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PALM BEACH

Dixie succumbs to vision and victory

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

Nearly every city in America has a street named for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. And since President Barack Obama made history as the first black president of the free world, he too, is gaining momentum with streets named after him -- even right here in the Sunshine State. But predominantly black Riviera Beach in Palm Beach County, is hoping to be among the first where Barack Obama Highway intersects with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

It has an amazing ring to it for Riviera Beach mayor, Bishop Thomas Masters, who is the brain behind renaming Old Dixie Highway in Riviera Beach after the president. "It would be the father and the son intersecting," said Masters. "You have the father of the Civil Rights Movement, and you have the son, our first black president, who benefitted from that movement. The two legacies would connect," he said. "Who could find fault with that?"

Masters recently started a petition to get the street renamed in honor of President Obama. It's a popular concept and is starting to gain traction as the effort is made known. People like the idea, and Masters said it's only fitting. And even more significant is what "Dixie" represents, he said. "Dixie represents the old South, the Confederacy and slavery. We need to get rid of that. And what better person to honor than the president, who is a role model and history maker? It would be perfect to replace 'Old Dixie' with something with a more positive connotation," he said.

Masters said he came up with

the idea about a year ago. "I've always had an idea to rename a lot of streets in our city. I think our city is much more than just a bunch of letters of the alphabet and numbers. I've wanted to rename our streets after African-American role models and leaders, so I had this idea about the president for some time now. It would be the right thing to do today and would reconnect this great city to history."

Masters said some critics said he should wait until after the leaders have passed on, but the fiery mayor said there's no need to wait. He said after he saw the movie, Selma, his passion was re-ignited. "That movie inspired me. The

PLEASE TURN TO **VICTORY/7A**

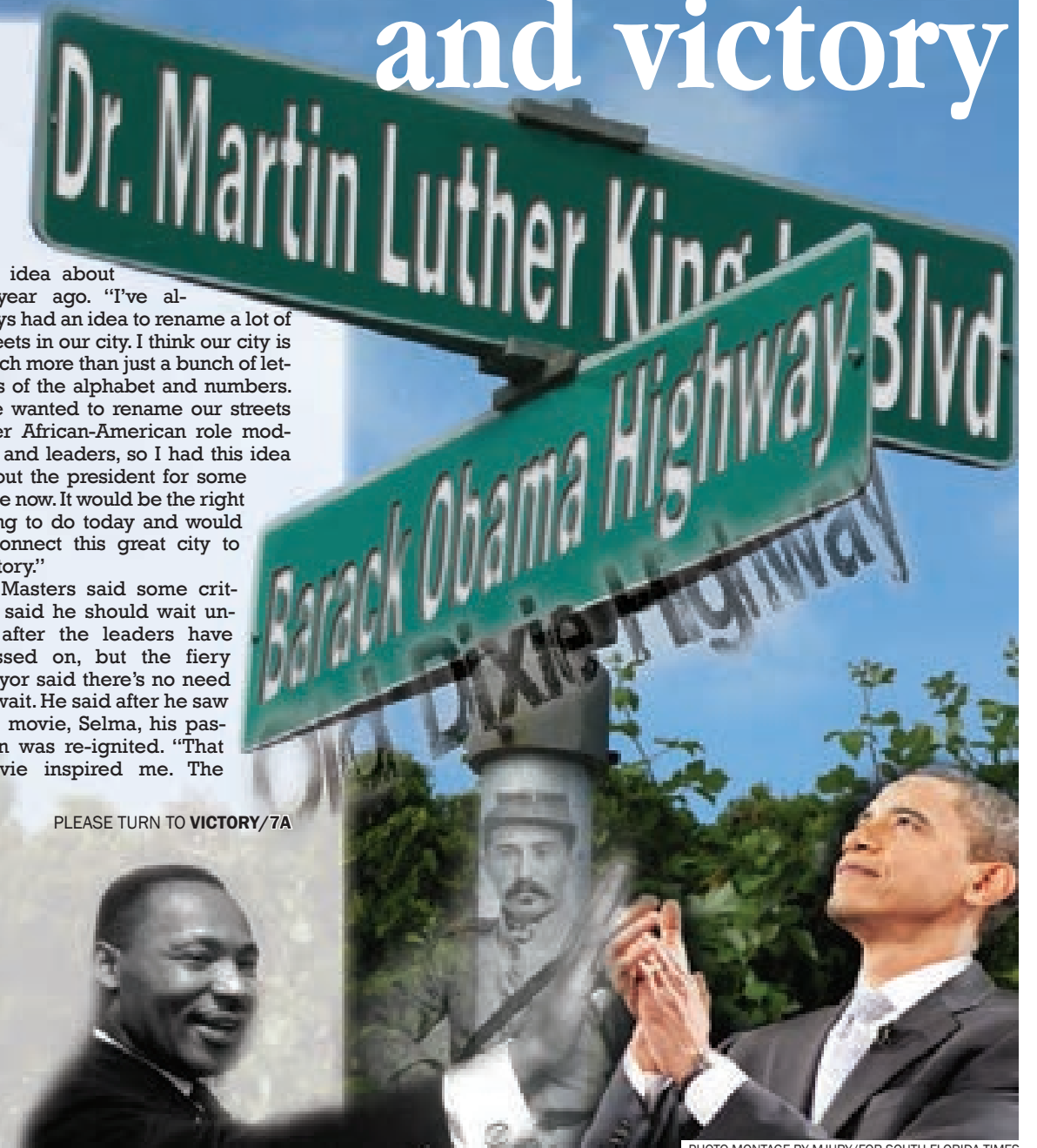


PHOTO MONTAGE BY MJURY/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

BROWARD



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

Urban League of Broward County

The annual meeting of the Urban League convened leaders and concerned community members from every walk and background to celebrate its 40th anniversary on Jan. 30, 2015 at the new home of the Urban League, 560 N.W. 27th Ave. Fort Lauderdale.

PALM BEACH

Critical lessons of fatherhood



PHOTO COURTESY OF GRASSROOTS CONSULTING, INC.

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

There's a good chance that if you are a black child, you have no father in the home. In fact, the startling statistic is that over six million black children in the U.S. in 2013 lived in single parent homes - that's according to data compiled by Kids Count Data Center. Many of these children don't know their fathers, and others who know him, may know him only from afar. The sad fact is many black kids go to bed each night without a father to put them to bed.

But two Palm Beach County residents are seeking to

Shandra Stringer

PLEASE TURN TO **FATHERHOOD/3A**

BROWARD

Ascension of an election Supervisor

By **KYOTO WALKER**
 Special to South Florida Times

FORT LAUDERDALE — When Florida's former Gov. Jeb Bush made an executive decision in 2003 to remove Broward County's then supervisor of elections Miriam Oliphant, as controversial allegations of neglect and incompetence surfaced concerning the office, Brenda C. Snipes had no idea she would be asked to consider the position.

However, that's just what happened. Subsequently, Bush appointed Snipes to the position. In November, Snipes will have been on the job for 12 years and is reportedly credited with bringing the supervisor of elections office back to highly regarded operational standards. She said that leadership skills, organization and teamwork have been key in the successful turnaround of the Broward County office.

Snipes said that cleaning the rolls and getting the records up to date will be a priority for 2015, so that when the county is actually involved in voting, they will have the most accurate information that they can possibly have. "My goals for 2015 are to do some strategic planning, so that we can have good elections as an outcome," she said, "making sure we are cleaning our rolls, and we're following all the guidelines that the state has sent down for us in sort of a non-major Election year." A major election year most certainly included the presidential race for the White House in 2000. Marred in controversy, Republican candidate George W. Bush narrowly defeated Democratic candidate Al Gore, who was vice president at the time. Florida was a key voting state in that decision. Broward County, among other counties in the state, was heavily criticized for missteps concerning voters and

votes counted, which may have cost the Democrats the bid for the White House. Oliphant was the Broward County supervisor of elections from 2001 to 2003. In 2003, she was suspended from the

PART ONE



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRENDA SNIPES

Brenda Snipes

position as supervisor of elections by then Gov. Jeb Bush, who some political pundits have speculated may run for president as a Republican candidate in 2016. Reportedly, Oliphant had been critical of Bush's administration. Bush said at the time when he suspended Oliphant in a letter to the state senate president Jim King, that he was aware of the constitutional grounds for removing

PLEASE TURN TO **ASCENSION/3A**

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HISTORY

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Brenda Snipes (2006)

PHOTO COURTESY OF GALT MILLE

Through brilliant leadership, Snipes answers call for reform

ASCENSION, FROM 1A

an elected official as being "rightfully high," according to a CNN.com report. "...the repeated and continuing failures of Miriam Oliphant to properly manage her office and take the most basic preparatory steps for the conduct of elections and the substantial likelihood for greater harm going forward make it clear that Ms. Oliphant can no longer serve as supervisor of elections for Broward County," he wrote, according to the CNN site.

Snipes, a Democrat, was appointed to the position by Bush after Oliphant was removed. She said that taking over the position after the previous supervisor was ousted took a particular mindset in order to achieve success. "First I had to get a mindset for me. I'm going into a situation that has been publicly displayed as having issues," she said. "But I didn't really focus on continuing a negative perspective on the office. I knew that if things were so serious, that our supervisor was removed and I was asked to come in and take her position that things must have really been in need of great repair." Snipes said that she identified problem areas in the office before she attempted to correct anything. "I set about getting to know what (were the problems that existed)," she said. "And then figure out what we needed to do to correct those things."

Before retiring from the educational system in 2003, Snipes worked for the Broward County School District as an educator and administrator, which included holding the position of area director where she was

responsible for leading principals at 16 schools and centers.

Snipes said that she incorporated skills that she had acquired working in the school system and she applied them to her newly appointed position. "I had the task of righting the ship at an elementary school that was in dire straits and needed to be fixed and it needed to be fixed really quickly," she said. "So, we managed to get in and get that turned around." Snipes said that utilizing some of the same strategies to help reestablish the supervisor of elections office helped her to achieve that goal. "I found out what the key functions were, who the key players were and I immediately established a communication system," she said. "And that was to put in place what I call a "leadership team." Leadership team, meaning that these are the people that are responsible for conducting certain functions. And when you bring all the functions together successfully, then you have a successful operation."

Her office still uses those principles and they seem to be working very well, according to Snipes. She said that multitasking has become a key component in the daily operations of the supervisor of elections office. Snipes said that it is important to remain efficient to be effective because many areas needed to be overhauled when she took over as the supervisor of Broward County elections.

Part II of Supervisor Snipes Ascension, next week.

Father's Lifeline inspires, encourages, empowers and motivates fathers

FATHERHOOD, FROM 1A

change those horrid national statistics. Shandra Stringer, President and CEO of Grassroots Consulting Company, Inc., is offering training and empowerment courses starting this week to help with everything from resume writing to learning how to forgive.

But this enterprising entrepreneur is also offering a course through her GCI Training and Empowerment Center on fatherhood! That's right. The course, called a *Father's Lifeline*, will examine all the complexities surrounding the black father and his all-encompassing role.

The five week, free course, offered in West Palm Beach, will examine everything from trying to be a good father even when you've broken up with the mother, to understanding the meaning behind child support.

But don't expect fathers to be beaten on in this fatherhood course. This is not the place. Here, fathers will be encouraged, inspired, given guidance and even the tools and a road map to becoming better fathers. Fathers will be celebrated.

"We're not looking for perfect fathers," said J.R. Thicklin, the course facilitator and the brain behind the fatherhood course. "*Father's Lifeline* will inspire, encourage, empower, motivate and celebrate the honor and privilege of fatherhood.

This group is not for the 'perfect father' but rather for those who desire and or realize that they could use some perfecting through proven tools, life experience, support and guidance," said Thicklin. The men will engage in healthy discussion about the vital role of fatherhood, and the sessions will look at fatherhood from a societal, spiritual, personal and generational perspective.

One of the objectives of these sessions will be to equip and empower men and fathers to become connected and responsible in the lives of their child(ren). "We have to put value back into fatherhood. We have to reverse the statistic, therefore we will have five intense weeks designed to shift their mindset," said Thicklin, who is also a minister. The overall goal, he said, is to rebuild and repair black families one father at a time.

Five men showed up on the first night of the course. Thicklin says there was a powerful

discussion and the men appeared to enjoy it very much. "Absolutely they enjoyed it," he said after the class concluded Monday night. "They felt comfortable being transparent. We had a judge-free environment and the men enjoyed that. I thought this first class went well considering that most of the men had only a day or two advance notice about the course. A couple of them found out about the course on Monday morning, yet they showed up Monday evening. That spoke volumes to me. I look forward to having many more men next Monday," he said. Thicklin said his phone has been ringing constantly with inquiries about the course.

Stringer, who is also a licensed minister, said she hopes the course will help the men find their purpose, and therefore lead them to action in their personal lives. The course has been in the works for some time, but Stringer said that now is the right time to offer it. "I see a need in the community, and I felt the beginning of the year was the perfect time to address it." The course is offered every Monday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. through February 23. As Thicklin reiterated, there's still time for men to join the course.

How did the black family end up in such a quandary when it comes to black fathers? Is it generational? Is it hereditary? Where and when did it become so prevalent for black fathers to be absentee fathers? Are fathers who are absent from their children's lives also the products of absentee fathers? One of the components of the course will delve into the history of black families. They'll take a historical look at fatherlessness, and seek to understand why this pattern persists in the black family.

Other components of the course include: Primary Roles of Fathering; Presence vs. Presents (Examining what Child Support Really Means); Fathering after Divorce; Responding to Responsibility; Legacy and Living (Paying it Forward).

In addition to the Father's Lifeline course, other courses offered at GCI Training and Empowerment Center include: computer skills, resume writing, Proper Etiquette, Becoming a Contagious Christian, and the Power of Forgiveness. Select courses are free of charge and there's a nominal fee for others. For more information call (561) 385-4657 or email Shandra Stringer at sstringer@grassrootsconsultingusa.com.



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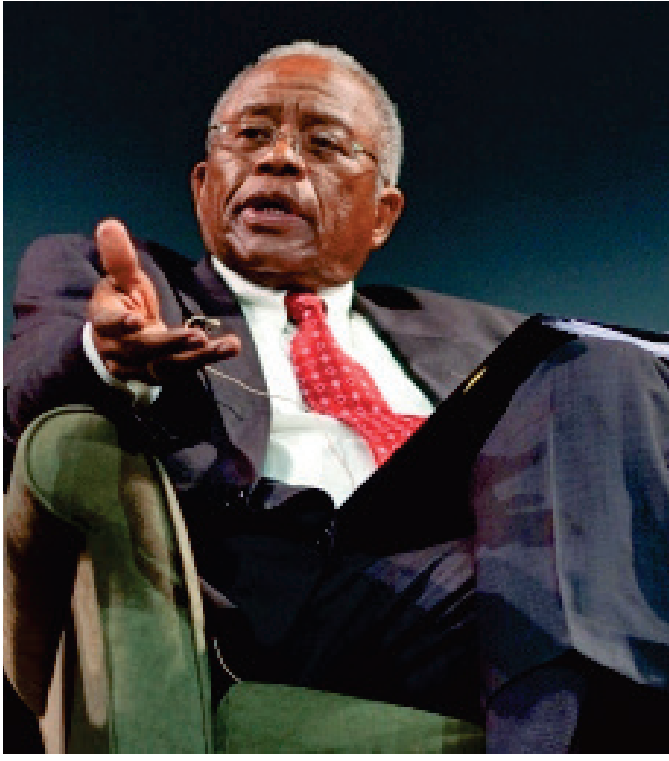
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Celebrating Black History

Famed SC civil rights icons cleared



Fred Gray

PHOTO COURTESY OF LANCE CONZETT

Historic marker to honor civil rights lawyer Fred Gray

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — One of the nation's best known civil rights lawyers will be honored in Montgomery this week. Officials say a historic marker will be unveiled Feb. 4 at the downtown intersection where Fred Gray's law office once stood. The site is now home to the state judicial building. The ceremony is scheduled on the birthday of Rosa Parks, who was one of Gray's most famous clients. Gray represented Parks when she was arrested for not giving up her bus seat to a white passenger. Her arrest prompted the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955. Gray was also involved in seeking protection for the Selma-to-Montgomery march in 1965, and he represented survivors of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study. The marker honoring Gray is sponsored by the Alabama Tourism Department and the Tuskegee History Center.



PHOTO COURTESY OF INQUISITR.COM

A judge in South Carolina has overturned the convictions of the well-known nine black males 'Friendship 9,' who integrated a whites-only lunch counter at McCrory's variety store in February, 1961.

By MEG KINNARD
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Fifty-four years after they were sentenced to a month of hard labor in a chain gang for ordering lunch in South Carolina, nine black men are getting a new day in court. A prosecutor was expected to ask a judge Wednesday to vacate the convictions of the men known as the Friendship Nine, who were arrested for integrating a whites-only lunch counter in the segregated town of Rock Hill. The fact that these civil rights era crimes will no longer be on their records has brought mixed feelings to the men. Their refusal to pay bail money into the segregationist town's city coffers served as a catalyst for other civil disobedience. Inspired by their courage, demonstrators across the South adopted their "jail not bail" tactic and filled jail cells. The media attention helped turn scattered protests into a nationwide movement. "Everything that happened, happened for a reason," W.T. "Dub" Massey, one of the nine, told The Associated Press. "We have to continue what we're doing. If we're backing off from what we've done, then there's a problem here." Massey and seven other students at Rock Hill's Friendship Junior College -Willie McCleod, Robert McCullough, Clarence Graham, James Wells, David Williamson Jr., John Gaines and Mack Workman "were encouraged to violate the town's Jim Crow laws by Thomas Gaither, who came to town as an activist with the Congress of Racial Equality. About a year had passed since a sit-in at a segregated lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, helped galvanize the nation's civil rights movement. But change was slow to come to Rock Hill. They decided to challenge matters by getting arrested in February 1961 for ordering lunch at

McCrory's variety store, and were convicted of trespassing and breach of peace. Author Kim Johnson, who published "No Fear For Freedom: The Story of the Friendship 9" last year, went to Kevin Brackett, the solicitor for York and Union counties, to see what could be done to clean their records. "This is an opportunity for us to bring the community together," Johnson told the AP. "To have the records vacated essentially says that it should have never happened in the first place." Brackett's request to a Rock Hill judge comes too late for McCullough, who died in 2006. But some of the others returned to town ahead of the hearing to reflect on their experience, saying they hope their actions can still have an effect. "It's been a long wait," Graham said. "We are sure now that we made the right decision for the right reason. Being nonviolent was the best thing that we could have done." The men's names are engraved on the stools at the counter of the restaurant on Main Street, now called the Old Town Bistro. A plaque outside marks the spot where they were arrested. And official and personal apologies have been offered to the men over the years. In 2009, a white man named Elwin Wilson who tried to pull one of the protesters from a stool nearly 50 years earlier returned to the same counter, meeting with some of the men. They forgave him. And although their records will soon be clean, the men hope their commitment to nonviolence can remain an example for people protesting various issues today. "Maybe it might change some of their minds about some of their actions," Graham said. "Until the hearts change, there won't be any changes. We still insist that nonviolence is the way to go."



