with no limit. With that in mind, the Karma Wi-Fi Hotspot could be your only ticket to limitless data.

For Her

It's not a new gadget, but for the fitness junkie, this Nike wireless tracker is perfect. Its sleek design and gold accents make it just as much of a fashion statement as it is a workout tool. , The Nike Fuelband Se (\$90 - \$169) tracks the intensity of your workouts and even enables sleep tracking with Nike+ Sessions, and the Bluetooth 4.0 technology allows you to stay connected to your phone at all times

Along the same lines is the Nike's Roshe Run sneakers, (\$85 - \$140). They are not new on the shoe scene, but they're still on tour because of their clean, simplistic design and pure comfort. Out of all the various color schemes it comes in, one is sure to be her perfect fit.

An iPhone case might not seem like the most romantic gift, but it's something that she'll have on her at all times. Choose the design that reflects her own personal style so she'll think of you every time she picks up her phone. Society6 sells a multitude of cases for a variety of cell phone models for around \$35.

There are some gifts that will always be timeless, and Kate Spade jewelry perpetuates this notion. The New York "One in a Million" initial pendant necklace (\$58) lets you tell her "I love you" with classic flair. Choose the gold-plated pendant suspended from a delicate rolo chain with her initial, and the pendant's reverse side will show her how much she means to you every time she puts it on.

Another gift is the MG Décor Personalized Ceramic & Wood Jewelry Box, (\$18). A colorful ceramic tile is painted with your letter of choice and nestled atop a charming, handcrafted wooden box, creating storage space for small treasures as well as a stylish accent to your décor. Its price makes an affordable and stylish place to put that new necklace or earrings.

Perfume Guide

BOTTEGA VENETA EAU DE PARFUM

Its bottle reveals its complexity only over time. A brunito cap and collar, the ebano logo and the skin colored leather ribbon clipped with a brunito butterfly identify its Bottega Veneta heritage. The bottle itself, inspired by Venetian glasswork and the traditional Italian carafe, was crafted with an eye for timeless lines and contrasts. This minimal but luxurious aesthetic perfume has a leathery floral that is decidedly primal, but the fresh jasmine is ladylike and modern, (1.7 oz., \$115).

ELIE SAAB LE PARFUM

The designer's namesake perfume embodies the same spirit as his dresses. Orange blossom, jasmine, patchouli, and cedar are feminine, but not overbearing. Inspired by Saab's native Lebanon, the scent is creamy, warm, and light, perfect for everyday wear, (1.6 oz., \$130).

GIVENCHY DAHLIA NOIR

This is what she'll wear when you take her out on the town. The black dahlia has no real discernible smell. It is an imaginary flower, meant to be more suggestive than olfactory. Powdery, with a touch of Tonka bean and wood, Dahlia Noir is seriously sexy, (1.7 oz., \$90).

FENDI FAN DI FENDI

The brand alone would make this an impressive gift, but the scent also noteworthy. Just like the daring bottle, this perfume is dramatic and strong. Subtle is not its vocabulary as spicy leather, patchouli, citrus, and jasmine dominate your senses. Just wearing this fragrance is an event she'll always look forward to, (1.7 oz., \$81).



PHOTO COURTESY OF WHERE TO GET IT
Nike's Roshe Run



PHOTO COURTESY OF NORDSTROM.COM
MG Décor Personalized Ceramic & Wood Jewelry Box

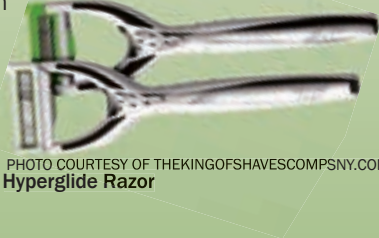


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KING OF SHAVES COMPSNY.COM
Hyperglide Razor



PHOTO COURTESY OF KNOWYOURMOBILE.COM
Google's Chromecast



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE KEYPIECES.CO.UK
Bottega Veneta



Givenchy Dahlia Noir

PHOTO COURTESY OF PARISGALLERY.COM

Holiday Gift Guide 2014

Boxes get trendy as themed gift-giving options

By **BROOKE HENDERSON**
Special to South Florida Times

Boxes are good for more than just packing up your daughter's old sports trophies or finally moving out of that apartment. They've insulated your window air conditioner or maybe found themselves acting as the secret bag of holding for all those ugly grade school photos. But now, they've found a higher calling. This holiday season, you can give a recurring gift to clean him up, spruce her up, or even trick the family into a healthy lifestyle, all with just one little box that continues to arrive at their doorstep long beyond the holiday season.

Going green is one of the best trends of the year because no matter how you do it, it still won't be embarrassing in ten years. However, for your vegan friends, it is a lifestyle— that can be pretty challenging to sustain. That's what makes a Conscious Box the perfect personalized gift. For \$10 to \$20, you can bestow five to 12 great home, bath, and body products upon an earth-minded friend. Their motto is to the point, "We scour the planet to bring you the absolute best ethical and sustainable everyday products. Together, we can create better lives, and build a more beautiful world." Besides their vegan box option, Conscious Box has two other choices for further personalization: Gluten-free and Classic, which

includes all natural, and strictly non-GMO products. This particular subscription box is trying to make healthy living easier, and you can help.

A similar gift box idea for those a little more budget conscious is Graze. Each box of four nutritionist-approved snacks is only \$5. They can be sent weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly, making it a practical gift for your college age relatives who want to eat well, can only afford the cheaper, far less healthy offerings on the fast food value menu.

It's chic. It's urban. It's dedicated to women of color. All of these describe We Are Onyx. In each Onyx BoX, there are five deluxe-size or full size hair, skin, makeup and lifestyle products, one of which you get to pick. All of the items inside are carefully chosen beauty brands that cater to your specifically tailored hair type and skin tone needs.

For those more interested in natural hair care products, there is the CurlKit; a really smart option for women who may be overwhelmed by the growing number of hair care products available for their natural hair. With a \$20 membership fee, you get between six and nine samples each month that have been tested by a group of hair product experts. This approach allows you to sample products first before purchasing the full size version, which you can also do on the CurlKit website.

Don't forget the kids. Little Passports is a subscription box for little adventurers. For a monthly subscription that begins at \$12.95 per month, a child will get an Explorer Kit introducing them to Sam and Sofia, who they'll follow to each new country with each box and adventure. It includes: a map, passport, access to online games— and this is only the beginning. Each box is another adventure, compete with souvenirs. This box has three different options, for age groups 3 -5, 5-10 and 7-12, making it an easy and inclusive gift.

For the grooming connoisseur to the sporadic shaver, there is the Dollar Shave Club. For \$3, \$6, or \$9 depending on the razor plan, subscribers can get fresh blades sent to their door. Along with the replacement razor heads comes samples of the Dollar Shave Club's original and exclusive products, like their shaving butter and post shaving moisturizer. This grooming kit is a practical, very convenient gift for men.

The Dollar Shave Club's bigger brother is BirchBox Man. Birchbox is one of the most popular subscription boxes at \$10 a month for women, but their men's box is gaining traction. In the guy's box, there are lifestyle items that tend to be formal— socks, wallets, ties— along with grooming products, from cologne to face wash. Both boxes work


on a point system, allowing subscribers to buy free products with their store credit.