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Celebrating Black History

Kin of Rosa Parks to speak of her life



Rosa Parks

PHOTO COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

By Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — A relative of Rosa Parks, whose refusal to give up her seat on a Montgomery bus endures as a key moment in the civil rights era, is sharing details about her later life in Detroit.

Two years after her action led black people to boycott Montgomery buses, Parks and her husband, Raymond, moved to Detroit. They brought along Rosa Parks' mother, to be close to the family of Parks' only sibling, Sylvester McCauley.

Parks' seventh niece, Sheila McCauley Keys, chronicles that period of the family's life in a new book written by her and Eddie B. Allen Jr., *The Montgomery Advertiser* reported (<http://on.mgmadv.com/1Kiw79a>).

Keys plans to read from her book at the Rosa Parks Library and Museum in downtown Montgomery on Wednesday, in celebration of Parks' birthday.

It will be Keys' first visit to Montgomery, the city in which her aunt made history. Keys remembers her aunt as a warm, nurturing woman who became like a second mother.

"She was a mother figure. Just a warm, thoughtful, easy-going, generous, even-tempered, quick-witted and wise woman," Keys told the Montgomery paper in a telephone interview from Detroit.

"She taught us to give, but also to stand up and fight for what we thought was right," Keys added.

"When my mother died in 1981, she stepped in and became a mother to all of us," she said. "My father had died in 1979. She became the matriarch of our family. She came and stayed with me in New Jersey for a week when my son was born. She knew to come there; I thought that was the most loving thing."

Keys plans to read from her book, "Our Auntie Rosa," at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the museum, at 252 Montgomery St. in Montgomery.

"Our Auntie Rosa" is a collaboration of all the family members' experiences with our aunt," Keys said. "Several family members wrote their remembrances just to let people know what a wonderful, wonderful person she really was."



Russell Moore

PHOTO COURTESY OF GOSPELHERALD.COM

By TRAVIS LOLLER
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tennessee — Leaders of the largest U.S. Protestant denomination are preaching that integrated churches can be a key driver of racial justice in society. But that could be a hard sell to those sitting in Southern Baptist Convention congregations.

The Rev. Russell Moore, who leads the Southern Baptist's Ethics and Religious Liberty Commission, is one of several white leaders calling for multiethnic congregations in the wake of the unrest spurred by the killings of black men by white police officers in Ferguson, Missouri, and New York City.

"In the church, a black Christian and a white Christian are brothers and sisters," Moore wrote recently. "We care what happens to the other, because when one part of the body hurts, the whole body hurts.... When we know one another as brothers and sisters, we will start to stand up and speak up for one another."

The effort has taken on particular urgency for Moore and other Southern Baptist leaders who have been working to overcome the denomination's history. The convention was formed in 1845 in a split with other Baptists when Southern Baptists resolved to continue allowing slave owners to become missionaries.

During the civil rights movement, Southern Baptists were largely silent or actively opposed ending segregation. The denomination eventually declared racism a sin, and in 2011 renewed efforts to reach out to Latinos, African Americans

and others. The next year, the denomination elected its first African-American president, the Rev. Fred Luter Jr.

Moore's commission has also organized a leadership summit called "The Gospel and Racial Reconciliation" to be held this spring.

Moore said he has two goals for the summit. He wants to spur churches to work for racial reconciliation by articulating it as a Gospel demand. And he wants to facilitate personal relationships between Southern Baptists of different races.

But some would also like to see concrete efforts to integrate the Southern Baptist Convention, especially at the level of leadership.

"The church lacks the moral authority to address the world about race before we set our own house in order," said the Rev. Dwight McKissic, a black Southern Baptist pastor in Arlington, Texas.

While he praised recent statements by SBC leaders, he also noted that the denomination continues to employ all whites as top executives and seminary presidents.

"It's obvious the rhetoric and reality is not matching," he said.

Nonwhite congregations made up 20 percent of the Southern Baptist Convention's nearly 51,000 congregations in 2012, the most recent year statistics are available from the denomination. But less than 1 percent of those congregations are multiethnic. The vast majority of Southern Baptists attend a church predominantly filled by people of

Southern Baptist leaders call for integrated churches

their own race, be it black, white or Hispanic. The situation is nearly identical in most Christian denominations in the United States.

Despite that lack of integration, a phone survey of about 1,000 churchgoers by Lifeway Research recently found that only 37 percent of evangelicals thought their churches needed to become more ethnically diverse. The survey was not broken down by denomination.

David W. Key Sr., director of Baptist Studies at Emory University's Candler School of Theology, said the convention adopted a resolution in 1995 recognizing and apologizing for its historic role in supporting slavery and segregation policies. If the denomination had also set out to address the inequalities those policies had wrought, it could have done a lot over the past two decades, he said.

Moore said he agrees that things are changing too slowly within the SBC, but he sees signs of hope. He points to the work of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary President Danny Akin, who has made recruiting and educating a racially diverse group of future pastors a key goal.

Akin said he doesn't think the patterns and structures built up at the SBC over more than a century can be changed without an active and intentional effort.

"My grief is we're late to this party," he said. "We should have been leading the way. The Christian church should be the first to speak to issues of discrimination and injustice ... not sitting back."

A Luvvie day
Luvvie Ajayi, Interactive Correspondent and Digital Strategist

She's a social media maven, digital strategist and a pop culture satirist. With her sites, *Awesomely Luvvie* and *Awesomely Techie*, she has created platforms to speak about what she believes in, and talk about what she loves. With over 30,000 followers, she often uses comedy and commentary to connect with people. Through blogging, she's knocked down doors and also opened herself up to the world. In celebration of Black History Month, XFINITY® recognizes and honors Black innovators and the history they're making today.

Check out more of Luvvie and others, plus award-winning movies, TV shows and more at CelebrateBlackTV.com, where black history is always on.

Opinion



Our righteous struggle for justice lacks power

Rev. Al Sharpton, a mostly carbon copy of his mentor Rev. Jesse Jackson, does not pastor a church congregation — have either of them ever? Both also operate out of non-profit organizations they run as fund raising machines that undergird their social and political proselytizing.

Jesse Jackson lifted “Operation Breadbasket” from the Atlanta based Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and began his operation in Chicago. He later avoided severe legal pain by dissing Breadbasket and creating the Rainbow Coalition. Sharpton started a national youth organization and developed it into the National Action Network.

Both “leaders” are, in effect, the national inventions of white America’s plutocracy — Wall Street oligarchs, Washington’s K Street lobbyists and the Military-Industrial Complex. White supremacy has to have pliant Negro, Black or African-American “leaders” in order to maintain the status quo. Without such, the system is vulnerable to the undesirability of uncontrolled systemic social change.

Jackson, and now Sharpton, have been lionized by print and electronic media so often and so vicariously that virtually no one questions how they became “leaders;”

that is, by what authority did such crowning occur? Jackson’s personal assets are in the multi-millions of dollars and Sharpton is on his way to a similar or larger fortune. “Civil Rights” is a business opportunity!

From the perspective of making business decisions, all civil rights leaders strive for big donations from just about anywhere or anyone that’s legal. Wal-Mart, for example, is a huge contributor to Sharpton’s National Action Network. The company is also in a struggle with employees on a number of issues, including fair wages. What real power can Sharpton have, then, in that national civil rights struggle as both a pragmatic businessman and politician/rights leader?

Sharpton has, as many before him had — and surely numbers after him will have, given that current circumstances prevail — power, the power of self-aggrandizement. Like Jesse, Rev. Al is a Pied Piper. He releases the steam that pushes righteous indignation so that, in the end, the engine stalls and legitimate upheaval subsides to an unorthodox standstill. And the media and white nationalism loves the show.

And the plutocracy loves Rev. Al as the system loved Jesse, too. Black rage is transformed into behind the scenes

meetings with Rev. Al and other white appointed black “leaders.” There, deals are made over the bodies of the incarcerated, brutalized and the dead. And deals are made on the backs of poor black and brown people and the children being mis-educated in “poor” so-called public schools, and on and on.

These “leaders” exit top government and corporate meetings with some broad gobbledygook nonsense and the unpublicized commitments that their personal special projects will be taken care of. The so-called leaders get over, the status quo is preserved and down the road some little bit somewhere is hyped as a big change is coming. It takes a while, but sooner or later black and brown folks wake up one day and wonder what happened?

All power is in the people, not in one or a few manufactured icons. Black and brown people have inadvertently allowed preachers, politicians and poverticians to deal them out of comprehensive positive social change. These so-called leaders disallow dialogue, indeed social exchange of any meaningful kind. As long as the people relinquish community control to the self-righteous, downtown interests — which are not the interests of black and

brown stratified communities — will always have their way.

White nationalism, for example, has thus far powerfully run the world because white people were organized to exclude non-white influences except to co-opt desire and need for Eurocentric interests. Without historical connection, black and brown people mentally wander devoid of philosophical and psychological grounding.

Great black and brown power is hidden away, mostly in plain sight, in books that chronicle the long, great history of the continent called Africa and the many great civilizations spawned and developed there in antiquity. The history of black and brown enslavement is recent and only a minuscule period in the pantheon of black people’s existence: the beginning of human existence!

Black history before the advent of Europeans is the transformational power. Please give it to the children.

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.



WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS

South Florida Times welcomes and encourages our readers to comment on opinions and other content in the newspaper and generally. Letters should be no more than 300 words and are subject to being edited for grammar, brevity and clarity. All letters become the property of South Florida Times. Include your name, address and phone number and send your letter to News@SFLTimes.com, fax it to 954-356-9395 or mail it to South Florida Times, 3020 NE 32nd Ave., Suite 200, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308, Attention “Letters to the Editor.”

Human nature and war against others



Back in the early 90s, I had the privilege of being a charter member of the Miami Chapter, Coalition of 100 Black Women, a national organization.

The Miami Chapter leveraged a relationship I had with CABLE TAP, a community access television station, for which we wrote, produced and hosted a cable television program called “Scandalize my Name.”

The focus of the program was to explore and explode various myths and stereotypes about black folk.

The show was anchored by a rotating member of the Coalition, and an invited subject-area expert, usually a University professor, who would help explain why a particular myth or stereotype existed in the first place, and why it may have persisted.

One of my favorite: “Black folk are lazy, cheat, and steal.” We invited distinguished FIU professor of Sociology and Anthropology, Dr. Marvin Dunn to help us with that one.

Prof. Dunn explained that during the hundreds of years of chattel slavery, and for many years thereafter, under the sharecropping system, followed by Jim Crow Laws, black folk had little incentive to work hard (slavery did not pay wages); sharecroppers barely made ends meet, and Jim Crow kept blacks out of the free market for competitive jobs; blacks were constantly underfed and malnourished (an occasional stolen chicken or a few extra vegetables were needed for survival), and that ‘cheating the ‘master’ became a badge of honor in the slave-quarters — a sign of being clever and smart.

Here’s another one we explored and exploded: “Blacks are promiscuous.”

Again, under the chattel slave system, rapid and frequent reproduction was encouraged amongst women, and male ‘breeders’ were highly valued, and often ‘put out to stud’-for a fee.

Ok. I hear the chorus: “We are now one hundred fifty years away from those times and there should be no excuse for any of those behaviors to continue.”

I will not argue against that. I agree that it is long past a reasonable time period to have learned better, or to have certain behaviors bred out. We should, by now, strive to live up to society’s highest expectations of all its citizens.

Right? Yes, I’m talking about black folk, but I’m also talking about all folk. “Houston, we have a problem.”

Myths and stereotypes are more entrenched than ever before. Nowadays, they are not just about racial profiles.

That is why during the biggest television viewing event of the year, we saw two campaigns that addressed persistent and damaging myths and stereotypes about half the population. The first one, “Like a Girl,” is designed to get folk to understand that being female is not an automatic limiting, handicap, and that ‘girls’ can and should be encouraged to do anything they want.

The campaign is as much for women (we are often as guilty as males in stereotyping females) as it is for men.

The second campaign we’ll see during the coveted commercial spots during the Super Bowl is a message against domestic violence (most commonly reported as male against female violence).

Where do I begin? The NFL is under scrutiny for how it has nurtured, ignored, or neglected the culture of violence, on and off the playing field.

Many will see this televised campaign as a small measure to assuage the beleaguered image of the football League.

Too little, too late? Maybe.

But I have hope that this message of the two campaigns will not be lost: even though, upon close examination of human history, it appears there is something inherent in our nature which allows us, if unchecked-by laws, to treat other humans inhumanely; i.e., to kill, dismiss, disrespect, maim, enslave, beat, starve, denigrate in countless ways, and otherwise not love the ‘other’; I believe that there is still some small hope that a higher part of human nature can be rekindled: that we can actually be taught to love one another.

If I don’t see you in me; and you do not see me in you, then we have already ‘killed’ one another.

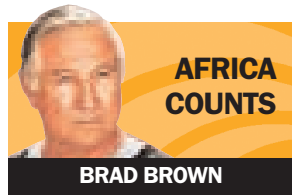
If differing skin tones, hair textures, styles or coverage of garments, languages, food preferences, gender and genitalia, and Gods offend, then war has already been declared; a right to breathe freely on this earth has been stolen.

We are both dead to the possibilities of a greater world when we reject the ‘other.’

My ancestors left me with a strong pool of survival genes: to survive; to excel; to rise above the expected; to bring others along; and to overcome all obstacles with love.

From a legacy of chattel slavery to living out on a world stage, I invite you all to join me in a collective action to love one another.

Antonia Williams-Gary is a consultant with Miami-based Savings and Grace Enterprise. She may be reached at toniwg1@gmail.com



Republic of Namibia, a little known jewel

“Will they come to a small city in the desert by the sea in a country many never heard of?” This was the question Dr. Hashali Hamukaya the Executive Director of the Benguela Current Commission asked himself when we suggested he host the Third World Conference on Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) in Swakopmund, Namibia. Well they came, scientists and marine managers from every continent and the newly formed Benguela Current Commission of Angola, Namibia and South Africa put itself on the map. For me, the return to Namibia after 16 years was an opportunity to see what this new country has achieved. Namibia was ruled by South Africa under the oppressive foot of apartheid and did not receive its independence until 1990 and Walvis Bay was not turned over to Namibia until 1994. In 1995 I traveled to a meeting in Namibia of scientists from the Benguela Current countries to make the case for a cooperative Large Marine Ecosystem Project. Both the Namibian and South African delegations were all white (the former were non Namibians on contract). The two member Angolan delegation arriving late due to travel difficulties (war was still raging there) included a Russian scientist. German and Norwegian scientists were there in significant numbers. The only Black presenter was a young scientist from Benin working for the UN. BUT there was a sign of hope. Namibia had the good sense to invite a Namibian graduate student along with his U.S. professor as observers. I learned that other Black Namibians were away at graduate school. The atmosphere can best be

understood by realizing that wearing my Mandela T-Shirt made our hosts nervous about violence from recalcitrant whites.

Fast forward to 2014: The projects discussed in 1994 have led to a Commission for sustainable management of the Benguela Current LME region and the Executive Director Dr. Hamukaya was one of the graduate students I heard about in 1994. The one who attended the meeting is now the Executive Director of the Southeast Atlantic Fisheries Organization which addresses the offshore ocean seaward of Commission for the area of the Benguela Current LME. Namibia used the resources of the project initiated in 1995 to build a cadre of Black scientists and resource managers. While the experts from around the world were present at the 2014 meeting the attendance was predominantly Black, including a good number of students. The logistics carried out by Commission and Namibian Ministries’ staffs were first rate. The aggressive participation of Black scientists from countries like Ghana and South Africa was notable. The was a meeting of colleagues not like the meetings which so often featured Northern Hemisphere experts lecturing to Southern Hemisphere listeners.

As the LME approach involves all of the sectors that utilize the marine and coastal environment representative of various sectors were present at the meeting, giving a unique opportunity to not only observe the country’s progress but to talk with key players in that effort. Anyone who has spent much time in Africa has discovered that in many countries the roads are often an obstacle to

travel. Not so in Namibia. Using their own efforts they are building and maintaining an excellent road system connecting the rural areas of their large and lightly populated country with the towns. It is a Country where one may rent a car and comfortably drive just about anywhere as we did. This is a source of national pride. The tourist sector along with fisheries, the biggest economic area next to mining, is very important for the economy. The tourism Ministry is brokering agreements between local areas and tourism developers for partnerships so the local areas benefit not only for jobs but from joint ownership. I saw the fruits of this effort as we visited their largest game park which has professional Black management.

Namibia still faces many challenges, the 8 percent white population controls 50 percent of the arable land and there is a huge wealth gap. But The Namibia government has been making steady progress, and is building the capacity of the Black populations suppressed under apartheid to increasingly get closer to their rightful place. From the vantage point of 2014 the deplorable situation of 1995 seems almost unimaginable and the recent peaceful democratic election demonstrates their readiness to take their well deserved place on the international stage.

Brad Brown is first vice president of the Miami-Dade NAACP. He is a retired National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration scientist. He continues to work as a consultant on African coastal and marine projects and scientific capacity development. He may be reached at jabaribrad@aol.com

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Caribbean

Sometimes you win ...



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

By CALIBE THOMPSON

Brand Jamaica is a worldwide cultural phenomenon. All Caribbean people are the life of the party, but there's something about Jamaicans that is synonymous with cool.