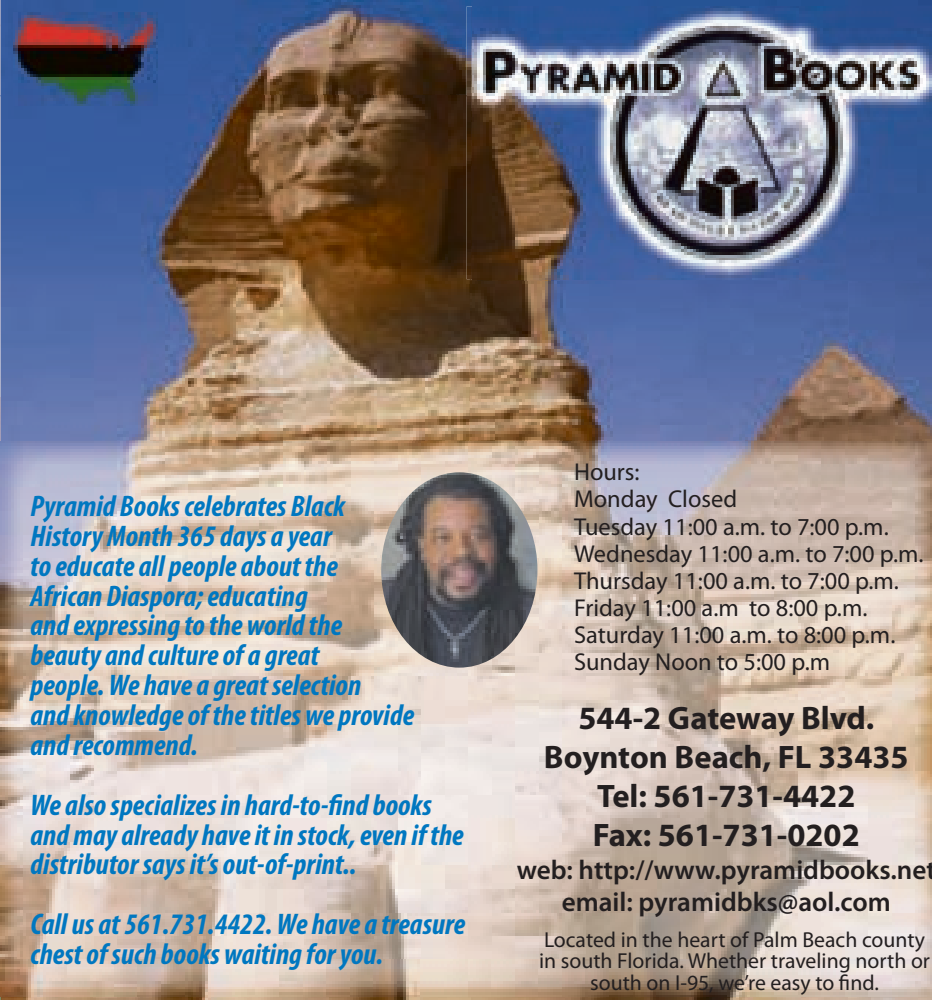
As you consider gifts for the favorite people on your holiday list and there are probably box them. Want new wines to try with your girlfriends on your nights in? Try Tasting Room by Lot 18 or Glassful. Need new nail polish for your girly girl? Julep Maven offers a variety of options. Love your dog? Barkbox will keep him swimming in toys and treats; and the Poop Bag Club offers eco-friendly and compostable bags. Have a sweet tooth? Treatsie's curated sample boxes are composed of artisan candy from continuously changing confectioners.

Whether full of beauty product or candy, personalized boxes are offer unlimited options this gift giving season.



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music

Holiday Gift Guide 2014

Sharing music: a personal gift made easy by tech

By **MELISSA KOSSLER DUTTON**
Associated Press

Luke Maguire Armstrong doesn't pen a holiday letter to friends. The guitar player and songwriter prefers to communicate musically.

Armstrong makes a CD that he shares with friends and family each Christmas, containing songs that reflect the places he's visited or how he's felt during the year. He includes a note about how he discovered each song. Recent CDs, for example, have helped tell the stories of his travels throughout Central America.

"I choose the songs that had the most impact on me," said Armstrong, who divides his time between New York and Antigua, Guatemala. "It's a way for me to stay in touch with a lot of people and get everyone something."

Sharing music is a great way to connect with friends, and technology has made it easier than ever, says Kristen Chase, publisher and CEO of coolmompicks.com, which covers trends in technology. Chase, who has a degree in music therapy, creates playlists for various occasions, including her children's birthdays.

"Because our music preferences are often a window into who we are as people, sharing music is actually sharing a part of ourselves," she said. "It's a way for us to connect with other people and allow them into our lives, which I think is an inherent part of being human."

Or, as Armstrong described it in a holiday letter he sent to friends with the songs in 2011: "To me, music is more than just an entertaining way to pass the time, but (like chocolate covered bananas and Lady Gaga) a way to enrich life — a way of reaching further than rigid reality allows."

Music lovers can create and share playlists in a variety of ways, Chase said. She recommends Spotify, a digital



PHOTO COURTESY OF ZAZZLE.COM

music service that provides access to millions of songs. Users can search for songs online to share with friends and family.

For those who prefer creating something more tangible, Chase suggests putting the music on a USB drive. USB drives come in numerous designs and colors; Chase likes the nostalgic feel of ones that look like cassette tapes, which for her conjure up memories of mix tapes in high

school.

Adding music to a USB drive is also a way to give a tech gift that has a personal touch. "You can get really creative," she said.

Tyler Hayes, a writer in San Diego, suggests asking friends what website or app they use to listen to music, and sharing a playlist through it. In addition to Spotify, he has shared songs using Beats Music and Rdio.

"I'm always seeking out new music and sharing it — especially with people I know who would enjoy it," he said.

Heather Browne of Colorado Springs, Colorado, looks forward every fall to creating a 20-song Christmas/holiday playlist to share with friends, family and readers of her music blog.

"Part of the reason I do them is as a conscious rebellion against the amount of terrible Christmas music out there," she said. "I try to find songs with some sense of nostalgia, some sense of wonder."

Often, the songs aren't holiday music per se, but feel "Christmasy" or "wintery," and reflect how her

year went. She pays careful attention to the order of the songs, too.

"That's kind of the fun part of making a mix — curating the songs," she said. "I hope that they listen to them in the order I put them in."

Browne shares the list as MP3 files on her blog, fuelfriends.blogspot.com, but also burns about two dozen CDs to give away. A friend helps her create cover art for the CD, and anyone who wants to burn a CD of the playlist can also print out the cover art.

"It takes a lot of work," Browne said. "I get wonderful, emotional feedback from people from all around the world — that makes it worthwhile."

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November 27

5K Turkey Trot: Burn off a few calories before dinner with the 34th annual run, or cheer on the runners at this annual run. Trophies will be awarded to the first three overall finishers, with additional trophies to first place age group winners, and medals for second and third place age group winners. 7:30 a.m. at Tamarac City Hall, 7525 NW 88th Ave., Tamarac. \$50. 954-597-3620.

Nov. 28



PHOTO COURTESY OF PBPULSE.COM

Art and Wine Promenade: Taste wine as you stroll the promenade listening to live music, view work by Streetside Artists and more! 6 p.m. at Northwood Village, between Broadway and Dixie Highway in West Palm Beach. Free. 561-822-2222 or www.wpb.org/northwood.

November 28

Marvel Universe Live: Perfect for the entire family, watch as your favorite superheroes come to life in this action-packed show! Iron Man, Hulk, Spider Man and more perform a variety of aerial stunts and martial arts for an unforgettable show. 7 p.m. today, 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at American Airlines Arena, 601 Biscayne Blvd., Miami. \$28 and up.

Nov. 29

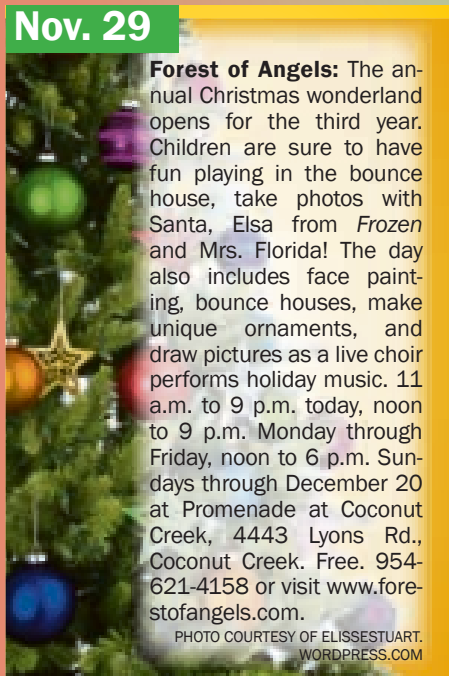


PHOTO COURTESY OF ELISSESTUART.WORDPRESS.COM

Forest of Angels: The annual Christmas wonderland opens for the third year. Children are sure to have fun playing in the bounce house, take photos with Santa, Elsa from *Frozen* and Mrs. Florida! The day also includes face painting, bounce houses, make unique ornaments, and draw pictures as a live choir performs holiday music. 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. today, noon to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, noon to 6 p.m. Sundays through December 20 at Promenade at Coconut Creek, 4443 Lyons Rd., Coconut Creek. Free. 954-621-4158 or visit www.forestofangels.com.