That cool factor springs in part from the ubiquitous presence of reggae music around the world. Dreadlocks, rastafari and ganja smoking. These started off as symbols of revolution and then became cool. The fastest men and women in the world consistently sprouted their wings running on Jamaican soil. When the rest of the world thinks of the Caribbean, Jamaica is likely the first island that comes to mind. Jerk seasoning is available everywhere. I'd say, we have quite a few accolades to claim.

Now, I can brag fairly articulately on all these because I've had an entire week to write a column, but with a few thousand people in a room staring at me and just a few seconds to communicate all of that, maybe I would have frozen too. Kaci Fennell, the Jamaican beauty queen who also seemed to have a beautiful spirit, buckled under the question that many touted as a gift from God for someone representing a country like ours. Before the question and answer section of the recent Miss Universe pageant, she was presumed the winner of the competition by the crowd who booed loudly at the announcement of her 5th

placement, and even by the other contestants who hoisted her on their shoulders after the ceremony was concluded.

She showed poise and spirit throughout the competition. She stood out for her short hair and 'vibes' personality. But after the judges'

decision that someone else deserved the crown, it was remarkable the way the media paid even more attention to Kaci's loss than to Ms. Colombia's win. Kaci herself, has been very gracious about the whole thing.

We didn't take the crown, but we still won

the crowd. Our girl is who the media decided to dwell on, at least in the immediate aftermath. And in a not so humble brag, I'll declare Kaci Fennell one of people who have made Jamaica proud in representing us to the world.

Calibe Thompson is a personality, author and the producer of *The Caribbean Diaspora Weekly*. For your free preview of her 2015 collection of writings, *Things I Probably Shouldn't Say*, visit www.calibe.net.

LIVE IN STORE

MACY'S CELEBRATES
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

THE SOUL ERA

JOIN US "IN CONVERSATION"
WITH JUNE AMBROSE
AND JOHNETTA BOONE!



MACY'S AVENTURA
FASHION BUILDING, LEVEL 3
SATURDAY, FEB. 7, 2PM

From elegant high glamour to the hottest looks on the street, Black Style has influenced the trends and designers that have shaped American and global culture. Don't miss this entertaining look back at the fashion, accessories and attitude that rocked the runways of the 60's and 70's featuring celebrity fashion stylists and designers *JUNE AMBROSE* and *JOHNETTA BOONE* as they lead our captivating panel discussion on "The Style of the Soul Era." Afterwards, enjoy a special reception and fabulous fashion!

Visit macys.com/celebrate through February 28th to enter for the chance to win[†] a trip for 2 to New York City, the style capital of the world, a Macy's shopping spree and a makeover by celebrity stylist, *JUNE AMBROSE*!

RSVP at <http://macysaventurabhm.eventbrite.com>

FOR MORE DETAILS visit MACYS.COM/CELEBRATE



Events subject to change or cancellation. [†]No purchase necessary. Sweepstakes begins February 1, 2015 at 12:01 A.M. ET and ends February 28, 2015 at 11:59 P.M. ET. Open to legal residents of the 48 contiguous United States and D.C., who are 18 years or older. Void in Puerto Rico, Alaska, Hawaii and where prohibited by law. Complete official rules available at macys.com/celebrate. Sponsor: Macy's Corporate Services, Inc.

Dixie, Martin and Barack intersect

VICTORY, FROM 1A

least we could do is take a street out of our neighborhood, and what better tribute than to our first African-American president. The movie depicts blood being shed in order to gain the right to vote. Our president is a product of that. He is someone who would reflect America in a positive way, and particularly right here in the heart of Riviera Beach.

Masters also addresses critics that say the road isn't beautiful enough to represent such an esteemed person. The same criticism is made of the streets named after Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. But Masters said he has a plan for beautifying the street and he believes the proprietors along the highway would be encouraged to make their spaces even more attractive. I believe our local businesses would be inspired," he added.

At one point, Old Dixie Highway intersects with the Port of Palm Beach. Masters said the renaming would be a huge boost for the cruise ship passengers coming from the Port. "This would say a lot about our city to people from all over the world."

Thus far, the mayor has an online petition and a hard copy petition that's circulating. He said the elected officials would have to sign off on it, and so would the county officials, since Old Dixie is a county road. But most importantly would be the people's voices. "It has to be an effort bigger than the mayor and elected officials. It has to be something the people would embrace," he said. "I don't see why within six months to a year, we wouldn't have made significant strides in renaming the street after our president. After all, it's only fitting."

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CHANGING THE CURRENT.  FPL

NEWS BRIEFS

City seeks applications for appearance award

FORT LAUDERDALE — The city of Fort Lauderdale is accepting nominations for this year's Community Appearance Awards, which are presented each year to encourage aesthetic awareness and to acknowledge individuals and organizations who are working to enhance, improve and beautify the Fort Lauderdale community.

Community Appearance Awards recognize homeowners, architects, landscapers and developers for their individual efforts to enhance the City's visual image and economic vitality. Neighborhood associations are recognized for projects that positively affect the area of the association. Since the program's inception in 1978, hundreds of commercial buildings, office towers, residences, and landscape improvements have been nominated for awards. Sponsorship of the program comes from the community in the form of corporate and private donations, as well as from the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Applications must be postmarked by 5 p.m. Feb. 13, and mailed to the Community Appearance Board, Lauren Gambino, Sustainable Development, 914 Sistrunk Blvd. Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311.

Mindingall sponsors domestic violence workshop

MIAMI — Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, Miami-Dade School Board member and longtime educator, will present the annual "No More Broken Hearts" - Domestic Violence Workshop, which is open to the public.

The session is for adults of all ages; a panel of professional experts and survivors will address the issue. The event will occur at 10 a.m. Feb. 21 at Charles R. Drew Community Center, 1801 NW 60th Street in Miami. Breakfast and lunch are included.

RSVP at the following link: <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/no-more-broken-hearts-domestic-violence-workshop-tickets-9018038195>

Culture, crafts to highlight Black Heritage Festival

MIAMI GARDENS — In honor of Black History Month, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Barbara Jordan and Miami Gardens Councilman Rodney Harris are hosting the second annual Black Heritage Festival.

The festival, which will include culture, crafts and creative artists, takes place noon to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex, 3000 NW 199th Street, in Miami Gardens.

"It is incumbent upon us to help preserve our culture," said Commissioner Jordan. "While we plan to celebrate our contributions during Black History Month, the reality is our Black History should be celebrated 365 days a year."

Attendees will enjoy the uplifting voices of Jesus People Ministries International Gospel Choir, African fashions, Miami Norland High School's drumline, Simone's Just Dance Studios, Jazz ensemble from Florida Memorial University, and much more.

Sponsors for the Black Heritage Festival include Carrie Concessions Inc., IBEW Local Union 349, Marlins Foundation, Orion Jet Center, AT&T Inc., D. Stephenson Construction Inc., EAC Consulting Inc., EBS Engineering Inc., Santana Moss Foundation, Subway, Haagen Daz, Dunkin' Donuts, Parks Foundation, Black Affairs Advisory Board, Miami-Dade County, and H&R Block.

For more information regarding the Black Heritage Festival, call (305) 474-3011.

Compiled from staff, wire reports

SOUTH FLORIDA

Osteen seeks to bring hope with tour

By ANDREA ROBINSON
arobinson@SFLTimes.com

Joel Osteen is on a mission to instill hope wherever he speaks. This week, the popular pastor and motivational speaker who has millions of followers around the world, is bringing his brand of inspiration to South Florida.

"People need to know that whatever challenges they are facing in life," Osteen said in an email interview, "there is a God who cares for them, who is on their side, and who has a future and a hope for them."

Osteen, along with his wife, Victoria, will headline the Night of Hope Tour on Friday at the BB&T Center, 1 Panther Parkway in Sunrise. Joining them will be several ministers from local churches.

Officials with Joel Osteen Ministries say local ministers and congregations expected to participate are from Broward, Miami-Dade and Palm Beach counties: Pastors Troy and Stephanie Gramling of Potential Church in Cooper City; Pastors Rich and Robyn Wilkerson of Trinity Church in Miami; FL; Rev. Alberto Delgado of Alpha and Omega Church in Miami; and Pastors Todd and Julie Mullins of Christ Fellowship in Palm Beach Gardens.

Osteen is pastor of Lakewood Church, a non-denominational congregation in Houston. Services are held in the 16,000-seat former Compaq Center, which formerly was home to the Houston Rockets used to play. According to his bio, 10 million U.S. viewers watch his television broadcast every week; the program also is seen in 100 countries around the world.

Additionally, he has written several books that have landed on the best-seller list. His latest work, You Can, You Will, ranks 14 on Publisher's Weekly.

Osteen said there's a need for hope more than ever. The "Hope" tour



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOEL OSTEEN MINISTRIES

Joel Osteen

is in its 10th year. The Osteens were in South Florida in at Marlin's Park in Miami in April 2013, which drew a sellout crowd of about 37,000 people.

Osteen's background is in radio and television production, skills he used at Lakewood Church, which his father, John, started in 1959. The younger Osteen was propelled into senior pastor status in October 1999, after the untimely passing of his dad. Since that time, Lakewood's weekly attendance grew from an average of 5,000 to over 50,000. The church is believed to be the largest in the United States, according to Forbes, Outreach magazine, and Church Growth Today.

The ministry also is noted for its diversity. The Lakewood website

notes the congregation is equal parts black, white and Hispanic.

"When my dad started Lakewood in 1959, we always opened our doors to everyone. It wasn't something we planned, we just extended love to everyone and that has carried over into our ministry worldwide," he said. "We are considered the most diverse church in the nation. Our congregation also reflects the city of Houston, which is a very diverse city."

To all attendees, Osteen said he aims to inspire and offer a bit of inspiration that evening.

"Victoria and I hope you'll come out to the Night of Hope at BB&T Center," he said. "We believe you won't leave the same, that you'll be uplifted and inspired for God's plan for your life."

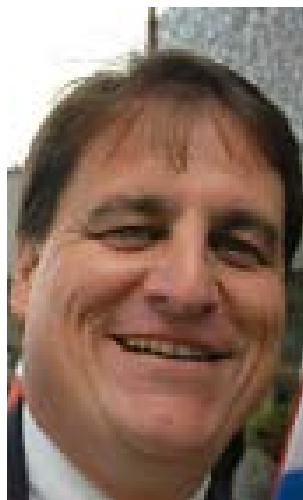
BROWARD

Fort Lauderdale will target flood-prone areas

Staff Report

FORT LAUDERDALE — Building upon its leadership in the area of sustainability, the City of Fort Lauderdale has approved the use of Adaptation Action Areas to fight rising seas and coastal flooding. The action possibly makes the city the first in Florida to have such a policy.

The new policy enables Fort Lauderdale to identify portions of the city that are vulnerable to flooding and prioritize those areas for adaptation measures and infrastructure improvements. Officials say Fort Lauderdale volunteered to



FILE PHOTO

Mayor John P. Jack Seiler

serve as the project's pilot community as part of an ongoing effort to protect quality of life by increasing the city's resilience to the damaging effects of climate change. If the city is successful in implementing the project it could serve as a model for other communities around the country.

Fort Lauderdale's seven miles of shoreline and 165 miles of inland waterways, coupled with its flat topography and dense development make it susceptible to erosion, coastal flooding, storm surge, and high tides. A recent neighbor survey and communitywide visioning initiative revealed that

residents are experiencing more frequent flooding in their neighborhoods, and have a greater sense of urgency to address the growing hazard. The neighbor directive prompted the City to revolutionize its operations by adopting a strategic approach that proactively considers changing climate conditions when planning.

"This is a tremendous milestone for our community. We are bringing our citywide vision to life by creating the tools we need to reduce our risk to the damaging effects of cli-

PLEASE TURN TO FLOODING/2B

PALM BEACH



PHOTO COURTESY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

Palm Beach County students speak with recruiters from Bethune Cookman University during the HBCU recruitment tour.

HBCUs target Palm Beach students

Staff Report

WEST PALM BEACH — A record \$2.6 million in college scholarships and 1,162 college admissions were delivered to students who attended the School District of Palm Beach County's Historically Black College/University and Hispanic Serving Institution Recruitment Tour.

There were 1,142 students from all of the district's high schools attending the two-day recruitment tour at the Palm Beach County Convention Center on Jan. 13 and Jan. 14. Transportation was provided to the convention center for the Recruitment Tour, which also included an evening event that allowed parents, guardians and community members to learn more about the opportunities available at these institutions.

"We are extremely proud that so many students attended the Recruitment Tour and walked away with college admissions and scholarship money," said Eunice Greenfield, the district's High School Counseling Program Planner who helped organize the Recruitment Tour.

There are 106 Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States, including public and private two- and four-year institutions. Hispanic Serving Institutions are colleges and universities where total Hispanic enrollment is at least 25 percent of the institution's total enrollment.

Twelve colleges and universities sent recruiters and financial aid representatives to the Recruitment Tour. Students came with their high school transcripts, and many walked away with admissions and scholarship offers.

The participating HBCUs were Bethune Cookman University of Daytona Beach; Edward Waters College of Jacksonville; Florida A&M University of Tallahassee; Florida Memorial University of Miami Gardens; Morris College of Sumpter, SC; Talladega College of Talladega, AL; Tuskegee University of Tuskegee, AL; Shaw University of Raleigh, NC; and Spelman College of Atlanta.

The Hispanic Serving Institutions were Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton; Florida International University in Miami; Keiser University in Fort Lauderdale; Palm Beach State College in Lake Worth; and St. Thomas University in Miami Gardens.

MIAMI-DADE



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIAMI DADE COLLEGE

Sen. Braynon gets boost for MDC North campus

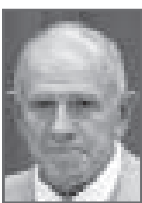
Florida Senator Oscar Braynon II presented the Miami Dade College (MDC) Board of Trustees with a check for \$5 million to repair and renovate the gymnasium at MDC North Campus, where as a young man Sen. Braynon played his first game of basketball and attended summer camp. The

renovation will include the creation of a tactical training facility for the MDC School of Justice. Holding the check: (L-R) MDC Board of Trustees members Jose K. Fuentes, Bernie Navarro, Marili Cancio, Sen. Braynon, MDC President Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón, Helen Aguirre Ferré, and Armando J. Olivera.

Around South Florida



ELGIN JONES
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MEGGS

COMPLAINT FILED

Leon County State Attorney Willie Meggs will not investigate allegations that Gov. Rick Scott fired Florida Department of Law Enforcement Commissioner Gerald Bailey for refusing to work on Scott's reelection campaign. But Charles Swofford, a resident of The Villages, has filed an ethics complaint alleging the governor may have held secret meetings related to the issue and other violations of the state's Sunshine Laws.

Palm Beach County



COLEY

TRIO CHARGED

Three Riviera Beach men, Reginald Washington, 26, Kendrick Coley, 22, and Demarcus Mucklin, 21, are in the attempted murder of another man. It occurred on Dec. 16 where they allegedly beat the man, who dove into a canal. When they saw him later, they began shooting again. The man reportedly hid in a dumpster. A bystander later put him in the back of a flatbed truck, and took him to his brother in order to get to a hospital.

MUCKLIN

Broward County



JOHNSON

SICKO CAPTURED

Dajuan Johnson, 35, was attacked by Davonte Sharnard Johnson, no relation, at Weaver Community Park in Pompano Beach where she works as a custodian. Johnson attacked the woman inside a bathroom and began stabbing her. She was able to fight him off after he dropped the knife and she picked it up and began swinging it. The suspect fled, but was later captured. The victim was hospitalized with multiple stab wounds, including one to the eye.



FORD

ICON HONORED

A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held where a park was named in honor of Rev. Willie "WJ" Ford. He is the senior pastor of Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church of Deerfield Beach. Ford has worked tirelessly in the city on behalf of the community. Rev. W.J. Ford Linear Park is located along the south side of Northwest 10th Street between Third and Fifth avenues. A well-deserved honor and recognition.

EXPRESS LAYOFFS

American Express has notified state officials that more layoffs are coming at its South Florida locations. This time it's 27 workers at the company's Weston facility, which handles global billing. The company is outsourcing those duties and now the total number of layoffs in at its Broward County location in recent years has topped 400.



BATTLE

ELECTION SPOTLIGHT

Deerfield Beach District 2 city commission race pits incumbent Ben Preston against challenger Gloria Battle, who also served on the dais when her mentor, former Commissioner Sylvia Poitier was suspended from office in 2011. In a special election to complete the remainder of Poitier's term, Ben Preston was elected over opponents Andre Samuels, Anthony Davis and Battle. Preston is a retired city firefighter, the first black in Deerfield Beach's history. Battle served as director of Broward County's Human Rights Department for years.

Miami-Dade County



GIMINEZ

THE PROJECTS

Miami-Dade's historic and troublesome Liberty Square public housing project located in the Miami's Liberty City neighborhood is being demolished. The 243-unit development that was built in the 1930's as part of the New Deal, will be razed and rebuilt. Mayor Carlos Gimenez revealed the \$74 million plan, which is expected to create more than 2,290 jobs.



SUSPECT

ROBBER SOUGHT

A suspect robbed the Chase Bank branch in Homestead. The suspect was wearing what appears to a wig and sunglasses, walked up to a teller demanded money and got away with an undetermined amount of cash. Anyone with information is urged to contact the FBI at 754-703-2000.

Monroe County



SUAREZ

TURTLE TAIL

David Hernandez Sordo, 48, and Pedro Suarez, 59, are facing charges after being caught with the tail of a federally protected loggerhead turtle. Sordo was driving a truck that was towing small fishing boat that ran allegedly a red light. Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission officers Jeremy Foell and Mitchell Robb pulled the truck over. They found the turtle tail and two sharks, also caught in violation of regulations, inside the boat. The truck, boat and trailer were seized along with the sharks and turtle tail and both men were arrested.

KEYS SEWERS

Monroe County may be getting additional funds to help with sewer construction in the county. In his \$77 billion budget, Gov. Rick Scott is proposing \$50 million to help protect coral and other marine life by installing a sewer system in the Keys.



MCKENZIE

PASTOR JAILED

John Wesley McKenzie, 51, the former pastor of St. James Missionary Church in Key West, has been sentenced to a year in the county jail and then 15 years' probation. McKenzie was convicted of stealing over \$54,000 from his church. McKenzie was arrested in 2013 and has a prior conviction in the 1980's for passing bad checks.