November 29

Holiday Cheer with Cadence: Join the folks over at the design store Cadence as they decorate trees along the 400th block of North Andrews Ave. The day includes winter-themed drinks, games and stay after the decorating is done at the Cadence Pop-Up Gallery for the Art Walk. 4 p.m. at Cadence, 435 N. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Free. 954-766-4572.

Nov. 29

Mystical Arts of Tibet: Listen in as the Loseling monks perform using traditional Tibetan instruments and chants. The monks' chants are said to generate energies that can be healing. While there be sure to check out the mandala sand painting on display created by the monks over a three-day period. The sand painting features millions of grains of colored sands that are laid out by the monks to create a liquid-like flow on a wooden platform. 7:30 p.m. at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$49. 954-462-0222 or www.browardcenter.org.

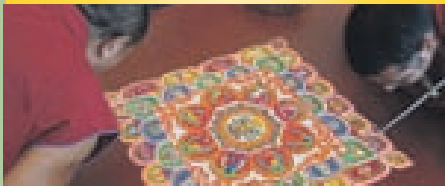


PHOTO COURTESY OF UPPERWEST.COM

Nov. 30



PHOTO COURTESY OF JUNIORORANGEOWL.ORG

Junior Orange Bowl Parade: Local marching bands, colorful floats, community groups and more will participate in the 66th annual event! The parade is designed to celebrate the city's youth and community. 5:30 p.m. takes place along Miracle Mile and Biltmore Way in Downtown Coral Gables. Free. 305-662-1210 or www.jrorangeowl.org.

December 1

Yoga in the Park: Bring your yoga mat, water, and a towel to relax and unwind with a yoga session by the bay. A certified instructor will lead you through the movements and the atmosphere is perfect to reduce your stress before returning to the weekday grind. 6 p.m. at Bayfront Park Amphitheater, 301 Biscayne Blvd., Miami. Free. 305-358-7550.

events calendar

COMPILED By MARISSA CLARKE
Special to South Florida Times

Nov. 27 - Dec. 4

Dec. 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF LASOLASBOULEVARD.COM

Christmas on Las Olas: Celebrate the holidays in a winter-like wonderland with ice skating on a custom rink, sledding down a "snow mountain", and listen to music by local choirs! The evening also includes a screening of *Arthur Christmas* and more than 60 food, beverage and holiday booths. 5 to 10 p.m. along East Las Olas Boulevard between SE Sixth and Eleventh Avenues in Fort Lauderdale. Free. www.lasolasboulevard.com.

December 2

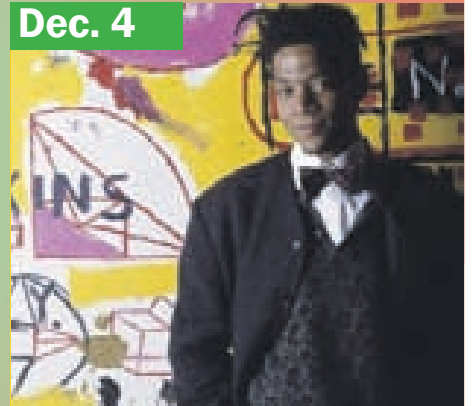
FIU New Music Ensemble: Cellist Jason Caloway leads the FIU New Music Ensemble in a concert of contemporary music. Expect a mix of contemporary chamber, experimental, and electronic music. 7:30 p.m. at the Herbert and Nicole Wertheim Performing Arts Center, 10910 SW 17th St., Miami. Free. 305-348-0496 or www.music.fiu.edu.

December 3

10 Commandments of Successful Communication: Lisa Alson, author of *Say it Again*, and the founder of Alson Power Speaking, will train you to be a better speaker. The workshop includes a list of 200 commonly mispronounced words. If you have a fear of public speaking, or making presentations, discover the tools for public speaking with this class. 6 p.m. at Mandel Public Library of West Palm Beach, 411 Clematis St., West Palm Beach. Free. 561-868-7701.

Light Up Tamarac: Join the Mayor and Commission as they light the Christmas Tree, Nativity Scene and Menorah! The evening also includes a magic show, holiday craft bazaar and a special appearance by old St. Nick. Students will perform holiday tunes for an evening of family fun. 6 p.m. at the Tamarac Community Center, 8601 W. Commercial Blvd., Tamarac. Free. 954-597-3620.