Fort Lauderdale starts plant to I.D. Adaptation Action Areas

FLOOD, FROM 1B

mate change. I am proud that Fort Lauderdale was able to successfully serve as a pilot community for the Adaptation Action Areas program, and I look forward to working with our regional partners to implement similar programs to address this significant environmental challenge," said Fort Lauderdale Mayor John P. "Jack" Seiler. "Continuing to utilize a collaborative and comprehensive approach will enable us to work together today to meet the changing climate conditions

of tomorrow and, by doing so, strengthen our resilience and protect our long-term livability, sustainability and prosperity."

Developed in conjunction with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Broward County and the South Florida Regional Planning Council, the Adaptation Action Area initiative will serve as a program that can be replicated in other communities looking to defend against coastal hazards and related impacts of

sea level rise. Approved by the City Commission and the state, the Adaptation Action Area policies were formally adopted into Fort Lauderdale's Comprehensive Plan in January 2015.

In addition to safeguarding public infrastructure, the Adaptation Action Areas are also intended to protect neighbors, resources, services, private property, and the environment from the threat of natural hazards, particularly in the coastal high-hazard areas. The policies outlined in

the Comprehensive Plan address the identification of vulnerable infrastructure, development of adaptation strategies, criteria for area designation, funding options, and alignment with existing local and regional plans.

Through Adaptation Action Areas, the reconstruction of A1A, the establishment of a Sustainability Division, the active participation in the South Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, global partnerships, and numerous ongoing initiatives, the City of Fort

Lauderdale is leading cooperative efforts to pursue comprehensive action that protects the region's economy and quality of life. Going forward, Fort Lauderdale will continue to actively pursue effective solutions to mitigate the effects of climate change.

For more information about Fort Lauderdale's proactive sustainable initiatives and partnerships to create a stronger and more resilient community, visit the City website at www.fortlauderdale.gov.



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Obituaries

JAY'S FUNERAL HOME

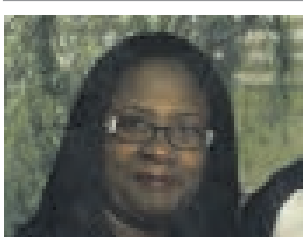


CHARLES CLAY, 80, Tie Finisher, died January 31. Services will be held 11 am Saturday at Mt. Pleasant MBC.

RODNEY DEMERRITTE, 52, Student, died January 29. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Second Baptist Church.



JAMES ANTHONY GREEN, 55, Mechanic, died January 31. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at House Of God.



BARBARA KING JOHNSON, 60, died January 29. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Sweet Home MBC.

ORA LEMON, 88, died February 1. Services will be held 12 pm Saturday at New Life Chapel.

MELANIE MELLERSON, 13, Student died February 2. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Jay's Chapel.

JACQUELINE STROUD, 58, Secretary, died January 31. Arrangements are incomplete.

WADE FUNERAL HOME

FRANK F. REID, Retired Security Officer, died January 11, at Villa Maria Nursing Center. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Bethel Apostolic Temple, 1855 NW 119th Street Miami, Florida.

HALL-FERGUSON-HEWITT MORTUARY



DONALD E. DEMERITTE, 74, Orthopedic Technician, for Jackson Memorial Hospital, died January 30. Funeral will be held 11 am Friday at Hall-Ferguson-Hewitt Chapel.

MARY DOSTER, 84, Retired Teacher, for MDCPS, died January 28. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at New Providence Missionary Baptist Church, 760 NW 53rd Street.



BOBBIE LEE JONES, 78, Musician, died January 28. Funeral will be held 1:30 pm Friday at Hall-Ferguson-Hewitt Mortuary Chapel.



MILDRED MATTHEW, 79, Domestic Engineer, died January 24. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Hall-Ferguson-Hewitt Chapel.

LAKESIDE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

ARIE BOOTLE, 77, Horse Trainer, of Riviera Beach, died January 28. Funeral will be held 1 pm at Lakeside Memorial Chapel.

GWENDOLYN GOSIER, 54, of Pompano Beach, died January 24. Services were held.

NESLIE GUNTORPE, 75, of Boynton Beach, died January 28. Services were held.

ELSA TOLBERT, 81, of West Palm Beach, died January 28. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at the New Beginnings Glorious Church.

ROYAL FUNERAL HOME



JERRY 'JERRY' MILLER, 79, Social Worker, for Miami Dade Schools, died January 26 at Vitas Hospital. Wake/Memorial at Royal Funeral Service, Inc. 17475 N.W. 27 Avenue Miami Gardens, FL. Viewing from 4:00 -8:30 pm, Memorial starts at 6:30pm Friday. Saturday, February 7th Final viewing and Funeral Services at Church of the Open Door Miami 6001 NW 8th Ave. Miami, FL. Viewing - 10am Funeral Services - 11am.

RANGE FUNERAL HOME

INFANT CHASE EARL BELLAMY, 4 months died January 28. Funeral 11 am Friday at Range Chapel.

BEULAH M. BOLDEN, 75, Retired School Bus Driver, died February 1. Funeral 1 pm at Friendship M.B. Church.

ELSTON DAVIS, 90, Retired Classroom Teacher, for Miami-Dade County Public Schools, died January 25. Funeral 10 am Thursday at The Historical St. Agnes Episcopal Church.

WAYNE A. GREEN, 49, Entrepreneur, with janitorial service, died January 23. Funeral 10 am Saturday at Grace United Community Church.

OLIVER AARON GROSS SR., 84, Retired Airline Technician, died January 27. Funeral 11 am Saturday at Mt. Hermon A.M.E. Church.

HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - MLK

DERRICK MARSHALL, 55, Died January 30, at Jackson Memorial Hospital North. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday in the chapel.

RHONDA DENISE COLEY, 45, Laborer died January 28, at Jackson North. Services will be held in the chapel at 4pm.

HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - Miami Gardens

ALMA BROWN, 97, Master Cosmetologist, died February 1, at Jackson North Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.

CHANEL CARTER, 41, Cook, died February 1, at Jackson North Hospital. Arrangements are incomplete.

SHEILA EUDOVIQUE, 80, Home-maker, died January 30, at Jackson North Hospital. Funeral will be held 11 am Friday at Pentecostal Tabernacle International.

KEVIN G. JOHNSON, 54, died January 28, at Memorial Hospital West. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Antioch Missionary Baptist Church.

JAMES MARTIN, 81, Landscaper, died January 29, at home. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday at MLK Chapel.

FRANCES VIE, 98, Retired Nurse, died January 30, at home. Arrangements are incomplete.

FRITZ V. WILLIAMS, 29, CNA, died January 28, in Tulsa, OK. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday at MLK Chapel.

WRIGHT & YOUNG FUNERAL HOME

CONSTANCE CAULEY, 70, died January 28. Service was held.

JAMES HALL, 42, Laborer, died January 25. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at 93rd St. Community Baptist Church.

MICHAEL MANN, 23, Security Guard, died January 27. Services were held.

BELINDA MCCRAY, 52, Bus Driver, died January 25. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday in the chapel.

PATRICIA QUINN, 67, Mail Carrier, died January 28. Funeral 2 pm Saturday at Bethel Apostolic Temple.

HORACE TUCKER, 91, died January 27. Funeral 1 pm Saturday at Highway Church of the Apostolic Faith, 2141 NW 76 St. Miami, FL.

THOMAS WHITE JR., died January 27. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Church of God by Faith.

JAMES C. BOYD FUNERAL HOME

MARY ANN BOSTIC, 92. Funeral service was held Saturday, January 31, at Mount Bethel Ministries.

SAMUEL LEON MACK, 49. Funeral service was held Saturday, January 31, at James C. Boyd Funeral Home.

BEATRICE MCINTYRE, 88. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday at New Bethel Primitive Baptist Church, 1100 NW 29th Terrace, Fort Lauderdale.

MARY ANN SNELL, 68. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday, at Mount Bethel Ministries, located at 901 Northwest 11th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale.

PATRICK HUGH TAYLOR, 51. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at James C. Boyd Funeral Home.

LONZI WILKINS, 88, will be held 1 pm Saturday at New Hope Baptist Church, located at 1321 Sistrunk Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale.

DEACONESS SARAH ELIZABETH WRIGHT, 79. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at True Tabernacle of God, located at 2520 Northwest 8th Court, Fort Lauderdale.

Card of Thanks

The family of, **OVERSEER PASTOR CATHERINE P. BRINSON** would like to thank you for all acts of kindness leading up to her "Celebration of Life" service on January 10, 2015. God Bless!

ROY MIZELL & KURTZ FUNERAL HOME

ARTHUR LEE BROWN, 72, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 29. Funeral 1 pm Saturday at New Jerusalem Baptist Church.

MILDRED A. JONES-FUCE, 84, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 27. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Mt. Hermon A.M.E. Church.

ALLIE FRANCES GREEN, 86, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 28. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at New Mount Olive Baptist Church.

CATHY A. WALKER, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 28. Viewing 4pm to 9 pm Friday, at Roy Mizell & Kurtz Funeral Home.



Charlie Sifford

Michelle and I offer our condolences on the passing of golf legend Charlie Sifford. Charlie was the first African-American to earn a PGA tour card – often facing indignity and injustice even as he faced the competition. Though his best golf was already behind him, he proved that he belonged, winning twice on tour and blazing a trail for future generations of athletes in America. I was honored to award Charlie the Presidential Medal of Freedom last year – for altering the course of the sport and the country he loved. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, his friends, and his fans.

Classifieds

LEGAL NOTICES

PUBLICATION OF BID SOLICITATIONS

Broward County Board of County Commissioners is soliciting bids for a variety of goods and services, construction and professional services. Interested vendors can view and download the solicitation documents via the Broward County Purchasing website at: www.broward.org/purchasing - current solicitations and results.

INVITATION TO BID

Indian River Lagoon South (IRL-S), C-44 Reservoir/STA Project, Contract 2

Thalle Construction Co. Inc is seeking subcontractors & suppliers for the work described below proposals due **Feb 17th** (Email) quotes@thalle.com (fax) 919-214-1635 Attn Vincent Zannini (Phone) 919-241-1635
Bid Documents: can be download from <https://thalle.sharefile.com/d/s3f093c561644d558>

Project Description: The work includes 3,400AC reservoir, discharge canal, & associated structures to capture water from the C-44 Basin. A reservoir comprised of 50,000LF of embankment. Water Discharge and control structures
Divisions of work: Survey, video & photographs, quality control, material testing, office trailers, sanitary facilities, traffic control, signs, clearing & site prep, erosion control, earthwork, hauling, riprap, shellrock, & aggregates, soil stabilization sheet piling, soil-cement, articulated concrete block, turf reinforced mat, piling, dewatering environmental protection, turbidity barrier, CMP guardrail, fences & gates, bollards grassing sodding asphalt paving, well installation staff gauges, geotextile, Cast in place concrete, Precast concrete, handrail & Steel Pipe Misc. metal walkway slide gates & stop plates, lightning protection precast BLDG, instrumentation, electrical, mechanical, soil cement, trucking, sand & gravel

Project Location: Martin county FL approx. 15 minutes NE of Indian Town FL

SBE DBE WBE VOSB SDVOSB HUBzone Utilization: Thalle encourages SBE firms categories to have maximum practicable opportunity to participate, Work may be divided or combined to facilitate SBE participation. SBE firms needing assistance with this proposal (ie. Negotiation scope work, obtaining plans, bonds, lines of credit, equipment, supplies, materials etc.) Please contact Thalle ASAP with your needs.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) – FINANCIAL AUDIT SERVICES

The Miami Dade Chamber of Commerce (a not for profit) is seeking bid proposals from qualified firms to complete a financial audit for the Fiscal Year 2014.

QUALIFICATIONS

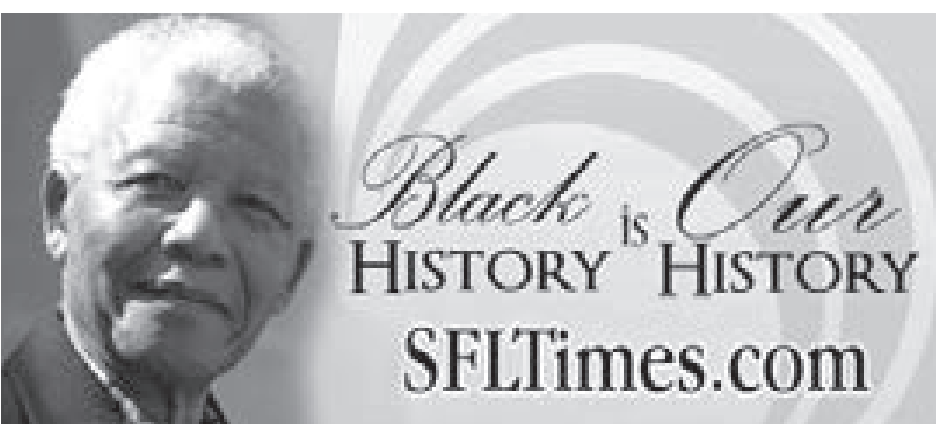
- Must have at least ten (10) years experience in audit preparation for non-profit organizations
- Must be a certified public accounting firm in the State of Florida
- Must be able to complete the project within a three month time period

For the complete RFP Scope of Services, including all the information required in order for a firm to be considered for the project, please contact the Miami Dade Chamber of Commerce at mdcc@m-dcc.org; Responses are due by February 16, 2015.

For more information and/or inquiries, contact the M-DCC at 305.751.8648.

Proposal Evaluation Criterion

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of the response to all provisions of this RFP. The Chamber reserves the right to modify the evaluation criterion as deemed appropriate and reserves the right to reject any and all proposals.



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Prayerful Living



The power to do great things



THE REV. DR. R. JOAQUIN WILLIS

You ever wonder where the power to do great things comes from? The simple answer is God, but I'm not talking good things, but great things. All good things aren't great things, and all good things aren't Godly things either. It is also true that good things do not automatically become great things.

For the power to do great things, we must have a sound God-centered doctrine, based upon growth-oriented principles, which means daily growing closer to God. We must go where He sends us, come when He calls us and have the courage to do what He bids us to do.

The good news is, when we love as we ought, God's grace shines through us and His love endows us with the power to do great things. God's pardoning of our sins is the most wonderful of all His works. Being forgiven and believing we're forgiven frees us and grants us the power to do great things.

In Mark (1:21-28) Jesus goes to church and spends the day there teaching. He is confident, not quibbling over the details of doctrine or polity like the other Rabbis, Jesus was breaking the Word down!

As He teaches He is interrupted by a demon-possessed man, yelling out, "What business do you have here with us? You're the Holy One, sent by God." The Devil knows the Lord's servants. "Be quiet, said Jesus sternly to the demon. Come out of him!" (Mark 1:25 NIV).

Notice Jesus doesn't address the man, but the demon within him, saying, "Come out of him." The man goes into a spasm and the demon loudly protesting departs him. The people ask – "What's this new teaching, that sends demons packing?" (Mark 1:28) Jesus must have been doing some powerful teaching, and in the midst of it, He performs a powerful exorcism.

The demon wanted no part of Jesus because he feared being saved, and dreaded being destroyed by Him. The evil one had carnal knowledge of Christ, and he knew Christ was holy. The carnal mind is the enemy of Christ and especially against His holiness. Human logic demands we know things,

but holiness demands we trust God in all things.

So what is the new doctrine Christ taught? In every generation, we find new doctrine, and it doesn't all come from the pulpit either. For instance, Steve Jobs, former CEO and founder of Apple Inc. once shared new doctrine with his staff:

"Your time is limited so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most importantly have the courage to follow your heart and your intuition. They somehow know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary."

Steve Jobs obviously had the power to do great things. I would ask here, "How does your heart and intuition know"? God speaks to our hearts, and when our hearts are pure, the inner voice Steve Jobs speaks of is God's voice and you can hear no other.

God grants us the power to do great things when we thank Him for everything, our time, talent and treasure. God's Word gives us power, and a lifetime of study brings even greater power and eternal joy. The power to do great things springs from God's generosity, which never quits or gives out.

Jesus knew where the power to do great things came from. Jesus never forgot, that God always remembers, and He keeps His promises to us. God proves to us repeatedly He can do what He says; remembering this gives one the power to do great things.

God hands over to His people, the nations, and the communities of His enemies on a silver platter. He manufactures the truth and He maintains and insures justice. What God creates, (compared to what we create) is guaranteed to last.

In Jesus' death, God paid a high ransom for us. Our God is a personal God, and He is worthy of respect and praise. Do these things you'll know the blessings of God forever, and have the power to do great things.

The Rev. Dr. R. Joaquin Willis is pastor of the Church of the Open Door UCC in Miami's Liberty City community. He may be reached at 305-759-0373 or pastor@churchoftheopendoormiami.org

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Taraji P. Henson **4C**

Actress at heart
of Fox's 'Empire'

Ragtime **5C**

Miami Northeastern grad
drives powerful musical

Events
Calendar **7C**

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RAGTIME

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The cast of RAGTIME. Photo by George Schlavone.

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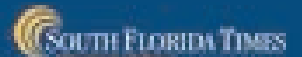
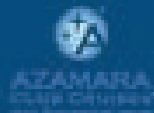
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film

'Black or White' wrestles with race in custody drama

By **JORDAN MINTZER**
The Hollywood Reporter

Black or White may be the title, but there are plenty of gray areas tackled in this good ol' fashioned family dramedy from standup comic turned filmmaker Mike Binder (*Reign Over Me*, *The Upside of Anger*).

Pitting a binge drinking Kevin Costner against a butt whooping Octavia Spencer in a battle for custody over their beloved granddaughter, this well-performed and occasionally amusing affair has a distinctively '90s feel to it, laying on the sauce rather thick at times, although it still creates a believable story raising questions about parenthood and racial prejudice in modern-day Los Angeles.

A somewhat clumsy opening scene introduces us to California attorney Elliot Anderson (Costner), whose wife has just died in a car accident, leaving the man with little consolation outside a home bar fully stocked with Scotch. But he does have one remaining hope in life: his mixed-race 7-year-old granddaughter, Eloise (newcomer Jillian Estell), who's been living with him ever since the girl's mother died at childbirth and her drug addicted father, Reggie (Andre Holland), landed in jail.

Trying to cope with his granddaddy duties as he slowly drinks himself into oblivion, Elliot manages to keep things afloat for the time being, especially after hiring an overqualified math tutor, Duvan (Mpho Koaho), to serve as right-hand man and provide some necessary comic relief to the household. Yet just when things are picking up, he's paid a visit by Eloise's paternal grandmother, Rowena (Spencer), a loving but iron-fisted matriarch whose boggle-eyed glare is enough to push back an army, and who soon takes it upon herself to demand custody of her granddaughter through the help of hotshot nephew lawyer, Jeremiah (Anthony Mackie).

"Inspired by a true incident" per the opening credits, the screenplay by Binder paints a broad but credible portrait of a fractured family living on opposite sides of L.A.'s racial barrier, with Elliot carousing around his massive suburban mansion while Rowena shelters relatives in a Compton abode across the street from a crack den. Yet neither household is shown to be a total movie cliché, and the script intelligently navigates both domains to reveal how they have more in common than they may imagine, especially when it concerns the best interests of their granddaughter.

As Rowena blindly (and not always understandably) continues her legal pursuits just as Reggie pops back into the picture, the race question is eventually brought into play and even becomes a major factor in the ensuing trial. Various plot mechanics, some of them rather heavy-handed, lead to a resolution that predictably shows how little race ultimately matters, although "*Black or White*" never panders too easily to sentiments, creating characters who are riddled with flaws but likeable all the same.

Such is the case with Elliot, and as both producer and star this is clearly Costner's film for the taking. It's a pleasure to see the seasoned actor approaching this kind of role after a recent run of genre-related material (*Man of Steel*, *3 Days to Kill*). Costner can still play a convincing drunk, which is no easy task.

The rest of the cast is excellent, starting with Spencer and her guns-a-blazing portrayal of Rowena, and moving down to the terrific young Koaho, who sparks the most laughs with his depiction of an African immigrant who's the smartest guy in the room and not afraid to say it.



PHOTO COURTESY OF © 2014 BLACKWHITE, LLC PHOTO CREDIT: TRACEY BENNETT

Jillian Estell and Octavia Spencer star in Relativity Media's *Black or White*.



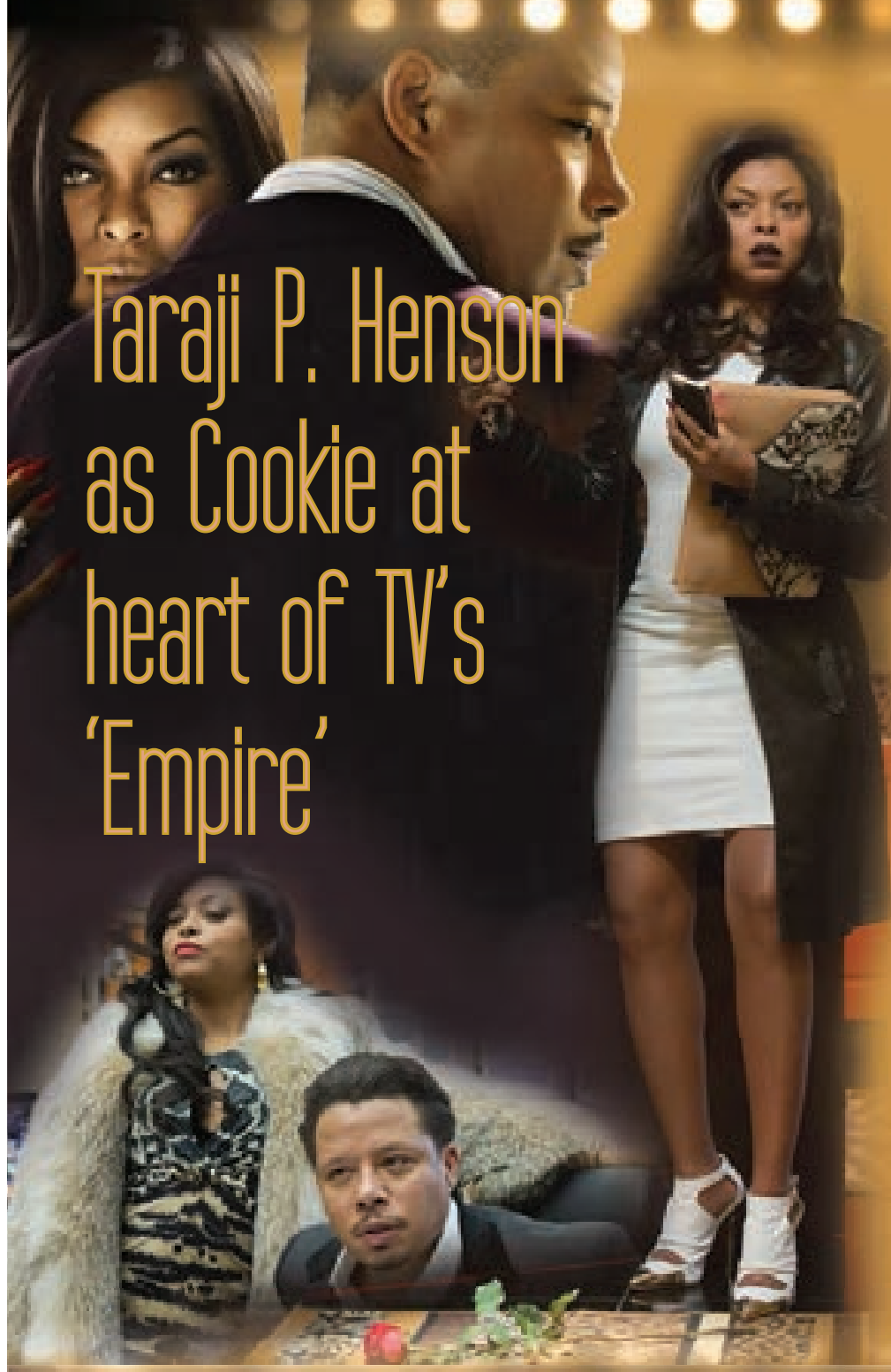
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STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13 CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

music & pop culture



Taraji P. Henson as Cookie at heart of TV's 'Empire'

By **SANDY COHEN**
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES — Taraji P. Henson is driving down an LA street, chatting on her cellphone, when a billboard catches her eye.

"Hi, me! Hiiii!" she says, smiling at her latest on-screen incarnation: glamorous ex-con Cookie in *Empire*, which airs on Fox at 9 p.m. EST Wednesdays.

Draped in fabulous furs and drenched in attitude, Henson's Cookie is the heart of the Fox drama, a fiercely devoted mother and astute businesswoman who's fearless when it comes to getting what she wants. Her sometimes-reluctant partner is Lucious Lyon (Terrence Howard), a music mogul deciding which of their three sons should run the family's entertainment empire.

Henson has seen her face on billboards before, with dozens of film credits (including 2008's *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, for which she earned a supporting actress Oscar nod) and popular TV series such as *Person of Interest* to her name.

"Sometimes I forget, you know what I mean?" she says. "I just go on about my day, and look up and go, 'That's right, I do have a TV show coming out!'"

The 44-year-old actress pulled over to talk with The Associated Press about the new show and the empire that is Taraji P. Henson.

AP: Who is Cookie?

Henson: She is a hero. I mean, she is the truth. She is strong. She's family first. She's a lot of things. She doesn't compromise at all — never herself, and never her truth. That's what I love about her... She says things that I might not have the guts to say. I love the way she dresses. I love how much she cares about her sons.

AP: How is it working with Terrence Howard again, your old pal from *Hustle & Flow*?

Henson: I just know that I really like working with Terrence. I trust him. And for me as an artist — acting, you really have to be uninhibited. You cannot have any hang-ups. Or if you do, they can't breathe and live through these characters, because their hang-ups aren't your hang-ups. So for me in order to fully explore characters without throwing Taraji in the mix, I have to feel safe... And with Terrence, I'm so safe with him, I can try anything... We're friends. We've known each other, so it really works for Cookie and Lucious. When they came to me with the project, I said it has to be Terrence. When I cracked open the script, I saw no one but Terrence.

AP: What's most challenging to you as an actress right now?

Henson: Challenging is getting what I think I deserve to be paid. (It's) challenging to get the projects I want done or greenlit. I'm still having to prove I'm bankable. But I think it's getting better! I'm not one to wallow in the muck and say how bad. I don't harp on how bad things are... My thing is to prove each and every time I'm on the screen — whether it's TV, whether it's film, whether it's the stage — Taraji is going to deliver. So when I do get that moment — 'cause it's coming, I work too hard — when I do get that moment, that perfect movie comes along and some studio is going to say, 'I believe in her.' Not me and a man. Not me and another guy, no. Taraji P. Henson is going to open this film. Then I know that I'm doing my job.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ZAP2IT.COM

PHOTO COURTESY OF FOX/ PHOTOGRAPHER: CHUCK HODES

Cookie (Taraji P. Henson) wants hip hop mogul Lucious Lyon (Terrence Howard's) in *Empire*.

Cookie (Taraji P. Henson) finds a rose on her door step in the "Dangerous Bonds" episode of *Empire*.

ON THE COVER

PHOTO COURTESY OF FOX/PHOTOGRAPHER: CHUCK HODES

LOOK AT ME: Cookie (Taraji P. Henson) demands attention in the "False Imposition" episode of *Empire*.

Seward drives 'Ragtime the Musical'

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

Since its original Toronto production in 1996, Tony Award winning and Carbonell nominated *Ragtime* has been a beloved musical production for its address of social and racial issues in early 20th century New York. For the past two decades, *Ragtime* has seen Broadway, London's West End, the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., and now Actors' Playhouse in Coral Gables. *Ragtime* will be running until its bow on February 22nd.

"When I saw *Ragtime* in 1998, I knew I had seen something extraordinary," said David Arisco, artistic director for the production, who put together the 40-cast ensemble in three weeks. "This was a story that spoke clearly to our American heritage, our growth as a people, and our need to dig deeper."

In *Ragtime*, we meet an affluent New Rochelle, NY family that is the epitome of white privilege. Then we meet African-Americans Coalhouse Walker Jr. (Don Juan Seward II), his lady love Sarah (Sarah Nicole Batts) and the rest of their lively crew. Lastly, we meet Jewish immigrant Tateh (Tally Sessions) and his daughter (Julia Dale or Athena Pacanins depending on the day).

We see three very different groups of people with three varying experiences of American life in turn of the century New York: Mother and Father's only family problem is that Father leaves to go on a trip for a year. Tateh, trying to achieve "the American Dream" toils everyday on the streets trying to sell his pictures. Lastly, Coalhouse has the misfortune of riding around in his new Ford Model T and being tormented by racist firefighters, which becomes a catalyst for Coalhouse seeking justice by going on a shooting rampage, killing whites in his path.

"The music is beautiful, but it's the story that's being told is what resonated with me," said Miami native Seward, a Miami Northwestern High graduate. *Ragtime* happens

to be his favorite Broadway musical. "Everyone deserves justice; no matter how big or how small it may seem to anyone else, what's right is right and wrong is wrong."

Coalhouse taking justice into his own hands may not have been the best move in the end, as it caused quite a bit of heartache for him and his family. However, the reasoning behind it is something that we as Americans can understand giving the open season against black males. Regardless of the circumstances, people like Michael Brown, Trayvon Martin, and Eric Garner did not deserve to die. As it is seen in *Ragtime*, our justice system was never designed with blacks in mind.

"What the audience is going to take from this is how to love and accept one another," said Seward, who gives his all in a stellar performance. "God made us all different for a reason, so that we wouldn't get bored, to learn each other, and to really figure someone out."

Seward makes an awesome point. Many times, we humans don't see another person's point of view until, "sometimes, people don't get anything until it's actually put in front of their face." Racism didn't stop existing because our president is a black man. It just got swept under the rug for a few years. Now covers have been pulled off and people feel free to be ignorant and intolerant of their fellow man.

Ragtime brings to the forefront that American race issues haven't changed since the turn of the 20th Century. The more things change the more they stay the same. It's definitely a very timely piece and Seward is a can't miss. He's also one to watch.

"I was overwhelmed with emotions," Seward told me backstage after receiving a standing ovation for his first official performance as a star of a production. "The applause sent chills through my body."

It was a well-deserved ovation.

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[facebook.com/fashgirl83](https://www.facebook.com/fashgirl83)



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGE SCHIAVONE

Don Juan Seward II, center, a graduate of Miami Northwestern High School, has the lead role as Coalhouse Walker Jr. in *Ragtime*.

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lifestyle



“Kite Day” returns for its 23rd season at Haulover

Staff Report

MIAMI — A sea of kites will be soaring in the skies over Haulover Beach Park, on for the park's 23rd annual “Kite Day.” This family-style event, presented by the Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department and Skyward Kites, will feature free kiting activities for all ages, such as kite-building classes, kite-flying demonstrations and all sorts of kite competitions.

Expect to see a return of the “monster kites”, including a 100-foot squid, a 30-foot scuba man, a 30-foot “Nemo” fish, and more. The event takes place Sunday, Feb. 15 from noon to 5 p.m. at the park, 10800 Collins Ave. in Miami.

There will also be food and refreshments for purchase and a live concert by Miami Country Day School's “21 Hearts, 1 Beat” Rock Ensemble. Event admission is free and parking is \$7.

Prize categories for the kite competitions run the gamut from the highest-flying and most-unusual kites to the best home-made kite and the kite with the longest tail. There is no limit to the size or type of kites. Traditional kites of other countries are welcome, as a way to celebrate the unique cultural diversity of South Florida. Folks have the option of bringing their favorite kite from home, making one at the event for free, or purchasing an already-made kite

at the on-site kite store. There is no cost to participate in the kite competitions and registration is on-site.

Recognized as one of the best places for people to fly kites in South Florida, the open space and fresh ocean breezes of Haulover Park make it the ideal location for Skyward Kites. Skyward Kites' kite shop has operated out of Haulover Park for 23 years and boasts the largest selection of kites, windsocks and wind spinners in Miami, from diamonds and deltas to Parafoils and box varieties. They are open 364-days a year (Closed Christmas Day), from 10 a.m. till sunset, with free parking for kite shop patrons. They offer kiting activities year-round, including kiting parties for birthdays or any occasion. Skyward Kites, a partner-vendor of Miami-Dade County Parks, is just one example of the variety of programs and activities offered throughout the diverse Miami-Dade County Parks system.

Kite Day patrons are advised that glass bottles and pets will not be allowed. Shoes with socks are recommended for individuals participating in open field activities. Those who prefer to sit and watch the festivities may bring along a blanket.

For more information about Kite Day, contact Dan Ward at Skyward Kites, 305-893-0906. For the park office, call 305-947-3525.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
30' Flying Suid Kite at Haulover



SEVENTH SON

WHEN DARKNESS FALLS, THE SON WILL RISE

LEGENDARY PICTURES and UNIVERSAL PICTURES present a LEGENDARY PICTURES/THUNDER ROAD FILM/WIGRAM production "SEVENTH SON" JEFF BRIDGES BEN BARNES ALICIA VIKANDER KIT HARRINGTON OLIVIA WILLIAMS ANJEE TRAUDE with DJIMON HOUNSOU and JULIANNE MOORE MUSIC BY MARCO BELTRAMI COSTUME DESIGNER JACQUELINE WEST PRODUCTION DESIGNER JILLIAN SHAHE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ERICA LEE PRODUCED BY JON JASHNI BRENT O'CONNOR ALYSSA COTTER EDITOR BASIL IWANYK EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS THOMAS TULL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS LIONEL WIGRAM WRITTEN BY MATT GREENBERG DIRECTED BY CHARLES LEAVITT AND STEVEN KNIGHT EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS SERGEI BOODIROV A UNIVERSAL RELEASE

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STARTS FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6 CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

events calendar

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

February 5 - 15

Feb 5



PHOTO COURTESY OF MDC.EDU

Why #BlackLivesStillMatter: Dr. Peniel E. Joseph, professor of history at Tufts University, will discuss Reimagining the Civil Rights Movement in the Age of Obama and Ferguson. Dr. Joseph is the author of *Waiting 'Til the Midnight Hour* and will host a question and answer session and book signing following the lecture. The talk is the kick-off for *The Big Read*, a program by the National Endowment for the Arts designed to revitalize the role of reading in America. 7 p.m. at The Historic Lyric Theater, 819 NW Second Ave., Miami. Free, RSVP required. 786-708-4610.

February 6

Seminole Tribal Fair: The 44th annual event features live music, Native American dancing, competitions and more! From Seminole clothing contests to dance competitions this fair has something for everyone. The day also features traditional foods, native arts, and jewelry from across the country. 10 a.m. today, Saturday and Sunday at Seminole Paradise, 1 Seminole Way, Hollywood. Free. 1-866-625-5374.

February 6

Winter Star Gazing: Spend a night under the stars learning about the "Wolf Moon" from the Southern Cross Astronomical Society. A campfire will be made which is perfect for sharing stories and enjoying snacks. 7 to 10 p.m. at the Fruit and Spice Park, 24801 SW 187th Ave., Homestead. Free. 305-247-5727.

Feb 7



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHAELPLUZNICK.COM

Black Heritage Festival: This annual festival features something from the entire family, enjoy live entertainment with rock climbing, face painting and a bounce house for the kids. Find African fashions, books, jewelry and more at this festival in celebration of Black History Month. Noon to 3 p.m. at the Ferguson Recreational Complex, 3000 NW 199th St., Miami Gardens. Free. 305-375-5694.

February 7

Charlotte's Web: The Professional Theater for Children performs in the play based on the classic children's book. Wilbur, a pig, has a trip to the butcher in his future and Charlotte his friend begins a campaign to save his life. The play about friendship, sacrifice, compassion and bravery still resonates today. 10:30 a.m. at the Cypress Bay High School Theater, 18600 Vista Park Blvd., Weston. \$10 at the door, \$5 in advance. 954-389-4321.

The Story of Florida's Highwaymen Artists: Historian Steve Carr tells the story of the self-taught Black artists who have created some of the most important and iconic paintings of Florida's landscapes. The Highwaymen hailed mostly from Fort Pierce and from the 1950s to the 1980s made a living selling their original artwork to local businesses and door-to-door. Following the lecture check out the Florida Highwaymen artwork on display in the Nature Center. 10 to 11 a.m. at the Grassy Waters Preserve, 8624 Northlake Blvd., West Palm Beach. Free. 561-804-4985 for reservations.