Dec. 4



Art Beat Opening Reception: Take a look at multi-ethnic artwork by local and international artists. The exhibit features paintings, sculptures, multi-media installations and photography. Live jazz and steel drum music will play through out the evening. 6 to 9 p.m. at the Little Haiti Cultural Center, 212 NE 59th Terr., Miami. Free. 305-306-7521 or www.artbeatmiami.com.

December 4

Clematis by Night Tree Lighting: Make it a night to remember with a synchronized holiday sound and light show as the 600-ton Sandi Tree comes to life. Listen to live music, check out four other 25-ton sand sculptures and play a round of mini golf on the Peppermint Putt-Putt. 6 to 9 p.m. on the Waterfront at North & South Clematis between Narcissus and Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach. Free. 561-822-1515 or www.wpb.org.

Please email your event to news@sftimes.com by the preceding Thursday at 10 a.m.



Beef Up Your Holidays



FAMILY FEATURES — For many families, gathering around the table is as treasured a holiday tradition as gathering around the tree to exchange gifts with loved ones. With universal appeal, cuts of tender, juicy beef are ideal for a wide range of family-friendly dishes — from appetizers to special occasion holiday entrees.

If your seasonal celebrations and commitments have you pinched for time, opt for the convenience of home delivery. Starting with premium products, such as those available from Omaha Steaks, lets you create the perfect meal every time. Each cut of beef is perfectly aged and flash-frozen at its peak of flavor and tenderness, and delivered right to your door with a 100 percent quality guarantee.

There are as many ways to prepare beef as there are cuts to choose from. The best approach depends on the type of flavor you want to achieve, and how you'll ultimately serve the dish. One popular option that creates robust, hearty flavors perfect for holiday feasts is braising. This celebrated technique is featured in this Omaha Steaks family recipe for Braised Beef Brisket. Or, add some pre-dinner bites to your holiday spread with Bacon Wrapped Tenderloin Tip Appetizers, a savory recipe that is sure to be a hit among guests.

Find these and more beef preparation tips and recipes at www.omahasteaks.com.

Braised Beef Brisket

This recipe has graced the holiday table of the Simon family, the owners of Omaha Steaks, for generations.

Prep time: 30 minutes

Cook time 8 hours

Servings: 6–8

- 1 Omaha Steaks Brisket (3 pounds)
- 2 tablespoons canola oil
- 4 teaspoons Omaha Steaks All Natural Seasoning
- 2 cups diced yellow onion
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped garlic
- 1 cup bottled chili sauce
- 1 package dry onion soup mix
- 1/2 cup beef broth
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1/2 cup red wine

Thaw brisket overnight in refrigerator.

Heat canola oil in large pan.

Blot brisket dry with clean paper towel and generously season each side with 2 teaspoons seasoning.

Brown brisket in hot oil on both sides for about 2–4 minutes each side. Remove brisket from pan and place in crock pot, raised side braising pan or Dutch oven.

Add onion and garlic to hot oil and cook until transparent. Add remaining ingredients and bring to a boil. Pour sauce into crock pot, raised side braising pan or Dutch oven.

If using crock pot, cook on low for 6–8 hours. If using braising pan or Dutch oven, cover tightly with foil or lid and place in oven at 250° F for 6–8 hours.

Serve the same day or cool overnight in refrigerator before slicing and reheating in sauce.

Bacon Wrapped Tenderloin Tip Appetizer

Prep time: 20 minutes (plus time for thawing)

Cook time: 6 minutes

Servings: Approximately 32 pieces

3 pounds Omaha Steaks Tenderloin Steak Tips

32 Omaha Steaks Precooked Bacon Slices

1 jar Omaha Steaks All Natural Seasoning

Round wood toothpicks

Thaw steak tips and bacon overnight in refrigerator.

Preheat oven to 450° F degrees.

Sprinkle each tenderloin tip with seasoning.

Wrap a slice of bacon around each tenderloin tip and push a toothpick through to secure bacon.

Place bacon-wrapped tips on baking sheet. Bake for 3 minutes; flip and bake an additional 2–3 minutes.

Serve immediately.