Feb 7

Raisin' Cane-A Harlem

Renaissance Odyssey: Jasmine Guy stars in this show which celebrates the Harlem Renaissance through a blend of text, song, music, dance and visual images. Inspired by Jean Toomer's novel *Cane*, the show features an original score by Avery Sharpe and was written by Harry Clark. 8 p.m. at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, 10950 SW 211th St., Cutler Bay. \$25-\$45, \$15 children 12 and under. 786-573-5316.



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB.COM

Shade in the Sunshine State: Author and historian, Liz Coursen, will discuss Florida's past in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights acts. The presentation will feature Jackie Robinson and his minor league debut in Sanford and Daytona Beach, Jacksonville's 1960 sit-in, the integration of Florida schools and more. 2 to 3 p.m. at Broward County Main Library, 100 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Free. 954-357-7443.

Walk for Wishes: Help a child's wish come true with this 5K Walk/Run that benefits 34 children who are facing life threatening conditions in the community. Presented by the Make-A-Wish Foundation, the sixth annual event also features a Family Fun Day with plenty of fun activities and games. 7:30 a.m. at Markham Park, 16001 W. State Rd. \$30 adults, \$15 children. 954-97-9474.

February 8

Gospel Fest: In celebration of Black History Month listen to the soul-stirring sounds of Pastor Le'Andria Johnson, winner of BET's Sunday Best. The line-up at the fourth annual event also includes performances by local artists Arsimmer McCoy, Sheneil Lewin, Miami's Blessed and more! 5 p.m. at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, 10950 SW 211th St., Cutler Bay. \$15, \$3 for ages 17 and under. 786-573-5300 or www.smdac.org.

Say it with Music: Hear Broadway show tunes and hits first performed by the Beatles as the South Florida Jubilee Chorus performs. The a cappella group will be perform with The Buzz and Attitude for what is sure to be a fun afternoon. 3 p.m. at Susan B. Katz Performing Arts Theater, 17195 Sheridan St., Pembroke Pines. \$25, \$15 students, \$5 children ages 10 and under. 954-583-0795.

February 9

Vanessa Gilyard: The Broward County native, discusses How the St. Augustine Movement Helped Pass the Civil Rights Act. The history teacher will discuss the Civil Rights movement, police brutality and how changes came about locally. 6 p.m. at the New River Inn Museum of History, 231 SW Second Ave., Fort Lauderdale. Free. 954-463-4431.

February 11

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.

Feb 12



PHOTO COURTESY OF CARLABERNATHY.COM

Aaron Neville: The Grammy winner who has had a long career starting with his first group the Neville Brothers, performs. Neville will perform some of his greatest hits like, *Tell it Like it is* and classic do-wop tunes from his latest album *My True Story*. 8 p.m. at Parker Playhouse, 707 NE Eighth St., Fort Lauderdale. \$37.50-\$67.50. 954-462-0222 or www.browardcenter.org.

February 15

West Palm Beach Green Market: Take a stroll along the waterfront and pick up fresh flowers, fruit, produce and other foods along the way. Shop from more than 70 vendors while music plays. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 101 S. Flagler Dr., West Palm Beach. Free parking available at the Banyan Parking Garage. www.wpb.org/greenmarket

food **Pantry Essentials for Nutritious Homemade Meals**

FAMILY FEATURES — Every parent has been there. It's Thursday afternoon and the kids are asking, "What's for dinner?" Searching for inspiration, you head to the refrigerator, only to realize that the groceries you bought on Sunday have run out or spoiled. But before the panic sets in and you reach for the takeout menus, remember that the solution for a wholesome, homemade meal is right in your pantry — or "Cantry."

"With a well-stocked pantry full of canned ingredients, I know I always have the makings of a nutritious and flavorful meal," said Kelsey Nixon, host

of "Kelsey's Essentials" on Cooking Channel and Food Network. "Fruits and vegetables are harvested at their peak of ripeness and canned in just hours, making the can one of the best ways to get food from its source to my family's table. I just open up a can, unlock that flavor and goodness and make it a 'Cantry' Thursday night!"

With canned food staples like canned beans, chicken, green beans and broth on hand, you'll be well on your way to savory meals like Quinoa Chicken Vegetable Salad.

Quinoa Chicken Vegetable Salad

Prep time: 5 minutes

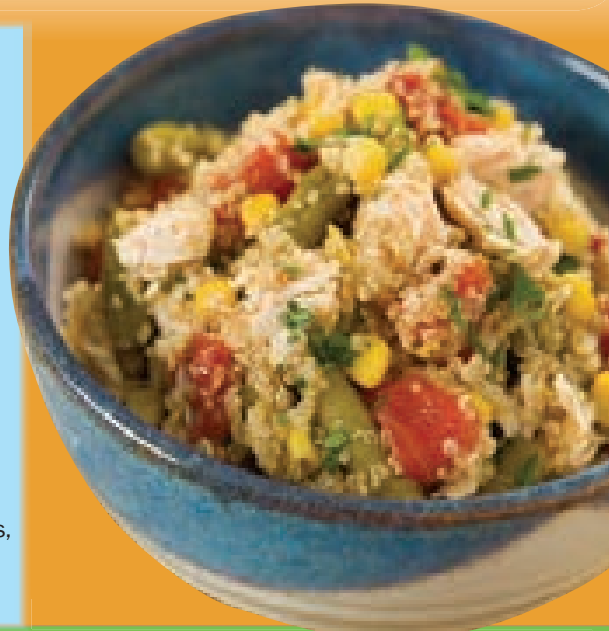
Cook time: 10 minutes

Servings: 6

- 1 (14.5-ounce) can chicken broth
- 1 cup quinoa
- 1 (14-ounce) can diced tomatoes, drained
- 1 (10-ounce) can chicken breast, drained and flaked
- 1 (8-ounce) can cut green beans, drained
- 1 (8.75-ounce) can corn, drained
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

In medium saucepan over high heat, heat chicken broth and quinoa to boiling. Cover and simmer, stirring occasionally, about 10 minutes. Set aside to cool.

In large bowl, combine cooled quinoa, diced tomatoes, chicken breast, green beans, corn, olive oil, lemon juice, parsley and pepper; toss to mix well.



Mediterranean Chicken Pitass

Prep time: 10 minutes

Servings: 2

- 1 (10-ounce) can chicken breast, drained and flaked
- 1/2 cup finely chopped cucumber
- 1/2 cup finely chopped red bell pepper
- 1 (4.5-ounce) can chopped green chilies, drained
- 1/4 cup Greek yogurt
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped dill
- 2 whole wheat pitas
- 4 lettuce leaves

In large bowl combine chicken, cucumber, red bell pepper, green chilies, yogurt and dill; toss to mix well.

Cut each pita in half horizontally; carefully open each pita half. Fill each with 2 lettuce leaves and half of chicken mixture.

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Funding for this project is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council.

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Keeping Black History alive 365 24/7

SFLTIMES.COM | FEBRUARY 5 – 11, 2015



FROM THE BACK OF THE BUS TO THE
HEAD OF THE TABLE.
WE CONTINUE TO STRIVE.



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Celebrating
Black Life, History
and Culture

Every day people have the power to do extraordinary things. Like, the soft-spoken African American woman who refused to give up her seat on the bus, not knowing that it would someday lead to African American men and women sitting as heads of boards and running their own corporations. As we celebrate Black History, AARP honors those who believe in **Real Possibilities** for themselves and for the community. This is your season to do something extraordinary. Get started today at aarp.org/blackcommunity or by calling 877-601-6020.

AARP Real Possibilities in
Florida

Keeping
Black
History
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Black History 365/24/7

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**
Special to South Florida Times

It tickles me when one of the children in the family hears a song that their parents and I know to be sampled from a “back in the day” original and the kids think it’s new. How many of us have debated the true origins of ‘Blurred Lines?’ (Thankfully, a court reminded the selectively forgetful, integrity-challenged Robin Thicke that Marvin Gaye is the song’s originator.)

One could argue that the reason that our children believe that what they’re listening to is new is because we haven’t done a good enough job of exposing them to our music. This analogy also holds true for many youngsters who are amazed at the 21st Century racism happening before their very eyes. Because they’re growing up in this so called post-racial America, seeing police officers get away with murder seems improbable, impossible even.

It’s not new.

Many blacks of a certain age have shied away from discussing Jim Crow and slavery with our children because of what I call “oppression-fatigue.” It’s my theory for why certain movies underperform at the box office. (Let’s please make ‘Selma’ the exception!) Black people have grown tired of seeing themselves depicted as oppressed and whites scoff at being perpetually identified as oppressors. One part of the argument can be heard when you hear whites say that neither they nor their parents had anything to do with slavery or Jim Crow because they weren’t around back then.

But when blacks’ only view of our past is from a victim’s perspective, we miss the opportunity to use our history as fuel in the way that Jewish people use theirs. The purpose for looking back is not to depress, but to motivate; not to confirm whites’ mistaken beliefs about their superiority, but to validate by our resilience and enormous courage that we’re outstanding.

Our story about slavery and Jim Crow cannot stop at “look at what they did to us.” It has to be “look at how we emerged from this brutal, dignity-crushing institution to be the vibrant, creative, brilliant people that we are.” Everything that we’ve accomplished, from medicine to golf to the White House, is awesome; but juxtaposed against what we had to endure to become who we are, how can that not motivate our children?

It’s time for us to borrow from our Jewish brothers and sisters, who are adamant about teaching their children the atrocities of the Holocaust, but also, importantly, that their ancestors’ intelligence, ingenuity and determination is alive in them.

I was angry when I saw 12 Years a Slave. Not just because of what happened to Solomon Northup, the free black man tricked into living a dozen horrendous years as a slave. I was angry because I had not heard his story before it was depicted in the movie. I did not know that his book existed and that made me feel a profound level of disappointment; with myself and with the school system.

His, and stories like it are probably available at one of South Florida’s priceless historical venues which are featured in this section; the African American Research Library in Ft. Lauderdale, Spady Cultural Museum in Delray and the Black Archives in Miami. I will be adding visits to these gems to my family’s monthly to-do list because even though Black History Month is relegated to the shortest month of the year, it’s no reason that we have to limit our celebration to February.

Now more than ever, we must embrace the entirety of our American experience and define it accurately, 365/24/7. Recent events make it crystal clear that people who do not know their history are doomed to repeat it.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEXANDRA HARRIS
Michelle Hollinger

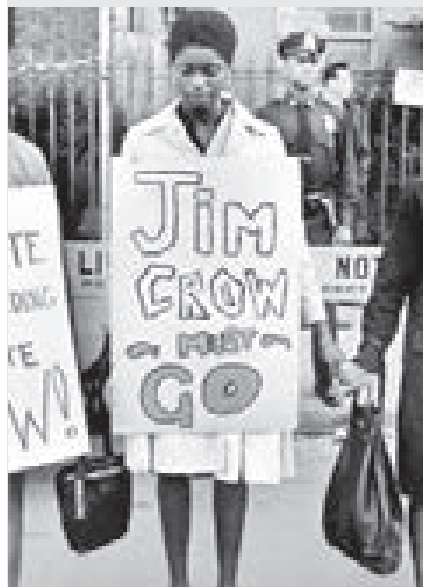
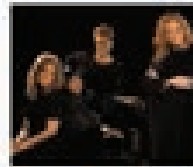


PHOTO COURTESY OF GREGKUCERA.COM
Blacks’ resilience helped to dismantle Jim Crow laws.



Gospel Gala featuring The Clark Sisters

with an opening performance by
Port Salerno Church of God Celebration Choir

A Kravis Center Community Outreach Event

Thursday, February 12 at 7 pm

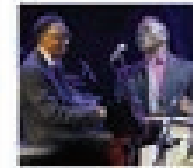
Dreyfoos Hall

No sibling rivalry here. Four sisters deliver a beautiful yet powerful message, complementing one another – despite their disparate vocal styles – just divinely.

Tickets start at \$15

Sponsored by Jane M. Mitchell

Beyond the Stage: Join us for a free musical presentation by The Hillsborough Missionary Baptist Church Mass Choir in the Dreyfoos Hall Lobby at 6:15 pm.



Ramsey Lewis And His Electric Band

with Special Guest **Philip Bailey** (of Earth, Wind & Fire)

Wednesday, February 25 at 8 pm

Dreyfoos Hall

Ramsey – with seven gold records – and his band will be joined by a longtime

Earth, Wind & Fire member whose specialties are rhythm-and-blues, soul, gospel and funk.

Tickets start at \$25

Sponsored by Marjorie Fink



The Temptations and The Four Tops

Saturday, April 4 at 8 pm

Dreyfoos Hall

Two superstar groups, with roots in the '60s, have changed with the times – that's why they're still relevant. Their performance will put you on "Cloud Nine."

Tickets start at \$25

Sponsored by The Chestnut Charitable Foundation



Kravis On Broadway

Memphis The Musical

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Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 8 pm

Wednesday, Saturday at 2 pm and 8 pm • Sunday at 2 pm

Dreyfoos Hall

A radio DJ wants to change the world, a club singer wants her big break.

This show boasts fantastic dancing, great songs and forbidden love.

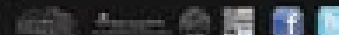
Tickets start at \$25

Kravis On Broadway sponsored by WILMINGTON TRUST

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or call 561-832-7469 or 1-800-572-8471

Groups: 561-651-4438 or 561-651-4304



Keeping
Black
History
365 24/7

Making activism an everyday thing

By MICHELLE HOLLINGER

Special to South Florida Times

For many people, activism is something that they observe from afar as other, “radical” people carry out its functions of protesting, marching and chanting. But, increasingly, everyday people are accepting that they have a role to play in the efforts to address police brutality, educational reform, mass incarceration and other issues that disproportionately impact minority communities.

It was evident at a community meeting in December when activists from Power U Center for Social Change, the Miami Committee on State Violence and other organizations convened following protesters’ shut down of a portion of the 195 highway during one of Miami’s biggest events, Art Basel.

“We went around the room to ask people how long you’ve been an activist or organizer and we had people who have been involved for 40 years, to people who said that was their first meeting,” said Hashim Benford, director of Power U.

Nationwide protests and efforts by young people to organize around key issues have sparked an interest that many are comparing to the Civil Rights Movement.

“This is just an incredible opportunity where there’s a lot of momentum and a lot of energy and a lot of new people are being galvanized, which is really exciting for somebody like me, who has had the experience of organizing when there hasn’t been a lot of momentum and there was apathy within the community,” explained Benford, who has been a full time activist since 2008.

His wife, Tiffany Yeomans, an organizer with the Miami Committee on State Violence, added that the anger and rage that many young people are feeling presents an opportunity to channel it into change.

“What does it look like for us to actually transform that into fuel for longtime healing and longtime restructuring of our identity as individuals and our identity as whole communities that can be sustainable and live with integrity and dignity again and feel safe,” she said.

Whitney Maxey, 28, an independent activist and organizer with the Miami Committee on

State Violence said that because people are beginning to connect the dots between injustices carried out from different institutions, they are motivated to seek reform.

“People [are] being able to link the control that the police state has over communities of color, linking that to what that means in terms of the economics in those communities and how that impacts how society sees us and how society treats us,” she explained. “And then being able to link that to what’s happening around schools with the school to prison pipeline and connecting it to all of these bigger issues that people aren’t normally connecting in their minds has resulted in a very intentional coming together.”

Many believe that one of the factors instrumental in the Civil Rights Movement’s ability to achieve its goals was the involvement of everyday people. Most agree that the bus boycott that hit Alabama in the pocketbook was successful because everyday people carpooled, walked together and galvanized around the avoidance of riding the bus in order to gain the same rights as white riders. The idea that today’s movement could be a similar beginning is something that Benford said he’s considered.

“As I was sitting in the meeting, I had this feeling of like, is this what it felt like to be in Montgomery in 1955? Like right at the beginning of what would turn into a 20 year movement that would transform the society as we know it. It’s only been a few months since the uprising in Ferguson that started all of this, so time will tell, but it feels like it has the potential to be that kind of moment,” he said.

Maxey said that as people awaken to their unique purposes, many gravitate towards working to eradicate racial and social injustices.

“In this moment, you definitely have more and more people stepping into their consciousness around what is the bigger impact of non-indictments of single officers,” Maxey added.

Benford said that it boils down to legacy and how people view it.

“I’ve been thinking a lot of Dr. King, thinking about how important that we are carrying on a legacy that he and also all of the organizers and activists that we never heard of, they were carrying on a legacy that was bigger than themselves,” he shared.

Yeomans agreed. “The energy of the momentum, young people are not willing to take it anymore. Not willing to have this continue to be the legacy that they want to live in and to pass on for their own generations to come,” she said.

Benford said that everyday people will make the difference.

“People see activism as this sort of weird thing that radical people do, but what makes change happen is when activism and organizing become an everyday activity of everyday people,” Benford said. “That’s when we see seismic shifts.”

PHOTO COURTESY OF THEGRIO.COM

Activist Whitney Maxey addresses demonstrators in front of the Torch of Friendship in downtown Miami.

Keeping
Black
History
365 24/7

Spady Museum helps keep history alive

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**
Special to South Florida Times

In 2012, Delray was named the “Most Fun Small Town’ in the USA, beating out 700 other towns in a designation by Rand McNally’s Best of the Road Contest. A feature that enhances its award-winning atmosphere is the Spady Cultural Black History Museum, a venue that serves as a source of information for people interested in learning about the city’s rich black roots.

Vera Farrington, a former educator with Palm Beach County schools for 34 years, said her desire for school children to learn accurate historical facts led her and a group of like-minded residents to assemble African artifacts and photographs documenting local black history; material that the city’s children will not likely find in their schools’ textbooks.

“I noted a lot of discrepancies with the information being taught to students in school, especially about the integration period. I decided to look into some of these discrepancies, especially when it came to integrating the classrooms,” said Farrington, who went straight to the sources, elderly community members, who remembered their history and could verify or dispute what was being taught to school children.

She said that the information that was gathered eventually resulted in Spady Museum being established in 2001. Located in the former home of the late Solomon D. Spady, who was a prominent African American educator and community leader in Delray Beach, the museum is the only African American Cultural Heritage museum of its kind in Palm Beach County.

“We went to the city council and told them our findings and pointed out the differences. They agreed that something should be done,” Farrington said. “Especially because integration of the schools was being considered, they thought that now is the time to set the record straight.”

A passion for black history runs in the family, as Vera Farrington’s daughter, Charlene, serves as the museum’s director.

Earnestine Holliday arrived in Delray in 1947 when she was five years old. She was one of the early contributors to Spady’s content; and said that she and others are continuing to identify black history to be included among the museum’s collection.

“I have been quite knowledgeable about a lot of black history in Delray. I’m a graduate of Carver High School, [and we’re] in the process of helping to get some other black history into the museum,” she shared.

Holliday, 72, said that black history must be shared continuously, not just during Black History Month.

“We need to keep our history alive because there a lot of things that the younger kids don’t know about that were to us, precious,” said the semi-retired home health aide.

“I’m a member of that generation where they used to have black water fountains and white water fountains, and black bathrooms and white bathrooms. And when you were traveling there was no place for you to stop and sleep overnight unless you slept in your car beside the road somewhere.”

She said that many children are probably unaware that, “Where our police station is now was once the little league baseball field, but our kids couldn’t play there.

It was for the other kids on the other side of Swinton Avenue.”

The city has made great strides, “but wasn’t always the all American city,” Holliday said. “Delray at one time was very prejudiced in all respects. In some respects we still have a long ways to go, but at least it’s better than it was then.”

In addition to exploring the offerings at Spady, Holliday said that young blacks should also make the time to see the Ava DuVernay film, ‘Selma.’

“To see how far they have come. This generation needs to go back and look at ‘Selma’ and other black history and they can be proud of themselves,” she shared.

To learn more about the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, including its upcoming events, please visit spadymuseum.com or call 561-279-8883.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPADY MUSEUM.COM
Solomon D. Spady



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPADY MUSEUM.COM



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Noon - 3 p.m.**

**Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex
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African Fashions, Musical Entertainment, Dancers, Face Painting, Rock Climbing, and Bounce House. Vendors will also showcase their wares.

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Power U youth embrace black history year-round

By MICHELLE HOLLINGER
Special to South Florida Times

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s peaceful approach to pursuing equality for blacks would not have succeeded without Huey Newton and Malcom X. So said Keno Walker, 20, a youth organizer with Power U Center for Social Change.

Walker joined several of his youth colleagues at the Power U office for a group discussion with the South Florida Times about "keeping Black History alive" year round. During the chat, youth were asked to explain whether year round access to black history mattered and to identify historical black people who inspire them. Walker chose Malcom X and Newton, and explained that his admiration centered on

their role in compelling the American people to embrace King's peaceful approach.

He theorized that when people were faced with a choice between the retaliatory "by any means necessary" philosophy that Malcom X at one point espoused, or the non-violent marches and sit-ins organized by King, "people got on board with King and

pushed for the movement of nonviolence and being peaceful."

He also presented a balanced perspective on the Black Panthers, acknowledging that "there was some bad stuff," about the organization labeled radical by many, however, "It was The Black

Panthers who started free lunch programs. They did a lot of good for us," he said.

The analysis of Malcom X and Newton's impact on the success of the peaceful Civil Rights Movement is indicative of the empowered, critical thinking process that Power U encourages its youth leaders to use when learning about black history.

"I think it's really important for anybody who cares about social justice to understand black history because our history in this country really tells the story of America in so many ways.

So often when we learn about our own history, we're either just victims, just slaves, or lynched or on the other side of Jim Crow.

Or we're invisible completely, we're just not there," said Hashim Benford, director of Power U, a community-owned grassroots organization that addresses urban issues in low-income inner-city neighborhoods.

The traditional approach to teaching Black History involves youth learning about prominent historical figures, "extraordinary individuals, or inventors or people who got rich," Benford explained. "But the day to day resiliency and the rich history that is there for us, that is our history."

Power U uses black history to empower its youth organizers.

"Our ability to be resilient in the face of atrocities like slavery and Jim Crow and lynching and to build and develop the rich culture and the strength that we have

to then be able to wage movements to transform the society. That's so important because that tells us a lot about who we are today," Benford said. "Honoring that legacy is really about honoring ourselves."

Justin Granados, 15, said the school system needs to teach students America's complete history, which includes black history, year round.

"You hear a lot about the white history, you hear about the white man. You don't hear about the Red Tails and the Tuskegee Airmen," he said, jokingly comparing the incomplete history to eating an incomplete sandwich. "You need to have the whole entire sandwich. You just can't have the buns, you have to have the lettuce, the tomato, the beef. You need to have all of that."

He gets serious when asked to identify a historical figure that inspires him.

"Harriett Tubman because she was born a slave and she fought her way out. She escaped, and on top of that went back to grab more. She didn't say 'I got out and I'm done,'" Granados shared passionately. "She went back, she said 'let me go back and get a couple more.' And after getting those, she went back and got more. She's a fighter and I'm a fighter too, that's why she's inspired me to keep on."

Michellehollinger303@gmail.com

For more information about Power U, please visit Poweru.org or call 305-576-7449.

Power U youth and staff reflect on Black History



One year later, the first month long celebration took place at Kent State and in 1976 as part of the United States Bicentennial, the informal expansion of Negro History Week to Black History Month was officially recognized by the U.S. government.

The celebration has its critics; however, the criticism of Black History Month is not centered on the celebration of blacks. Critics oppose limiting the celebration to any time period because black history is American history that should be seamlessly included in the teaching of history in all American classrooms.

The staff and youth of Power U Center for Social Change share that sentiment because they embrace black history 365/24/7, studying the struggles, strategy and creativity that their ancestors used to achieve despite seemingly insurmountable odds.

The youth and Power U staff share their favorite black history heroes.

Keisha Campbell, 15: Angela Davis: "She's just like me, we're courageous. If somebody tells us no and we feel like it's right - we'll still do it."

Keno Walker, 20: Malcom X and Huey Newton: "It was Martin Luther King in the beginning. He was pushing for the non-violent movement, but a lot of people were not paying attention until a couple of so called radical black people started stepping up and pushing back, saying 'by any means necessary,' using lethal force because that was used against us, so it was either choosing non-violence or choosing civil disobedience."

Alexis Colon, 14: Rosa Parks: "I admire Rosa Parks because for her to be able to sit on a bus and stand her ground, for her to be able to stand up and fight for what she went through took courage."

Sharkera Carr, 17: Madam C.J. Walker: "She's a woman who was an

entrepreneur who started her own business. She inspires me to want to be an entrepreneur. She showed that black people can do other things that other races can do."

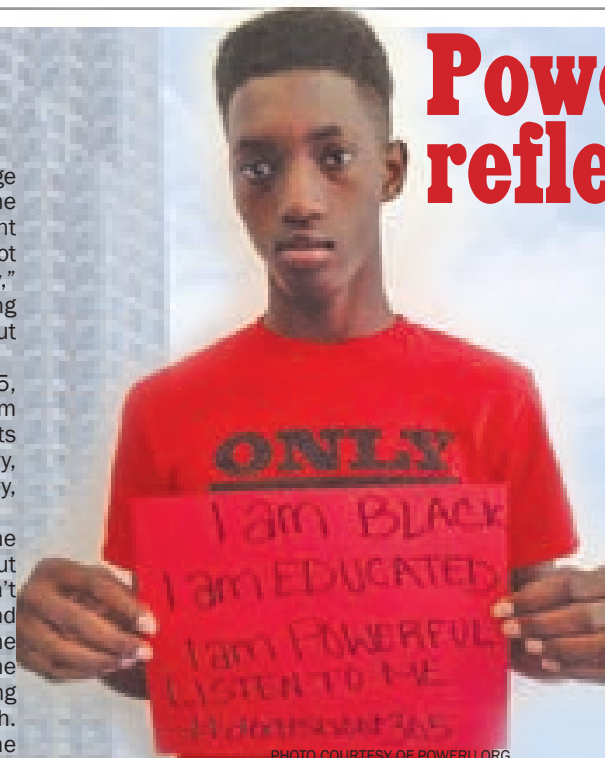
Justin Granados, 15: Harriett Tubman: "Because not only did she escape slavery herself, she went back over and over to help others to escape to freedom."

Thomas Bryant, 14: Martin Luther King, Jr.: "His 'I Have a Dream Speech' made it so that all of us black and white people can be together. I have many white friends, he integrated all of us, our schools, restaurants, bathrooms."

Ruth Jeannoel, 28, Lead Organizer for Power U: Ida B. Wells: "Who was a black woman, mother, partner, wife...who would go into places where no one else would go and talk to people that nobody else would talk to and this was our community, these were our people. Sometimes when I'm in struggle and trying to figure out how do I do this kind of work and be a mother and be a wife, and be able to organize and look at what is my role in this movement. [I look] at how black women were able to hold down their families and the movement; their resiliency gives me the strength that I need to get through."

Hashim Benford, 29, Director for Power U: Alice Walker: "Is the person who impacted me at an early age in a transformative way. I remember reading 'The Color Purple' in 6th or 7th grade. That book really introduced me to the everyday life of struggle and resiliency that is prevalent in the experience of being black in this country, particularly for women. It introduced me to intersectionality - intersection between racism and sexism and classism, I had a basis for that from reading that story at a young age."

Michellehollinger303@gmail.com



By MICHELLE HOLLINGER
Special to South Florida Times

What started out as a week-long celebration was eventually expanded to a month, a time period that many feel is too short to honor a people whose contributions to this country are so vast. The month of February was chosen for the observance of Negro History Week because it includes the birthdates of President Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, Feb. 12 and 14, respectively.

Created by historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1926, the week eventually morphed into a month after leaders of the Black United Students at Kent State University proposed the expansion in February 1969.



Power U youth organizers gather for photo after black history discussion. Front row (L-R) Keno Walker, Shierra Carr, Michelle Hollinger, Sharkera Carr, Justin Granados, Keisha Campbell, Alexis Colon. Back row (L-R) Thomas Bryant, Gary Streeter, Tyrone Brown.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ALEXANDRA HARRIS
Ruth Jeannoel

Keno Walker

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For more details and ticket information visit:
www.fmuniv.edu

<p>Sunday - February 8 Serged Kick-off 5pm - 7pm Market Place Dining Hall</p> <p>Monday - February 9 Saird Day Campus Wide Demonstration All Day</p> <p>SOA Love & Wine 11am - 3pm Lovin' n' Luvn' (2000) Food Promenade Lunch Served (Students 11am - 3pm) FNU Students must show valid ID Faculty, Staff and Guests \$1.43 per person</p> <p>SOA Inner Expressions of the Soul 11am - 11pm Lov'n' Food Promenade</p> <p>Tuesday - February 10 The Colors of Love All University Ministry Service 11am - 12pm Baker C. Wiley Religious Center</p> <p>Campus Wide Demonstrations/Judging 12pm - 1pm President's Hall Office</p> <p>Cultural Education 4:30pm - 8:30pm Clock Tower Promenade</p> <p>"I Live Story" At & After Homecoming Fountain & Fashion Show 7pm - 11pm Open - 11pm Student Services Courtyard Clock Tower Building with valid FNU ID BE-Guests Free Admission Free and no cover charge</p> <p>Wednesday - February 11 Lovers Day 11am - 1pm Amor Amor Amor (Market Place Dining Hall)</p> <p>Amor Amor Amor 11am - 1pm Clock Tower Promenade</p> <p>Fast Show Competition Open - 12pm Clock Tower Promenade</p> <p>Lets on Stage (Singing/Singing Competition) 1pm - 3pm Baker Conference Center Clock Tower, Staff and Faculty \$5 entrance \$7 at door</p>	<p>Wednesday - February 11 (Continued) Cool Queens 8-11 entrance \$12 at door Market Place Dining Hall Room 208</p> <p>FNU/NA Mix n' Mingle 7pm Miller's Ale House 1400 NW 17 Avenue, Miami Lakes, FL 33014</p> <p>SOA Black Party 11pm - 1am Clubhouse Circle</p> <p>Thursday - February 12 Pride Day 11am - 12pm Lov'n' Food Promenade 12:30pm - 1:30pm Campus Wide 11:30pm (Live up)</p> <p>Pop Rally & Best Of Competition 4:30pm - 7pm President's Hall Office</p> <p>Munch vs. Student Pajama Football & Fun Fry 8pm - 11pm Frost Lane</p> <p>Friday - February 13 Break Day Lava On Run/Flash Koolhaa Registration 10:30am - 11:30am Frost Lane</p> <p>Alumni Reunion Registration 11am - 4pm Lov'n' Food Center for the Frontrunning Arts Lobby</p> <p>Alumni State Dinner Reception Reception & Receptionist Event 11am - 12pm Norman W. Collier Library</p> <p>Welcome Home Alumni & Student Barbecue 11am - 2pm Market Place Dining Hall FNU Students must show valid ID Faculty, Staff and Guests \$1.43 per person</p> <p>Alumni Club Reunion Photo 11am - 1pm Lov'n' Food Promenade</p> <p>"Live & n' Be A" Homecoming Queen Reg. Show & Contest 11am Games Open 12pm - 11pm Show Clock Tower Promenade Tickets: Alumni & Guests \$20 Tickets: FNU Students \$20 FNU Students must show valid ID Total information call more phone info or call 305-576-7449</p>	<p>Friday - February 13 (Continued) Homecoming Kick-off 11am - 12pm Lov'n' Food Center for the Frontrunning Arts Lobby</p> <p>Spending in Association with the FNU/NA Present: The Homecoming All Black After Party The Grand Banquet Hall 1200 NW 17 Street, Miami Gardens, FL 33054 Tickets: \$10 in advance More information call 781-413-8040</p> <p>Saturday - February 14 Homecoming 11am - 12pm Feed the Love - Hear us Roar The Trayvon Martin Presentation: Please Visit Room 1010 11am - 12pm Receptionist Center</p> <p>Homecoming Love and Luncheon 12pm - 2pm Baker Conference Center Cost: \$50</p> <p>Homecoming: Repeating Celebration 1pm Lov'n' Food Promenade Location: adjacent to Alumni Hall</p> <p>FNU Game Homecoming Basketball Games Baker University, 1300 SE 2nd Avenue, Miami, FL 33131</p> <p>Women's Game 1st - 7pm Homecoming Game 2nd - 11pm Tickets: \$20 (includes both games)</p> <p>The Black Out and the FNU/NA Present: Official Alumni Homecoming After Party: 11am & 10 11pm Don Quixote Hotel Grand Star Ballroom 1000 West Street, Miami Lakes, FL 33074 Total information: \$100 (includes both games) FNU Students must show valid ID Faculty proceeds will be donated to FNU Student Scholarship</p> <p>Sunday - February 15 FNU Homecoming Service 11am Bishop's Center with International House Celebrating Our Families Day Baker C. Wiley Religious Center</p>
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Keeping
Black
History
365 24/7

50th class reunion merges alumni's past and present

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**
Special to South Florida Times

Ralph Williams relied on his own "driving while black" experience as a young man to explain to his 25-year-old son the dos and don'ts of dealing with the police. For Williams, a 1965 graduate of Booker T. Washington senior high, his memories of being racially profiled by the police are still relevant and carry a painful historical element because they occurred during the vicious Jim Crow era.

He and his BTW classmates are joining with alumni from Northwestern, Carver, Mays and North Dade senior high schools to celebrate their 50th class reunion at a gala on Feb. 7 at the Miami Shores Country Club where their respective experiences will be brought to life in a dramatic production.

The retired graphic designer told the South Florida Times that experiencing both segregation and desegregation allows him to share unique black history lessons with his children and grandchildren. For example, many of the clubs that his son frequents are on Miami Beach, a location that was off limits for blacks when Williams was a teen.

"My father and my mother worked on the beach. My father was a janitor and my mother was a maid, I was stopped because I had to take them to work. I was stopped quite a bit on the beach and had to prove that I belonged there," he said. "Blacks had to carry ID and provide justification for being on the beach, especially after dark. You were stopped periodically and had to show proof that you worked on the beach, not unlike apartheid in South Africa."

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Together after 50 Years and Telling Our Story

WHEN: Saturday, Feb. 7, 11:30am to 2:30pm

WHERE: Miami Shores Country Club, 10000 Biscayne Boulevard

COST: \$50

CONTACT: For more information, please contact Ralph Williams at 305-625-8593.

While living in segregation had its obvious disadvantages, Rudean Jackson said the closeness forged within the black community was an enormous plus. The retired systems programmer, an alumnus of Miami Northwestern's class of 1965, has bittersweet memories of growing up in a separate and unequal Miami.

Jackson said that as a child, she recognized that the facilities for blacks were dirty and unkempt, unlike those for whites.

"On the positive side of it, we were more community oriented back then. Because the teachers lived in the community with you, it would be nothing for them to come to your house and tell your parents when you were misbehaving. And the doctor lived in the community with you," she explained of a time when neighbors looked after each other's children.

Williams has fond memories of the Sir John Hotel, where celebrities like Aretha Franklin, James Brown and Sam Cooke performed; and he recalls when Martin Luther King visited The Hampton House in Brownsville.

Both agree that black history should be celebrated year round, not just in February.

"These kids assume a lot of times that the way that things are now is the way that they've always been. They're standing on the shoulders of a lot of people who went through a lot of grief just to allow you the courtesies that you enjoy today," Williams said of simple pleasures like going to the beach or out to dinner.

"We weren't allowed to sit down at the restaurant counter. When we ordered food, we had to stand up. That included McCory's and Woolworth downtown. We also weren't allowed to go to any of the beaches besides Virginia Key. We were only allowed to go to one designated area on Virginia Key Beach," he explained.

And certain parts of Miami were strictly off limits.

"People find this hard to believe, but Hialeah was a conclave for the Ku Klux Klan. There were places where we would not venture," Williams shared. He said that he shares black history with his son, daughter and his two grandchildren, but that he must also offer guidance.

"I have to have a conversation with my son that white parents do not have to have with their sons. I talk to him about how to react whenever he's stopped by a policeman. Just the little things that will keep him alive," said Williams.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RALPH WILLIAMS
Dr. King meets with organizers at Hampton House during Miami visit.



Good Bread Alley was a residential area of Miami's Overtown.



The Sir John Hotel was a popular venue for black performers like Aretha Franklin, James Brown and Sam Cooke.



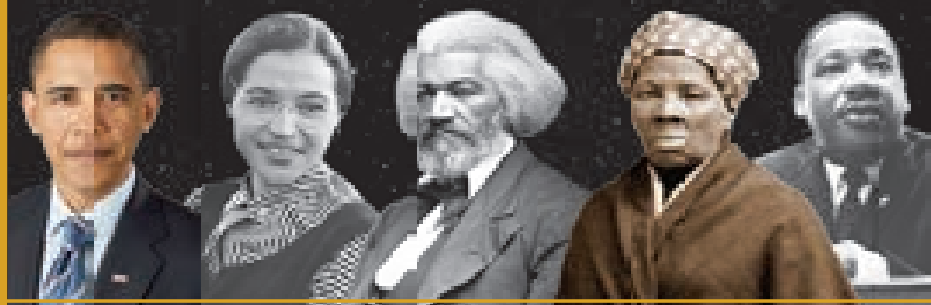
PHOTO COURTESY OF PRESERVATIONNATION.ORG
Malcolm X photographs Muhammad Ali at Hampton House Motel and Villas.

Range Funeral Homes



Salutes the accomplishments
of our leaders during

Black History Month



Miami: 305-691-4343 • Coconut Grove: 305-446-1173 • Homestead: 305-245-6989

Patrons can discover roots at library

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**

Special to South Florida Times

Unlike New York's historic Harlem community and Miami's Liberty City, which were originally populated by whites, Overtown was built for blacks by blacks. The original name was Colored Town, then the Negro District, and over time it became known as Overtown.

This tidbit is an example of the fascinating information provided by the Black Archives History and Research Foundation of South Florida. Timothy Barber, Black Archives executive director said that there's more where that came from.

"Since its incorporation in 1977, we have been collecting, documenting, and preserving the black experience in South Florida through family, media, organizational, and governmental photographs and manuscripts," he said via email.

Recent events have heightened the community's interest in black history and an unwillingness to confine its celebration to the shortest month of the year. Now housed in the Historic Lyric Theater, the Black Archives offers something for everyone.

It is "A place that is becoming increasingly an iconic landmark for locals and visitors to the area to study, view, and be entertained by the activity of the African Diaspora," said Barber. "We have been able to increase our reach to the public through theater entertainment, film screenings, expressions of music, visual art, and an amateur night series that is sure to make you laugh."

Dorothy Jenkins Fields, a historian and archivist, founded the organization in an attempt to provide black children with history about Miami that was not being provided anywhere else by documenting the black experience in Miami-Dade County from 1896 to the present.

Barber said that it's an exciting time for the Black Archives Historic Lyric Theater Cultural Arts Complex, because "we have been able to embody the strength and knowledge of what it means to be Black in South Florida."

The iconic landmark was the site of Soul of Basel, offering black Miami an opportunity to view art by black artists during Miami's annual Art Basel festivities.

"This venue is the Apollo of the south. Visitors to the complex can immerse themselves in the plays, musical, film and vignettes periodically, while viewing historical accounts in the rotating exhibits, as well as researching documents dating back to 1896," Barber added.

Visitors can learn about Miami's first black millionaire, for example, from the comfort of home by visiting www.theblackarchives.org and clicking on the "Search Our Collection" icon.

There, they will discover the story of Dana Dorsey, a black pioneer who came to Miami around 1892, and with \$25.00 purchased a parcel of land that he developed into a business empire. Through wise investments, he amassed the largest real estate holdings of any black man in the United States, becoming Miami's first black millionaire. Dorsey's empire included real estate holdings in Dade and Broward counties, Cuba and the Bahamas, according to the archives.

An interesting bit of trivia about the man for whom Dorsey Skill Center in Liberty City is named, is that on Sundays, he rode around in a chauffeured limousine collecting rents from tenants.

Barber summed up the importance of making black history a dynamic aspect of one's life instead of a once a year remembrance.

"History is a clock, those that do not know their history are doomed to repeat history. History teaches a people self-worth, self-preservation, and self-trials."

He said black history can and should be used as motivation for students to reach their full potential.

"Students need to subscribe to the education of what was, what is, and what could be. I found in life that sometimes it is not the things that I know that make me who I am. It is the things that I wasn't taught the kept me from being greater."

Keeping
Black
History
365 24/7



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE BLACK ARCHIVES

The renovated Lyric Theater offers the community a variety of theater entertainment, film screenings and expressions of music and visual art. Above is the theater interior.

Keeping
Black
History
365
24/7

Archives preserve Miami's Black History

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**
Special to South Florida Times

Harvard professor and historian, Henry Louis Gates has become known for helping celebrities to discover their family origins, surprising many whose revelations are broadcast in his popular PBS special, 'Finding Your Roots.'

A fascinating fact, of which many South Floridians may be unaware, is that they too, can discover their family roots because the African American Research Library and Cultural Center in Ft. Lauderdale has been providing the complimentary service since it opened more than 12 years ago.

Gates has helped celebrities, including actress Angela Bassett, Obama administration official Valerie Jarrett and Nas, one of the most prolific rappers in the country, to discover from whence they came.

Elaina Norlin, AARLCC Executive Director/Regional Library Manager, told the South Florida Times that people in the community can do the same because the library has a subscription to Ancestry.com that its patrons may access free of charge.

The sprawling 60,000 square foot center in the heart of one of Ft. Lauderdale's historic black communities provides the community with more than 85,000 books, manuscripts, artifacts and documents; ensuring year-round access to black history.

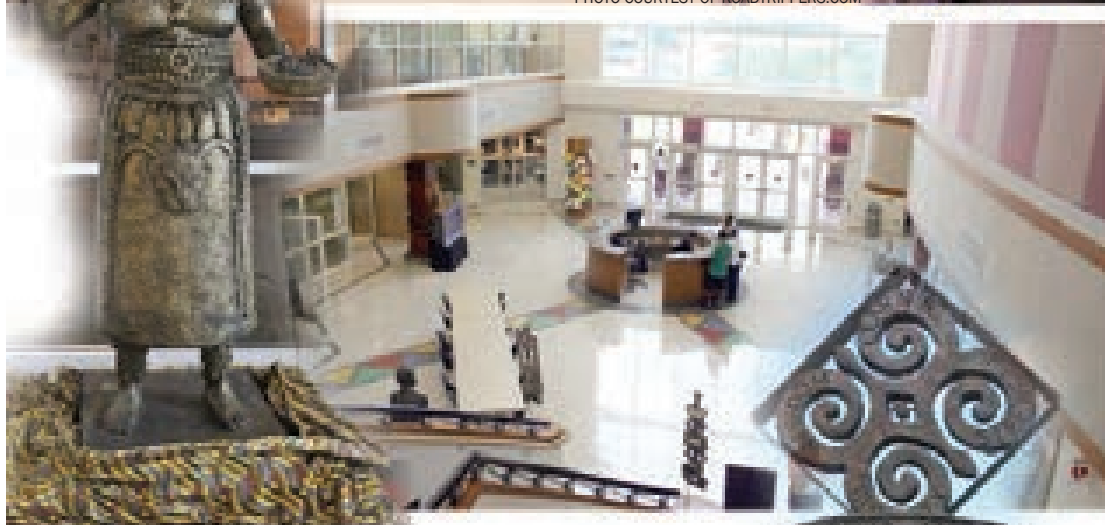
Being able to delve deeply into where they're from affords the library's visitors the opportunity to personalize black history.

"If somebody came up and wanted to research their past, they could do that here. You see [ancestry.com] on television," Norlin shared of the popular genealogical research service. "Families have come in to research their history."

Aside from this valuable resource, the AARLCC also offers special collections, like Alex Haley's unpublished manuscripts, and first editions of literature from prominent historic



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROADTRIPPERS.COM



PHOTOS COURTESY OF SUNNY.ORG AND TRIPADVISOR.COM

figures like W. E. B. DuBois, which Norlin said they're pleased to offer.

In recent years, however, the AARLCC has placed a greater emphasis on capturing the history of people who helped build the community.

"We switched our focus to trying to capture our local history. What's happened in Broward County and what's going on in Ft. Lauderdale. We have a lot of the oral histories that we've collected from our pioneers that are available at the library," she shared.

Interested in knowing what was happening in Ft. Lauderdale in the 30s and 40s? The oral history at AARLCC can provide the answers, "directly from people's voices, which is really great," Norlin said.

The library also makes a concerted effort to keep black history accessible and entertaining year-round by offering destination themed events each month.

For the entire month of February the AARLCC will celebrate Bob Marley's 70th birthday by spotlighting his life, "with a history of Jamaica in our gallery," Norlin said.

The center also offers The Small Business Resource Center, which provides myriad services for the small business community, including guidance on creating business plans, small business databases, marketing and money matters.

A priceless resource with something for everyone, the AARLCC provides interactive children's services and events, free wireless Internet access and a 5,000-square-foot art gallery.

For more information about the African American Research Library and Cultural Center, please visit <http://www.broward.org/Library/LocationsHours/Branches/Pages/AA.aspx> or call 954-357-6282.

Trust to honor African American incorporator

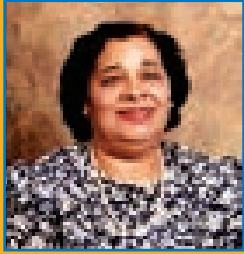


PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN CULMER

Leome S. Culmer

Staff Report

Christopher C. Scott was born in November, 1871 in Georgia. The Coconut Grove resident was an African-American incorporator of the City of Miami. Employed as a plumber, Scott was able to read and write, and is said to have dispelled the rumor that Henry Flagler gathered a group of illiterate Negroes who were unable to sign for themselves to provide the quorum necessary to incorporate the city.

According to research conducted by Edna J. Williams, Scott was present at the debate on July 28, 1896 when the discussion centered on whether Miami should remain a village or become a city. Scott took the position that Miami should become a city and voted for the incorporation of the City of Miami.

The African American Committee of Dade Heritage Trust will honor Scott during its 22nd Annual Commemorative Service and Youth Talent on Parade on Sunday, Feb. 15, at 3:00 p.m. in the Miami City Cemetery, 1800 N. E. 2nd Avenue and Biscayne Park, which is next to the Cemetery.

In honoring Scott, a headstone will be placed at his grave and unveiled during the service.

Also being honored are Leome Scavella Culmer, who for twenty one years served as chairman of the Commemorative Service, and Wilfred McKenzie. Both were pioneer members of Dade Heritage Trust who died last year.

3100 Ray Ferrero, Jr. Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33314

Dr. King's Dream and President Barack Obama, presented by author and NSU Professor Ralph Hogges, 2 to 3 p.m., (Registration required; 954-262-5477)

MIAMI DADE

Tues., Feb 11 - 9 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
Black History Month Festival and Parade

West Campus, 3800 N.W. 115th Ave, Room 1102

The Wolfson Campus Haitian Boukan Club Dancers and Drummer will perform an interactive dance while playing rhythms of Afrocentric sounds and beats. Eric Jenkins and Lawrence Rolle from Miami Jackson Senior High School will lecture on the origins and history of their school and its influence on the African-American community. The Professional Art Club will also present their drawings.

Thurs., Feb. 19 - 12:40 p.m. - 1:55 p.m.
African-Americans in Sports, Past and Present

Wolfson Campus, 300 N.E. 2nd Ave., Room 6100

Local CBS sportscaster Jim Berry discusses prominent African-American athletes from the present and past, along with the impact of segregation on sports. There will also be a poster exhibition of iconic

African-American athletes such as Jackie Robinson, Muhammad Ali, Arthur Ashe, Florence Griffith Joyner, Jackie Joyner Kersee, and Venus and Serena Williams.

Thurs., Feb. 26 - 5:40 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

An evening celebration of African-American gospel, jazz, and blues, with a performance by the MDC North Campus Chamber singers.

West Campus, 3800 N.W. 115th Ave., Room 1102

MONROE

Sat., Feb. 21- 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

Key West Cemetery

Francis Street Gate

Key West, FL 33040

Key West Historic Cemetery Stroll honoring Black History Month

Groups of visitors will be guided through the cemetery, stopping at the graves of black men and women who contributed to Key West history. Their stories will be told by volunteer interpreters. Some of the graves to be visited will be those of Sandy Cornish, George Adderley, Roosevelt Sands, and Thomas Romer. Groups will begin tours at 9:00, 9:20, 9:40, and 10:00.

For reservations and information, call Jane Newhagen 305-304-1453 or email jnewhage@keywestcity.com.

Black History Calendar

PALM BEACH

Sat, Feb 08 - 3:00 pm

Black History Month: Jazz Saxophone Performance by Randy Corinthian

Belle Glade Branch
725 NW 4th Street
Belle Glade, FL 33430

Honored by ICABA HONORS as a Finalist for Entertainer of The Year in 2013, Randy Corinthian will share soulful and scintillating sounds of the jazz saxophone in his solo performance to celebrate Black History Month. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Thu, Feb 13 - 6:00 pm

So You Think You Know Black History

Wellington Branch
1951 Royal Fern Drive
Wellington, FL 33414

Come test your Black History savvy at this fun-filled trivia-style game show for a chance to win a prize! Families with children ages 10 & up. First-come, first-served.

Sat., Feb 22- 2:00 pm

Black History Family Fun Day

Wellington Branch
1951 Royal Fern Drive
Wellington, FL 33414

Adults will discuss "*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*," by Rebecca Skloot, while children will be treated to a special story time. Then children and adults will play a special game to celebrate the early contributions of African Americans to science and everyday life. Sign up and check out the book.

BROWARD

Tue., Feb. 11 - 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Create your own postage stamps, ages 7 and up.

Northwest Regional Library
3151 North University Drive,
Coral Springs, FL 33065

Wed., Feb. 18 - 2 to 4 p.m.
It's a Harlem Renaissance Family Affair!

Lauderhill Towne Centre Library
6399 West Oakland Park Blvd.
Lauderhill, FL 33313

Enjoy live jazz by The Nicole Yarling quartet; dances by the Jubilee Dance Theatre; dramatic readings and poetry; special refreshments and a free book to the first 50 families. Special guest will be Lauderhill Mayor Richard Kaplan.

Wed., Feb. 25 - 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Nova Southeastern University,
Alvin Sherman Library, Research,
and Information Technology Center

Pyramid Books

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Saturday	11:00 am to 8:00 pm
Sunday	Noon to 5:00 pm

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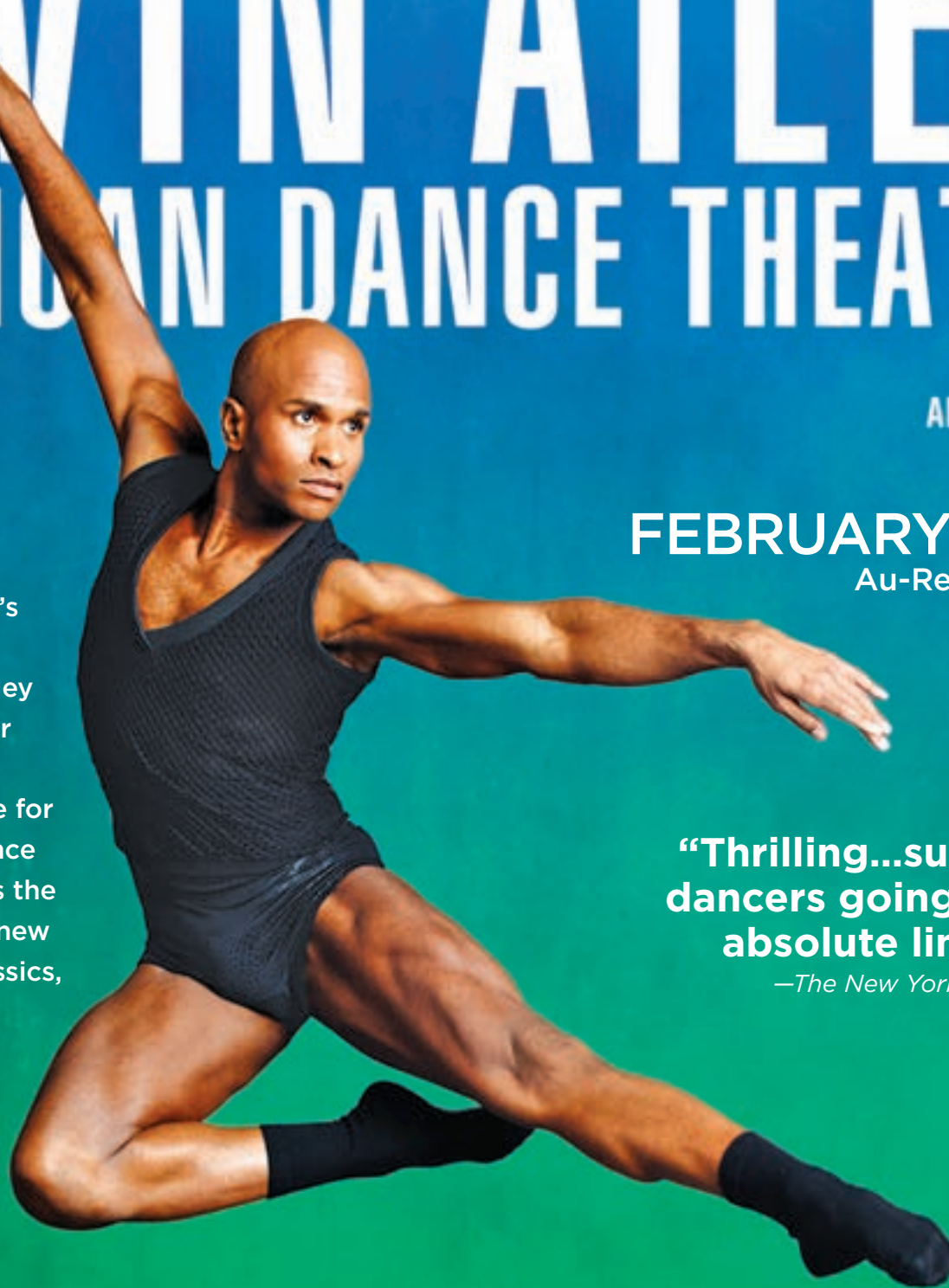
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Glenn Allen Sims, Photo by Andrew Eccles



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